

Magazine of Felician University

FOCUS



Dear Students, Faculty, Staff, and Friends of Felician University,

It's hard to believe that as I welcome you to our latest issue of FOCUS magazine, we have wrapped up the "regular season" of our 2017-18 academic year, the wonderful ceremonies of our 2018 commencement are behind us and we're in the midst of the summer session and preparing for our fall semester.

Together, we have accomplished so much this past year! In a word, the pace of achievement, progress, and change has been *"brisk"* at Felician - and there are absolutely no signs of slowing down.

Looking back to September and the first day of the fall semester, we welcomed back 2,059 graduate and undergraduate students. Adding to the excitement and energy transcending the University, our student housing was filled to the brim.

We cut the ribbon on our Castle Cafe, which has quickly become the perfect gathering place for students, faculty and staff alike. Stopping by to socialize and catch up with peers and colleagues over a favorite beverage or snack has quickly become a daily University ritual as we all enjoy and partake in the very welcoming and warm experience of the Felician community and way of life. Next door to the Café is our campus Gaming Room, a popular destination with five gaming desktop PCs. Our students have already formed a gaming club which includes over 20 members.

We also unveiled a major renovation of our dining hall, and brought relevant and useful technology to the Business School's new home in Martin Hall.

In celebrating Homecoming and Family Day, we hosted our largest crowd to date, with close to 883 staff, faculty, students and families, and alums attending.

As we moved through the academic year, we honored Joetta Clark Diggs, four-time Olympian and NJ Hall of Fame inductee, by presenting her with the University's annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Legacy Award.

In recognizing Human Trafficking Awareness Month, we convened in Bramucci Unity Hall, for a screening of the film *I am Jane Doe* followed by a thought-provoking panel discussion.

The Blessed Mary Angela Institute hosted an enlightening presentation about the Felician Sisters' ministry in Haiti, and we were so fortunate to later have a group of nursing students travel to the Haiti ministry to provide much needed medical care. You can read more about the Felician Sisters' ministry and the trip to Haiti on page 19 in this issue of FOCUS.

We joined together as a community in solidarity with the

family and friends of the students from Parkland, Florida whose lives were so tragically and senselessly taken on that morning of great sadness and loss in mid-February. As I shared on the day following the terrible tragedy, *our core values here at Felician remind us of the sacredness of all life and the need to stand with one another in working together to shape a society in which this kind of violence becomes nonexistent.*

Late in February, I joined a group of University presidents who met with NJ officials to discuss the critical importance of the Tuition Assistance Grant (TAG) student aid program, a cornerstone for providing access and opportunity to low- and moderate-income students to attend their school of choice within the state.

Several of our students, including Felician's 2018 valedictorian, Kristina Towadros, fellow seniors Kevin Cataldo and Marcela Alvarado and sophomores Arvin Narvaez and Joseph Leone were nominated and appointed as Felician University's representatives at the United Nations.

In March - we *literally* marched together in Rutherford's first ever St. Patrick's Day parade and later in the month Felician University's Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) degree program was ranked as one of the best online graduate nursing programs in the nation by *U.S. News and World Report*. Sponsored by AT&T and in partnership with NJ STEM Pathways Network, Felician hosted three Cyber-Science Camps on our Lodi campus, and Felician's graduate program in counseling psychology was upgraded to a full, ten-year accreditation term by the Masters in Psychology and Counseling Accreditation Counsel (MPCAC). Mid-month I was honored and humbled to be recognized by NJBIZ as one of the "Top 50 Women in New Jersey".

One of the great joys of the year is when our administration, faculty, staff, and students come together monthly to break bread and talk with the Sisters at the Immaculate Conception Convent in Lodi about their ministries. It's an annual event which reminds us of the Franciscan values that transcend all we do at Felician University.

In April, I traveled to Asia and met with institutional and government officials in four cities in Vietnam and China to discuss a range of joint academic programs including faculty and student exchanges, undergraduate degree programs, faculty development programs, and a Master's in Business Administration program. You can read more about my experiences in Asia on page 16.

On the athletic front, our Golden Falcons gave us much to cheer about across all of our 14 NCAA Division II teams.



While a complete review of the year's athletic highlights appears on pages 10 - 11, I am compelled to point out just a few of our athletic achievements. First, the unsung heroines of the lanes, our women's bowling team, winning the NJIAAW Winter Team Academic Award for third year in row. Next, our men's baseball team captured its third consecutive Central Athletic Collegiate Conference (CACC) regular season title. Then we all held our breath as they advanced to the championship tournament and made a valiant attempt to claim victory of a CACC championship title. While we lost to Wilmington, we ended the year with many accolades - five members of the Felician University baseball team were elected to the 2018 all-CACC postseason teams and Coach Chris Langan was again voted Coach of the Year for the third consecutive season. Congratulations to all of our teams and coaches and GO FALCONS!

An initiative that is certain to advance our athletic achievements in years to come is the building of our new Wellness and Recreation Center. Soon to rise at the very heart of our Rutherford campus is an amazing facility that will surely be a centerpiece of campus life at Felician. We are adding an appropriate and much needed wellness and recreation center which will offer fitness training and wellness programs that will benefit the Felician community as well as the surrounding communities we serve. I encourage you to turn to pages 6 through 9 and read more about our plans.

Commencement ceremonies are always a special moment in time. This year, especially, our keynote speakers, Jaime Casap of Google and 2017 Felician MLK Legacy Award recipient and Morgan Stanley executive, Carla Harris, delivered poignant remarks that spoke so well to the Franciscan mission and values of our University.

“ ... Always remember that you remain a part of Felician forever, and that Felician will always remain connected to you. ”

The backgrounds and experiences of these fine and talented people are steeped in helping and addressing the needs of underserved communities and doing all they can to ensure fair and equal access to higher education, academic success and a pathway to better lives and a better world.

In the documentary, “A Man of His Word”, Pope Francis said, “In the family, there are difficulties. But those difficulties are overcome with love.” Our 2018 valedictorian, Kristina Tawadros, is the perfect example of how a family's love can lead to learning and ultimately improve the world condition. Her family's journey from Egypt to America is an inspiration to all who dream of a better life.

As I said in my charge to graduates, “*Hold fast to your unique self, draw from all that you have learned here at Felician University, and do all you can to bring positive change to the world. Always remember that you remain a part of Felician forever, and that Felician will always remain connected to you.*”

Congratulations to our Class of 2018. We will always welcome you home to Felician.

**Dr. Anne M. Prisco, President
July 2018**

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Felician University Magazine
Spring 2018

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Celebrating its 75th anniversary, Felician University – with campuses in Lodi and Rutherford, NJ – is a Catholic Franciscan University founded and sponsored by the Felician Sisters in 1942. Felician offers bachelor's, master's, and doctoral programs in Arts and Sciences, Business, Nursing and Teacher Education. In 2015, the University was ranked by Money Magazine as one of America's Top Colleges and also listed among Money's top 25 private colleges for merit aid. Felician University is also ranked by the 2017 PayScale College ROI Report as being among the top three private universities in New Jersey for best return on investment. When considering schools in the Garden State, Felician is an institution where tuition dollars and donor contributions go farther. Felician was also ranked by Niche as one of the safest universities in the nation and the 2nd safest school in New Jersey. Top-ranked colleges on the 2017 Niche list offer a safe and healthy environment with little or no campus crime, drugs, or alcohol use. For more information, visit www.felician.edu.

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By Kristina Tawadros, 2018 Valedictorian

“Awil kilma ana nattahah kannit bil loga il arabiyya.” No, this is not a typo; this is Arabic. It means, “The first word I ever spoke was in the Arabic language.”

My parents came from Egypt seeking opportunities for their children in a country with a complex language, a unique culture, and absolutely no relation to home.

Growing up, I internalized the importance of education because I witnessed the struggles that my parents endured. They worked jobs that did not challenge their intellect because their degrees did not transfer over, and they worked from dawn till dusk to give us what we needed.

I knew that getting an education was important for myself and my personal fulfillment, but I also knew that what I was doing was not just for me.

My parents came to America hoping to see the changes in social justice, freedom, and experience that they only dreamed of having back home. They left behind their families, friends, and jobs all for the hopeful wish that my brother and I would lead fulfilling lives.

The honor of being valedictorian is not just for me - it is for my parents as well. This accomplishment is the sincerest and most visual representation of my constant appreciation to them, and I hope that the pride they feel is a percentage of the immense gratitude I feel towards them.

So, mama and baba, thank you for providing me with

endless love, encouragement, and hope. You made me who I am today. It's my hope that all students reading this will thank someone who has supported you during your time in college.

