

INSIDE > CREIGHTON EXPANDS IN THE SOUTHWEST: WHY PHOENIX? WHY NOW? P34

CREIGHTON

FALL 2018 • Volume 34 | Issue 3



A STately EVENING

Powell, Albright
Deliver Creighton 140
Presidential Lecture



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Reflecting with Gratitude

In a wonderful holiday tradition, an excited crowd of students, faculty, and staff once again gathered around the steps of St. John's Church recently to celebrate Christmas at Creighton and delight in the annual lighting of the campus mall.

This time of year is often filled with much activity, particularly here on campus as our students busily prepare for final exams, finish projects and papers, and make plans for the upcoming break.

At the same time, this season invites us to deeper reflection, and offers an opportunity to pause and give thanks for our many gifts. Indeed, at Creighton, we have much for which to be grateful.

This fall, we set a record for total enrollment (8,910), while welcoming the largest freshman class (1,155) in our University's history. The Class of 2022 included our first cohort of Creighton Global Scholars, with 23 students beginning their first semester of studies at the University of Sydney.

We also welcomed the AJCU International Education Conference to campus this fall — recognizing Gabriel Pérez Alcalá, PhD, a visionary educational leader and the current and inaugural rector (chief academic officer) of Universidad Loyola Andalucía, a Jesuit university founded in 2010 in Spain, with an Honorary Alumnus Award. (See photo below)

Our Creighton 140 Presidential Lecture Series celebrated our 140th anniversary. Following a spring address by Chuck Hagel, former U.S. senator and secretary of defense, we hosted Dominican-American writer and author Julia Alvarez in September and former Secretaries of State Madeleine Albright and

Colin Powell in October. These esteemed national speakers offered insightful and thoughtful discussion.

In September, we joined our health care partners in Arizona to announce construction of a new Creighton health sciences campus in midtown Phoenix, with a new approximately 200,000-square-foot facility scheduled to open in 2021.

While we remain committed to enhancing our excellent health sciences programs here in Omaha, with our partner CHI Health, I am excited about growing our programs in Phoenix and working to meet the increasing demand for health care professionals in that region.

Jacque Chadwick, MD, a family physician with a distinguished career in medical education, administration and advocacy, has been named the inaugural vice provost of our Arizona health sciences campus, and also serves as executive director of the Creighton University Arizona Health Education Alliance.

We were pleased to once again be ranked No. 1 in the Midwest by *U.S. News & World Report*, in its 2019 "America's Best Colleges" edition. This marks the 16th consecutive year we have been so honored.

And, finally, in September, we celebrated the ribbon-cutting for our new School of Dentistry building — a state-of-the-art, high-tech facility that will allow us to educate more students and serve more patients.

Thank you for your continued support of Creighton University. Best wishes for a blessed Christmas, happy holidays, and wonderful new year.

Rev. Daniel S. Hendrickson, SJ, PhD
President

© From left are René Padilla, PhD, vice provost for Global Engagement, Fr. Hendrickson, Honorary Alumnus Gabriel Pérez Alcalá, PhD, and the Rev. Michael Garanzini, SJ, secretary for higher education for the Society of Jesus.

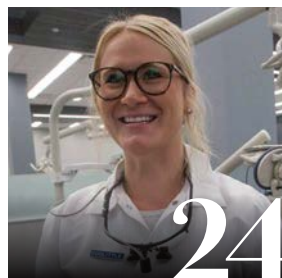
© The birth of Christ is depicted in the beautiful stained-glass windows at St. John's Church.



Contents

SOMETHING TO SMILE ABOUT

The new dental school and clinic building has opened to students and patients, and is receiving rave reviews for its innovative technology and eye-popping aesthetics.



24



30



34

A GUIDE TO THE GOOD LIFE?

The wisdom of ancient philosophers is being explored and embraced anew by those interested in understanding the world around them — and their place in it.

CREIGHTON EXPANDS IN THE SOUTHWEST

In response to a looming shortage of health care professionals in Arizona, Creighton announces its first major campus expansion outside of the Omaha area.

4 Creighton Connections

11 By the Numbers

13 Jesuit Gardens

The Rev. Kevin Embach, SJ, MD, has found a way to combine two healing vocations — Catholic priest and physician.

16 Dialogue

A Creighton business professor suggests that a decline in entrepreneurship is something everyone should be concerned about.

18 Lesson Plan

Creighton's archivist, David Crawford, may have the most unique — and priceless — work space at the University.



on the cover

A STATELY EVENING

America's one-time top diplomats, former U.S. Secretaries of State Dr. Madeleine Albright and retired Army Gen. Colin Powell, delighted a campus audience and visited with students in classrooms in celebration of Creighton's 140th anniversary.

42 Impact

A Creighton alumnus funds a scholarship to help medical students who come from blue-collar families, like he did.

43 Alumni Notes

52 Creighton Conversations

The leader of Creighton's educational programs and health care partnership in Phoenix discusses the University's role in Arizona.

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CREIGHTON MAGAZINE'S PURPOSE

Creighton magazine, like the University itself, is committed to excellence and dedicated to the pursuit of truth in all its forms. The magazine will be comprehensive in nature. It will support the University's mission of education through thoughtful and compelling feature articles on a variety of topics. It will feature the brightest, the most stimulating, the most inspirational thinking that Creighton offers. The magazine also will promote Creighton, and its Jesuit, Catholic identity, to a broad public and serve as a vital link between the University and its constituents. The magazine will be guided by the core values of Creighton: the inalienable worth of each individual, respect for all of God's creation, a special concern for the poor and the promotion of justice.

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Voices

“Looking back, everything was so overwhelming. I think most of us are of the mindset that we just did our jobs and we didn't seek any glory. But everywhere we went, everyone we encountered, they were so appreciative. It was touching. I came to appreciate what a high honor this was to be selected.”

TRACY MONAHAN, a senior administrator in Creighton's School of Pharmacy and Health Professions and military veteran, who took part in the first Nebraska Female Veterans Honor Flight to Washington, D.C., in September.

“Frankenstein is such an important text that has been subject to so many different iterations in two centuries. From literature to pop culture to movies, scholars of almost every discipline have something to say about it.”

MATTHEW REZNICEK, PHD, assistant professor of English, on the Kingfisher Institute celebrating the 200th anniversary of Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* with a series of events.

“I think we were all taken with this land and this people and this history.”

REBECCA MURRAY, PHD, associate professor of cultural and social studies and associate dean in the College of Arts and Sciences, on a two-week immersion trip to the Balkans region taken by faculty, alumni and students this summer.

“Being aware of what we do, what we consume, what we buy, what energy we use, what we waste, those things we do here have a connection to what happens in the rest of the world. The whole idea of the conference was to take what we learned and connect it back to our campuses.”

EMILY REESON, a sophomore neuroscience major, who was one of four Creighton students to participate in Catholic Relief Services' third biennial Student Ambassador Leaders Together (SALT) Summit.

Let's Get Social

@KyleKorver: Thank you **@Creighton @BluejayMBB** for all you've done for me. Thank you, Coach Altman. Thank you to all of my teammates, I love being a Bluejay. **#GoJays** (After Korver was inducted into the Creighton Athletics Hall of Fame)

@parr_roz: Thank you **@Creighton** for the opportunity to see Dr. **@madeleine** and Gen. Colin Powell. So cool to see two patriots who embody bipartisanship and diplomacy (and they both have great senses of humor)! 🇺🇸🇺🇸🇺🇸



@maddyvig: Happy 140th birthday to my favorite place.

@keelsherman15: God didn't have to bless us with this beautiful place, but He did. He did that for us. 🙏💙



Clinician Frank Lisso, left, and Kelly Shine, MD, at the hospital operated by the Foundation for African Medical Education in Karatu, Tanzania.

Addressing a Global Health Need

BY ADAM KLINKER

Creighton's first Global Surgery Fellow discovers a wide range of experiences working in Tanzania

After 10 weeks in Tanzania as Creighton's inaugural Global Surgery Fellow, Kelly Shine, MD, has added a few procedures to her retinue.

There have been perforated intestines — results of untreated cases of typhoid fever and salmonella — and a bowel obstruction that turned out to be severe appendicitis and almost proved fatal. She's pulled teeth, assisted with anesthesia and popped in dislocated shoulders. Then, there are the three gorings by Cape buffalo she's patched up.

"All things that most general surgeons don't see too often or don't do

at all," says Shine, who earned the two-year fellowship sponsored by the School of Medicine and the Creighton Global Initiative. "Surgery is something we take for granted (in the U.S.), but it's been getting more attention as an international health topic."

A battery of studies has revealed a global health crisis when it comes to surgery. The World Health Organization found more than 5 billion people worldwide have no access to surgical care. In Tanzania, the patient-to-surgeon ratio is 1.2 million to 1. For comparison, it's about 15,000 to 1 in the United States. The Lancet Commission estimates

143 million people require additional lifesaving or disability-preventing surgical procedures annually, but lack access to necessary surgical care.

But it wasn't so much those big numbers that initially inspired Charles Filipi, MD, to create the Global Surgery Fellowship. In 2001, his son, a Creighton undergraduate, took a study abroad trip to Creighton's Institute for Latin American Concern (ILAC).

"It was a life-changing experience for him," says Filipi, the fellowship program director and an emeritus professor of surgery in the School of Medicine. "He said, 'Dad, you've got to go down there.'

They didn't have a surgery option there initially, but then a surgery center was built, and we organized a hernia surgical team and started performing surgery there. For a physician, as much as the patient, it's a life-giving, heart-opening experience."

Seeing the dire need for surgeons, even in a relatively prosperous nation like the Dominican Republic, Filipi started a nonprofit organization to send surgical teams to countries throughout the western hemisphere in need of surgical care, especially for hernia. When a massive earthquake shook Haiti in 2010, Filipi coordinated teams from all over the globe to respond, using ILAC as a staging site and supply center.

From those experiences, it was Filipi's desire to see Creighton live out its mission through a surgical post that could have a global impact. With the creation of the Creighton Global Initiative

“I feel fortunate to be able to start this fellowship for Creighton. But the real hope is that this isn't just a year or two. ... We want this to blossom and to be a learning experience not just for the people we serve, but for the surgeon, too.”

by Creighton President the Rev. Daniel S. Hendrickson, SJ, and the backing of School of Medicine Dean Robert "Bo" Dunlay, MD'81, the fellowship began taking shape.

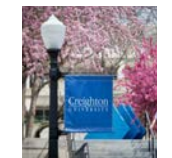
"Fr. Hendrickson's emphasis on global awareness made this a perfect fit," Filipi says.

As designed, the two-year fellowship



RECORD ENROLLMENT

Creighton set another freshman enrollment record this fall — surpassing last year's historic total — as 1,155 students in the Class of 2022 (the University's first class made up mostly of students born in the year 2000) began classes. Creighton's total enrollment reached an all-time high of 8,910.



WALL STREET JOURNAL RECOGNITION

Creighton ranked 120th in the 2019 *Wall Street Journal/Times Higher Education College Rankings*. The ranking of almost 1,000 U.S. colleges and universities is made up of 15 individual performance indicators, including a survey of 200,000 current college students.

begins in Omaha with about a year at Creighton's medical facilities. Following the time at Creighton, the fellow is then sent abroad.

Filipi's own global encounters led him to the Foundation for African Medical Education (FAME) in Tanzania. Operating a 25-bed hospital in Karatu on the fringes of the Serengeti, FAME fit the fellowship's international site criteria, and Shine started her work there earlier this year.

"It's classic Africa," Shine says. "The soil is all red; we're just at the end of the wet season so the vegetation is quite green. We're surrounded by agriculture — sunflower seed and coffee plantations — and then go a half-hour from the hospital and you're in the Ngorongoro Conservation Area. I don't see much wildlife from the hospital grounds, but we have had the Cape buffalo wounds and a few people bitten by baboons."

Shine says the hospital itself is small but has a dedicated staff. In many ways, much of the work of the fellow is to train staff in new practices and procedures.

Shine, with 15 years practice experience and several stints abroad, including work with Filipi's Hernia Repair for the Underserved, was selected out of several applicants and was an ideal candidate.

"I feel fortunate to be able to start this fellowship for Creighton," Shine says. "But the real hope is that this isn't just a year or two. We want to build long-term relationships with the sites where the fellows go. We want this to blossom and to be a learning experience not just for the people we serve, but for the surgeon, too."

Creighton's second Global Surgery Fellow, Megan Straughan, MD, is currently working on the Creighton-based portion of the fellowship. When she's done in Omaha, she'll ship out to another site, most likely in Rwanda.

"I'm glad it's something Creighton has started, and I'm glad to be a part of it," says Straughan, who will be taking her family, including two young children, on her international rotation. ➔

“Global health and global surgery are something that have always been close to my heart, and it’s good to see that it’s getting some recognition as a public, global health issue.”

Filipi, Shine and Straughan are hopeful the fellowship will create an important acute-care global surgery model whereby lives are saved, in-country providers are trained and thereby extend the benefit exponentially. Moreover, the fellowship seeks to enlighten Creighton students at all levels to understand the desperate need and respond how they are able. While the numbers of those lacking care may be daunting, there’s a feeling the educational opportunity is one physicians are seizing upon.

“It seems like a drop in the bucket when you’re talking about tens of millions of people to one surgeon,” Filipi says. “But if we can spread knowledge in the country and train the trainers and we can find that one particular doctor who is a good surgeon, intelligent and patient, and he or she can teach others, we start making a difference. And that can go for nursing care, diabetes care, neurology, on and on.”

Creighton Global Scholars’ Next Adventure: Starting Courses on Campus

The inaugural cohort of the Creighton Global Scholars program has returned stateside after a thrilling fall semester in Sydney, Australia.

After winter break, the freshmen will start courses on campus in Omaha, getting their first taste of the traditional Creighton experience.

The group of 23 students began their first semester at the University of Sydney in July and completed final-semester examinations during a two-week period that began Nov. 12.

Joe Ecklund, PhD, director of Academic Success and Educational Opportunity programs, serves as the group’s Ratio Studiorum Program (RSP)

advisor. RSP advisors help first- and second-year students plan their courses, careers and lives.

Ecklund, Global Programs Coordinator Lizzy Curran and other Creighton staff communicated with the students throughout their semester abroad via videoconferencing — providing one-on-one support, counseling and advising, as needed.

John Oberst, a freshman from Raleigh, North Carolina, describes his semester abroad as amazing. Though he did get a bit homesick, frequent chats with his family back home helped, and his mom and sister flew out to visit him in Sydney.

Now that the group is back in the northern hemisphere, they will take their first classes on Creighton’s Omaha campus after winter break.

“I’m really looking forward to finding out everything that is happening on campus, from clubs to going to Creighton basketball games,” says Oberst, who plans to study political science.

© Creighton Global Scholars Lauren Ramaekers, left, and Mia Naselaris-Custis outside the Great Hall at the University of Sydney.



Curran, who works in Creighton’s Global Engagement Office (GEO), says there has been “astronomical” growth in study abroad programs at Creighton. In 2013, there were only four study abroad programs offered; today, there are 17 and counting.

“The campus is getting used to the mobility of the student,” Curran says. “It won’t be so odd for a group of students to come back.”

Next up? The Global Scholars will spend either the fall or spring semester of their sophomore year at Creighton’s Institute for Latin American Concern (ILAC) in the Dominican Republic.

Oberst says he would highly recommend the program to future students. “It is a great opportunity to be with amazing people and make a close group of friends before you get onto campus.”

Curran and her colleagues in the GEO are already preparing to select the next Creighton Global Scholars cohort. For more information about the Global

Scholars Program, visit creighton.edu/geo/globalscholarsprogram.

“We are always excited to meet future Creighton students who have a global-minded focus,” Curran says.

Introducing the Kingfisher Institute

As part of the University’s strategic plan, the Kingfisher Institute for the Liberal Arts and Professions was established this year to highlight Creighton’s unique configuration of nine schools and colleges. The Institute is built on the belief that not only is a liberal arts education a strong foundation for studying to enter a particular profession — including business, the health professions and law — but also that the approaches to education in both the liberal arts tradition and in professional schools complement one another. Together, they help form students as whole people. The Institute is headquartered in the new School of Dentistry building, as a symbolic nod to extending the humanities to the professions.

In support of this bold vision, the Institute provides opportunities to explore the creative intersections between liberal arts and professional education, including faculty and staff reading groups, visiting lecturers, faculty development grants and more for the 2018-2019 academic year. These activities are planned around the inaugural themes of the Institute: “Narratives of Health and Illness” and “Race in America: 1919-2019.”

Tracy Leavelle, PhD, associate dean for the humanities and fine arts in the College of Arts and Sciences and associate professor of history, was named director of the Kingfisher Institute in October.

This coming year marks the centenary of the “red summer” of 1919, during which racial riots exploded in dozens of U.S. cities, including in Omaha, where a young African-American man, Will Brown, was

WAIT...WHAT?

Creighton is among only 90 universities in the country recognized for undergraduate opportunities for research, according to *U.S. News & World Report*. Here’s a snapshot of one student’s research project.



TITLE OF RESEARCH

“Mobile Phone-Based Electrochemiluminescent Detection of Biogenic Amines”

STUDENT RESEARCHER

Nic Heckenlaible; junior, majoring in chemistry with a minor in computer science; Sioux Falls, South Dakota

FACULTY MENTOR

Erin Gross, PhD, professor of chemistry

WHAT IT MEANS Heckenlaible’s research involved mobile phone technology for detecting biogenic amines in food. Biogenic amines are compounds that are found in spoiled food and can cause illness; typically, analysis in a laboratory is necessary to detect the illness-causing elements. Electrochemiluminescent (ECL) detection has been successful in laboratories, but recently a mobile phone camera ECL system, which would eliminate the need for a lab, has shown promise. A Ferlic Summer Scholarship allowed Heckenlaible to study and improve upon this new technology. He designed, 3D printed, implemented and evaluated a light-tight casing for a phone-based detection system. Development of a fully portable phone-based field kit could provide lifesaving prevention of food-borne illness, especially in developing countries.

brutally lynched. Community and University leaders are working together to plan a series of events to properly observe this anniversary.

Learn more about upcoming events and the Kingfisher Institute at creighton.edu/kingfisherinstitution and follow on Twitter, @Creighton_KFI.

A Mission of Service

Peck provides physical therapy services at health clinic serving American Indians

For the last 18 years, Kirk Peck, PT, PhD, has spent his Friday mornings providing pro bono physical therapy services at the Fred LeRoy Health and Wellness Clinic in South Omaha.