In terms of college, Felician University has provided me with lifelong friendships and the education that I need to pursue graduate school and strive for a career in law. My knowledge has expanded exponentially, and I have developed a sense of deep understanding of spiritual awareness that is engrossed in the Franciscan vision, and I have learned and grown because of my peers, colleagues, and professors.

As a Global Peace and Justice major with philosophy and religious studies minors, I studied the hefty works of Rousseau, Machiavelli, Hobbes, and even some of Freire. Being the president of the Honors Program, I have been awarded the opportunity to work closely with Dr. Blanchard and the Honors Board, and I attended the Northeast Regional Honors Conference and participated in Model UN.

With Dr. Khawaja's engaging classes and profound knowledge about philosophy, coupled with Dr. Norton's and Prince Adnan's United Nations courses, I leave Felician with a deeper understanding of global affairs and personal experience in the international world.

While at the United Nations, I, one day, approached a massive wall with black and white images of women dressed in long dresses and headscarves and the caption “Rape in Conflict” printed on each photo with a small description of

**“... when one door closes,
do not dwell on what was
lost because a new one
will open, and if we are
always looking behind us
to ‘what was’, we won’t
see ‘what is to come’.”**





the young girl or woman represented in the image. I stood, absorbing these words. I knew that around the world, in countries that might be considered underdeveloped, assault of women and girls was prevalent, but seeing the images was reinforcement of the atrocities that occur both in other nations as well as in America.

These women had to deal with great disadvantages including inequalities as a result of conflicted social standards, emotional and physical distress, and discouragement from society and from family members. Nevertheless, I marveled at the fact that after the brutality the women endured, they had the courage to pose for photos that would be used in an international arena.

Every time I passed by the images, I would think of the lives that these women would have had if they had been in my place, in my shoes, in a country where assault is unacceptable and where survivors are a symbol of strength and endurance, not a taint on the family name. Unfortunately, the fates of these individuals were already determined when they were born into lives of desolation and destitution, and for the most part, their voices were never to be heard in their conflict-stricken nations.

I knew that change was needed, but I did not know how to go about making it happen, and I was only afforded this opportunity to even process and convey these images because of Felician University's NGO status. But after seeing this, if I had to choose one thing that I have developed over my years in college, it would be knowing that not one entity alone can make a difference. So, here are some words of advice to my fellow graduates. And no, it is not some cheesy or overused quote.

All throughout our lives, we have been given the motivation to keep going because, for the most part, we knew our next steps. Every year in elementary and middle school, we knew that we would go on to the next grade. In the 8th grade, we knew that we were going to high school, and in high school, we decided to go to college. But now what? Now is when we will step out of our comfort zone and explore. Sometimes, there will be doors shut in front of us, and it will take a lot of strength and perseverance to keep going. But when one door closes, do not dwell on what was lost because a new one will open, and if we are always looking behind us to 'what was', we won't see 'what is to come'.

We're here at the end of our undergraduate degrees with most of us not really knowing what we are going to do in the future. Leaving our tight-knit community at Felician University, our friends, and our professors who have become like family is not the end of our time as Falcons. We will always have a great institution to fall back on and the memories to push us forward.

Not all of us have jobs or further schooling lined up yet. And quite frankly, in our current society, if you do have something definite post-graduation, that deserves a celebration of its own. To everyone else, the road doesn't end here. Maybe in all of our panicked heads there are hypothetical cliffs that we will fall off of after college, but that is just the panicked moment. Don't be afraid to stand up for what you want. Everyone is waiting for the people around them to make a difference, but it's not going to happen; instead, take responsibility.

If you want to see change in the world and in your own lives, go out and make it happen for yourself because it all starts with one voice...your voice. So, let it be heard.

ARC

Felician's Wellness and Recreation Center

The New Centerpiece for Student Life

From its beautiful 19th century Iviswold Castle, a landmark building, to the Education Commons housing the School of Nursing's state-of-the-art Nursing Resource and Simulation Center, to the recently renovated dining hall and considerable technological upgrades to the School of Business, Felician University continues to improve its facilities and expand its academic programs to include 55 majors, 11 master's degrees and three doctoral programs.

The University is now poised to make the student life experience even more vibrant by embarking on an exciting initiative to build a new \$12 million Wellness and Recreation Center (ARC) at the heart of its Rutherford campus. Felician's Transforming Lives Campaign seeks to raise \$2.8 million to complete the ARC's construction.



“As the connected new Wellness and Recreation Center and old gymnasium face across the campus to the Castle, it forms a wonderful and safe pedestrian quad that’s free of vehicular traffic and will serve as the heart of the University—a true center to our campus life.” - Dr. John Farkas,
Vice President of University Advancement

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“We have a burgeoning residential student population,” Dr. Prisco said. “Our students deserve an exciting and socially stimulating campus life experience. The building of the athletic recreation enter is a huge step in the right direction for the entire Felician community of students, faculty, and staff, which also includes the greater community of Rutherford—who are our supporters, friends and neighbors.”

“As an NCAA Division II University, our school-sponsored athletic programs compete against institutions that have built new facilities,” Dr. Prisco added. “Many of our major athletic events have outgrown our current facility.”

Echoing Dr. Prisco’s words, VP of University Advancement, Dr. John Farkas said, “It’s time for the next step, which is to transform the student life experience on our residential campus in Rutherford so that we may continue to attract and retain the wonderful students who come to Felician to better their lives and the world around them.”

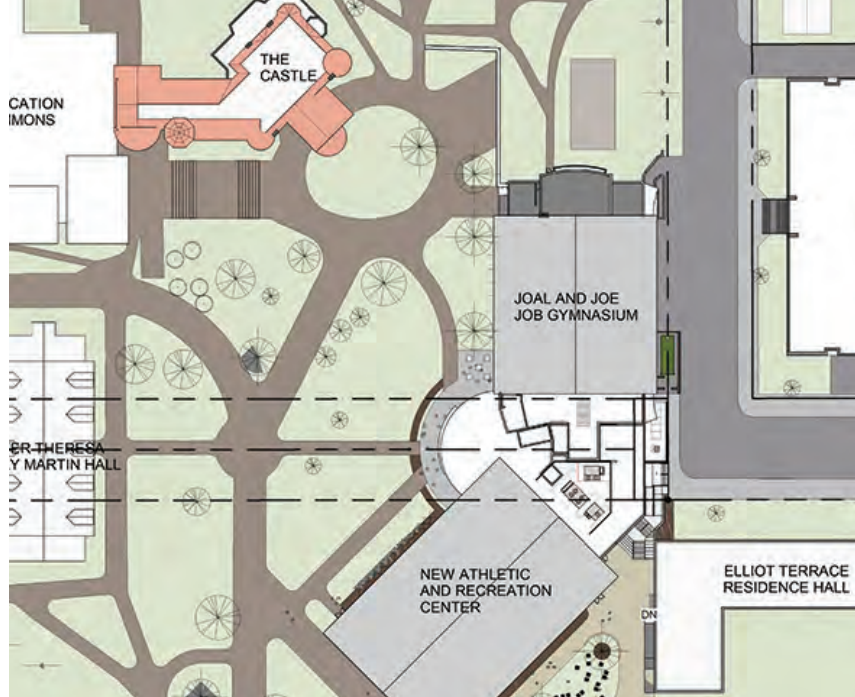
Athletic Director, Ben (“JR”) Dinallo has been a member of Felician’s athletic department for 22 years and the entire time the University has had an NCAA program. He brings a unique perspective.

“The Wellness and Recreation Center (ARC) is no longer a ‘want’ for the University,” he said. “It’s a vital need.”

The need to increase what the University provides in the way of athletic and recreational space comes as the on-campus population at Felician surges. Almost 60 percent of the University’s freshmen live on campus and more are coming. Additionally, Felician is committed to growing its international student population and, of course, they will live on campus.

Playing club sports and participating in intramurals is a key aspect of student life. However, school-sponsored sports such as men’s and women’s basketball and lacrosse and women’s volleyball all share the same facility. Athletics generally played outdoors use the University’s currently limited indoor facility during inclement weather, too. Because of these limitations, intramural play often cannot begin until 1:00 a.m. — the very definition of an overcrowded, outgrown facility.

“To be a university that competes with New Jersey’s 50 institutions of higher learning, we must invest in quality-of-life improvements for our students,” Dinallo said.



The Wellness and Recreation Center is expected to:

- ▶ Enhance the campus experience and well-being for the majority of Felician students by providing exercise and recreational equipment—open to all—as well as provide casual space for students to gather, and much needed space for intramural athletics
- ▶ Create opportunities for positive engagement with the University's surrounding communities and neighbors and with public schools—especially high schools - in our region.
- ▶ Most visibly, to create a true heart to our campus with a new signature building that joins the University's landmark Castle, Ed Commons and adjacent halls of learning to form a pedestrian student quad
- ▶ Raise the University's athletic facilities on par with peer Division II schools—a critical need for Felician's 14 NCAA Division II athletic teams, which have grown from 10 teams in just five years

The new facility will truly create a multi-purpose center for Felician that will enable the University to host events. The summer season will welcome athletic and cheerleading camps.

"As the University hosts high school basketball and volleyball tournaments, the Wellness and Recreation Center also serves as a fantastic new way to introduce high school students from across the region to what Felician has to offer as an institution of higher learning," Dr. Prisco said.

In building the ARC, Felician will gain a gymnasium that will be the equal of other schools in the Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference. Student athletes will have locker rooms reflective of a Division II school.

Dr. Farkas explained that the new Wellness and Recreation Center will angle away from the existing facility, and the two (existing and new) will be joined together

by a "beautiful and functional glass-encased connector." The connector space will be home to Felician's Hall of Fame, serve as an attractive gathering space for students, house the new locker rooms and an expansive equipment storage space, and provides support for new health majors such as Exercise Sports Science.

"As the connected new and old Wellness and Recreation Center faces across the campus to the Castle, it forms a wonderful and safe pedestrian quad that's free of vehicular traffic and will serve as the heart of the University—a true center to our campus life," Dr. Farkas said.

The new ARC also transforms the rear side of the new facility, facing the Milton Court and Elliott Terrace residential halls, into a scenic outdoor gathering space, replete with a screen on the side of the building for projecting movies in the spring, summer, and early fall seasons. The trash processing will also be shielded from view

"ARC ALSO SERVES AS A FANTASTIC NEW WAY TO INTRODUCE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS FROM ACROSS THE REGION TO WHAT FELICIAN HAS TO OFFER."



and a wall that now impedes the pedestrian/ student flow from the east side of campus, will be converted to an inviting, attractive gateway.

"We are a robust, vibrant, growing university," Dr. Prisco said. "And yet, we have been intentional as we moved forward. We invested first in the facilities and programs at the center of the student educational experience. Clearly, the next logical step is to invest in their on-campus experience."

Those interested in learning more about the Transforming Lives Campaign and helping the University raise the remaining \$2.8 million needed to complete the project are encouraged to contact Felician's University Advancement Department at 201.355.1433 or write Dr. John Farkas, VP of University Advancement at farkasj@felician.edu.



Leave Your Mark on ARC

Goal: \$2,800,000

Naming Opportunities: \$15,570,000

1. Leadership Naming Opportunities

	Cost
a. Name the Athletic Recreation Center	\$ 2,000,000
b. Entrance Plaza	\$ 1,750,000
c. Main Lobby	\$ 1,500,000
d. Student Event Commons	\$ 1,250,000
Total	\$ 6,500,000

2. Visionary Naming Opportunities

a. Basketball Court	\$ 750,000
b. Fitness Center	\$ 750,000
c. Falcons Nest	\$ 650,000
d. Outdoor Seating Area	\$ 600,000
e. Ceiling Score Box	\$ 500,000
f. Cafeteria	\$ 500,000
Total	\$ 3,750,000

3. Partnership Naming Opportunities

a. Concessions	\$ 450,000
b. Hall of Fame Wall	\$ 375,000
c. Milton Court Cascade Stairs	\$ 375,000
d. Trainer's Room	\$ 300,000
e. Servedy	\$ 275,000
f. Existing Lobby-Small	\$ 275,000
g. Men's Locker Room	\$ 250,000
h. Women's Locker Room	\$ 250,000
i. Basketball Hoop	\$ 250,000 (2)
j. Outdoor Volleyball Court	\$ 200,000
k. Coaches Room	\$ 200,000
l. Visiting Women's Locker Room	\$ 175,000
m. Visiting Men's Locker Room	\$ 175,000
n. Official's Locker Room	\$ 125,000
o. Ticket Office	\$ 125,000
p. Corner Entry Way 1	\$ 125,000
q. Waste Container	\$ 100,000
r. Elevator	\$ 100,000
s. Home Locker Room Lobby & Hallway	\$ 100,000
t. Equipment Storage	\$ 100,000
Total	\$ 4,575,000

4. Foundation Naming Opportunities

a. Equipment Room	\$ 75,000
b. Dish Washing Area	\$ 50,000
c. Office(s)	\$ 50,000 (7)
d. Kitchen 1-Small	\$ 50,000
e. Utility Mechanical Storage	\$ 50,000
f. Mechanical Room	\$ 25,000
g. Freezer	\$ 25,000
h. Laundry Room	\$ 10,000
i. Storage Room	\$ 10,000
j. Gymnasium Seats	\$ 1,000 (100)
Total	\$ 745,000

Grand Total

\$15,570,000

CHEERING

FOR OUR FUTURE

by Mark Mentone

The 2017-18 academic year saw Felician University athletes excel on the fields of play and beyond.

Five Golden Falcon teams qualified for the Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference (CACC) playoffs. The women's soccer and softball teams ran their postseason streaks to four consecutive years, while the women's (three) and men's (four) basketball teams ended playoff droughts.

The men's basketball team was powered by redshirt junior guard/forward Terrell Spaulding, who was voted to the NCAA Division II All-East Region Second Team. Spaulding set a Felician single-season record for points, and scored 1,015 points in just two years with the Golden Falcons.

The baseball team continued its recent standard of excellence. The Golden Falcons (30-25, 25-7 CACC) won the CACC South Division regular-season title, the third year in a row they have won the league or division regular-season crown. Felician reached the CACC Tournament for the seventh year in a row, and finished as the conference runner-up after losing to Wilmington (Del.) University in the finals.

While award announcements were still rolling in at press time, Felician captured three of the CACC's top honors. Senior outfielder Matt Diesel was voted the conference Player of the Year and freshman pitcher Michael Gutierrez won CACC Rookie of the Year honors. Furthermore, 15th-year head coach Chris Langan was selected as the CACC Coach of the Year for the third consecutive season. Felician placed five players on the all-conference baseball teams, including three on the First Team.

Diesel set single-season Felician records for runs batted In (65), hits (87), and doubles (25). At press time, he was on the national ballot for both All-America and Academic All America® teams.

Felician University student-athletes continue to excel in the classroom. The women's bowling team led the NCAA among their sport in team GPA. The Golden Falcons were named the East Coast Conference Academic Team of Excellence and the NJIAW Winter All-Academic team.

Through the fall and winter seasons, 15 Golden Falcons were named to the CACC All-Academic Teams, with the spring still pending. Nineteen athletes were chosen for recognition in April in the Arthur Ashe Sports Scholars program by *Diverse Issues in Higher Education* magazine, tying the



department record. In May, 30 athletes were inducted into the National College Athlete Honor Society, Chi Alpha Sigma, including 10 for the first time.

Felician's student-athletes make sure to take time to contribute to their southern Bergen County community – and beyond. Both the women's volleyball and women's basketball teams held fundraisers at a home game to support the fight against women's cancers. Women's basketball team members volunteered at the Stephen Siller Foundation 5K Run & Walk – a fundraiser for 9/11 first responders – and at the annual Rutherford Ragamuffin parade, serving as chaperones and costume contest judges. The softball team, through the Team IMPACT program, "signed" a 10-year-old cancer survivor and softball player from Kearny.

Felician Athletics also performed acts of kindness via its Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC). The SAAC participated in the Hoboken Christmas Exchange, for which they collected gifts for a needy family of eight from the Golden Falcons' 14 intercollegiate teams. Also during the holiday season, it hosted a Letters to Santa event as part of Macy's Believe Campaign. Macy's donated \$1 to Make-A-Wish America for every letter. The SAAC also supported the efforts of the community events of individual teams.

In the spring, Felician fielded a men's lacrosse team for the first time. The current totals of 14 varsity intercollegiate sports and 270+ student-athletes are the most in Felician history. The coaching staff is working hard to identify and recruit prospective student-athletes to help make 2018-19 another year to remember.

Felician Athletics

Felician College instituted its varsity intercollegiate athletics program in the 1996-97 academic year with four sports – men's soccer, women's and men's basketball, and softball. The Golden Falcons gained national affiliation in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA).