In fact, the work means so much to him that before he accepted a faculty position at Creighton in 2001, he had one condition — his weekly service on Friday mornings could continue.

“It is a natural fit with the Jesuit mission,” says Peck, chair of the Department of Physical Therapy, pointing out the long history of Jesuits working with Native American communities. “What a perfect fit for a mission of service.”

The clinic provides free health care services for members of the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska, as well as other American Indians and those eligible for support through the federal Indian Health Service. Peck’s physical therapy and rehab services round out the clinic’s offerings of primary care, dental services, pharmacy and a sweat lodge for traditional, holistic healing in the Ponca tradition.

The history of the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska, previously known as the Northern Ponca Tribe, goes back to Chief Standing Bear and his significant legal victory in 1879 that declared an American Indian was a “person” according to the law. In the 1960s, the Northern Poncas lost their status as a federally recognized tribe, but their status was restored in 1990, thanks in part to the efforts of Fred LeRoy — the center’s

namesake, who died in 2012. The Ponca Tribe of Nebraska is unique in that it doesn't have any federal lands, but the clinic is tribal-run.

Peck is the only physical therapist who has worked at the clinic, allowing him to really get to know his patients. If a patient comes in for an evaluation, Peck can reference his notes from when he treated the patient before.

"I get this longitudinal viewpoint of rehab," Peck says. "It's a unique view of patient care; it's more like a small family than anything else."

On his weekly clinic visits, Peck brings two physical therapy students. He says it's a great experience for the students to get to practice and see real-world applications of what they learn in a PT lab.

The clinic does not have diagnostic imaging, which means no X-rays,

MRIs or CT scans. Instead, Peck's evaluations are based on clinical signs and symptoms, medical history and years of experience.

Several years ago — wanting to learn more about traditional Native American health care — Peck asked LeRoy if he could participate in a sweat ceremony, a sacred ceremonial tradition for some Native American populations.

"He allowed me (to participate) because I was providing a great service for their people," Peck says. "It was a great honor."

Peck says the clinic experience has enriched his view of physical therapy services and opened doors for PT students.

"It is an extremely gratifying facility to work in, with a population that I feel has been disenfranchised," he says. "(The clinic) is phenomenal. I love it."



© Kirk Peck, PT, PhD, works on a patient at the Fred LeRoy Health and Wellness Clinic in South Omaha. Peck has volunteered his services at the clinic for 18 years.

The Long Journey

As the first flakes of snow began to fall early in October, Ismail Ntakirutimana sat in his host family's home in Council Bluffs, Iowa, visiting for fall break, mesmerized as the phenomenon he had only seen before in photos came to life.

In the silence of a Sunday morning, Omaha and surrounding areas slowly transformed from fall to winter, blanketed with the season's first snowfall. The snow would be melted by the next day, returning to autumnal temperatures, but for that one day, Ntakirutimana experienced the magic of not only the first snow of the year, but his first snow ever. It was perhaps something he never expected to see in his lifetime, coming from Kigali, Rwanda.

Creighton University was also something he probably never expected to see. It had been a long journey to get here.

A freshman in the College of Arts and Sciences, Ntakirutimana is enjoying his first semester at Creighton. He has found a new family with his fellow Bluejays, something that began during Welcome Week.

"(Welcome Week) was something that gave me courage," Ntakirutimana says. "I met my guide and peer leader. They are the ones who made me feel at home. They made me feel like I am free to talk to anybody."

It was a new feeling for Ntakirutimana, who was constantly told by his peers back home that he, a "street kid," could never achieve anything.

Home in the slums of Kigali, Ntakirutimana and his brother, Isaac, scavenged for scrap metal, a way for the brothers, who were living at a local orphanage, to make money. Born in the shadows of the Rwandan genocide, he learned the nature of hard work from a young age. Abandoned by their father, Ntakirutimana and Isaac left their mother in search of a better education at schools in Kigali, the capital of Rwanda.



"When I was living in Rwanda, it was like I was separated from society," Ntakirutimana says.

He dreamed of coming to the U.S. for many years, seeking a fresh start and new opportunities. First, he applied through a program with the Rwandan government. He didn't get selected. Then he applied to Bridge2Rwanda, a U.S. nonprofit that assists with international scholarships. He didn't get that either.

"The life I was living was really terrible," Ntakirutimana says. "Education is the only way I can achieve what I need in life."

In 2013, his break finally came in the form of sponsorship from Imana Kids, a newly formed nonprofit organization out of Council Bluffs.

"Right away, when we met Ismail, we saw his potential," Kara Higgins, co-founder of Imana Kids, says.

For five years, Imana Kids sponsored Ntakirutimana's schooling, allowing him to focus on passing the English exams he needed to attend a college in the United States.

Ntakirutimana applied to schools across the U.S., including Creighton, after Higgins encouraged him to look

at Jesuit universities. Born into a Muslim family, Ntakirutimana was baptized as Christian in 2013, an event he says that has allowed him to forgive others and "fix my eyes on God."

Even after receiving his acceptance letter from Creighton, Ntakirutimana's fate as a college student in the U.S. was not sealed. His passport process was delayed, and Higgins needed to intervene with the U.S. Embassy. But finally, on July 21, a month away from the start of fall classes, he stepped foot onto U.S. soil.

He lived with Higgins' in-laws in Kansas City, Missouri, over the summer before moving into his residence hall room on Creighton's campus.

In his Ratio Studiorum Program (RSP) group at Creighton, a mentorship program for all freshmen, he quickly made friends.

"When I came here, it was a change for me. I didn't know that I would be able to make friends," Ntakirutimana says. "It's really amazing to me how people are very nice."

His RSP advisor, Kathy Rettig, PhD, assistant professor of English, encouraged Ntakirutimana to share about Africa, and opened the floor for

© Ismail Ntakirutimana joins his friends in Brandeis Dining Hall after taking a midterm test. The freshman from Kigali, Rwanda, is enjoying his life in the U.S. and his new friends at Creighton.

discussion within the RSP group. His classmates had read about Africa and learned about a Faculty-Led Program Abroad (FLPA) course there.

"I can tell he misses Rwanda," Rettig says. "He's very proud of the customs. There's a great love for his own country and people, too."

Missing Rwanda brings mixed feelings for Ntakirutimana, for he has found a new home here.

"Sometimes people ask me if I'm missing home or family. For me, my answer would be I can miss them, but I didn't miss them so much because I have family here," Ntakirutimana says.

As he walked into Brandeis Dining Hall after a midterm test, Ntakirutimana loaded up his plate with a cheeseburger and pizza and met his group of friends for lunch. They talked and laughed and joked like they had known each other for ages.

"Seeing myself here is kind of a surprise. Dreams that come true," Ntakirutimana says. "I don't believe it. Sometimes I feel like I'm still dreaming."

"Creighton is going to be more than a school. It is even a family to me."

— BY EMILY RUST



JIM FACKLER

Stories Can Change the World

Award-winning author part of Creighton 140 Presidential Lecture Series

Julia Alvarez, an award-winning writer whose family fled to the United States from the Dominican Republic in 1960 to escape the dictatorial regime of Rafael Trujillo, believes stories have the power to change the world.

Alvarez's campus address in September was part of the Creighton 140 Presidential Lecture Series, presented in collaboration with the Institute for Latin American Concern (ILAC) program at Creighton.

Alvarez focused her talk on activism and storytelling — weaving together stories from her own life.

After fleeing the Dominican Republic with her family when she was 10, Alvarez found the transition to the U.S. difficult. She recalled being bullied

in school in New York because of her accent. She felt homesick and lost.

But then her sixth-grade teacher gave her a list of books to check out at the library.

"A sixth-grade teacher. A librarian. They put books in my hands," Alvarez said. "What an amazing world this was. What freedom. What's more, the world of stories was a truly welcoming place. 'Come on in,' my favorite writers seemed to be saying to me. I found what we had come looking for in the United States of America in between the covers of books."

Alvarez's passion became sharing stories of her own — stories that shed light on injustice and uplift our shared humanity.

"As storytellers, we have an important role to play in bringing about the changes that must happen if we're going to survive as a human family on this small planet of diminishing resources," she said.

© As part of the Creighton 140 Presidential Lecture Series, award-winning writer Julia Alvarez spoke on campus in September. Her talk focused on activism and storytelling.

Alvarez's work spans genres. Her novels include *How the García Girls Lost Their Accents* and *In the Time of the Butterflies*. She has also published poetry, nonfiction and books for younger audiences.

Her work has earned her numerous awards, including the F. Scott Fitzgerald Award and the Hispanic Heritage Award. In 2013, she received the National Medal of Arts from President Barack Obama.

Alvarez and her husband, Bill Eichner, have also been active in humanitarian projects in the Dominican Republic.

The couple purchased land in the Dominican Republic and started growing their own coffee, with an organic and fair-trade label. Naming their farm Alta Gracia (or "high grace"), they used proceeds from coffee sales to start Foundation Alta Gracia, which funds local literacy projects.

They have also been involved in Border of Lights, which commemorates the 1937 Haitian Massacre, in which thousands of Haitians living in the Dominican Republic were systematically murdered by government soldiers.

In a case of life intertwining with art, Alvarez's *A Cafecito Story* and *A Wedding for Haiti* intersect with their outreach.

"People say, 'Where do your stories come from?' I don't go thinking them up; they come to my door and knock," Alvarez said. "The reason I write is there is a pebble in my shoe. I learn about something, and it bothers me. It hurts me. It's a pebble in my shoe."

"Everybody has a different way of getting the pebble in their shoe out, and my way is when I write about it, when I story-tell about it."

Students Encounter Humanity in Discovering Peru

Roxana Huamani eagerly awaits the arrival of Creighton students.

She serves as a host mother for Creighton's Discovering Peru: Church, Society and Language in Context

summer program — welcoming students into her home in the Villa El Salvador district of Lima, Peru, for weekly stays.

"I believe that we learn as much from you as we teach you," Huamani says of her Creighton visitors. "Many students have stayed in my house and shared what little I have. I can honestly say that I have learned something from each one of them."

"At the same time, I know that I am teaching them about my life and about my struggles, and it is a good feeling to share that. I used to think that those from other countries were better than I am, but I know that we are equals."

Discovering Peru is one of 19 Faculty-Led Programs Abroad (FLPA) offered at Creighton through the Global Engagement Office. Selected students travel to Peru and participate in academic service-learning and community engagement during the month of May.

The program, which began in 2011, partners with a local parish and its social ministries to place students at a health clinic and elderly outreach program. Students also work with community-based organizations,



SUSTAINABILITY AWARD

Creighton received a STARS Bronze rating for its sustainability efforts from the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education. Since 2010, Creighton has reduced its greenhouse gas emissions from purchased electricity by more than 23 percent.

providing academic and nutritional services to primary- and secondary-aged school children.

Another essential element of the program is the stays with local host families.

Faculty mentors Thomas Kelly, PhD, professor of theology, and sociologist Kyle Woolley, PhD, say the ultimate goal of Discovering Peru is to take students beyond providing service — to what Pope Francis has called the "art of accompaniment."

"In this sense, we have built a global academic service-learning program rooted in the idea that the 'encounter' with the other is a sacred space — and thus something to learn and grow from," Woolley says.

"Students often think of the Global South as a place that they can 'help' or 'fix.' They often want to 'do something concrete,'" Kelly adds. "However, Roxana's testimonial emphasizes her experience with Creighton students as one based in reciprocity through accompaniment and a focus on 'being with' rather than 'doing for.'"

For more on Discovering Peru, visit creighton.edu/peru.



SERVICE & JUSTICE TRIPS BY THE NUMBERS

During fall break, 238 students participated in 30 trips to 19 states as part of Creighton's semiannual (fall and spring) Service & Justice Trips — living simply in community, engaging in acts of service and learning more about the world and their unique place in it.

seven

students on first trip in 1983, traveling to 1 location (eastern Kentucky)

375

participants in fall 2017 and spring 2018, traveling to 50 sites

33

community host site partners in fall 2017 and spring 2018

nine

hours of pre- and post-trip formation per student; 22.5 hours for each coordinator

16,800

approximate hours of service completed on last year's trips

7

program pillars: service, justice, community, solidarity, simplicity, sustainability and reflection

93.5%

participation growth since 2005-2006

51,161

miles traveled in fall 2017 and spring 2018

\$3 Million Grant Focuses on Increasing Diversity in the Health Professions

Creighton's Department of Health Sciences-Multicultural and Community Affairs has been awarded a more than \$3 million grant, through the Health Careers Opportunity Program, to fund a new Pipeline to Success Program. The program will help students from disadvantaged backgrounds in the Omaha community and around Nebraska access and complete the education and training necessary to become health professionals.

"There is a paucity of minority representation in the health care professions in the nation," says Sade Kosoko-Lasaki, MD, associate vice provost for Health Sciences and professor of surgery (ophthalmology), and principal investigator on the grant. "This award will help Creighton to continue on its mission of increasing the racial minority representation in its health sciences schools."

Altman, Korver Named to Athletics Hall of Fame

Former Creighton men's basketball coach Dana Altman and All-American Kyle Korver, BA'03, were inducted into the Creighton University Athletics Hall of Fame on Aug. 25.

Altman served as coach from 1994 to 2010 and remains the program's all-time wins leader with a 327-176 mark. He is currently the head coach at the University of Oregon.

Korver played at Creighton from 1999 to 2003 and remains the only men's basketball player in program history to play in four NCAA tournaments. He currently plays for the Cleveland Cavaliers.

During the induction ceremony, Creighton announced that Korver's No. 25 jersey would be retired, joining the ranks of Bob Gibson, ARTS'57, Bob Portman, BA'69, Paul Silas, BSBA'64, and Bob Harstad, BA'93.

CREIGHTON

Sometimes we're in need of a space to reflect, meditate or offer our thoughts up to God. While prayer can happen anywhere, here are eight places to take a quiet moment on Creighton's campus.

- 1 St. John's Church has been a cornerstone of the Creighton experience for individuals of all faiths for more than 100 years.
- 2 The St. Ignatius of Loyola Chapel in the new School of Dentistry building was dedicated in honor of former Creighton President the Rev. Timothy R. Lannon, SJ, BS'73.
- 3 For some outdoor solace, look to the Jesuit Gardens (pictured above) behind Creighton Hall. Beautiful trees offer plenty of shade, and various religious statues and sculptures dot the landscape.
- 4 Kiewit Hall offers a Muslim prayer room, as well as a Christian chapel.
- 5 Health sciences students, faculty and staff use the Christ the Healer Chapel in the Dr. C.C. and Mabel L. Criss Health Sciences Building.
- 6 If physical activity promotes your prayer, the elevated walking track in the Rasmussen Fitness and Sports Center offers beautiful views of the Michael G. Morrison, SJ Stadium and downtown Omaha.
- 7 Several of the on-campus residence halls have chapels, including Swanson Hall. Students, faculty or staff with a busy schedule can pop in the Swanson Chapel for a quick moment of meditation.
- 8 The lower level of the Reinert-Alumni Memorial Library not only provides a quiet place to study, but it can be a good place for silent prayer — especially before a big test.

Where was your favorite quiet space on campus? Send us your answers on social media (@Creighton on Twitter, @Creighton1878 on Instagram, Creighton University on Facebook) or send us an email at creightonmagazine@creighton.edu.



Magis Catholic Teacher Corps Welcomes Largest Cohort, New City

In August, Creighton's Magis Catholic Teacher Corps sent its largest cohort ever to teach in Catholic schools in seven cities across the U.S., including a new location in Tucson, Arizona. The 32 students are gaining valuable teaching experience, while also pursuing a master's degree in education from Creighton.

In addition to Tucson, Creighton's Magis students are teaching in schools in Kansas City, Missouri; Kansas City, Kansas; Sioux City, Iowa; Winnebago, Nebraska; Milwaukee; and Omaha. Participants live together in groups of three to eight in intentional Christian communities during the school year, attend a summer spirituality course on campus and participate in retreats throughout the year.

"To engage in Ignatian spirituality as a young adult in the world today, that's a big focus of ours," says Colleen Chiacchere, MS'14, Magis director.

When Creighton's program started 17 years ago, with a gift from John Micek Jr., BS'50, and Ann Louise Micek, BA'75, it was only open to those who wanted to teach but didn't have an education degree. Today, the program is open to both those who hold a teaching degree and those who don't, offering graduate degrees in educational leadership, school counseling, educational specialist, and secondary and elementary education.

Initially only serving financially under-resourced schools, Magis has expanded to send teachers anywhere their gifts and talents can be used best.

Creighton looks for applicants with leadership initiative, involvement in service and openness to the calling of teaching.

Not every school is right for Magis, Chiacchere says. Partner schools need a principal who is willing to form new Catholic educators, and who supports the program's mission. ➔

JESUIT GARDENS

Healing Through Medicine and Faith

The desire to heal was Kevin Embach's constant companion since way back, since he was a child growing up in Detroit as a practicing Catholic in a practicing Catholic family, since those long-ago days when he admired two physician uncles, since he saw his younger Down syndrome brother deal with severe disabilities — since, as he puts it, "the Lord first put it into my heart that the priesthood might be my vocation."

He was enrolled in a pre-med program at the University of Notre Dame when he first felt the call to priestly service, a call that grew louder as he remained after Mass to pray alone in the crypt beneath the Basilica of the Sacred Heart at Notre Dame.

After almost 30 years practicing medicine, he has united the vocations of Jesuit priest and physician, having been ordained earlier this year. He was subsequently assigned to teach in Creighton's Department of Medicine at CHI Health Creighton University Medical Center-Bergan Mercy.

© The Rev. Kevin Embach, SJ, MD, right, is ordained by Bishop David Ricken of the Diocese of Green Bay on June 9 at the Church of the Gesù in Milwaukee.

It has long been evident to him, Fr. Embach says, that there is a spiritual dimension to healing. People want and need more than the medicines and surgeries that help restore health.

There is, he says, "a hunger to know God better."

"Oftentimes patients would want to talk about God or spirituality," he says. "It would just come up naturally."

It took a while — he first had to grow confident in his basic ability as a physician to diagnose illness and prescribe appropriate treatment — but he eventually embraced the spiritual yearnings of his patients.

"A relationship with God puts our lives — its joys and challenges — in a different light, and maybe in a different context," Fr. Embach says.

"When you look at science and medicine, there's so much complexity in one human being. Look at the central nervous system, the cardiovascular system, the gastrointestinal system, the human reproductive system, the blood-clotting system. Just how our blood clots is vastly complex and ordered.

"Each individual human being is a profoundly beautiful creation with so much beauty and order."