After three years as an independent, Felician was granted membership in the Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference (CACC) for 1999-2000. The department also continued to grow, as women's soccer, baseball, and women's and men's cross-country programs were born. In 2002-03, the Golden Falcons played their first season as full members of NCAA Division II, adding women's volleyball and men's golf to reach the NCAA D-II minimum of 10 sports.

Today, Felician University fields 14 intercollegiate sports – eight for women and six for men. In the last four years, the Golden Falcons have added women's and men's lacrosse, women's bowling and women's outdoor track & field.

In 2018-19, more than 300 student-athletes will represent the Golden Falcons as varsity athletes, the most ever. As a member of Division II, Felician offers partial athletic scholarships to qualified candidates. A staff directory can be viewed at www.felicianathletics.com/information/directory/index.

An expanded intramural program is also in the works for the 2018-19 academic year. Registration will start shortly for Arena Flag Football, Sand Volleyball, and 3-on-3 Basketball during the fall 2018 semester. Indoor soccer is among the early favorites for spring 2019 offerings.

Throughout the department's expansion, the Felician' athletics staff has never lost sight of its mission – to develop the total person, the student as well as the athlete. The University believes it is essential that student-athletes be provided the direction, assistance, and guidance needed to reach their goals in all areas of college life – academic, spiritual, and social. The ultimate goal is to encourage a well-adjusted, contributing member of the University and the larger society.





Relay for Life of Rutherford Raises over \$73k for the American Cancer Society

April showers typically bring May flowers but this year, April seemed to only extend the rainy season into May. For the second year in a row, Felician University was the proud host of Relay for Life of Rutherford which took place on May 12th in the Felician University gymnasium. Over 30 teams from across the region walked for eight hours in the gymnasium to support the American Cancer Society as part of the Relay for Life fundraising event. During the event, each team was asked to have at least one member walking on the track to signify that cancer never sleeps. Team members who aren't on the track visited "campsites" around the gymnasium where they could participate in games, activities and entertainment while learning how to be a better advocate for the American Cancer Society.

To date, the event has raised over \$73,000 of its \$80,000 goal. Donations are being collected until August 13th. In addition to hosting the event, Felician also provided Iviswold Castle to host the survivor lunch which honored survivors and caregivers.

"In keeping with our Franciscan values it's important for us as a university to give back to the community and those in need. As we prepare to build our new Wellness and Recreation Center (ARC) we look forward to hosting even more events to benefit our student body and the community around us," said Dr. Anne Prisco.

Breaking Bread with the Sisters



Smiles and joy abounded as Felician's administration, faculty, staff, and students enjoyed lunch with the sisters at Immaculate Conception Convent in Lodi. Said Dr. Sylvia McGeary, Executive Director for Mission Integration, "Members of our university family are always amazed with the past and present ministries accomplished by the Sisters."

St. Patrick's Day March



Felician President, Dr. Anne Prisco, and Professor, Stephen Sergi, (center) are joined by an exuberant Felician Community in celebrating Rutherford's St. Patrick's Day Parade, organized by the Rutherford Irish American Association. More than 600 marchers and 70 community groups participated in the inaugural event. As described by the *Bergen Record*: "The luck of the Irish was with Rutherford on Sunday, when midway through the borough's inaugural St. Patrick's Day parade, the clouds parted and the sun began to shine warm upon the faces of hundreds of enthusiastic marchers and attendees."

Heroes in Our Community: Dr. Thomas Bellavia



With the experience of 40 years in private practice and a vision to transform healthcare from a model of "managing sickness" to one of "preserving wellness," Thomas Bellavia, M.D. is the founder and chairman of Osler Health IPA (Independent Practice Association).

Dr. Bellavia believes that to be successful and sustainable, the healthcare sector must make and keep the public healthier by effectively preventing and managing chronic disease or reverse its progression more proficiently. Further, he believes that by using an array of sophisticated analytical tools (e.g., algorithms), healthcare professionals can identify higher health risks that warrant evaluation. Dr. Bellavia acknowledges that this sea-change in healthcare requires training and transforming primary care practices to use advanced analytics in concert with a specially selected, clinically collaborative network of physicians.

His dedication to community service spans nearly 50 years and includes serving as Physician and Medical Director for the Bergen County Jail; School and Sports Physician for Becton Regional High School (East Rutherford); Sports Physician for Rutherford High School; and Borough Physician (Hasbrouck Heights).

Dr. Bellavia was the originator of the Patient Centered Home Project in New Jersey and serves on the U.S. House of Representatives' National Physician's Health Care Policy Group. He also teaches at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. He is president emeritus and a member of the Board of Directors of the New Jersey Academy of Family Physicians as well as a member of the American Medical Association.



Joetta Clark Diggs Recipient of Felician University's 2018 Martin Luther King Jr. Legacy Award

To honor the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Felician awarded Joetta Clark Diggs with the 2018 Legacy Award.

In her legendary 24-year elite career as a half-mile runner, Mrs. Clark Diggs represented the United States of America at the 1988, 1992, 1996, and 2000 Olympic Games. The New Jersey-native established the Joetta Clark Diggs Sports Foundation in 2002 to promote involvement with physical activities for girls and boys in grades K-12. The Foundation is committed to teaching good health and positive work ethics associated with

participation in sports. In addition, it strives to introduce different opportunities to children in the sports and entertainment industries and focuses on the correlation between academics and athletics.

Mrs. Clark Diggs is also the President of Joetta Sports & Beyond, LLC, where she delivers messages of health, fitness and empowerment to corporations, colleges, medical programs and civic organizations. In 2009, she authored her first book, *Joetta's "P" Principles for Success: Life Lessons Learned from Track & Field*. The acclaimed book has been

“ In honoring Joetta Clark Diggs, we also recognize and cherish the strength and power of women leaders throughout our nation and world. ”

considered a tremendous resource to corporate executives and an inspiration to youth.

“In honoring Joetta Clark Diggs, we also recognize and cherish the strength and power of women leaders throughout our nation and the world,” said Felician University President, Dr. Anne Prisco. “By uniquely fusing the synergistic elements of athletics and education, Joetta has positively impacted the lives of some 50,000-young people.”

Mrs. Clark Diggs is a graduate of University of Tennessee, where she was a nine-time NCAA champion and 15-time All-American. She would later be inducted into the UT Hall of Fame in 2001.

The MLK Jr. Legacy Award was created by Felician University to honor Dr. King by recognizing individuals who strive to fulfill Dr. King's dream of equality and justice.

Mrs. Clark Diggs is an individual whose life's work reflects and promotes the University's core values—especially her passion for issues related to social justice, civil rights and economic equality. Her personal mission in life embodies the mission and values of the University's Felician/Franciscan heritage—compassion, justice, and peace.

PROFILE

Dr. Ronald Gray, Dean of Students

Reflecting on Dr. Ronald Gray's career as an academician, one quickly recognizes a life-long dedication to improving and strengthening the bond between institutions of higher learning and their students.

As Dean of Students, Dr. Gray applies his unique experiences to heighten the attraction and retention of students at Felician University. Stops along his impressive academic path include Penn State, SUNY Buffalo and the University of Pittsburgh's School of Engineering where he began his doctorate studies.

In 2010, his wife accepted a full-time faculty position at Elizabeth City State University, a constituent institution of the University of North Carolina system, shortly following Dr. Gray took an administrative position as Coordinator of Student Engagement and Leadership Development at Tidewater Community College in Virginia, where he continued to learn about the many challenges of a multi-campus institution. With a student body of roughly 34,000, Tidewater operates four campuses in the Chesapeake Bay area, and is one of only a handful of community colleges in the nation to offer student centers on each of its campuses.

"At Tidewater, I learned how important a stimulating and engaging campus life is in attracting and retaining students," Dr. Gray said. "My experience at Tidewater tells me that the new Wellness and Recreation Center (ARC) will play an important role in Felician's future."

After completing his doctorate degree in 2017, Dean Gray, his wife, Dr. Kathleen Gray, and their two children moved north

to Levittown, NY where Kathleen accepted an Academic Dean position at St. Francis College in Brooklyn, NY.

Dean Gray's search for an academic institution where he could help to optimize the student-school relationship brought him to Felician University.

"I could not think of a more perfect place to be," Dr. Gray said. "Felician's Franciscan values, strong academic programs and warm, intimate and caring campus community is a place where I can thrive and make a difference."

Much more than just the physical improvements of facility renovation and the building of the ARC on the Rutherford Campus, Dr. Gray believes in taking what he refers to as a "deeper understanding of the university-student relationship" and leveraging it to bridge the gap between academics and student life.

"I want to work with not only the students, but also with their families to nurture a greater appreciation of what it takes to be successful here at Felician."