And yet, he says, that complex creation eventually fails, raising the question of the point of it all.

"It makes absolutely no sense for God to create such a beautifully ordered system for

us to live in for 70, 80, 90 years, and then let it die into nothingness," Fr. Embach says. "It makes no sense unless it points to something else, to something beyond, to another life.

"To me, it points right to Jesus Christ, and to a God who loves us very much and desires a relationship with us."

Faith fathers resilience, he says, and resilience is a key factor in overcoming illness.

"Connecting with God gives us the perseverance to press on despite difficulties," he says. "Through that relationship with God, you begin to realize how God loves you, how God loves each person, how He brought each of us into existence from nothingness and that He will not abandon us."

Having experienced a lifelong commitment to the spiritual dimension of medicine, Fr. Embach says he is encouraged to note a similar light of understanding in Creighton medical students.

"It's wonderful to see how God is at work in the students I encounter," he says. "You can just see the spirit working. They work so hard to prepare themselves to be involved in health care. What drives that?"

"I don't see money and profit as significant factors. It's something deeper and more profound — the spirit. You can see the great desire they have to follow Christ, to accompany people in their illness.

"It's a very beautiful thing." — BY EUGENE CURTIN



STEVE DONISCH



HEALTH BRIEFS

Brain Cell Research

\$1.9 million grant may shed light on mood disorders

At any one moment in the human brain, billions of neurons are trying to communicate with one another in a massive effort reminiscent of the workings of a frantic telephone switchboard operator.

Of course, not all neurons connect with one another. Specific protein codes help connect specific neurons and the study of one such code by a team of Creighton School of Medicine researchers has earned them a five-year, nearly \$1.9 million National Institutes of Health grant, which may have far-reaching implications for better understanding of mood disorders such as depression, anxiety and attention deficit disorder.

“The protein we’re specifically looking at, called glutamate delta-1, has been associated with schizophrenia, bipolar disorder and autism, among other mental disorders,” says **Shashank Dravid, PhD**, associate professor of pharmacology and the grant’s lead investigator. “We think some of these may arise because of improper communication between neurons in certain unique brain circuits.”

Using cutting-edge technology, including optogenetics, which uses light to activate the communication processes between neurons, Dravid and the research team hope to be able to closely inspect the connections between neurons and watch for breakdowns.

“There’s a lot of excitement around this field right now, a lot of different international teams working in this area,” Dravid says. “The fundamental question is: How is the brain wired? How does it work? We think this is one of the keys to understanding that wiring.”



What Causes Age-Related Hearing Loss?

David Zhi-Zhou He, MD, PhD, professor of biomedical sciences, recently received a \$1.9 million grant from the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders to research the causes of age-related hearing loss.



He believes this hearing loss could be related to hair cell degeneration in our ears. He is investigating inner and outer hair cells — the two types of receptor cells that convert sound into electrical impulses in the auditory nerve.

He will compare the changes at the cellular and molecular levels of hair cells between young and aging mice to determine age-related changes in gene expression, ultrastructure and cellular function.

The research also will look closer at the CLU gene, or Clusterin, known to play a role in degeneration of neurons in the brain, to determine if the gene also plays an important role in hair cell aging.

“Loss of hearing in the elderly also can contribute to social isolation and loss of autonomy, and is associated with anxiety, depression and cognitive decline,” He says. “Currently, there is no medication available to treat or postpone age-related hearing loss.”

The private partnership of the Bellucci DePaoli Family Foundation also funds He’s research projects. Since 2002, the foundation, established by the late Richard J. Bellucci, MD’42, has invested \$763,000 in Creighton Bellucci Research Group funding.

Grant Funds Research Into Riboswitches

Juliane Strauss-Soukup, PhD, BSChM’93, professor of biochemistry and director of the Center for Undergraduate Research and Scholarship (CURAS), has received a three-year, \$436,000 grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to study the structure and function of ncRNAs, with the long-term goal of developing antibiologic agents, including the potential for some cancer-fighting applications.



Strauss-Soukup’s work focuses on noncoding parts of RNAs called riboswitches. When small molecules, ligands or metabolites bind to riboswitch RNAs they induce a structural change in the RNA that “switches” the production of protein up or down. Although riboswitches are widespread among bacteria, none have been found in animals. The NIH grant will specifically aid Strauss-Soukup’s lab

in looking at the potential, in humans, for RNA riboswitches to affect protein production. She said there is reason to think such a possibility exists and the opportunity could mean big things for clinical applications.

“In bacteria, riboswitches control a number of essential metabolic pathways,” Strauss-Soukup says. “If we are somehow able to dysregulate genes controlled by riboswitches, such as those involved in cancer progression or those needed for the increased metabolism of tumor cells, we may have a new target for chemotherapy.”

Strauss-Soukup’s lab is usually staffed by 10 to 16 undergraduate students, and the students did a lion’s share of the work collecting preliminary data for this proposal.

“The involvement of undergraduates in this cutting-edge work is essential to their training as scientists,” Strauss-Soukup says. “Taking classes is just one part of a biochemistry major’s curriculum. Designing experiments, analyzing data and critically thinking about results is an exhilarating and exciting part of learning science.”

Study Examines New Skin Cancer Preventative

A two-year, \$500,000 National Institutes of Health grant led by a School of Medicine biomedical sciences professor and researcher is aimed at getting a revolutionary new skin-cancer preventative to market.



Laura Hansen, PhD, principal investigator on the grant, is seeking to test a topical nanoparticle delivery system that can send antioxidant enzymes into the deepest layer of the skin to combat reactive oxygen species (ROS) — the biggest culprit in skin cancer. While these enzymes already exist in the skin, they are severely hampered by sun exposure.

The new solution, called Pro-NP, would provide a slow release of these ROS-fighting enzymes and would be longer-lasting and more effective than traditional sunscreens. Pro-NP could also reduce the need for multiple applications — vigilance that’s required with traditional sunscreens — and it may also have applications to reduce photoaging and skin wrinkling.

“With more than a million cases of skin cancer in the U.S. annually and rates rising, it’s clear we need something better,” says Hansen, who is working on the grant with ProTransit Nanotherapy, the company that’s developed the solution, and researchers from Creighton and the University of Nebraska Medical Center. “We’re excited about what this could mean for prevention.”

This year’s group includes students with diverse backgrounds. Franz Schuck, for instance, fixed string instruments, an elite job requiring a full apprenticeship, before enrolling in Magis. John Ryan was an actor, sushi chef and graphic designer. Craig Krueger was studying law before entering the program, and Maddalena Pagila has a degree in zoology.

“The people who are driven to join our program just help the program in so many ways,” Assistant Director Jeremy Graney says. “They’re great representatives of the schools and take on leadership roles outside of Magis.”

It’s those kinds of driven teachers who have made Magis a must-have for principals across the U.S.

“We’ve had long relationships with schools,” Graney says. “Word gets around. They’ve heard about us; (they) say, ‘We want Magis teachers.’ That just goes to all the good work our teachers are doing in schools.”

Dave Mason, the principal of San Miguel High School in Tucson, Magis’ newest home, knew of the good work of Magis teachers. Mason had been a principal in Minneapolis, where Magis teachers have worked in the past, before he moved to Arizona. A teacher shortage in Arizona led him to look for more resources.

“He said he wanted Magis teachers in his new school. He knew firsthand what the quality of a Magis teacher is,” Chiacchere says.

After the required two years in the program, many Magis graduates end up staying at their placement schools.

“It’s very much an extension of the Creighton values. Someone who’s drawn to living out their faith,” Chiacchere says. “You want to serve and are excited about that interaction of faith and action.”

“All of our people are excellent human beings, but also stellar teachers. They’re drawn to being better educators.”



© Franz Schuck, right, is part of Creighton’s Magis Catholic Teacher Corps and is teaching at San Miguel High School in Tucson, Arizona.

Why Entrepreneurship Matters

BY ALEXEI MARCOUX, PHD

Evidence abounds that America is less entrepreneurial than in the past. By one measure — business startups — U.S. Census data reveals a four-decade-long decline: After starting just under 600,000 new businesses in 1977, Americans formed new ventures at a fluctuating rate of 500,000 to 600,000 per year until the financial meltdown of 2008. Since 2008, new business formations have dropped to 400,000 to 450,000 per year. Even as we revere the entrepreneurial spirit, fewer of us possess or act on it.

Before lamenting the decline in entrepreneurship, it's worth taking a step back and addressing a more basic question: Why should we care? Differently put, why does entrepreneurship matter?

The 21st century is Joseph Schumpeter's world — we merely live in it. The early- to mid-20th century Harvard economist is the man of the hour because we see all around us the fruits of his entrepreneur. The force behind the “perennial gale of creative destruction” (or what today's startup culture, following Harvard Business School professor Clayton Christensen, calls “disruptive innovation”), Schumpeter's entrepreneur is the bringer of innovations that transform our world.

In Gates and in Jobs, in Bezos and in Musk, we see the breaker of routines and the bringer of new products, new business models and new ways of living. Above all, Schumpeter's entrepreneur deals in paradigm-shattering novelty: Think of the way Netflix obsoleted Blockbuster's business model in transforming the way we watch movies, or the way Amazon sent Borders into liquidation in transforming the way we buy books (and now, almost everything else).

In Schumpeter's world, entrepreneurship matters because it is what will bring us the next smartphone, the next always-on heart

monitor, the next who-knows-what that will change and improve our lives in unanticipated ways. If entrepreneurship is in decline, our worries should be focused on our technology: What innovations, what improvements in the quantity and quality of life are we not getting because we're getting less entrepreneurship? Entrepreneurship matters in a mainly customer-focused way.

That is one way that entrepreneurship matters, but it may not be the most important. To see another, look not to your smartphone but to your paycheck. As widespread as salaried or hourly-wage employment is today (and has been for roughly the last century), it's easy to forget just how rare it is in human history and how entrepreneurship makes it possible.

This is Frank Knight's world. The dean of the early 20th century Chicago School economists, Knight saw entrepreneurship not in terms of Schumpeter's disruptive novelty, but as the work of people who bear the uncertainties of enterprise. Facing a five-year failure rate of more than 50 percent and 10-year failure rate of more than 70 percent (according to *Entrepreneur* magazine), Knight's entrepreneur is the person who abandons the relative safety of a regular paycheck, hangs out a shingle and eats what she kills.

In Knight's world, entrepreneurship matters

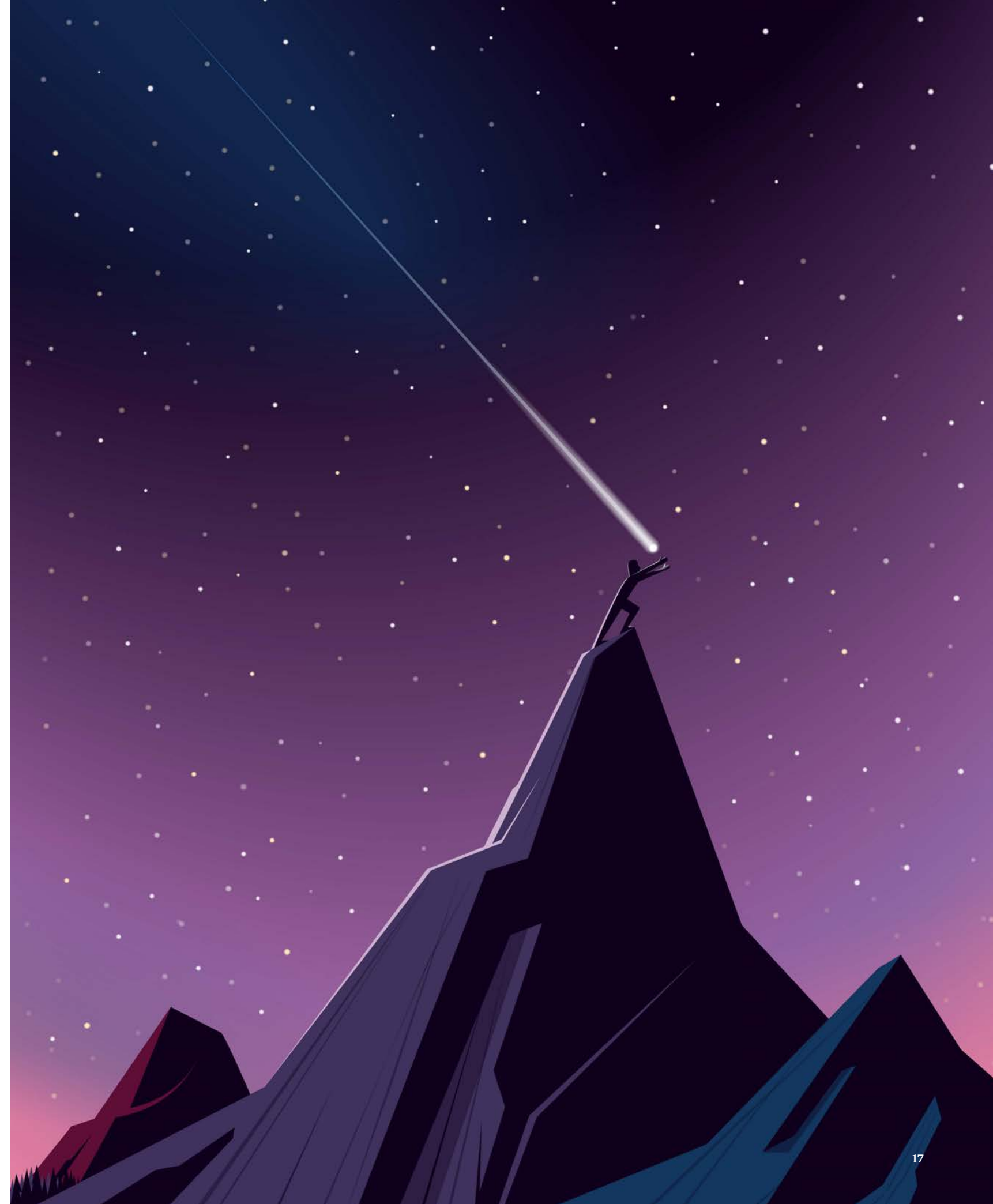
because the risk-friendly people who start businesses create the climate in which the risk-averse majority are able to avoid entrepreneurship and collect a regular paycheck. This, too, is borne out by data: In a study of job creation between 1987 and 2005, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics found that almost all net private-sector job creation (jobs created minus jobs lost) occurred in firms of age zero. Stated another way, business startups create net new jobs; legacy firms mainly don't.

In a 2004 interview, Bill Rancic, the serial entrepreneur who won the first season of NBC's *The Apprentice*, referred to this risk-averse majority, saying, “Is the entrepreneurial way of life for everyone? No, of course not. Some people need to know that every Friday they're going to get their \$800 or whatever, and it's going to be there 52 weeks a year.”

If you resemble that remark (as I know I do), then entrepreneurship matters also in a work-focused way. It is a human service to the risk-averse majority, permitting a dignified livelihood insulated from many (though, of course, not all) of the uncertainties of enterprise. Entrepreneurship, then, is a too-often unacknowledged form of *caritas* in commercial guise.

At bottom, the care and feeding of an entrepreneurship-friendly polity and culture isn't about meeting the needs of entrepreneurs specifically — it's the care and feeding of all of us.

About the Author: Alexei Marcoux, PhD, is a professor of business ethics and society and senior scholar with the Institute for Economic Inquiry in the Heider College of Business. Marcoux is a two-time winner of the Best Paper Award from the Society for Business Ethics, co-author of two textbooks on business ethics, co-editor of *The Routledge Companion to Business Ethics*, founding co-editor of the *Business Ethics Journal Review*, co-curator of the Business Ethics Highlights website, and co-author of the *Concise Encyclopedia of Business Ethics*.



Office Space

As Creighton University's archivist, a position he has held for the past 12 years, **David Crawford** serves as the primary steward of millions of historical photographs and other artifacts and oversees rare books and special collections housed at the University. His wife, Sue Crawford, PhD, is a professor of political science at Creighton and a Nebraska state senator. Here, we highlight some items that can be found in his "office" – the Rare Books Room in the Reinert-Alumni Memorial Library.



© Above: An Egyptian hieroglyph, circa 2000 BCE, is the oldest object owned by the library. The hieroglyph is part of a bill of sale.

© Right: A coffee pot that was part of a silver service set used by the Sisters of St. Francis at Creighton Memorial St. Joseph's Hospital, which was located at 10th and Castelar streets.



© Above: The science book *De le stelle fisse* (or *On the Fixed Stars*, in English) by Alessandro Piccolomini was published in Venice in 1552, making it the oldest science book in the collection. This publication contains the first star maps ever printed.



© Above: This scroll, which measures more than 25 feet long, is a duplication of the classic Buddhist writing "Great Nirvana." It was copied by a Tang dynasty calligrapher between 618 CE and 907 CE. The piece was a gift to Creighton from Northwest University in Xi'an, China.

© Left (held by David Crawford): The late Rev. Carl M. Reinert, SJ, who served as president of Creighton University from 1950 to 1962, was made an honorary member of the Omaha Police Department. He received a badge for this role, which includes his monogram on the exterior carrying case.

A Stately Evening

BY ADAM KLINKER

Two former secretaries of state shared the stage inside Creighton University's Ryan Center, offering their perspectives on a wide range of issues, as the culminating event in the Creighton 140 Presidential Lecture Series



“There is no substitute for the United States of America. We are still the greatest democracy in the world. We are great today. We were great yesterday. We’ll be great tomorrow.”

GEN. COLIN POWELL, USA (RET.)

When she was 11 years old, former U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, PhD, remembers steaming past the Statue of Liberty aboard the SS *America*, an ocean liner making passage from Great Britain to the United States and delivering Albright and her family to a new life in America.

They were refugees, twice over. When Albright was just a year old, her parents, Jews who would later convert to Roman Catholicism, had fled their native Czechoslovakia (now the Czech Republic) and settled in London after the 1938 Munich Pact in which Britain and France capitulated to Adolf Hitler and allowed Nazi Germany to occupy parts of Czechoslovakia. When the war was over, the family returned home, only to be swept up by another ideological wave in the Communist takeover of Eastern Europe.

The young Albright stood on the gleaming horizon of a life that would lead her into a career spanning six decades in the highest circles of government and service to her adoptive country. It's a moment she recalls vividly whenever she encounters newcomers to America or, in recent days, hears of crises unfolding for refugees and immigrants.

“One of the things I loved to do as secretary was hand out people's naturalization certificates,” said Albright, who, together with her successor in the U.S. Department of State, retired Army Gen. Colin Powell, spoke at Creighton University on Oct. 30 as the culminating event in the Creighton 140 Presidential Lecture Series, marking the University's 140th anniversary.

“I remember doing it July 4, 2000, at Monticello, Thomas Jefferson's house. And I figured, why not? I have Thomas Jefferson's job. And I remember giving a certificate to a man, a refugee, who said, ‘Can you believe I'm a refugee and the secretary of state is handing me my naturalization certificate?’ I said, ‘Can you believe the secretary of state is a refugee?’”

Powell's American story runs along a similar valence. The son of Jamaican immigrants who settled in the South Bronx, Powell became his generation's most respected military leader, serving two tours in the Vietnam War, earning a four-star rank in the U.S. Army and serving as national security advisor, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and secretary of state under three presidents.

“My parents came from Jamaica on banana boats and raised two children here; one became a teacher and the other had success as a soldier,” said Powell, who was also honored earlier in the day with the Creighton Business Ethics Alliance's Beacon of Ethics Award, an award Albright also earned in 2010. “You can do that in America.”

Creighton President the Rev. Daniel S. Hendrickson, SJ, welcomed a capacity crowd of nearly 2,500 to the Ryan Center's DJ Sokol Arena, and Ben Nelson, a former Nebraska governor and U.S. senator who holds an honorary doctorate from Creighton's School of Law, introduced Albright

From left, Gen. Colin Powell, Dr. Madeleine Albright and Suzanne Malveaux, HON'12, at the Creighton 140 Presidential Lecture Series on Oct. 30.

AI OLINES

and Powell. The lecture was the third in a series that included talks by Chuck Hagel, a former U.S. senator and secretary of defense, in April and Dominican-American poet, novelist and essayist Julia Alvarez in September.

“The lectures in this series have brought esteemed national speakers to our campus and the Omaha-area community, fostering insight into, and discussion about, issues of national and global import,” Fr. Hendrickson said.

SHARING THEIR VIEWS

IN A WIDE-RANGING, 75-minute conversation moderated by award-winning CNN national correspondent Suzanne Malveaux, HON’12 (whose father, Floyd Malveaux, MD, PhD, BS’61, is a Creighton alumnus and an emeriti member of the Board of Trustees), Albright and Powell discussed everything from today’s headlines to the challenges faced by the Founding Fathers in drafting the Constitution. All three had visited with students earlier in the day.

“I congratulate Creighton on its 140th anniversary,” said Albright, a professor of foreign policy at Georgetown University. “It’s a great university, and I enjoyed being with students today.”

Trust and confidence were central themes of the evening’s conversation, and whatever trials the country might face today, there’s one thing to which the pair of former U.S. secretaries of state attested.

“There is no substitute for the United States of America,” said Powell, who served as head of the State Department under President George W. Bush. “We are still the greatest democracy in the world. We are great today. We were great yesterday. We’ll be great tomorrow.”

Powell said the recent retreat of the U.S. from the world stage is creating a vacuum in world leadership that other powers, not all of them positive, are eager to fill. Citing the Trans-Pacific Partnership, the Paris Climate Agreement and the Iran nuclear treaty, among others, he said he’s concerned about the rise of extremism in Europe, Asia and other nations.

“They’re turning inward,” Powell said of nations who are looking elsewhere for standard-bearers of leadership. “They’re listening to the extremes in their countries, and it’s crushing ideals and freedom.

“We’re losing our place in the world. We are the forerunners of democracy. We have a free press, a good system of elections, partnerships. And now we’re pulling out of these agreements. I’ve had arguments with the Russians, I’ve had arguments with the Chinese,” Powell said. “That’s what diplomacy’s about. That’s what politics is about. You can’t just go your own way in this. It’s always been ‘America first.’ But it’s never been ‘America alone.’”

“We live in a very complex world where American leadership is needed now more than ever,” said Albright, who served under President Bill Clinton as the first female secretary of state and highest-ranking woman in the federal government. “It’s not this business of we’re a victim and we don’t want to be a part of it anymore. Americans don’t like the word multilateralism — it’s got too many syllables and it ends in ‘ism.’ But it’s partnership, and America needs to be a part of it. Pulling back only hurts the American people.”

Albright added that globalism does not mean a turn away from pride of country, from patriotism or American identity. What becomes problematic is the tribalism, she said, the favoring of “my group over yours.” In a multicultural society such as

“The concept that if you work hard and get a position that you can do something with, can give back with, that’s an American dream and legacy. I want my legacy to be I’m a grateful American and I tried to give back.”

DR. MADELEINE ALBRIGHT



DAVE WEAVER



Left: Creighton President the Rev. Daniel S. Hendrickson, SJ, visits with the speakers prior to the lecture. From left are Gen. Colin Powell, Suzanne Malveaux, HON’12, Fr. Hendrickson, Sen. Ben Nelson, HON’92, Diane Morin Nelson, BA’67, and Dr. Madeleine Albright.

Below left: Dr. Albright and Gen. Powell wait backstage before their entrance into the DJ Sokol Arena.

the U.S., where citizens are ideally bound by law and principle, the retreat to religious or racial or ethnic identity summons massive problems.

“Patriotism is good, but we must be very careful about nationalism,” she said. “This one tribe against another tribe and the exacerbation of our differences is not helpful. I don’t like the word tolerance, either, because it makes it sound like you put up with something. I think respect is what we need, to find out where someone is coming from.”

A MATTER OF FAITH

ALBRIGHT AND POWELL next moved into a reflection on one of those elements most tied into personal identity: faith.

Both leaders recounted moments in the White House’s Situation Room and in other crises when answers were unclear and slow in coming.

“We needed to get some of that divine information,” said Powell.

Powell said he remembers clearly a photograph of a mother at a tombstone in Arlington National Cemetery.

“And at the top of the tombstone, it wasn’t a cross, it wasn’t the Star of David,” he said. “It was the crescent (the religious symbol of Islam). It reminds me that Americans of every faith have seen fit to sacrifice for their country.”

Albright was raised Roman Catholic and did not learn of her Jewish roots until the vetting process prior to becoming secretary of state, when it was revealed that she had lost 26 relatives in the Holocaust.

“That obviously made me think about family, but also that faith is not something that divides us. It cannot be,” Albright

said. “My faith has meant a great deal to me. It’s something that’s always there.”

Speaking after a week fraught with violence that ended in tragedy with a mass shooting at a Pittsburgh synagogue on Oct. 27 that killed 11 people, both Albright and Powell took a moment to reflect on the unswerving American asset and celebration of diversity.

“There’s no way to describe what has been one of the most disappointing, horrible and un-American set of activities that’s taken place,” Albright said of the shooting. “There are divisions in our society that have come about as a result of technology and the downside of globalization, but we need leaders who look for common ground and don’t exacerbate (division).”

LASTING LEGACIES

OF THEIR LEGACIES, both diplomats opined on their humble beginnings that eventually brought them to national prominence and service.

“I hope they might say she worked very hard to defend America’s national interests and made people proud of what America is about,” Albright said. “The concept that if you work hard and get a position that you can do something with, can give back with, that’s an American dream and legacy. I want my legacy to be I’m a grateful American and I tried to give back.”

Powell also touched on his military and civilian service.

“As a kid coming from the South Bronx, I could not have dreamed I’d reach the positions I did. But I did because this is a great country, and I’m grateful to it,” he said. “I hope my legacy is that he was a pretty good soldier, did his duty and loved his country.”

something to SMILE about

BY EMILY RUST | PHOTOS BY DAVE WEAVER

New state-of-the-art dental building opens to rave reviews

"I'm sorry, but I do have to give you a shot," Britain Doolittle, BS'14, says to her patient in the Creighton School of Dentistry's adult clinic.

"I was hoping to get by without that today," her patient says with a laugh. Even with a shot looming, he still has a lot to smile about. The University's new technology-rich, aesthetically inviting School of Dentistry building provides patients greater access to Creighton's exceptional care.



Doolittle, above, and at right working with a patient.

Doolittle is smiling too. The 200,000-square-foot facility on the northeast edge of campus will be her academic and clinical home for her fourth and final year of dental school.

"When you walk into the building, I don't know how you could *not* want to receive your DDS from Creighton School of Dentistry," says Doolittle, who is originally from Holdrege, Nebraska. "This isn't something just Creighton should be proud of, but our community as well."





A guiding force behind construction of the new facility was to provide the community — particularly marginalized populations and those who otherwise might not receive care — with greater access to Creighton’s quality dental services. The school expects to increase the number of people it treats annually, from about 12,000 to 15,000 over the next three years.

The facility, made possible through the support of alumni, community foundations and other benefactors, also will allow Creighton to increase its dental school entering class enrollment capacity from about 85 students to 115 students.

Stepping inside the new building, one is struck by the abundance of natural light. A grand staircase flanks the atrium, alongside the dental school’s new admissions office, and floor-to-ceiling windows brighten the adult clinic reception area.

“It has a clean and calm ambience that will benefit both patients and students alike,” says third-year dental student Brandon Rensch of Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Although the building opened to students and faculty in August, a ceremonial ribbon-cutting was held Sept. 15, during Reunion Weekend — a fitting tribute to the many alumni and friends whose gifts help make the facility possible.

Creighton President the Rev. Daniel S. Hendrickson, SJ; Mark Latta, DMD, dean of the School of Dentistry; members of Creighton’s Board of Trustees; and other dignitaries were among those who helped celebrate the occasion.

“It is our great hope that this facility will far surpass your expectations,” Fr. Hendrickson told the 250 people gathered for the event, “as we provide an outstanding clinical educational experience rooted in the principles of the Jesuit tradition.”

As impressive as the building at 21st and Cuming streets looks to passersby on the outside, Rensch says the technology found inside provides students with “exposure to some of the latest innovations in dentistry” — including electric handpieces, dental



Left: Former Creighton President the Rev. Timothy R. Lannon, SJ, BS’73, left, Omaha Archbishop the Most Rev. George Lucas and Creighton President the Rev. Daniel S. Hendrickson, SJ, at the St. Ignatius of Loyola Chapel dedication on Aug. 17.

Right: A sculpture of St. Ignatius of Loyola and quote greet visitors to the chapel.

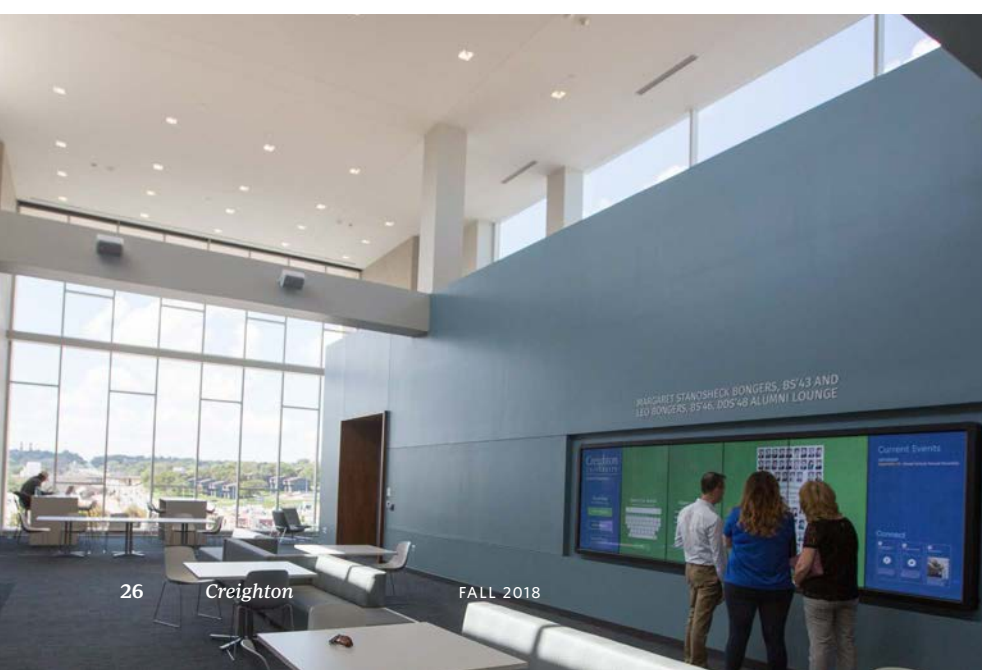
Bottom: The St. Ignatius of Loyola Chapel overlooks the adult clinic waiting area.



Top: A ceremonial ribbon-cutting for the new School of Dentistry building was held Sept. 15.

Middle: The active-learning classroom and lecture hall features cutting-edge technology to foster student engagement.

Bottom: The Margaret Stanosheck Bongers, BS’43, and Leo Bongers, BS’46, DDS’48, Alumni Lounge was designed specifically for alumni events, such as reunions, celebrations and receptions. It includes a six-screen display featuring School of Dentistry graduates.





mannequins and new digital scanning and milling units.

Each clinical operatory has three monitors, allowing students to show patients exactly where their cavities are — making patient education easier than ever.

“Technology keeps advancing, and Creighton dental is right there along with it,” Doolittle says.

Photographs from the collection of the Rev. Don Doll, SJ, adorn the walls, and prints from the Heritage Edition of The Saint John’s Bible hang in the adult clinic reception area. (The full volumes of this limited-edition Bible are on loan to the University from Board of Trustees chair Mike McCarthy and his wife, Nancy.)

Jutting out slightly above the adult clinic’s reception area is the St. Ignatius of Loyola Chapel. Dee and Martin Halbur, DDS’76, of Carroll, Iowa, provided funds for the chapel in honor of their friend the Rev. Timothy R. Lannon, SJ, BS’73, former president of Creighton. Fr. Lannon played an instrumental role in the early development of the new building.

A dedication ceremony for the chapel was held on Aug. 17. Fr. Hendrickson and Fr. Lannon were both in attendance, as was Omaha Archbishop the Most Rev. George Lucas, who blessed the altar. The chapel includes a tabernacle from St. John’s Church.

Also upstairs is an active-learning classroom, which allows for more interactive small-group learning and lectures through cutting-edge technology, along with an alumni space with interactive media and lecture halls outfitted with the latest audio-visual systems.

The new technology allowed Kim McFarland, BA’83, DDS’87, a professor of community and

preventive dentistry, to display the effects of tooth decay on the big screen, mirrored at each workgroup station. Now students can clearly see detailed imagery on a screen right in front of them.

“Our spacious lecture halls center on group learning and discussion, so we as students can collaborate on cases and trade insights that will help us develop our skills,” says Tessa McDermott, a third-year dental student from Omaha.

With the new facility, patient visits are expected to increase to 60,000 annually.

“Our program will now have the physical tools and space to innovate our teaching, to bring simulation and small-group learning to our pedagogy and, most crucially, to significantly expand our oral health services to patients,” Latta says.

The new building also has collaborative elements.

Through the Mutual of Omaha Collaborative Care Suite, on the first floor, patient care can be coordinated across health sciences disciplines, with collaboration from the College of Nursing and School of Medicine. Creighton’s new Kingfisher Institute for the Liberal Arts and Professions, established to reinforce the intersections between liberal arts education and education for the professions, is also housed in the building.

And those the building serves — particularly the students — are smiling.

“I know when I leave Creighton, I’ll have the clinical experience and preparedness to succeed in the professional world as a dentist,” McDermott says, adding, “and I will be forever grateful.”

“Our program will now have the physical tools and space to innovate our teaching, to bring simulation and small-group learning to our pedagogy and, most crucially, to significantly expand our oral health services to patients.”

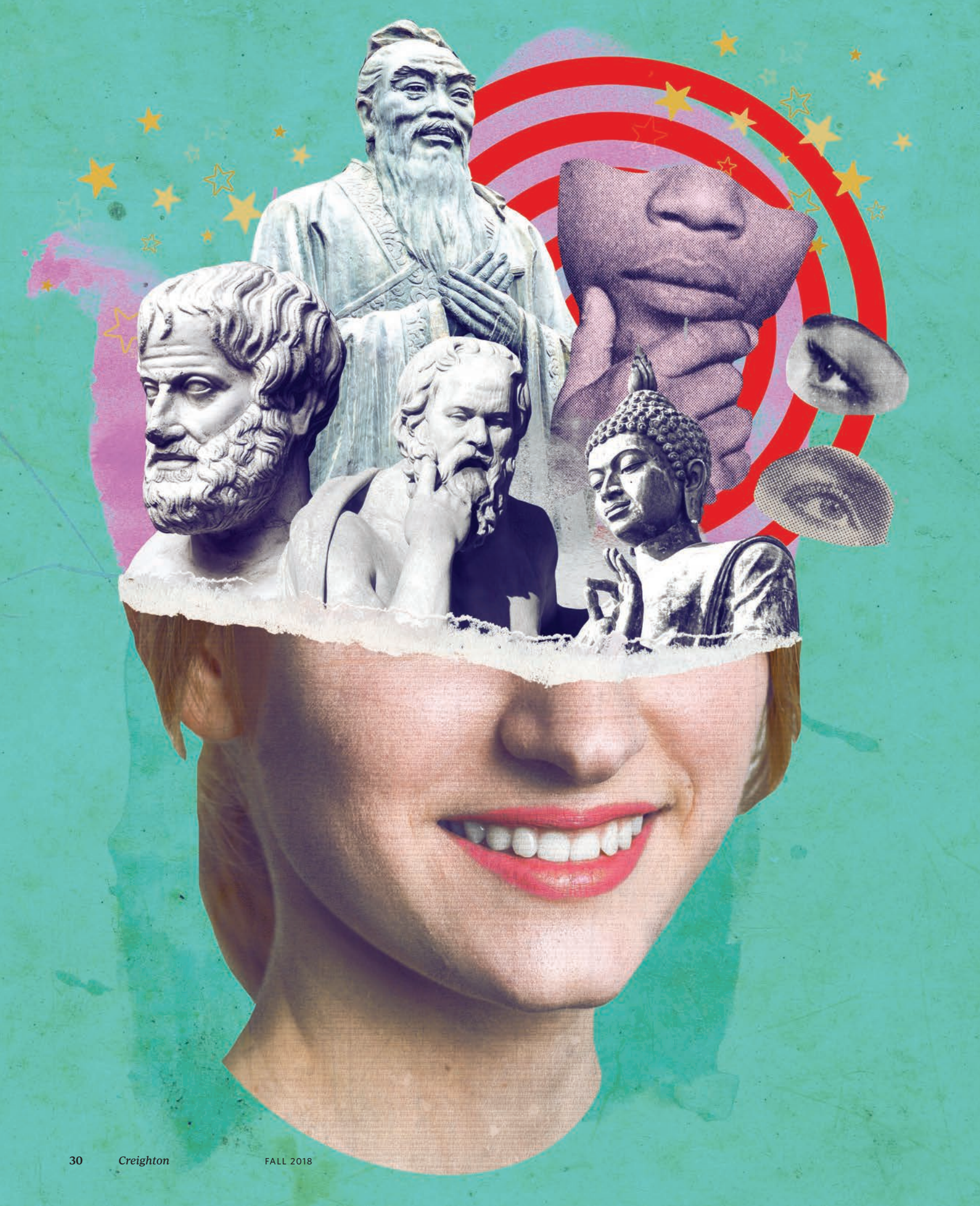
MARK LATTA, DMD
Dean, School of Dentistry



Above: First-year student Silvia Nweze begins to master dental techniques in the state-of-the-art bench simulation lab.