To that end, Dr. Gray has developed a separate educational track for parents during orientation. "An engaged student is a retained student," Dr. Gray said. "Parents are the gatekeeper and they play a critical role in reinforcing our values and culture. They help us wrap our arms around our students."

Another initiative Dr. Gray brought to Felician is participation in the National Society of Leadership and Success (NSLS), an honor society that helps students strengthen their leadership skills and succeed. The Society has 872,000 members at 601 colleges and universities nationwide. This past spring, 85 Felician students were inducted into the Society, following the application of some 125 students.

Among the steps to induction into NSLS is participation in a speaker program - live-streamed events held six times annually that feature the world's top business leaders, celebrities, and best-selling authors. Past speakers have included Sir Richard Branson, Trevor Noah, Dr. Deepak Chopra, Anderson Cooper, Ariana Huffington, Al Roker, Simon Sinek, and John Maxell, to name just a few. Students interact with speakers via social media channels such as Twitter and Facebook.

It is Dr. Gray's "very achievable" goal to one day in the not-too-distant future have Felician University host a speaker event. "Aside from the speaker program, our students will gain so much from membership in NSLS - from over a quarter-million-dollars in scholarships and awards, to a global job bank, networking team, coaching, and communication training - the Society boasts that 85% of its members transition into careers and jobs of their choice following graduation," Dr. Gray said.

Whether it's stimulating new programs and exciting new initiatives or outreach to families, Dean Gray is focused on considerably raising Felician's game in its relationship with students.





Felician's Reach Extends to Asia

As a Felician Franciscan Ministry, Felician University values diversity in all forms.

"We believe that engaging with individuals different from ourselves builds empathy and enriches Felician's global village," said University President, Dr. Anne Prisco. "An important goal is to build partnerships with institutions in other countries to bring Felician's mission and teachings to individuals as well as host them on our campuses to learn from each other."

To achieve this goal, one of the initiatives Felician has undertaken is to partner with the firm Hunter Global to assist the University in forging partnerships in Asia. Nearly a full year of planning and development by Hunter Global led to their strong interest in Felician University and several institutional partners in Vietnam and China, which in turn led to a visit from President Prisco.

Culturally, having a president visit is a clear signal that the University is serious about establishing a relationship.

Over the course of 10 days, Dr. Prisco traveled with Hunter Global's president, vice president and regional representatives to four cities, and visited with seven-plus academic institutions including six universities and a high school. The schools visited share common values with Felician University. All are focused

on providing a high quality education that develops the whole person.

"I was impressed with the schools I visited and the interest in partnering with us," Dr. Prisco said. "During meetings with institutional and government officials, we discussed a range of program options such as ESL and summer short-term programs, faculty and student exchanges, undergraduate degree programs, faculty development programs, and a Master's in Business Administration program."

Dr. Prisco met with government and provincial ministers who oversee efforts for economic development and educational programs and, as illustrated in the accompanying map, traveled to:

- Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam - Hoa Sen University and Hong Bang International University
- Hanoi, Vietnam – FPT University
- Chengdu, China – Jincheng College of Sichuan University
- Changchun, China – Beihua University, the Confucius Academy, a three-year college and a high school

The trip set the stage for a number of opportunities. Hunter Global, will be working in collaboration with Felician and each institution to determine how best to align their interests and needs with Felician's programs.

Felician Hosted Inaugural Conference of the Latino Mental Health Association of New Jersey



Felician University hosted the inaugural conference of the Latino Mental Health Association of New Jersey (LMHANJ) on February 2, 2018.

The conference focused on the interchange of ideas and information to empower mental health providers and researchers who serve the Latinx community. It included a roundtable discussion, symposium, poster session, several workshops, and a keynote presentation by Milton Fuentes, PsyD, President LMHANJ, Professor of Psychology and Director of the Research Academy for University Learning, Montclair State University.

Felician Partners with NJ STEM Pathways Network

For the second consecutive year, AT&T has supported Felician's Saturday Cyber-Science Camps, which offer high school students typically underrepresented in STEM fields the exposure to these areas. The camps are designed to engage students' interests through explorations into educational and career opportunities, as well as hands-on laboratory experiences - guided by experts in their respective fields.

The weekend camp program included two morning sessions. The first provided a hands-on learning in computer science, followed by a cyber technologies and cyber-crime lab experience. The afternoon session included a natural sciences laboratory experience and an end-of-day debriefing.

The NJ STEM Pathways Network, a public-private strategic alliance, defines and guides a statewide STEM vision for pre-K-to-workforce formal and informal learning opportunities that strengthen academic skills and inspire students; facilitate research and recommendations on STEM talent pipeline needs and barriers to success; and exposes students to the many educational pathways, experiences, and professionals that can prepare them for STEM degree programs and careers in New Jersey.

Felician Receives Full Term MPCAC Accreditation

Felician's graduate program in counseling psychology has been upgraded to a full, ten-year accreditation term by the Masters in Psychology and Counseling Accreditation Counsel (MPCAC).

The program prepares students for a meaningful career with the ability to serve diverse populations. Students learn to demonstrate awareness of ethical challenges, use technology and information to maintain the best practices in counseling, and show competence in individual counseling, family counseling, and organizational consultation and interventions.

“This accreditation truly attests to the high-quality education that our graduate program provides ...”

Daniel Mahoney, Ed.D.

The MPCAC mission is to accredit academic programs in counseling and psychological services at the graduate level. MPCAC accreditation attests to the quality of the educational program in regard to student preparation for entry into the profession.

“This accreditation truly speaks to the high-quality education that our graduate program provides and exceptional professionals that enter the workforce after completing the program,” said Daniel Mahoney, Ed.D., Felician's Director of Counseling Psychology/ Professor of Psychology. “We strive to prepare our students to enter their professions fully prepared and fully capable to handle any and all challenges thrown their way.”

To learn more about Felician's graduate program in counseling, visit our website at www.felician.edu/academics.



Fostering Leadership in Healthcare

Nursing is both an art and a science, with caring and advocacy as its essential components. It is a collaborative process, which recognizes and respects the diversity of all people. The Felician School of Nursing strives to nurture resilient leaders who are passionate about their values and advocacy role in caring for patients, families and communities while working in a complex global healthcare environment.

Through the combination of its accomplished faculty and determined student body, it's no surprise that Felician has developed many leaders.

"Being a leader is being a role model. When I'm able to bring out the best in people, I know that I've done my job," said Dr. Rosemarie Rosales, Director of Corporate Compliance of Best Care College and President of the Philippine Nurses Association of New Jersey. Felician's dedication to preparing students is what encouraged Rosales to enroll in the University's School of Nursing.

Faculty member and President of the New Jersey State Nurses Association, Dr. Benjamin Evans echoes her sentiments. "Leadership is a dual role - it's being able to help the very same people you lead."

Leading by helping is an important aspect of Felician's core values of providing an education that prepare students to excel in

an ever evolving healthcare industry. As healthcare systems continue to change, so has the role of nurses. It's critical for a nursing program's curriculum to stay current with the changing landscape.

Its legacy of academic excellence, coupled with strong Franciscan values, made Felician's School of Nursing the perfect home for faculty member Dr. David Rabinowitsch. Also President of the American Holistic Nursing Credentialing Corporation, Rabinowitsch feels that Felician's values resonate with him as a holistic nurse, as they focus on being patient-centered, respecting everyone, and consciously sharing peace and love with the world.

Nursing is a profession of lifelong learners," Rabinowitsch said. "I learn from my students as much as I teach them." He encourages his students to take on leadership roles through volunteering and to "treat every experience as a learning opportunity."

Felician's student nurses excel both in and out of the classroom. Two nursing students who have taken on leadership roles outside of the classroom are Kerry Conboy (B.S. Nursing, 2019) and Bakhshish Kaur (B.S. Nursing, 2019).

Conboy, Vice President of the New Jersey Nursing Student's Inc. state board, believes that learning beyond the classroom is vital and encourages others to step outside of the walls of academia to heighten success.

"Only ten percent of learning comes from formal education," Conboy said. "While many can say they are great students, twenty percent of learning actually comes from relationships and

through others and the remaining seventy percent of learning is derived from experience."

According to Conboy, leadership roles in particular offer opportunities to develop and practice decision-making, time management and relationship building - all transferable skills that can be applied to the field of nursing.

"Most important, leadership roles create confidence," he said. "A nurse must be confident to perform well."