Bottom Left: Dental assistant Michele Murphy uses a NOMAD device to capture X-rays for third-year dental student Kyle Wiblishouser. The portable device enables the patient to stay in the dental chair while taking X-rays, making the process faster and more efficient.

Bottom Right: Andrew Kuelbs, a third-year dental student, practices his skills in the pod simulation clinic. The clinic employs simulation technology to present model patient scenarios for comprehensive diagnosis and treatment.



A Guide to the Good Life?

Scholars Look Anew to Ancient Philosophy

BY GLENN ANTONUCCI

“When I walk along with two others, they may serve me as my teachers. I will select their good qualities and follow them, their bad qualities and avoid them.”

CONFUCIUS (551-479 B.C.)

“Develop the mind of equilibrium. You will always be getting praise and blame, but do not let either affect the poise of the mind: follow the calmness, the absence of pride.”

GAUTAMA BUDDHA (CIRCA 563-483 B.C.)

“The life of money-making is one undertaken under compulsion, and wealth is evidently not the good we are seeking; for it is merely useful and for the sake of something else.”

ARISTOTLE (384-322 B.C.)

“Live your life as though your every act were to become a universal law.”

IMMANUEL KANT (1724-1804)

The philosophers — both ancient and not-so-ancient — handed down some legendary lessons to the devotees of their day. Those lessons are still being passed down.

In the East and West alike, it was inspired, revolutionary stuff. In the extreme, it lit incendiary fuses of enlightenment. In some cases, it founded religions.

Notably — and perhaps this is a point that can get lost in historical hindsight — their devotion to living and acting in a way that fit their own philosophies was, and still is, most inspiring.

Even cursory consideration of the philosophers’ teachings would weave like tentacles through the subsequent history of human thought. Without a doubt, their contributions were profoundly influential and have endured through the ages — though not without some significant mutation along the way.

Indeed, there’s something very different about how this ancient wisdom, as studied in philosophy classrooms, has come to be perceived today. The vast majority of us encounter philosophy as abstract, the domain of academia and well-removed from the hustle of our daily lives. It is largely the province of problems and puzzles.

And yet, many of the great philosophers considered themselves dispensers of practical advice on achieving happiness and improving one’s life. The Stoics, the Buddhists, the Ancient Sceptics and representatives of other such “way-of-life” traditions were mapping methods meant to directly improve the lives of those who embraced their systems.

To say they were the self-help set of their day isn’t quite accurate. The point is, these philosophers committed to practicing what they preached, as a path to the good life.

What happened along the way, to relegate such practicality to the realm of the abstract? Why do we think of philosophy nearly exclusively in terms of lofty “problems” — the problem of free will, for example, or Descartes’ mind-body problem?

Elapsed time is perhaps the easiest explanation. Pierre Hadot, in his 1995 book, *Philosophy as a Way of Life: Spiritual Exercises from Socrates to Foucault*, delves further, discussing such ideas as “contamination” — how Jewish, Greek, Roman and Christian systems of thought mingled and transposed over the centuries. In the resulting mash-up, philosophies and ideologies — along with art, literature and politics — smeared together in the mixing bowl of time and translation, and the original messages often lost their once-individualized definition.

While this contamination, or transposition, tells part of the story, another factor is the exposure of the Gospels to the philosophical cultures of the ancient world. Those cultures were influenced substantially by evangelization and, conversely, the Gospels were given a philosophical framework within which to develop.

The study of philosophy shifted to the esoteric. Practical advice sifted out of the equation.

Such is the state of affairs that undergraduate philosophy students have encountered in the classroom, to one extent or another, for nearly the last half-century.

Hadot's work reminds us, however, that philosophy is still, at its core, a vital key to interpreting the world around us — and our place in it.

Increasingly, modern-day scholars across the country are embracing this return to philosophy's proverbial roots.

This summer, the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) hosted an institute for select college and university faculty to explore the proposals that some of the philosophical traditions — and particular philosophers themselves — have suggested for living well.

The institute participants would, in turn, return to their respective institutions carrying the seeds of curricula that would help students learn philosophy cast a bit more in its original light — honed in on the blueprints of guiding one to “the good life.”

Interest in the institute was high. About 100 faculty members from institutions coast to coast applied, and only a quarter of those were

“Philosophy is not just a discipline to study systems of thought, or big ideas. The ancients show us that it was a way of life. A way to live well.”

REV. ROSS ROMERO, SJ, PHD

accepted. Those who made the cut descended on Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut, for two weeks of study and dialogue in July.

They came from campuses across the spectrum of academia, representing institutions large and small, public and private, religious and secular. Faculty from Yale, Rutgers and Boston College joined peers from the likes of Penn State, Salt Lake Community College and Harris-Stowe State University, a historically black public institution in St. Louis.

Creighton University assistant professor of philosophy the Rev. Ross Romero, SJ, PhD, was among the invitees. He says the mix of participants was remarkable.

“What was really meaningful to me was there were Ivy League people there, but there were also community college professors,” he says. “You had people that may teach one class a year, to people who are teaching five and six (classes) a semester.”

What united them all, Fr. Romero says, was a love of philosophy. And, of course, an interest in its utility as a code — or codes — of conduct, passed on by its ancient originators.

“The role of philosophy in a certain way is to be able to ask about the question of ‘the good,’” he says. “And in a way, I think my discipline has gotten away from that. It’s become kind of a technical discipline that sort of tries to emulate the sciences.

“And especially at a school like Creighton, where science is definitely good, and we have really good training in it, the question of what is good about it, and what is the good life that a scientist leads, or a doctor leads, or a lawyer leads, those are key questions to be asking for our students, because they’re the ones who are going to be living these lives going forward.

“Philosophy is not just a discipline to study systems of thought, or big ideas,” Fr. Romero says. “The ancients show us that it was a way of life. A way to live well.”

Institute participants took an intensive group tour through Confucianism, Buddhism, Stoicism, Ancient Skepticism, Existentialism, Kantianism and more, and spent time reviewing both Hadot's seminal text and John Cooper's *Pursuits of Wisdom: Six Ways of Life in Ancient Philosophy from Socrates to Plotinus*. Immersive assignments, outings and presentations helped crystallize the study.

One of the things they tried to discern, he says, was “what we might call a ‘default script’ — what do 18-year-olds believe about a way of

life, or the good life, today?”

Those beliefs, like the student populations of the schools represented, are by definition very broad. One faculty member participating in the summer institute hailed from Western New Mexico University, where, Fr. Romero points out, almost all students are first-generation college students, many of them from Native American reservations in the vicinity. The good life may look very different to them compared with their Ivy League counterparts.

Fr. Romero, for his own part, is a New Orleans native. He attended Loyola University New Orleans for his undergraduate studies, moved on to Louisiana State University for his master's and earned his doctorate in theology from Boston College.

He entered the Jesuit order in 1995 after completing his master's in philosophy. His focus then was on 19th century German thought. After entering the Jesuits, he started studying ancient Greek to learn to read the New Testament — “to preach on it better and be a better priest,” he says.

That's when his interest in the ancient philosophers was sparked — and specifically, an interest in that Greek granddaddy of Western philosophy, Socrates. Fr. Romero saw a connection between the death of Socrates and ancient Greek sacrifice.

“And I was of course interested in sacrifice because of theology and because of Christ,” Fr. Romero says. “There have been writings about how sacrifice as a philosophical category can explain much of the death of Jesus, and I just saw a lot of parallels with Socrates.

“The death of Socrates,” he says, “is the foundational event in philosophy. People will argue differently, but just as the foundational thing for theology would be Jesus and (his) death and resurrection, so would be the trial and death of Socrates for philosophy.”

Fr. Romero embarked on a teaching career that began at Spring Hill College in Mobile, Alabama, wound through Boston College and landed him eventually at Creighton.

As a professor and a scholar — his book *Without the Least Tremor: The Sacrifice of Socrates in Plato's Phaedo* was published by SUNY Press in 2016 — he specializes in ancient philosophy and the philosophy of religion.

He also is one of six Jesuits on campus who live in Creighton's residence halls — so, in more ways than one, he has a pulse on the minds of undergraduates.



Those students, like our broader society, are increasingly hungry for meaning in their lives.

“We live in a secular age,” Fr. Romero says. “Which means there's a whole variety of ways we can live, think, believe. There's a much broader freedom for this today. People are interested in finding a way to better discern which ways are the most authentic to them. And we are retrieving a way to this from the ancients.”

It's not an entirely new phenomenon. He points out that this hunger for meaning has been rumbling for a century.

But why?

“There's less sense today of family unity and community-mindedness,” he says. “You get a sense of a set of values from your group, and that's not as prevalent any more.

“The plus side is, people now have more opportunity to discover other ways of life. But the negative side is, they haven't engaged in a philosophical search for the good life. We have a lot of ways of life, but what is the good life?” he says.

“People want a way of being able to know, for themselves, ‘Is this a good life? Is this way that's being proposed to live a good life, or should I live another way?’ I think we do take it for granted what the good life is.”

The NEH institute was designed in part to send participants home with ideas for teaching their students this lapsed aspect of philosophy. It also examined how philosophy can itself contribute to the formation of students.

Fr. Romero says the institute exposed him to some “creative and bold” ways in which colleagues from elsewhere are teaching this practical aspect of philosophy, yet remaining faithful to its traditions.

Take Aristotle's *Metaphysics*, for instance. One professor has his students write their own set of metaphysics, using the traditional text in a new way, designed to “bring them into today, to have students think philosophically and do philosophy.”

Is it a way of making philosophy more accessible to young men and women?

Yes, Fr. Romero says. But that's not terribly new, and particularly not at Creighton. Making the study of philosophy more engaging to students is already baked into his and his Creighton colleagues' curricula. The new twist is putting the question of the good life more at the forefront.

“What can philosophy do to continue to ask that question, and what role does God have in the good life?” he says. “What role do others have in that good life? What about self? Is it for self, or is it for others, or God? This (institute) has allowed me to think about that again.”

More generally, he says, the time is ripe for a return to discerning what that good life really is. Modern society presents lofty challenges to finding that critical compass.

“We don't have any control over things that affect us, leading us to a feeling of despair,” Fr. Romero says. “There's never a reason for us to engage or think — instead we feel, ‘I'm powerless over this,’ and human beings just don't like that.

“This is a spark of hope that we are called to something bigger.”

CREIGHTON EXPANDS

IN THE SOUTHWEST

WHY PHOENIX?
WHY NOW?

BY CINDY MURPHY MCMAHON, BA'74

It's not only the "absolutely beautiful" weather — notably October through April — in Phoenix that has kept Nick Matthees, MD'14, in Arizona for his residency and upcoming fellowship.

The North Dakota native, who had never lived outside of the Midwest, was in the pioneering class of Creighton medical students who spent their third and fourth years in Phoenix on Creighton's regional medical campus beginning in 2012.

"I told my family and friends in North Dakota, Minnesota and Nebraska that Phoenix would only be a two-year adventure," says Matthees. Six years later, he's completing his radiology residency at Dignity Health St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center and preparing for a one-year neuroradiology fellowship at the renowned Barrow Neurological Institute.

He credits a host of reasons for that reversal in plans, but a particular patient he met as a surgery intern comes to mind when he thinks back over the past six years.

"We had a trauma patient who had been in a terrible car accident," Matthees says. "He was in bad shape. His wife was at his bedside and my attending and I were trying to prepare her for the worst before we went into surgery.

After multiple surgeries, he spent two weeks intubated in the ICU. When he woke up, he had this big, booming voice and he was so grateful.

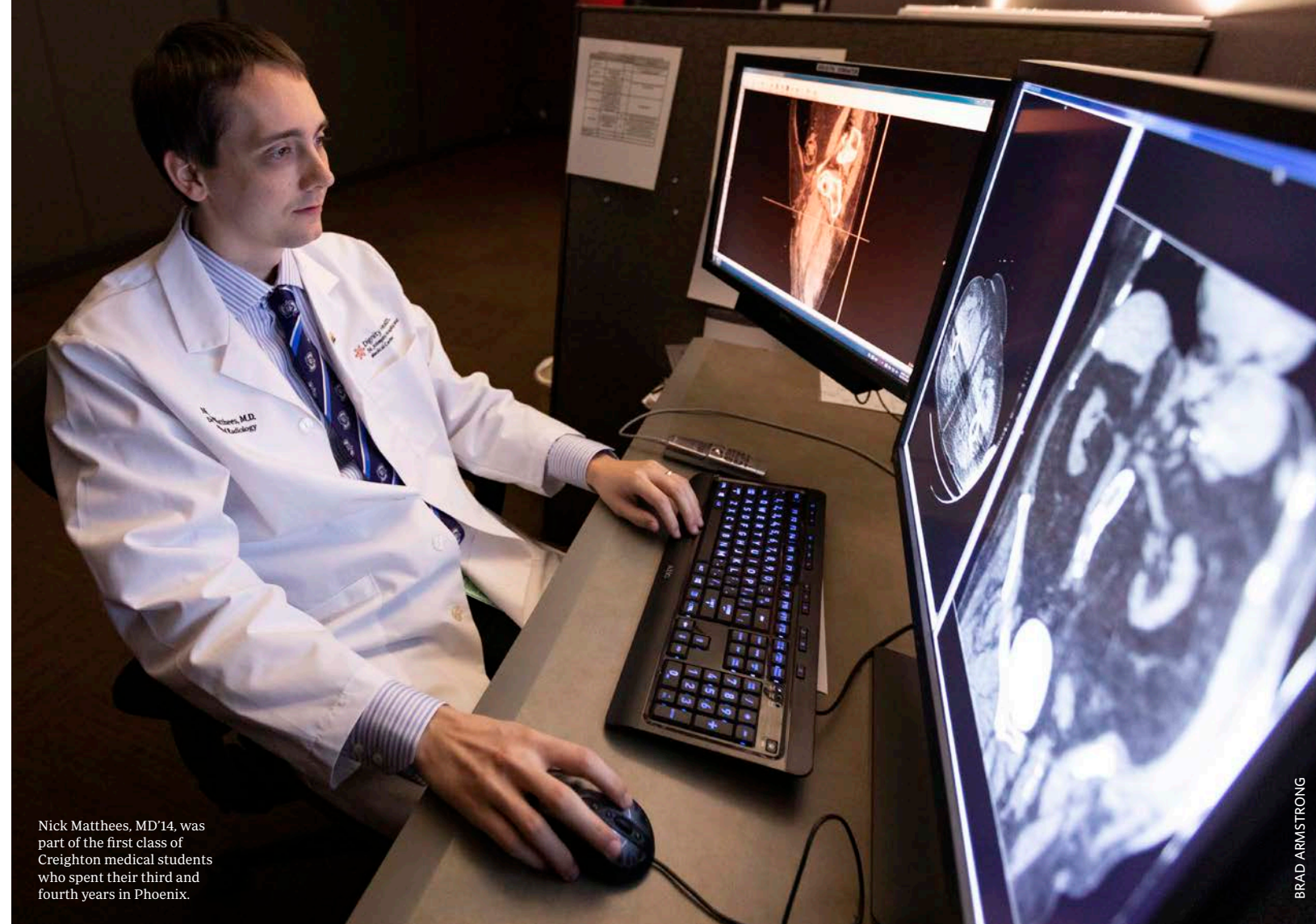
"I got to know him and his wife and the whole family over many weeks. It's those kinds of times that remind you of why you wanted to become a doctor."

Matthees' educational path will soon be emulated by hundreds of Creighton health professional students, residents and fellows, as the University recently announced plans to expand its presence in the Southwest with a health sciences campus in midtown Phoenix.

The new Creighton campus addresses Arizona's looming shortage of health care professionals and will include a four-year medical school and nursing, occupational and physical therapy, pharmacy and physician assistant schools, as well as an emergency medical services program. The campus is expected to meet the University's current needs, with room for expansion, at a central Phoenix location that is convenient for students, offering light rail connections and proximity to the hospitals where they will be doing clinical training.

The health care demand in Arizona is expected to increase substantially due to

The new Creighton campus addresses Arizona's looming shortage of health care professionals and will include a four-year medical school and nursing, occupational and physical therapy, pharmacy and physician assistant schools, as well as an emergency medical services program.



Nick Matthees, MD'14, was part of the first class of Creighton medical students who spent their third and fourth years in Phoenix.

BRAD ARMSTRONG

growth in the region. U.S. Census data ranked Arizona among the top 10 states for population growth and, as a popular retirement destination, the state also has one of the fastest-growing older populations.

According to the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC), Arizona ranks 32nd out of the 50 states for active physicians, 38th for active primary care physicians and 45th for active general surgeons. *The Survey of Health Care Employers in Arizona: Hospitals, 2015* showed that the state's hospitals forecast employment growth in nearly every hospital occupation, especially nursing.

In announcing the new venture, Creighton's president, the Rev. Daniel S. Hendrickson, SJ, said the University is preparing for an exciting new era in Phoenix, "... that combines our tradition for educational excellence in the

health sciences with our distinctive Jesuit, Catholic mission."

He emphasized that programs in Omaha will not be impacted and that Creighton will continue to move forward in its partnership with CHI Health, supporting and building programs to enhance health sciences education and patient care locally and regionally.

With the Phoenix announcement, he noted that the University already has strong ties to the Arizona health care community, with more than 250 Creighton-educated physicians practicing there and its partnerships in the Creighton University Arizona Health Education Alliance. Fr. Hendrickson said the University looks forward to "expanding our impact by educating many more exceptionally qualified health care professionals to serve the community moving forward."

Dale Davenport, senior associate dean for the School of Medicine and project leader for Phoenix, says the new campus, which is a strategic priority for the University, will be funded through tuition revenue and philanthropy, and will provide a way for the University to continue to expand its health sciences programs and help fund all the University's strategic growth initiatives.

Phase one involves construction of an approximately 200,000-square-foot building to accommodate nearly 800 students, which will begin next spring and is expected to be completed in 2021. The anticipated enrollment includes 400 medical students; 150 nursing students; 200 pharmacy, OT and PT students; and 50 physician assistant and EMS students. (Creighton alumni in Arizona currently number nearly 2,000, with almost 1,600 in Phoenix.)

"Nick is a perfect example of a Creighton student who has thrived as a resident in our program. Seeing students, like Nick, who develop into excellent physicians and then help other students and physicians-in-training do the same, is very satisfying."

RANDY RICHARDSON, MD
Associate Dean and Principal Academic Officer
Phoenix Regional Campus

The campus will be in an iconic area, called Park Central, that is undergoing revitalization. Sharon (Culhane) Harper, BA'69, Creighton alumna and trustee and president and CEO of Plaza Companies — which is redeveloping Park Central in partnership with Holualoa Companies — says Creighton is an ideal fit for the project.

Harper, who grew up in Minnesota, relocated to Phoenix in 1971 with her husband, New York native Oliver "Ollie" Harper, MD'70.

"We fell in love with this beautiful state and all of the opportunity here," she says.

"Creighton is already established here and is viewed as a prestigious university that brings a unique, person-centered approach to health care education," Harper says. "I hear from the doctors in the hospitals that there is something special about Creighton students."



BRAD ARMSTRONG

“Creighton’s focus on patient-centered care – taking care of the body, mind and spirit of patients – is so important for the kind of health care community we all want to be a part of.”

ANN-MARIE ALAMEDDIN, BA’96, JD
General Counsel and Vice President for Strategy
Arizona Hospital and Healthcare Association

Creighton’s connection in Phoenix began some 13 years ago, with medical students completing rotations at Dignity Health St. Joseph’s Hospital and Medical Center. That relationship expanded in 2009 when the University and St. Joseph’s established the Phoenix Regional Campus for third- and fourth-year medical students, and, earlier this year, the College of Nursing launched an accelerated nursing program there as well.

The bond solidified even more in 2017 with formation of the Creighton University Arizona Health Education Alliance – composed of Creighton, Dignity Health St. Joseph’s Hospital and Medical Center, Maricopa Integrated Health System (to become Valleywise Health in 2019) and District Medical Group (DMG). And then this summer, the School of Medicine became responsible for Graduate Medical Education (GME) programs at both Dignity Health St. Joseph’s and Maricopa, training approximately

325 residents and fellows (in addition to about 225 in Omaha).

Another Creighton alumna and Arizonan who is not a health science graduate nonetheless is in a key position to evaluate Creighton’s plans in Phoenix.

Ann-Marie Alameddin, BA’96, JD, is general counsel and vice president for strategy at the Arizona Hospital and Healthcare Association.

“Although I loved my four years in Omaha, I’m a third-generation Arizonan and the beautiful Phoenix winters and my family called me home,” she laughs.

She calls the shortage of health care professionals in Arizona, particularly in rural parts of the state, “an acute need,” and says many Arizona hospitals are struggling with physician recruitment and retention.

“We know that physicians who attend medical school or do their residency in Arizona have a much higher likelihood of staying in

© Kate Collins, left, is part of the first accelerated nursing class in Phoenix. She is the niece of Ann-Marie Alameddin, BA’96, JD, who is general counsel and vice president for strategy at the Arizona Hospital and Healthcare Association.

Arizona. Creighton’s new health sciences programs will bring an influx of clinicians who hopefully will stay and serve the health care needs of Arizonans for decades to come.”

Alameddin, who graduated from Creighton in 1996 with a degree in history, participated in Creighton’s ILAC program in the Dominican Republic in the spring of 1995. “I witnessed the incredible work Creighton health care professionals brought to the Dominicans who had no other access to health care services.”

Her D.R. experience sparked her interest in health care delivery systems and policy. “Not being a clinician, there is still a role for people to effect change in health care in a really important way, through effective policy and advocacy in health care,” she says.

“What’s interesting about the new health sciences program in Arizona is that it’s a result of strategic collaboration between Creighton, two hospitals – Maricopa Integrated Health System and St. Joe’s – and a large physician group, DMG. Each entity is bringing what they do to the table – excellence in clinical education, rotations and programs in hospitals, physician preceptors.

“Together they are leveraging their collective expertise to create something exceptional. We are seeing more strategic collaborations and partnerships in health care, and I think that’s exciting.”

She says she is thrilled about Creighton’s increased presence in Arizona. “Creighton’s focus on patient-centered care – taking care of the body, mind and spirit of patients – is so important for the kind of health care community we all want to be a part of.”

Alameddin and her family also are personally involved with her alma mater in Phoenix. Her niece, Kate Collins, is part of Creighton’s first Phoenix accelerated nursing class.

“There is such a great deal of excitement in the health care and higher education arenas here in the Valley over this,” says Jacqu

Chadwick, MD, vice provost for the Phoenix campus and director of the Creighton University Arizona Health Education Alliance. (See a Q&A with her on Page 52)

“Phoenix is noted for having a desire to form partnerships and collaborations, so everyone in the Alliance sees this as an opportunity to create a successful model for the rest of the country.”

For resident Nick Matthees, deciding to try “Creighton in Phoenix” has been life-changing. “There’s just so much opportunity here,” he says. “I have learned so much.”

He especially credits Randy Richardson, MD, associate dean and principal academic officer for the Phoenix Regional Campus, who recently stepped down as chairman of radiology at St. Joseph’s Hospital in Phoenix.

“Radiology was always on my mind,” Matthees says, “ever since I was a radiology tech aide in college. But Dr. Richardson has been a big part of my experience down here,

and spending time with him solidified my love for radiology.”

For his part, Richardson says, “Nick is a perfect example of a Creighton student who has thrived as a resident in our program. Seeing students, like Nick, who develop into excellent physicians and then help other students and physicians-in-training do the same, is very satisfying.”

He says the community service component of a Creighton education has been rewarding to witness.

“I have the privilege of helping talented students become excellent physicians, but the real joy and reward is to see them give back to the community through service and teaching. There are so many faculty, staff, administrators, nurses and others on this campus who contribute to this kind of culture, making the Phoenix campus something Creighton University truly can be proud of.”



DAVE WEAVER

© Randy Richardson, MD, associate dean and principal academic officer for the Phoenix Regional Campus, center, confers with Creighton medical graduates in Phoenix, Ciera Oshodi, MD’18, left, and Lauren Glaser, MD’18. Oshodi matched into an OB/GYN residency at Medical College of Wisconsin, and Glaser matched into family medicine at Kaiser Permanente in Santa Rosa, California.



REFLECTIONS

A Voice of Diversity

The University Chorus, under the direction of Adam Witte, an instructor in the Department of Fine and Performing Arts, performs the works of female composers during an October concert in St. John's Church. For the 2018-2019 season, the University Chorus and Creighton University Chamber Choir are highlighting artists from underrepresented groups. "We've been looking at proactive ways to ensure the choral classroom is a place for everybody and ways to represent all of these composers in some way," says Barron Breland, DM, associate professor and chair of the Department of Fine and Performing Arts. For concert dates and ticket information, visit creighton.edu/ccas/fineandperformingarts.



BRAD ARMSTRONG

ALUMNI NOTES

Send Us Your News

Penned your long-awaited novel? Traveled around the world? Received that awesome promotion? Earned a prestigious honor? If so, we want to hear about it. Share your memories and milestones by emailing us at alumni@creighton.edu.

IMPACT

‘Creighton Took a Chance on Me’

ROBERT MCCULLOCH, BS’79, MD’83, had no interest in attending college. The Phoenix native was more interested in blue-collar work and started an electrician apprenticeship the summer after graduating from high school. But then the economy went south, and McCulloch was laid off.

September came, and McCulloch scrambled to find a college to attend. After a year at a local school, he applied to Creighton on a whim.

He wasn’t a top student, but he had a good ACT score. “Creighton took a chance on me,” McCulloch says. “I wasn’t college material at the time.”

McCulloch’s father, a Korean War veteran, graduated from the University of Nebraska Omaha, initiating McCulloch’s familiarity with Nebraska.

Once at Creighton, McCulloch went from earning C’s to A’s. “Creighton really taught me to be a good student.”

At Creighton, McCulloch met his wife, the late Ann Carnazzo McCulloch, BSN’78, whose father, Anthony Carnazzo, BS’53, MS’57, MD’58, was a surgeon and a faculty member in the School of Medicine. On weekends, McCulloch would go to Ann’s family house in Omaha and play with her younger brothers, helping them with projects. Dr. Carnazzo noticed how great McCulloch was tinkering with the projects, and suggested he do something with his hands.

McCulloch took Carnazzo’s advice and enrolled in the Creighton School of Medicine, studying microsurgery to become an ophthalmologist. Today, he works at Horizon Eye Specialists and Lasik Center in the Phoenix area, where he practices surgery and manages a team of doctors.

“I always thought if I’d become an electrician, I wanted to be a business owner because I enjoyed the business part,” McCulloch says. “I was attracted to sciences and helping people.”

Over the years, he’s watched as Creighton has expanded its health sciences into the Southwest.

“It’s a good thing for Creighton, but also the

country,” McCulloch says. “We’re experiencing doctor shortages ... One of the largest cities in the U.S. (Phoenix) didn’t have a medical school here.”

To help Phoenix build its medical workforce, McCulloch has established a scholarship for Creighton students pursuing medicine in Arizona. The scholarship will cover \$50,000 per year for four years of medical school.

“My hope is to look for a student like me, from a blue-collar family,” McCulloch says. “Keep them out of debt.”

“It’s a way to give back to Creighton. It’s really understanding this financial burden on medical students,” McCulloch says.

He hopes with this scholarship, students will have the freedom to choose the path best for them when they graduate medical school, instead of solely focusing on one that repays their debt.

“It really takes people like me, alumni, others who care about where medicine’s going,” McCulloch says, “to step up, give money, to not have this crushing debt burden.”

— BY EMILY RUST

61 James T. Brady, BS, Carson City, Nevada, published an autobiography about his years at IBM titled *Computer Systems Architect: From Systems Engineer to IBM Fellow, Experiencing IBM from the Inside*.

68 Suzanne Alwine Flynn, BS, North Fort Myers, Florida, teaches online graduate courses at Lesley University and Cambridge College, both located in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

70 Robert K. Sextro, BS, Sequim, Washington, retired from Noblis Inc., after a 45-plus-year career that included working as an analytical chemist, an air quality engineer, a quality manager, a civil engineer and a systems engineer.

76 Charles S. Caulkins, JD, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, a partner at Fisher Phillips law firm, was listed as “Lawyer of the Year” in Employment Law-Management for the Fort Lauderdale region by *Best Lawyers in America 2019* and was also named to “The Top 100 Most Powerful Employment Attorneys” by *Human Resource Executive* magazine for 2018. **Daniel E. Monnat, JD,** Wichita, Kansas, of Monnat & Spurrier, Chartered, was honored by *Best Lawyers in America 2019* in four

areas: Criminal Defense-General Practice; Criminal Defense-White Collar; Bet-the-Company Litigation; and Appellate Practice.

81 Anthony J. Sorrentino, BSBA’76, JD, Omaha, was named the 2018 National All Star Man of the Year by the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society of America.

82 Maribeth Slattery McMahon, BA, Kansas City, Missouri, a shareholder at Polsinelli law firm, was listed as “Lawyer of the Year” for Securitization and Structured Finance Law by *Best Lawyers in America 2019*. **Tim B. Streff, JD,** Omaha, has joined the law firm of Gross & Welch in Omaha as a director.

83 Stephen A. Donato, JD, Fayetteville, New York, was recognized as a 2018 Upstate New York Super Lawyer in the Bankruptcy: Business Practice Area. He also was listed as “Lawyer of the Year” for Litigation-Bankruptcy by *Best Lawyers in America 2019*. Donato is an attorney in the Syracuse, New York, office of Bond, Schoenck & King. He is chair of the firm’s business restructuring, creditors’ rights and bankruptcy practice. **Col. Anthony P. Joyce, BS’79, DDS,** Yelm, Washington, retired in July

2018 after 33 years as an Army endodontist/instructor and was awarded the Legion of Merit.

84 Robert L. Ronconi, BS’80, DDS, Fort Dodge, Iowa, was recently granted a utility patent from the United States Patent and Trademark Office. The patent is for a portable ultrasonic descaling device which has applications in the commercial and residential pool, spa and marine industries. The handheld device utilizes ultrasonic cavitation to remove the limescale, stains and calcium deposits that build up at the waterline of pools and spas, or on other surfaces that come in contact with water. After prototype development, he will seek to either license or manufacture the device. Ronconi has maintained a private dental practice in Fort Dodge since 1984 and serves on the board of trustees of the Iowa Dental Association.

85 Mary Ellen McLean, DDS, Onsted, Michigan, recently retired as clinical associate professor emerita of dentistry after 21 years of teaching at the University of Michigan School of Dentistry in Ann Arbor, Michigan. **Y.E. Scott, JD,** Aurora, Colorado, retired after 27 years working for the state of Colorado, having

served as parole board member, parole board administrative law judge/hearing officer and senior assistant attorney general. She also served as assistant attorney general for the state of Nebraska from 1985 to 1991.

86 Maria Z. Lira, BSN, Melrose, Massachusetts, graduated from New England Law-Boston with a JD in May 2017. Lira successfully passed the Massachusetts Bar in July 2017 and was sworn in and permitted to practice law in November 2017.

87 Capt. David P. Murphy, BA, Silverdale, Washington, retired from the U.S. Navy after serving 31 years as a pulmonary/critical care physician. His tours in the Navy included the *USS Puget Sound (AD-38)*, and naval and army hospitals throughout the U.S., Far East, Middle East and Europe. Murphy’s last tour ended in October 2018 at Naval Hospital Camp Pendleton in San Diego County, California. His personal awards include the Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal (two awards), Army Commendation Medal, Navy Achievement Medal and numerous unit citations, awards and ribbons. He is now practicing pulmonary medicine in California and Washington.

88 Jayson A. Ford, JD, Bennington, Nebraska, had his first novel, *A Cure for Nightmares*, released by Mascot Books. After being a trial attorney for 28 years, Ford is now mediating civil cases and focusing on writing. His book is the first in a trilogy that explores common childhood fears.

96 Melisa De La Garza, JD, Las Vegas, was elected justice of the peace in June 2018 by the citizens of Las Vegas. Her career has included eight years as a deputy district attorney, three years as a public defender where she was on the homicide unit, three years in private practice and eight years as a criminal hearing master. **Stuart M. Youmans, DDS,** Casper, Wyoming, received the prestigious diplomate status with the American Board of Oral Implantology/Implant Dentistry, symbolizing the highest level of competence in implant dentistry. This was the culmination of many years of rigorous implant surgery, reconstruction and education. There are fewer than 500 diplomates worldwide, and Youmans is the only diplomate in Wyoming.

99 Dr. Kimberly K. Rodda, BSN, Seaside, Oregon, received her Doctor of Nursing Practice degree in May 2018 from Chatham University in Pittsburgh. She currently is a family nurse practitioner at Providence Seaside Hospital in Seaside.

00 Asher L. Stoller, JD'99, MBA, Omaha, is a financial advisor with the Weissman Eppler Investment Group of Wells Fargo Advisors, an Ann Arbor, Michigan, based wealth management team for high net worth individuals and families. Stoller is based out of Omaha.

03 Elizabeth Sipperley Bowman, JD, Omaha, was promoted to associate counsel with the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, a division of the Department of Homeland Security. **Dr. Neil J. Hansen, BS,** Bennington, Nebraska, was named the Jud W. Gurney, M.D., Professor of Radiology at the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) in Omaha. After completing a four-year residency in diagnostic radiology and a one-year fellowship in body imaging at the University of Michigan

Medical Center, Hansen joined the UNMC faculty in 2013 as assistant professor in the division of abdominal imaging. **Nic A. Prenger, BA,** Omaha, launched Prenger Solutions Group, a consulting firm that provides digital fundraising solutions to nonprofits.

06 Jason J. Biss, JD, Lafayette, Indiana, was named chief deputy prosecuting attorney for the Tippecanoe County Prosecutor's Office in Lafayette. Biss had been a deputy prosecuting attorney in the Tippecanoe County Prosecutor's Office since 2006.

10 Dr. Leland A. Barker, BS, Las Vegas, completed his doctorate in kinesiology at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas in May 2018. **Dr. Erica D. Stewart, BS,** Mission, Kansas, graduated from medical school and is entering her first year of residency at the University of Kansas School of Medicine - Wichita Family Medicine Residency Program at Wesley Medical Center in Wichita, Kansas. **John B. "Jack" Sullivan, BSBA,** Omaha, is the Northwest Branch manager for Creighton Federal Credit Union in Omaha.

11 Catherine Howe Wurtz, BSBA'07, MBA, St. Louis, was elected to the city council in Kirkwood, Missouri. She currently is the youngest member of the council.

12 Melissa C. Hollabaugh, BA, St. Louis, was honored by the *St. Louis Business Journal* in July as one of the 2018 class for 30 Under 30. That same month, Hollabaugh was promoted from director of annual campaign to director of philanthropy at World Pediatric Project, a nonprofit dedicated to healing critically ill children and building health care capacity worldwide. **Angela Terry Lennon, JD,** Omaha, a partner at Koenig Dunne law firm in Omaha, was selected as a member of Leadership Omaha Class 41. Leadership Omaha is one of the longest-running community leadership programs in the nation. Leadership Omaha is designed to develop effective leaders who strengthen and transform the community.

13 Corey J. Becker, JD, Oxen Hill, Maryland, is legislative counsel for U.S. Sen. Joni Ernst in Washington, D.C. **Troy Vingom, MS,** Coopersburg, Pennsylvania, was named assistant vice president for information technology and chief information technology officer at Kutztown University in Kutztown, Pennsylvania.