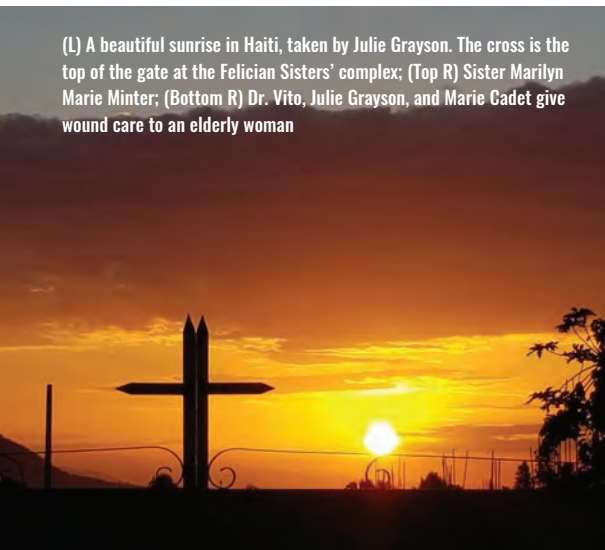
Kaur, Treasurer of the New Jersey Nursing Student's Inc. board, agrees. "The best approach to leadership in nursing is to practice with confidence," Kaur said. "A good leader shows respect and fairness to each and every person on the team. In nursing, it's not about the individual. It's about teamwork."

Teamwork is vital as nursing can be a challenging and mentally exhausting field, yet as Felician Alumni Judy Padula, VP patient care services/CNO at St. Joseph's Health, notes, "The rewards are immeasurable. You will never be sorry you chose the nursing profession when you realize you have impacted someone's life."

Her advice to students looking to enter the profession is simple, "Enjoy the process of learning, as there are always new and innovative ways to provide healthcare."

An educational experience built on strong leadership, service, and a lifelong commitment to genuinely caring for others are hallmarks of Felician University's School of Nursing – and are the traits graduates of Felician's nursing programs carry with them long into their careers.

(L) A beautiful sunrise in Haiti, taken by Julie Grayson. The cross is the top of the gate at the Felician Sisters' complex; (Top R) Sister Marilyn Marie Minter; (Bottom R) Dr. Vito, Julie Grayson, and Marie Cadet give wound care to an elderly woman



Felician University Brings Nursing Skills and Clinical Service to Haitian Mission

Just two weeks after Sister Marilyn Marie Minter and SM Inga Borko moved into their new Felician Mission complex in Jacmel, Haiti, Dr. Kathleen Vito, Ph.D., Professor of Nursing at Felician University, and two of her graduate students traveled to the Felician Sisters Mission in Haiti to share their nursing skills and offer clinical service to a country still recovering from the devastating earthquake of 2010.

Accompanying Dr. Vito were Marie Cadet, RN, BSN, from Maplewood, NJ, and Julie Grayson, RN, BSN, from Ridgewood, NJ. Together with their professor, Marie and Julie worked with the Mother Angela Mobile Health Clinic and made home health care visits to some of the poorest neighborhoods in Jacmel.

"I am so proud of Dr. Vito, Marie, and Julie for demonstrating our Franciscan values and offering their time and expertise to help those in need," said Dr. Anne Prisco, Felician University President. "Their presence brought joy and comfort to their Haitian brothers and sisters."

The students and faculty worked over 40-hour weeks, giving advanced-practice nursing care to residents. Dr. Yves, the Medical Director of the Mother Angela Mobile Health Clinic, was instrumental in functioning as a preceptor to the students so they could prescribe medications during the clinics just as if they were in the U.S. completing their clinical hours.

"Both students are in the Family Nurse Practitioner Track MSN program, and the experience of Marie and Julie in Haiti was part of their final clinical coursework," Dr. Vito said. "Both will be graduating this summer as Primary Care Nurses."

Sister Minter was quoted in *National Catholic Reporter*, best summarizing Felician's mission in Haiti. "There is always hope for Haiti because where there is life, there is hope," she said. "Life needs to be embraced every day, one relationship at a time."

Gallup Poll: Nursing Rated as Most Honest and Ethical Profession

During a time when Americans' confidence in many U.S. institutions has declined, the public's trust in nurses remains unmatched.

"The public sees the important role nurses play in all settings where health care is provided. The nurse is not only the care provider but the advocate, educator and coordinator of care for patients, families, and caregivers," said Dean Muriel Shore.

For the 16th year in a row, the public rated nursing as the most honest and ethical profession in America, with an 82 percent rating of high/very high, according to a recently released Gallup survey. Nurses have claimed the top spot since 1999, the first year they were included in the survey, with the exception of 2001, when firefighters were voted No. 1 in the wake of the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

The Gallup survey paints a positive portrait of how nurses are perceived compared to other professions. For example, the public gave a 56 percent rating for police officers, a 18 percent rating for lawyers, a 16 percent rating for business executives, and a 11 percent rating for Members of Congress, among many professions represented in the survey.

As written elsewhere, these numbers are important because they contextualize and complement findings that show that patients benefit when nurses are leading and working to the full scope of their education. A 2014 study funded by the National Institutes of Health found that patients with heart disease were almost 50 percent more likely to receive optimal care when their care was coordinated by teams led by nurses. Nurse-led teams not only ensured that patients received all recommended care in the hospital, but also identified helpful community resources and served as a liaison with families and care providers after patients were discharged from the hospital.

A woman with long, wavy brown hair and a nose ring is smiling while working at a desk. She is wearing a white, textured knit sweater and a thin gold necklace. Her hands are on a black keyboard and mouse. In the background, there are three computer monitors displaying financial data and charts. Above the monitors, a large digital display shows stock market information. The text "Making Enhancements Towards a Brighter Future" is overlaid on the left side of the image in a white, serif font.

Making Enhancements Towards a Brighter Future

QCOM
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TTechnology is incorporated into almost every aspect of our lives and has impacted the way businesses operate. As the business world continues to evolve and adapt, Felician's School of Business remains on the cutting edge of change.

One such change that has inspired Felician's students and the future of the University's School of Business has been the renovation of Martin Hall, which includes state-of-the-art technology to enhance the learning environment and bolster new academic programs.

Melissa Gallo, a MBA candidate at Felician, is excited about the renovations.

“The School of Business is growing, and I’m happy to have been part of the change.” - Melissa Gallo

Amanda Nowak, also a MBA candidate, agrees. Referring to the addition of new computers and a real-time stock market digital “ticker”, “Technology is rapidly changing in business, and Felician University has implemented changes that prepare us for real world challenges and opportunities.”

Gallo echoed Nowak's thoughts. “I have had the chance to speak to successful CEOs, partners and other professionals one-on-one. Not many students from other schools can say that.”

Additionally, Felician has leveraged it's knowledge and skills with new technologies to not only help students in their careers, but also to assist those in need. Through the University's participation in the IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program, students have used accounting software to prepare free tax returns for low income, elderly, disabled, and other underserved community members.

Providing hands-on experience with the software used by accountants gives students like Melissa Gallo and Amanda Nowak the knowledge, experience, and confidence they need to build long and successful careers.

In addition to its commitment to advancing

technology and academic programs throughout the university, the School of Business continues to offer other beneficial initiatives such as the 8th Annual Business Symposium on April 19th. The event included a panel discussion, “The Future of Business in a Changing World.” Gallo, a panel moderator, pointed out that attending events like these are important for students, as they can be used for networking and boosting a student's confidence in both public speaking and communications. Nowak agrees, sharing how helpful it has been to hear from others about how they overcame obstacles in their lives, both professionally and personally, to become successful.

Providing access to business professionals also opens a variety of doors to Felician students. Nowak attended a business program where she met someone from KPMG. Nowak eventually interviewed for an internship at the Big Four accounting firm which led to a full time job offer. She believes none of these opportunities would have been possible without Felician's forward thinking approach to the business world. Gallo also successfully completed an internship with KPMG and will be joining the global accounting firm upon graduation.

Both Gallo and Nowak offered words of encouragement and inspiration as their academic careers at Felician University wind down.

“A phrase to describe my experience at Felician would be ‘hard work pays off!’” After putting in a lot of hard work and putting myself out there, I am very proud of the outcome. I have learned that if you want to be successful, you must work for it. I knew I wanted to be a successful accountant post-graduation, and with the support of my professors, fellow peers, and family, I have reached my goal of receiving an offer for the job I wanted,” said Gallo.

“My experience at Felician was certainly rewarding from many vantage points - from the people I met along the way, to many experiential opportunities,” said Nowak. “For example, Felician provided many great opportunities for participation in programs and clubs. I was also fortunate to work for one of my professors at an accounting firm, which in turn provided the experience I needed to advance to another internship and finally to a full time job offer.”