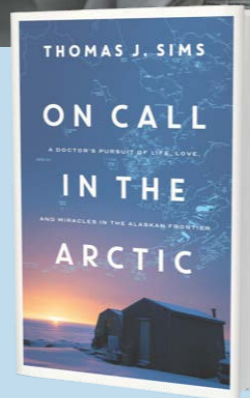
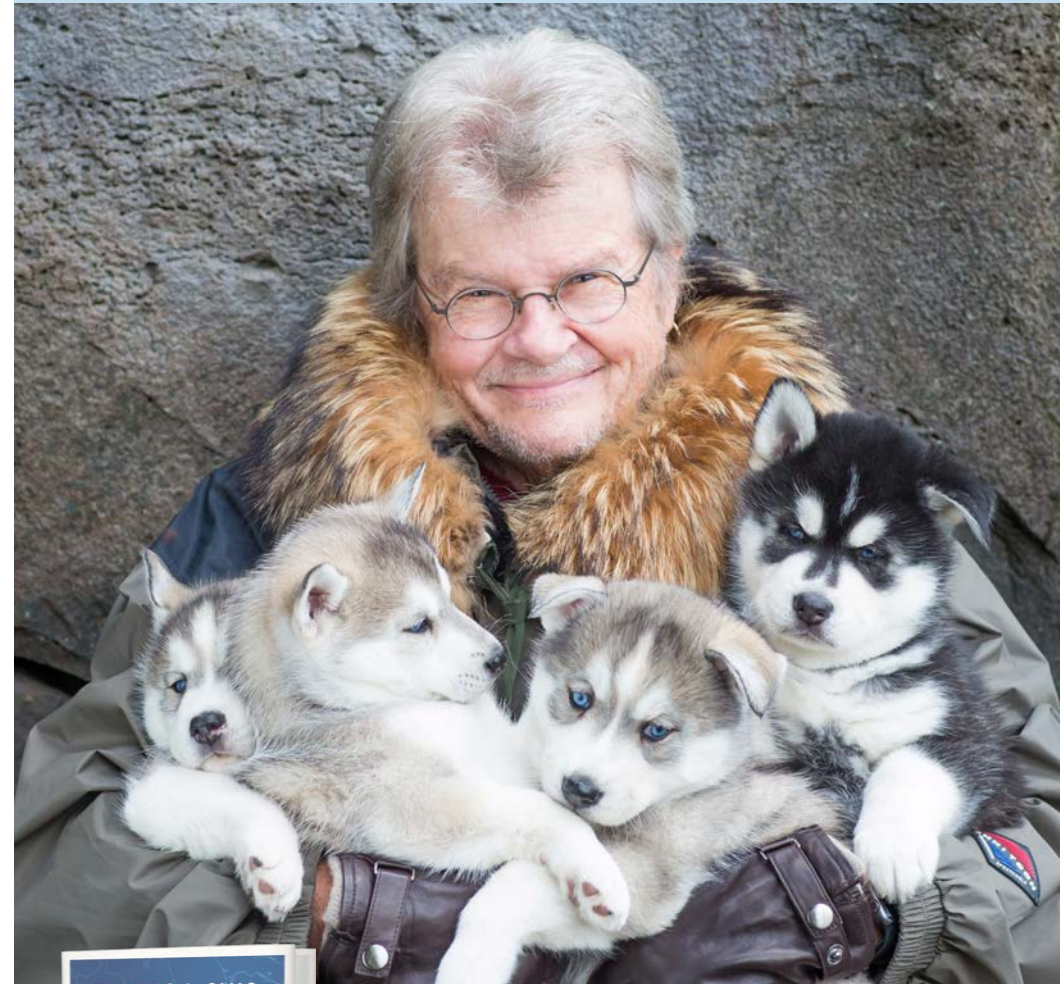
14 Ladan Hariri, MD, Laguna Hills, California, recently graduated from the University of Southern California Psychiatry Residency Training Program and plans to open a private practice. **Dilasha Neupane, BS,** Omaha, was crowned Miss Nepal U.S. 2018 at a pageant held in Plano, Texas, in August.

17 Michael R. Molitoris, MIMFA, Cary, North Carolina, participated in the article "8 Ways to Reduce Stress When Saving for Retirement" that appeared in *U.S. News & World Report* on June 20, 2018.

18 Mary Hartzog Cooper, DBA, Fayetteville, New York, received her Doctorate in Business Administration in May 2018 from Creighton University. She accepted a position as assistant professor of accounting at Utica College in Utica, New York.

ALUMNI PROFILE

'A Life-Changing Adventure' Subject of *Alumnus'* Book



It was anything but an icy reception for **THOMAS SIMS, MD'70**, late this summer with his release of *On Call in the Arctic: A Doctor's Pursuit of Life, Love and Miracles in the Alaskan Frontier*.

Published by Pegasus Books, *On Call in the Arctic* (*OnCallintheArctic.com*) is Sims' captivating account of his time as a fresh-out-of-med-school physician on commission with the U.S. Public Health Service and assigned to one of the world's most isolated and harsh outposts — Nome, Alaska. There, in the early 1970s, Sims worked under archaic conditions as Nome's only doctor, with additional responsibility for 13 nearby Eskimo villages.

Sims knew he had the makings of a good story the instant he laid eyes on the rugged backwater town that hugs the icy shores of the Bering Sea.

"The moment I stepped off the plane and saw the conditions I would work under and how we would have to live, I realized this was going to be a life-changing adventure," says Sims, who arrived in Nome with his pregnant wife and 2-year-old daughter. "I knew right off the bat I would write a book about this journey, so I began keeping a journal and started making tape recordings of our life and my thoughts."

He delivered babies under Coleman lanterns and performed surgery without adequate anesthesia — often under flashlight illumination. Sims nearly lost his own life traveling across the frozen Bering Sea tied atop a dogsled, trying to return to Nome after being weather-bound while providing care in a remote Eskimo village.

Sims credits Creighton School of Medicine for giving him the knowledge and clinical experience necessary to be successful in these difficult conditions. "Without such medical training, I never could have made it through as I did," he says.

The book received a rather glowing review from *Publishers Weekly*, and Sims, who lives in Bend, Oregon, has been busy making TV appearances, giving radio show interviews, and hosting book signings. He also is writing a blog for *Psychology Today*, titled "Under Extreme Circumstances."

"The book portrays a message of how we, as individuals, no matter what our path in life, can learn to adapt to extreme circumstances if we allow our instincts — based upon our training — to show us what path to follow," he says.

On Call in the Arctic is not Sims' first book — and not likely to be his last. Sims, who grew up in South Gate, California, an industrial suburb of Los Angeles, wrote his first novel when he was 10. He also wrote for lay magazines and medical journals during his career as a physician. He even penned a medical procedure training manual and a software manual for computer software he developed.

On Call in the Arctic came to fruition thanks to a juried memoir-writing conference Sims' manuscript won. That exposed him to literary agents in New York, one of whom came to represent him and who sold the book to Pegasus in a matter of weeks.

Now Sims, retired from medicine, plans to write one book a year. Suspense novels, he says, that "naturally, will always include a little twist of medicine." — **BY TONY FLOTT**



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Family is Key to Iowa Supreme Court Justice's Success

SUSAN LARSON CHRISTENSEN, JD'91, the newest justice on the Iowa Supreme Court, says she isn't much one for bragging, yet perhaps it was "humble bragging" that got her to where she is today.

The 56-year-old officially took office on Sept. 4, as the third woman in Iowa's history to serve on the state's high court. Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds administered the oath of office to Christensen in a public ceremony on Sept. 21 in Des Moines.

Christensen previously served as a 4th Judicial District Court judge in Iowa, as well as a juvenile court judge, where she showed a commitment to children's welfare issues by serving on Iowa's Children's Justice State Council, Children's Mental Health and Wellbeing Workgroup, Guardianship/Conservatorship Task Force, Cass-Audubon Family Treatment Court and Child Support Review Committee.

Christensen replaces Justice Bruce Zager, who announced his impending retirement in May.

"I'm not comfortable doing (humble bragging)," Christensen says in a recorded video interview in July, when she was one of 22 candidates vying for the position. "But perhaps it is the best way I can get my story out to you; to help you understand why I am the best person for this job."

Christensen's humble beginnings are rooted in Harlan, Iowa, where she and her husband, Jay, an optometrist, continue to live today. "Even in my new role, we are committed to the people of rural Iowa and staying here. I'll travel to Des Moines as needed," Christensen says.

Prior to becoming a justice, Christensen was a prosecutor and family law attorney for 16 years and spent the past 11 years as a judge for Iowa's 4th Judicial District (eight years as an associate judge and three years as a district court judge).

The Christensens are the parents of five children — Nic, Adam, Rees, Sadie and Cass — who range in age from 36 to 16. They also have four grandchildren.

Susan and Jay met in first grade, started dating at age 15 and married at 19. "We always knew we'd get married young," Christensen recalls. After high school, Susan



© Susan Larson Christensen, JD'91, was sworn in as an Iowa Supreme Court justice in September. She previously served as a 4th Judicial District Court judge in Iowa.

took a one-year legal secretary course at AIB College of Business in Des Moines, worked as a legal secretary in Sioux City for a few years, and then joined Jay, who was in his fourth year of studies at the University of South Dakota (USD) in Vermillion.

At this point, Christensen had also decided that being a legal secretary wasn't going to be a forever career — she wanted to pursue her own undergraduate education and eventually go to law school to follow in her father's footsteps.

Christensen's father is the late former Iowa Supreme Court Justice Jerry Larson, who died in April. Larson served on the court from 1978 to 2008 and holds the record as the longest-serving justice in Iowa. One of

Christensen's siblings, David Larson, went to Creighton law school as well, graduating in 1992. He practices law in Avoca, Iowa.

While law may be in her family's blood, the way Christensen went about her studies was a bit unusual. She completed her first year of college at USD, but then Jay got a job offer in California and Susan joined him and did her second year at Cal State Fresno.

Already parents to their oldest child with another on the way, the couple started pondering a return home.

"We had our second baby in California, but Nic, our first, had just been diagnosed with cerebral palsy," Christensen recalls. "Our doctor said to us, 'You're both from Iowa — what are you doing out here?' The University of Iowa is home to one of the best hospitals in the country for treating children with this disorder."

The Christensens then moved back to the Midwest, where Susan started her third year of undergraduate studies at the University of Iowa and Jay started optometry school in Chicago.

Eventually, Susan joined Jay in Chicago and completed her undergraduate degree in psychology from Judson College, a Baptist-affiliated university, in 1988.

"But I didn't want to stay in inner-city Chicago," Christensen recalls. "It was time for Nic to start school — and for me to start law school — and Jay and I wanted Nic to be mainstreamed, not in a special school. I applied to the University of Iowa, Drake University and Creighton University and got accepted into all three."

While a student at Creighton, Christensen served as a mentor to first-year law students, was a member of the Phi Alpha Delta legal fraternity and graduated *cum laude*. In October, she was the featured speaker at a reception following Creighton's Red Mass, an annual service that marks the beginning of the U.S. Supreme Court's term and celebrates all members of the legal profession.

"What made me choose Creighton was that I could go home to Harlan, attend law school an hour away in Omaha and have family support. All four parents were a big part of my ability to do this," she adds.

"If Nic were cured tomorrow — if he could walk and talk like other people — I would not want to change how his disability has affected my life," Christensen says. "I am a better person because of him, and I believe this is reflected in the way I handle myself as a wife, mother, friend or judge."

At Creighton law school, Christensen was pregnant with the couple's third child, had her husband finishing his optometry studies in Chicago — with him commuting eight hours on the weekends for two years to see the family — and still graduated with honors.

"You do what you gotta do for family," Christensen says. "Creighton helped make it possible to reach my career aspirations." — **BY LISA FOSTER, BA'92**

WEDDINGS

59 Dr. Jo Marie Griesgraber and **James C. Webster, ARTS**, Sept. 29, 2018, living in Fairfax, Virginia.

95 **Jenifer Freese Neilsen, BS**, and David Ferguson, April 28, 2018, living in Omaha.

12 **Kelsey M. Holmes, BSN**, and **Brendyn R. Kaintz, BS'13**, Oct. 6, 2018, living in Ballwin, Missouri.

14 **Ladan Hariri, MD**, and Dr. John Larson, April 15, 2017, living in Laguna Hills, California.

16 **Stacey R. Nygaard, DDS**, and **Thomas M. Spellman, BS'10, DDS**, July 14, 2018, living in Fargo, North Dakota. **Leslie K. Wyckoff, BS'14, MBA**, and **Luke G. Ulrich, BSBA'11**, Sept. 8, 2018, living in Richmond, Virginia.

17 **Nicole L. Cherney, BS'13, DDS**, and **Daniel J. Muelleman, BA'11, JD'15**, May 26, 2018, living in Omaha. **Lindsay M. Robinson, MD**, and **Thomas R. Williams, MD'18**, June 2, 2018, living in Astoria, New York. **Kathryn A. White, BA**, and **Mark R. Austin, BA**, June 30, 2018, living in Dallas.

BIRTHS

01 **Joseph R. Bezousek, BSBA**, and **Becky Stiverson Bezousek, BSN**, Omaha, a son, Patrick Ignatius Elias, Aug. 2, 2017.

04 **John U. Campbell, BSATS**, and **Molly E. Campbell, BA'06, JD'09**, San Antonio, adopted a daughter, A'Miyah Christine Ja'Nae, born on July 24, 2016, and adopted on Aug. 20, 2018. Andrew Ripley and **Amanda Bartels Ripley, BSN**, Lincoln, Nebraska, a son, Jason Andrew, Jan. 6, 2018.

08 Michael Kaipust Jr. and **Jennifer M. Kaipust, BA'07, MS**, Papillion, Nebraska, a daughter, Toby Marie, Sept. 5, 2018.

09 **Benjamin F. Rouch, BA**, and Valerie Rouch, Southlake, Texas, a son, Grayson Paul, Aug. 30, 2018.

10 **Mark E. Farrage, PharmD, BSHS**, and **Mandy German Farrage, BS'03**, Papillion, Nebraska, a son, Patrick Joseph, May 29, 2018.

15 **Maria Calderon, MPH**, Buena Park, California, a daughter, Daisy Alexandra Guzman, Feb. 7, 2018.

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ALUMNI PROFILE

Soothing Souls

It's not just information **ANTHONY COOK, BA'93**, helps Mayo Clinic patients find. For some, he helps them find peace of soul.

Cook makes his living at the Mayo Clinic, where he's worked for 17 years. There, he's an education specialist, helping patients find relevant and appropriate health information to facilitate informed health care decision-making.

He's widely known, though, for his voice. Cook regularly volunteers to sing for Mayo patients and for hospice patients at Seasons Hospice in Rochester, Minnesota. That mostly means spirituals and hymns sung a cappella — though he might also throw in some Nat King Cole, John Lennon, George Gershwin, Bob Dylan and others.

The impact can be deep.

"Music speaks to the soul what words cannot," Cook says.

The family of one patient Cook sang for long ago wrote of how their father, lying unresponsive in a recliner, began mouthing the words to "Jesus Loves Me" as Cook serenaded the man.

"Those were the last words to a song he ever sang," the family wrote. "Never doubt that you make a difference in the lives of patients and families."

Cook, who began singing as a child in his church choir, has a long list of credits in musicals, at festivals and benefits and in other stage appearances. But it's his time in front of the sick and dying that he finds most rewarding.

Over the years, he's shifted from singing what he thinks people want to hear to the songs he says God has placed in his heart.

"My desire is to allow God to use my voice and the songs He deposits in my heart to minister to the needs of His people," Cook says. "I'm excited about every opportunity. Singing is how I say thanks — by giving away the gift God has placed in me." — **BY TONY FLOTT**

© Carol Zwartz, a patient at Seasons Hospice, hugs Anthony Cook, BA'93, after a recent visit.

DEATHS

39 Henrietta S. Natenberg, ARTS, Northbrook, Illinois, June 12, 2018.

40 Anna Maxine Shepard Martin, SJN, Lihue, Hawaii, June 4, 2018.

41 Madalin Faltin Vasconcellos, SJN, Honolulu, Sept. 15, 2016.

43 William F. Palais Sr., ARTS, Omaha, July 21, 2018.

45 Elaine Karel Roggenstein, SJN, Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, Aug. 12, 2018.

46 Thomas J. Svoboda, ARTS, Denver, Jan. 24, 2018.

47 Mary Eckman Baumann, SJN, Phoenix, Aug. 14, 2018.

Billie J. Harris, DDS, Carlsbad, New Mexico, Oct. 1, 2018. **Joseph M. Holthaus, BS'46, MD**, Omaha, July 23, 2018. **Shirley Lynch Lalley, SCN**, Los Osos, California, Sept. 2, 2017. **Albert R. Marcil, ARTS**, Ft. Mitchell, Kentucky, Aug. 22, 2018. **Edgar V. Nolan, MD**, Daly City, California, May 16, 2017.

48 Richard L. Campbell, JD, Littleton, Colorado, Sept. 30, 2018. **Charles E. Kerrick, BS'46, MD**, Caldwell, Idaho, July 1, 2018.

William A. Polen, BS, Covina, California, April 8, 2016.

49 Richard E. Enzinger, BS, Westminster, Colorado, July 16, 2018. **Ellen Smith Fritton, BS**, Albion, Nebraska, Feb. 13, 2017.

50 Edward M. Atwood, BS, Springfield, Virginia, Sept. 27, 2018. **Francis W. Dalhoff, BS**, Spring, Texas, Aug. 21, 2018. **Philip H. Pogge, ARTS**, Omaha, Sept. 30, 2018.

51 Dr. Leo M. Hall, BS, Hoover, Alabama, Oct. 2, 2018. **Robert F. Hassman, BUSADM**, Missoula, Montana, Aug. 22, 2018. **Gordon L. Ogden, BA**, Fresno, California, Aug. 26, 2016. **Rita Hrbek Rubin, BSN**, Bellevue, Nebraska, June 17, 2018. **Mary McGinty Wilhelmj, SCN**, Annandale, Virginia, Jan. 12, 2016.

52 Dorothy McCann Armstrong, SCN, Moline, Illinois, July 25, 2018. **Dean F. Genzlinger, BS**, Chicago, March 18, 2016. **Henry J. Huelskamp, BS**, Park Ridge, Illinois, Aug. 11, 2017. **Ramon R. Luina, MD**, Murfreesboro, Tennessee, Sept. 13, 2018. **Regina Murphy Otto, BS**, Carmel, Indiana, Aug. 2, 2018.

CREIGHTON UNIVERSITY Evening of Honors

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2019
Mike and Josie Harper Center
Ahmanson Ballroom
Reception immediately following

Celebrate our Alumni Achievement Citation and Alumni Merit Award recipients at the Creighton University Evening of Honors. The Alumni Achievement Citation is the most prestigious all-University award presented to Creighton alumni. The Alumni Merit Award recognizes outstanding Creighton alumni from each school and college.

For more information and to RSVP, visit alumni.creighton.edu/EOH19

AWARD RECIPIENTS:

Alumni Achievement Citation
J. Joe Ricketts, BA'68

College of Arts and Sciences
Kathleen Hermann Balousek, BS'68

College of Nursing
Diane Cavanaugh Millea, BSN'77, DNP'11

College of Professional Studies
Eric V. Ernest, BSEMS'06, MD'10

Graduate School
Philip A. Grybas, MA'71

Heider College of Business
Jeffrey A. McCroy, BSBA'84

School of Dentistry
Kurt D. Stormberg, DDS'91

School of Law
Steven W. Seline, JD'79

School of Medicine
Joseph J. Herbert, MD'66

School of Pharmacy and Health Professions
Nicholas J. Kietzman-Greer, BA'04, DPT'07

53 Neil J. Everitt Jr., BS, Omaha, July 29, 2018. **Elaine Pearson, MLN**, Omaha, Sept. 8, 2018. **Peter J. Peters, JD**, Council Bluffs, Iowa, Sept. 26, 2018. **Donald W. Weatherill, MD**, Scottsdale, Arizona, April 4, 2017.

54 James E. "Mike" Carvlin, BS, Pittsburgh, Feb. 25, 2018. **Edmund P. Russell Jr., BS**, Omaha, Oct. 17, 2018. **Marilyn Engskov Slavik, SCN**, Nampa, Idaho, June 12, 2018.

55 Darrell J. Lower, DDS, Omaha, Aug. 13, 2018. **James E. Morrison Sr., BSPha**, Tucson, Arizona, July 2, 2018. **Leslie N. Pitman, DDS**, Canterbury, Connecticut, Aug. 19, 2018. **Robert J. Pogge, BS**, Orlando, Florida, April 9, 2018. **Arthur C. Seigfreid, BSPha**, Omaha, July 28, 2017.

56 Mary Jane Lubischer McSharry, SJN, San Leandro, California, Sept. 1, 2018. **Robert J. Spittler, BS**, Omaha, Sept. 6, 2018.

57 Charles W. Bayley Sr., BSBA, Brookville, Ohio, Sept. 28, 2018. **Eugene F. Happe, BSBA**, Burnsville, Minnesota, May 1, 2017.

58 John E. Donahue, BS, Macon, Georgia, Aug. 23, 2017. **Leo J. Nieland, MD**, Englewood, Colorado, June 24, 2018.

59 Richard A. Champ, BA, Sioux City, Iowa, June 2, 2018. **Herman J. Hunter, MD**, Redondo Beach, California, July 6, 2016. **Pauline Hobart Langenfeld, SJN**, Mequon, Wisconsin, May 24, 2018.

60 Adelaide "Corky" Herbert Erftmier, BSPha, Omaha, Aug. 13, 2018. **Rev. Cecil H. Friedmann, MSEDu**, Granville, Iowa, April 15, 2018. **John L. Grady, MD**, Benton, Tennessee, Aug. 26, 2018. **William H. Shutze, MD**, New Smyrna Beach, Florida, July 11, 2018.

61 Sr. M. Lucy Edelbeck, OP, MS, Milwaukee, April 19, 2018. **Sr. M. Irene Hartman, OP, MSEDu**, Larned, Kansas, Aug. 17, 2017. **W. Gerald O'Kief, JD'60, BA**, Wood Lake, Nebraska, July 15, 2018. **Robert K. Ortwein, MD**, Milwaukee, Oct. 7, 2018. **Sonja "Jane" Recker Wanamaker, BSMT**, Neenah, Wisconsin, June 13, 2018.

62 Gerald F. Lovell, ARTS, Nashville, Tennessee, June 19, 2018. **A. Thomas Mansfield Jr., DDS**, Denver, June 1, 2018. **Robert D. Mills, MD**, Gilbert, Arizona, July 5, 2018. **Evelyn Wilson Perlinger, SJN**, Littleton, Colorado, June 2, 2018.

63 James G. Haller, BS'58, MS'61, MD, Cheyenne, Wyoming, Sept. 14, 2017. **Sr. Pierre Roberts, OSB, MA**, Yankton, South Dakota, June 13, 2017.

64 Rev. Benedict Auer, OSB, MA, Lacey, Washington, June 8, 2018. **William W. Martin, DDS**, Tucson, Arizona, Oct. 10, 2017. **Joseph G. Piccolo, BS'57, BSPha**, Gretna, Nebraska, July 29, 2018. **Dr. Timothy E. Sheehy, BS**, Omaha, Sept. 13, 2018.

65 John P. McClanahan, MBA, Peoria, Arizona, July 6, 2018. **William P. Walsh, BSBA**, West Redding, Connecticut, Sept. 4, 2016.

66 Carol A. Glidden, BA, Mogadore, Ohio, March 12, 2018. **Dr. Mary Rowson Manhart, BS**, Omaha, Aug. 12, 2018. **Edward W. Neubaum, DDS**, Florence, Colorado, June 23, 2018.

67 Beamer Breiling, MD, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Aug. 9, 2018. **Larry J. Hirschberg, BSBA'64, JD**, Farnhamville, Iowa, July 22, 2018.

68 Jane Stultz McKernan, BSMT, Omaha, July 5, 2018. **James O. Hix III, DDS**, Claremore, Oklahoma, Aug. 11, 2018.

69 Sr. Marian Camel, RSM, MSEDu, Omaha, Sept. 14, 2018. **Robert H. Hawke, DDS**, San Jose, California, March 26, 2018. **Dr. Fred D. Hunker, BA**, Montgomery, Alabama, Sept. 2, 2018. **Lawrence J. Quinlan Jr., BSPha**, Charleston, Illinois, Aug. 18, 2018.

70 Kathleen Doyle Kelsall, BA, Northglenn, Colorado, July 29, 2018. **Mary Roh Lee, BA**, San Francisco, Nov. 12, 2017. **John F. Mira, MD**, Carlisle, Pennsylvania, Dec. 26, 2017. **Nile G. Scott, DDS**, Pueblo, Colorado, Aug. 17, 2018. **Paul H. Sokolowski, BA**, Milwaukee, July 11, 2018.

- 72** **Mary E. Langenegger, BA,** Omaha, Aug. 10, 2018.
- 73** **August B. "Buddy" Hogan Sr., BA'67, MBA,** Chatsworth, California, June 3, 2018. **Daniel R. Grabow, BSBA,** Omaha, June 15, 2018.
- 74** **John J. Norton, DDS,** Hutchinson, Minnesota, Sept. 12, 2018. **Ricky L. Pruett, ARTS,** Jacksonville, Arkansas, Oct. 18, 2016.
- 75** **Christopher E. Wiley, ARTS,** Omaha, July 2, 2018.
- 76** **Eugene J. Barone, MD,** Omaha, Oct. 11, 2018.
- 77** **Rev. Edward M. Bell, MChrSp,** Parkersburg, West Virginia, March 29, 2017. **Rev. Edward M. Jach, SM, MChrSp,** Dayton, Ohio, June 7, 2018. **Mitchell C. Kulawik, BS'73, DDS,** Sioux City, Iowa, July 10, 2018.
- 78** **Hon. W. M. "Mark" Ashford, JD,** Omaha, Aug. 1, 2018. **William A. Ballenger, MBA,** Council Bluffs, Iowa, Oct. 6, 2018. **Dean S. Forney, JD,** Omaha, July 18, 2018. **Jay S. Moynihan, JD,** Tucson, Arizona, Nov. 6, 2016.
- 81** **Gary M. Healy, BSBA'78, JD,** Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, June 8, 2018. **Kathryn M. Konitzer, BSMT,** Longwood, Florida, April 28, 2018. **Steven D. Samuels, BA,** Pueblo, Colorado, Nov. 11, 2016.
- 82** **Sr. Harriet Holles, BVM, MChrSp,** Dubuque, Iowa, June 17, 2017. **Robert S. Kaminski, BS,** Oakwood, Ohio, March 30, 2018.
- 83** **Carol Bloom Domico, BSBA,** St. Charles, Missouri, Feb. 12, 2016. **John D. Goodman, MPA,** Council Bluffs, Iowa, Sept. 10, 2018. **Michael F. Takemura, ARTS,** Spring, Texas, Nov. 13, 2016.
- 84** **Sr. Patricia L. Spangler, OP, MChrSp,** Adrian, Michigan, July 29, 2018. **Paul M. Thompson, BSPhy,** Fort Collins, Colorado, July 27, 2017.
- 85** **Kathlyn "Kay" Murphy Yarns, MS,** Lee's Summit, Missouri, July 31, 2018.
- 86** **Kendra E. Wyse, MA,** Wayland, Iowa, July 29, 2018.

- 88** **Dr. Irene Kawakami Yamamoto, BS,** Honolulu, April 1, 2017.
- 89** **Anne C. Lind, MD,** St. Louis, Jan. 11, 2018.
- 93** **Michael J.A.M. Callahan, BA,** Bettendorf, Iowa, March 22, 2016.
- 94** **Lori Fickenscher Zacher, BSBA,** Phoenix, July 1, 2018.
- 95** **Derrith Loneman Murphy, BS,** Clive, Iowa, Aug. 28, 2018. **Aimee D. Naab, BA,** Omaha, June 2018. **Christine Schneider Overkamp, MS,** Papillion, Nebraska, Sept. 6, 2018.
- 96** **Sr. Joan T. Schnorbus, CPPS, MA,** O'Fallon, Missouri, June 9, 2018.
- 98** **Dean A. Winsch, PharmD,** Cheyenne, Wyoming, Nov. 8, 2016.
- 99** **Bro. John J. Wilson, FSC, MA,** Albany, New York, Dec. 20, 2016.
- 00** **Joseph L. High, BSPha'79, PharmD,** Corpus Christi, Texas, June 11, 2018.
- 01** **Sarah Fredd Wilcox, BS,** Corcoran, Minnesota, June 3, 2017.
- 05** **Nathan D. Boone, DPT,** Washington, Utah, Jan. 12, 2017. **Rebecca Geiger Fischer, PharmD,** Plainview, Nebraska, July 12, 2018.
- 07** **Michelle L. Mosley, BSN,** Eastborough, Kansas, Aug. 26, 2018.

IN REMEMBRANCE

We remember Creighton University faculty and Jesuits who have recently passed.*

J. Daniel "Dan" Egan, MD, professor emeritus of medicine, School of Medicine; Sept. 27, 2018

Rev. Thomas McShane, SJ, former assistant professor of physics, College of Arts and Sciences; Oct. 16, 2018

**Faculty and Jesuits who are Creighton alumni are listed in the Alumni Deaths section of the magazine.*

ADVANCING YOUR EDUCATION

Higher Education in Bite Sizes

Badges, Certifications and the Boom in 'Micro-Credentialing'

Increasingly, higher education consumers are looking more granularly at their scholarship – particularly when it comes to professional development opportunities for those already well on their career path.

In an age when both job specialization and constraints on our time have ramped up considerably, full-fledged degree programs don't always fit the bill. For many looking to gain a career edge, it's badges, credentials and certifications that have started to emerge as hot commodities. The trend is known as micro-credentialing, and despite the diminutive name, there's nothing small about it.

Ultimately, it represents a "a key element of an answer to the nagging challenge facing higher education and employers" – the ability of learners to verifiably document and easily communicate the acquisition of relevant skills and experience, writes Geoff Irvine, CEO of Chalk & Wire and an education technology industry pundit.

Additionally, Irvine writes in eCampus News, "Badging will help learners view their formal education as part of a lifelong continuum of skills acquisition and documentation."

"Higher ed," he says, "needs to bravely take on the challenge of verifying and documenting academic and co-curricular aspects of student learning in a way that allows employers to see and find the candidates they need."

Creighton, showing it is up to that challenge, is wading determinedly into the micro-credentialing waters.

The University has rolled out more than two dozen of the bite-sized programs in the blossoming world of badges, credentials and certifications.

Creighton, through its newly established Center for Professional and Corporate Excellence (CPCE), now offers badges in professional development areas ranging from communication to negotiation and conflict resolution, and from technology and innovation to project management – and well beyond. The CPCE was envisioned and launched as part of Creighton's strategic plan; it was built on a foundation previously established within the Heider College of Business by Dean Anthony Hendrickson, PhD, and his team.

Credentials – evidence of completing specific training or education programs that is typically valid for a limited number of years – are now offered in project management, finance and Agile/Scrum for product development.

And a slew of certifications in business, health care and education also are available through the CPCE.

Tricia Brundo Sharrar, BA'93, JD'96, vice provost for academic administration and partnerships, leads Creighton's CPCE. She says the micro-credentialing framework can be seen as a progression. From the professional development point of view, badges lead to credentials and certificates, which in turn can lead to the pursuit of degrees.

"It's a pipeline into our programs of excellence," she says.

The trend has gained substantial traction – and credibility. Look no further than Harvard, Northwestern and other such heavy hitters for evidence that a new age of micro-credentials has dawned, Sharrar says.

Badge programs in drone aviation and design thinking, taught largely online, debuted earlier this year in partnership with Creighton's innovation, research and development group, RaD Lab.

Lifestyle medicine, communication, and negotiation and conflict resolution are a few of the initial focus areas of the CPCE's badging efforts. A communication badge, comprising a quartet of four-hour, instructor-led courses designed for professionals, covers such ground as body language, public speaking, email and digital communication best practices, and other facets of modern workplace communication.

A badge in lifestyle medicine involves two



eight-week courses, conducted online, that explore the application of healthy lifestyle behaviors to prevent and treat chronic diseases.

One of the big draws to micro-credentialing is the ability to "stack" them. Earning a series of badges, certificates and credentials can help you fully illustrate your skills and areas of expertise, Sharrar says. That's valuable not just for job seekers, she says, but for all professionals looking to develop the skills necessary to gain industry competencies, close the knowledge gap to advance professionally, and "contribute to the ethical leadership in our community, the region and beyond."

This may not be an entirely new approach to continuing education and professional development, but one of the unique things about this burgeoning trend is the underlying technological component. Badges are verified through a micro-credential management system and can be displayed digitally using LinkedIn, webpages and other methods.

When someone clicks on your badge, a dedicated webpage is displayed that shows you have completed the necessary coursework, along with information about the badge and

the requirements for completion.

Badges issued by Creighton are digitally encoded with information using the Mozilla Open Badge Framework. Badges can be downloaded and saved by the recipient without losing their authenticity, making them portable.

Ultimately, micro-credentials are about sharpening and expanding your skill sets, showing employers – current or prospective – that you're up to the task.

"In a competitive job market," Sharrar says, "earning these achievements is a great way to differentiate yourself."

Creighton's badge, credential and certification program offerings can be found online at the CPCE website, excellence.creighton.edu.

The CPCE strives to cultivate corporate partnerships by collaborating with organizations to create customizable solutions through which they can develop their workforce, further their mission and attract new talent. More information about partnering with Creighton is available at excellence.creighton.edu.

— BY GLENN ANTONUCCI

BRAD ARMSTRONG



Leading the Charge in Arizona

Creighton University is rising in Phoenix. With strategic partnerships formed with health care providers recognized for a history of service to the greater Phoenix community, Creighton recently announced plans to build a medical campus in downtown Phoenix and to expand its health sciences education in Arizona.

Joining Creighton in the partnership are Maricopa Integrated Health Systems (MIHS), which will become Valleywise Health in 2019; Dignity Health St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center; and District Medical Group (DMG). Together, they form the new Creighton University Arizona Health Education Alliance.

Jacque Chadwick, MD, a pioneering administrator in health sciences education in Arizona, was named the Alliance director in August and vice provost for the new Phoenix campus in October. She is excited to be a part of Creighton's growing presence in Phoenix.

Over more than 30 years of practicing medicine, Chadwick has volunteered with the St. Vincent de Paul Clinic in Phoenix and participated in mission trips to Mexico and Honduras.

Having begun her higher education career at the University of Arizona College of Medicine in 1992, Chadwick says developing curriculum and serving students is "kind of in my DNA."

"If I can sit down with someone, even across the desk one-on-one, and help them find their area of passion, then it's a good day," she says.

Creighton magazine had a chance to catch up with Chadwick this fall to discuss the significance of the Alliance.

Why is Creighton an important part of the Alliance?

Creighton's place in the Alliance is actually crucial. It's the cornerstone for the Alliance. These other organizations have operated independently and, in some areas, collaboratively over the years with a long history of dedication to education and to service. What Creighton brings to the table is an academic partner. The medical school and the other health sciences schools give clinical entities in Phoenix an additional academic boost. And when that happens, then we see several things as a result.

We see an improvement in the educational environment, we see opportunities for research growth, and we see other opportunities for things such as leadership development and faculty development.

How will the Alliance further Creighton's mission of service?

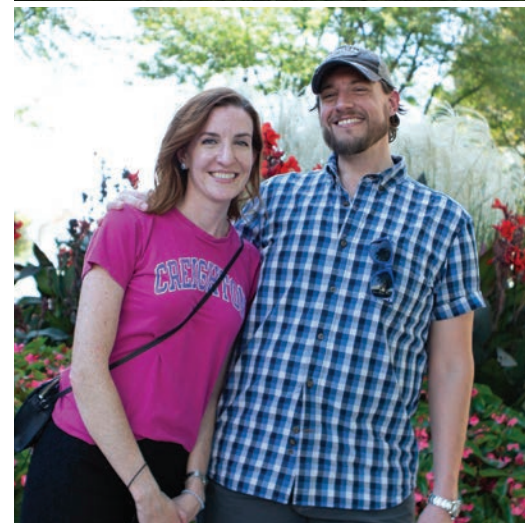
It's already going on now. These are partners who are dedicated to that mission. The Alliance can help continue that endeavor, continue those efforts, but also enhance them and increase opportunities for students and residents alike. So, likely over time, we'll even have dedicated positions and part of the website to show learners opportunities of how to give back. It's already a strong part of the mission and is integrated into the daily activities of each of those organizations.

Why is it important to expand health sciences education in the Southwest?

The Southwest, Arizona and particularly Phoenix are underserved as far as physicians per 100,000 population and residents per 100,000 population. Also the Southwest is a growth area of the country, and physician growth has not kept up with population growth. This is a way to increase and improve the workforce, and therefore improve access. At the same time, we're attempting, by having that academic culture added to it, to enhance quality over time.

Where do you see the Alliance in the next five to 10 years?

It's brand new. So, we have a baby being born here. I'm not sure what this baby's going to look like as a toddler, much less an adolescent. I think that the Alliance just provides this opportunity that will be strategic in doing all the things included in its goals: enhancing the workforce, placing an academic environment even more than it is currently into these other partner institutions, having an opportunity with Creighton's presence here in combining health professions education, having other schools within Creighton University participate in the education here. Way down the road, there's a possibility to transform health care by transforming how health care education is done.





Save the Date



One day for the Creighton community to make a big difference.