The Critical Need for Women in STEM

AN INTERVIEW WITH
DR. STEPHANIE MCGOWAN

Stephanie McGowan, Ph.D., is Dean of the School of Education where she is charged with recruiting inspired young people poised to enter the teaching profession. With over 15 years of experience in higher education, Dr. McGowan is a strong proponent for supporting women and their evolving role in leadership within the STEM fields of science, technology, engineering, and math. She believes that teachers, as “sacred and trusted visionaries”, have become an essential ingredient in the recruitment and retention of young girls and women in science. Dr. McGowan recently spoke at the United Nations in conjunction with the International Day of Women and Girls in Science. Following are excerpts from her inspiring remarks at the General Assembly.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO ADVOCATE FOR WOMEN IN STEM?

Time and time again, both girls and boys are enchanted with the excitement of science in primary school. And yet, as they progress into secondary education, for young girls and women, their love and passion dwindles, and the inequity of those continuing in the field of science begins. According to a 2013 New York Times article entitled, “Why Are There So few Women in Science,” the author



expresses that the greatest reason for the disparity of girls pursuing STEM in the United States beyond middle school is due to variables such as exposure, encouragement and relevancy during their formative years.

WOMEN HELPING WOMEN HAS BEEN A STRONG THEME IN RECENT YEARS. HOW CAN WOMEN HELP YOUNG GIRLS LOOKING TO GET INTO STEM RELATED FIELDS?

As women, we must also provide role models for our young girls. I am aware of the challenges we as women face in diversifying our experiences as we navigate the many hats we wear and the many roles we play. Let us continue to be vigilant in providing opportunities, serving as role models and encouraging our next generation and all those who follow, to challenge perceived and actual boundaries and strive for the inclusion of girls and women in all facets of our society. Let us continue to champion these dynamic game-changers across all disciplines of science, technology, and innovation.

WHAT STEPS HAS FELICIAN TAKEN TO HELP ADVANCE STEM?

Universities, such as Felician, are committed to providing an outstanding post-secondary education to first-generation college students stemming from some of the most financially challenged communities. Institutions of higher learning must find creative ways to support our young people who wish to pursue the STEM areas knowing that they were not given resources or foundational knowledge in their formative years, but have the desire and will to work toward achieving it. We continue to push the boundaries at Felician that enable programming that our students see as responsive to the issues our communities face and necessary to be agents of change. In that spirit, Felician University will soon launch the International Center for Autism and Disability Research and Education. This center allows for focused scientific research such as eye-tracking of infants for early detection of autism while promoting the social science dissemination of best practices, support for families, developments of intervention, and policy advocacy.

WHAT DOES THIS CENTER MEAN FOR YOU PERSONALLY?

For me, this center and the shared values of Felician University to promote Respect for Human Dignity, Compassion and Transformation call upon another role that I serve in when thinking about how much more enriched the field of science would be with a greater presence of women. This role is the most basic and traditional role women play around the world, it is the role as mother. As a parent of twin 11 year olds, both diagnosed with special needs, how I saw the world and the importance of science changed immensely. I crossed over from the role of inspiring future scientists as an educator and teacher, to becoming a strong voice for the need of new science interventions and research in the role of advocate for my children and for other members of my community who are disabled or uniquely-abled. Who better than the women of our global society, the natural care taker and giver-of-life to champion the change that will benefit the very core of the family structure- our children?

WHAT ELSE CAN BE DONE OUTSIDE OF THE ACADEMIC ENVIRONMENT TO ENCOURAGE MORE WOMEN TO PURSUE CAREERS IN STEM FIELDS?

As women, we must also provide role models for our young girls. In addition to my roles as mother and academician, I am also a two-term elected councilwoman for the Borough of Rutherford in New Jersey. Elected to serve the nearly 19 thousand residents of my community, I am indeed a public servant. As such, I have been granted the extraordinary opportunity to represent and advocate for the best interest of our residents, but to also be inspired by the emerging leadership of women in traditional male roles across different science disciplines who serve as examples to our next generation of young women. In our Rutherford community, Sergeant Julie Ann Zeigler, Police Officers Katherine Calienni and Alexandra Arnold and Firefighter Jacqueline Caroprese, inspire young women to pursue the professions of forensic, police and fire sciences.

Today, let us celebrate the amazing journey and contribution we as women have made to our communities across all disciplines. Now more than ever, the world, our communities and our children need your talent and contribution.



The Best in the Biz: Dr. Prisco Awarded the “Best 50 Women in New Jersey Business”

Joining notable New Jersey women, Felician University President, Anne M. Prisco, PhD was honored by the state's leading business journal, NJBIZ, as one of the year's Best 50 Women in Business.



Since taking the helm as the University's first woman president in 2012, Dr. Prisco introduced new academic programs and advanced degrees in nursing,

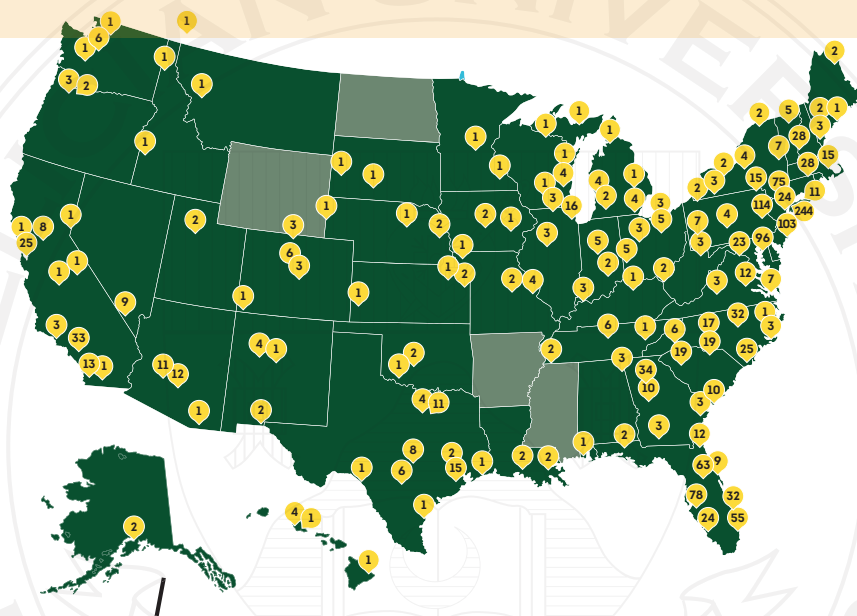
education, business and arts and sciences and oversaw considerable campus enhancements - transforming the lives of Felician students and helping to better communities throughout New Jersey by educating the state's future nurses, educators, and business leaders.

"I am so grateful to be in the position to help others better their lives and improve the world condition through higher education," Dr. Prisco said when recognized for her leadership as an academician.

An advocate for women's rights in the United States and throughout the world, Dr. Prisco has, among many other initiatives, spoken at the United Nation's General Assembly on the importance of women in STEM fields and spearheaded an on-campus program to address sexual assault.

"Dr. Prisco has dedicated her life to providing students with a high quality, affordable education, enabling them to fulfill their personal and professional goals, contribute meaningfully to society, and embrace lifelong learning," said Dr. John Farkas, Vice President for University Advancement. "Her genuine compassion for others and commitment to making our university and world a better place is inspiration to all who have the great privilege to know and work with her."

Along with her passion for higher education and service to the Felician University community, Dr. Prisco serves in various professional and civic roles - National Association for Independent Colleges and Universities, Association of Franciscan Colleges and Universities, Excelencia in Education, and Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of New Jersey - to name a few.



As the Class of 2018 Looks Ahead, Felician Alumni Look Back

Commencement season is a time of reflection for both our recent Felician graduates and our alumni. Students attend Felician for a variety of reasons, whether it be its strong academic offerings or its deep Franciscan roots. Every graduate, however, shares one common theme – they agree the education and opportunities they received at Felician University helped shaped their future.

It's important for the University to stay connected to its alumni through programming such as the annual Green & Gold Golf Classic and homecoming.

"We look to our alumni to serve as ambassadors and advocates for the university while also strengthening the University's bond with the larger community," said Felician VP of University Advancement, John Farkas.

"We love hearing stories from our alumni about their time on campus and how their Felician experiences impacted their lives. With four very different yet interacting schools, students' academic careers vary but their positive experiences remain the same."

Many people choose to attend Felician because they will not be treated as just a number – with small class sizes, professors believe it's critically important to learn the names of all their students and connect with them to offer the best education possible.

Colleen P. (Krull) Frankenfield, (A.A.S. 1977, B.A. Nursing and Psychology, 1984) now works as the president and CEO of Lutheran Social Ministries of NJ. She appreciated the individualized attention she received from professors while studying at Felician.

"The Felician faculty were unique as they took a personal interest in the individual student," Frankenfield said. "They wanted us to learn and be successful and they would help you in whatever way they could to reach your goal."

Frankenfield recommends current students take advantage of their professors' advice and wisdom because "their knowledge goes beyond the classroom and their guidance and support is incredibly helpful."

Eric Moore (B.S. in Business Administration, 2007), Vice President, Broker Dealer Services, at BNY Mellon, found a mentor in Fr. John O'Neill. According to Moore, O'Neill's direction and encouragement helped him grow into a skilled business leader.

"His advice [and] guidance really made a difference," Moore said.

Involvement of professors contributes to the intimate atmosphere of Felician even as the University spreads from one to two campuses. As Felician expands, it maintains its small-school feeling, which Dr. Christine K. (Hayes) Ross (B.A. Education, 1998) described as "personal."

"Everyone knew everyone," Dr. Ross said. "You truly felt like you were part of a community, a family."

The uncompromising academic setting and tight-knit community at Felician create countless connections and opportunities for students to thrive personally as well as professionally. Dr. Ross, Principal at St. Patrick School in Chatham, has personally hired three Felician grads, bringing the total number of Felician alum at St. Patrick's to five.

The University also offers assorted sports teams, academic clubs, professional organizations, and service learning groups.

While at Felician, Moore participated in soccer and residence life while on campus and now serves on the Advisory Board at Felician.

"Seize the opportunities around you," Moore recommended. "Join that study group, apply for that internship, apply for that student worker job, volunteer at the next service opportunity."

Eighty-one percent of Felician's alumni call New Jersey their home. Those living in the United States but outside New Jersey are spread throughout 46 of the lower ("contiguous") 48, plus Alaska, Hawaii and the District of Columbia. Eighty-seven percent of alumni live within 100 miles of campus.

You're surrounded by opportunities."

Through academic and social activities, Felician promotes Franciscan values to bring students to their highest potential.

"At Felician, the only Franciscan university in New Jersey, we value respect for human dignity, compassion, transformation, solidarity with the poor, and justice and peace," Jimena Buitrago, Director of Alumni Relations and Annual Fund, said. "We strive to instill these values in our students and hope they return to them as they begin their careers and beyond."

Alfonso Padilla, who graduated in 2014 and now works as a Population Health Specialist with ColigoCare/ Valley Hospital, remembers Felician's values every day of his journey following graduation.

"Felician's Franciscan values have provided me with spiritual growth, moral value, and allow me to be a role model throughout my everyday actions," Padillo said. "They have also taught me to be a public servant and to continue to be involved with the Catholic church through peer ministry in everyday life."

Dr. Farkas appreciates hearing from Felician alumni and knowing he and the faculty of Felician made a life-long impact on students.

"We are overjoyed that the mission of Felician University continues with our students well beyond graduation," Dr. Farkas said. "The class of 2018 and previous classes have taken the tools we provided them and blazed their own paths."

As alumni succeed in their careers, they attribute Felician as the place where it all started. Some alumni even return to Felician to work on the University's faculty. Even without returning to campus, the positive effects Felician provided are felt long after people leave.

"Felician University will continue to make a difference in the lives of the former, present and future students," Padilla said. "My incredible journey at Felician has enhanced my life for the better and has transformed me into a successful individual who continues to seek opportunity to realize a better self and a better world."

2018-2019 ALUMNI EVENTS

JULY

NJ Jersey Shore Alumni Event

SEPTEMBER

DC Alumni Event

OCTOBER

Atlanta Alumni Event

Alumni & Family Weekend

October 11th – 13th | Lodi Campus

Athletics Hall of Fame

Thursday, October 11th

Alumni & Family Weekend

Saturday, October 13th

NOVEMBER

School of Education NJEA Event - Atlantic City

DECEMBER

Breakfast with Santa

Saturday, December 1st | Rutherford Campus

2019

JANUARY

Florida Alumni Events

Flemington, NJ Alumni Event

FEBRUARY

Alumni Night

Hockey Game NJ Devils vs NY Rangers | Newark, NJ

NJ Nurses Convention | Atlantic City, NJ

MARCH

Texas alumni event | Date & Location TBD

Camden/Philadelphia Alumni Event

APRIL

Women's Soccer Alumni Game followed by Lunch

10 a.m.- 3 p.m. | Lyndhurst Rec. Center

MAY

Class of 2018 Paint and Sip event | Rutherford, NJ

NYC Alumni Event | NYC

Celebrations at a Glance



1



2



3



4



5



6

► 1. University Advancement holds multiple fundraising events throughout the year, often in coordination with board of trustee members. This fundraising event, from April 2018, was graciously hosted by in the home of trustee Beth Lenke. In this picture are, left to right, Ann Egbert, Dr. Anne Prisco, Betsy Burke, Dusty Burke, and Sister Mary Aquinas Szott.

► 2. Another photo from the fundraising event at the home of trustee Beth Lenke in Manhattan.

► 3. Christmas in the Castle, December 2017. An annual event that brings together family, friends, alumni, staff, and faculty. Left to right Jackie Mirandi (BA '97 & MA '03), Nicolette Matesic (BA '10), Diane Sedlmeir (BA '07 & MBA '12), and Colleen Frankfield (AAS '77 & BA '84).

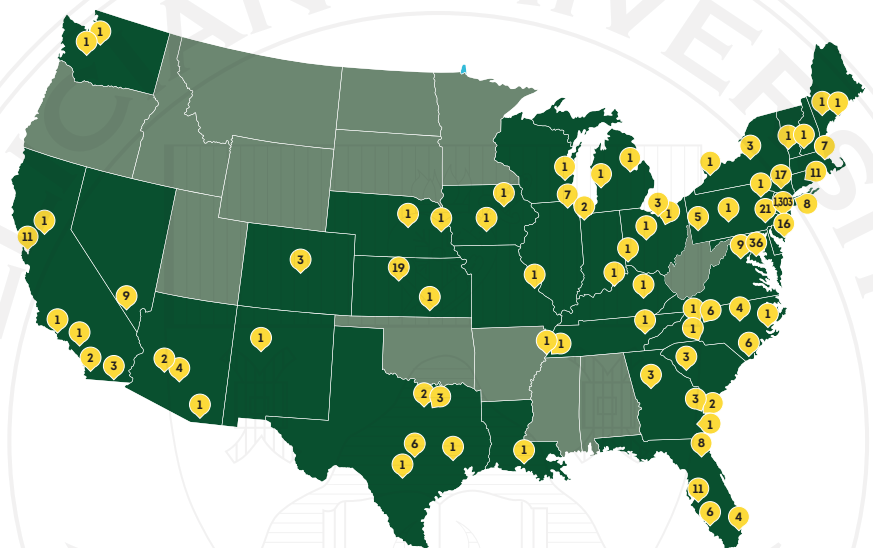
► 4. Art show at Taft Communications offices in Lawrenceville, NJ. Taft has been Felician's partner for PR and community relations for years and we're proud to have had the opportunity to feature our students and professors' artwork in a show they hosted back in November 2017.

► 5. Fundraising event arranged by board member Christopher Swenson in Delray Beach, Florida. We all look forward to more fundraising events in the future!

► 6. Felician University celebrated our 75th anniversary with a gala at the Venetian on October 18, 2017. TV news anchor Steve Aduabato served as the Master of Ceremonies. Everyone enjoyed the opportunity to honor Felician's history and to celebrate its future.

Felician Donor Facts

While 76-percent of Felician's donors reside in our home state of New Jersey, the University's "friend base" is widespread in the United States. In fact, friends of Felician reside in 34 of the lower ("contiguous") 48, plus in the District of Columbia. Of course, the generous support of all our friends at home, in other states or abroad is greatly appreciated and welcomed as we continue to strengthen our University with improved facilities, academic programs and community outreach.



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(cont. on page 28)

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Welcome

Monique Carkum Edwards, Esq. joins Felician's Board of Trustees as an industry expert in organizational leadership and consulting. Ms. Edwards has a long career history in corporate law, working for major corporations in the New York area including General Electric, Honeywell, and Resins & Chemicals before moving into private consulting and career coaching. She has helped hundreds through her consulting firm, Monique Edwards Ministries and Speak Monique, or through her ministry as the Executive Pastor at Trinity Christian Center in Elizabeth, NJ.

Felician University is happy to welcome Monique's experience and leadership as our newest trustee.

Be sure to follow Monique on LinkedIn.

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