HUSSON UNIVERSITY

Ledger

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From Husson with Love

Gloria and Merton Wheeler

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A Change in Course

Jennifer Brewer '84 credits two accounting professors with pushing her into a successful career in the hospitality industry.

When Jennifer Noyes Brewer started attending Husson, she had every intention of becoming a teacher. "My grandmother was a teacher and my aunt was a teacher," she says. But a conversation with an Accounting 101 professor would change all that.

"**Marge Zoldi**," Brewer recalls with a smile. Zoldi has since retired from the School of Accounting faculty. "She told me I had a knack with math and perhaps I should consider a career other than teaching."

> *"My degree gave me such a strong base that no matter where I have navigated to, it's always been that solid foundation that has supported me."*

Brewer did, enrolling in the School of Accounting. "Then, I was blessed to have **Dewey Martin '19** during my sophomore year," says Brewer. "He is the reason I ended up graduating with a degree in accounting. It was his mentorship, his kindness and his amazing heart that just kept me on course. At the end of the day, he literally saved me."

She graduated in 1984 with a Bachelor of Science in public accounting. Brewer worked in Bangor for a while before moving down to Orlando, Florida in 1992. Three years later, personal changes found Brewer searching for work to support her three children. "That's when I really realized the importance of an accounting degree," says Brewer. "My resume was not grand at that time but I immediately landed an interview and was hired for the job in less than a week."

Brewer worked as a project controller at a local vacation ownership company. That eventually led to a position at Starwood Vacation Ownership. Sixteen years later, she is the vice president of global trust inventory for Marriott Vacations Worldwide Corporation. "It's been an incredible journey," says Brewer. "It's a business and an industry that is so interesting and diverse that those of us in it don't ever want to leave."

Brewer still keeps in contact with her Kappa Lambda sorority sisters from Husson. And her family has strong ties to the school. Brewer's youngest sister, **Holly Noyes Owens '87**, graduated from the Husson School of Nursing program. Her oldest sister, **Wendie Noyes Lagasse '96** completed the School of Business MBA program, and her niece, **Kaitlin Noyes Gardner '15** was part of the first graduating class of School of Physical Therapy doctorates.



Jennifer Brewer '84 is the vice president of global trust inventory for Marriott Vacations Worldwide Corporation.

As for those early aspirations to become an educator, Brewer proudly points out that, in fact, she is a teacher. "In my current role at Marriott, it is important for me to educate other teams in the organization about what we do," explains Brewer. "I always kind of laugh and say at the end of the day, I ended up with the best of both worlds. I am an accountant as well as a teacher. My degree gave me such a strong base that no matter where I have navigated to, it's always been that solid foundation that has supported me."

HUSSON UNIVERSITY

FALL 2020

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Dear Alumni and Friends,



Much has unfolded in the world since my last letter in the Winter 2020 edition of the *Ledger*. As it arrived in your mailboxes, we were just beginning to understand the significance of the word pandemic. We now have a new appreciation for how a contagious disease can affect our lives and challenge our delivery of a quality learning environment.

Amazingly, COVID-19 has provided us with opportunities for growth and reflection. While Husson already had a robust online program, the University's need to convert to a completely online format in just two weeks this past spring, allowed us to strengthen our programs and add flexibility that will benefit our students going forward. Additionally, moving to a remote work environment helped us identify processes that could be adapted and simplified to permanently increase work efficiencies.

As I write this, we have welcomed students back to campus for the fall semester. There are many changes to our physical spaces, our movements and our campus interactions. We have learned how to be more creative and thoughtful in our approaches and our students have wholeheartedly joined us in keeping our community safe. This fall, we are meeting our students' needs by offering alternative forms of instruction: face-to-face, hybrid (combining face to face and online), and online instruction.

Just as our campus community is joining together to battle the pandemic in order to protect our health, we also are coming together to manifest and celebrate our campus's values of diversity, equity and inclusion. At Husson University, we are committed to embracing change and growth as we work together to build an educational environment and a society that's fair and equitable for all.

Thankfully,

Robert A. Clark, PhD, CFA
President



As we maintain physical distance to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19, we need to remain connected. Right now, many of you may be feeling disconnected from the University. While COVID-19 has changed how we connect, there are still plenty of ways to stay engaged with Husson.

During the pandemic, email has been an invaluable, timely and efficient means to communicate. If you aren't receiving emails from us, it's likely we don't have your current email address. Please update your contact information by visiting **www.husson.edu/alumni/alumniaddress**. We want to keep you informed!

Social media has proven to be another great way to keep in touch. Husson has an active Facebook page and there are specialty pages for virtually every program and group. If you're the parent or a family member of a past or present student, visit the HU Family Group Facebook page for University updates and for support and advice from other family members. My personal favorite is, of course, the Husson University Alumni page. Learn about recent happenings, relive the past with "Throwback Thursday" posts, and connect with other alumni and friends.

Did you see our virtual groundbreaking for the new College of Business building? If not, you can watch as the new College of Business is built over the next nine months through a live video stream on our website. Finally, we are offering regular virtual events that include conversations with coaches, faculty, students and alumni.

There are numerous opportunities to reengage, reconnect and support your University. Currently, our students are facing unprecedented financial challenges as they seek to continue their education—an education that we know is critical for their future success. If you have ever considered supporting Husson now is the time to use the enclosed envelope to send a gift for our emergency financial aid fund.

Let's stay Husson Connected.

Best regards,

Sarah Cary Robinson
Vice President for Advancement

Around the Circle

Accomplishments, events and items of note happening at Husson

College of Business

Distinguished Professor Joins Editorial Board



Dr. Steven Cunningham, the Dr. Phil Grant Distinguished Professor of Management and Economics, joined the editorial board of *Virtual Economics* magazine. This online publication is a scientific, peer reviewed, e-journal of economics and management. Areas of research include the development of the information economy, the digital economy, big-data and more.

Business Faculty Quoted in Online Publications



Dr. Belinda Wee, an associate professor in the School of Business and Management, was quoted in an article on *DollarSprout.com* called "How to Write a Resignation Letter that Leaves a Good Impression."



Professor Emeritus **Dewey Martin**, CPA, was quoted in an article in *Business News Daily* called "What Is a Tax Audit? What Do You Do If You Get Audited?"



Lee Speronis JD, BS, CHE, CHIA, associate professor and the director of School of Hospitality, Sport and Tourism Management was quoted in a *MoneyGeek.com* article called "US Cities Most Impacted by Leisure and Hospitality Job Loss and Recovery."

College of Health and Pharmacy

Nursing Faculty Presents at E-Learn Conference



Assistant Professor **Amanda Savage**, MEd, RN from the School of Nursing recently went to New Orleans and presented at E-Learn: World Conference on E-Learning in Corporate, Government, Healthcare, and Higher Education. Her paper "Cohesive Integration of E-Learning in Nursing Leadership Reality," is available to read online.

Nursing Faculty Earn Doctoral Degrees





School of Nursing faculty members **Dr. Alicia Murray**, RN, CHPN, director of clinical education and assistant professor, and **Dr. Annette DeRoche**, the director of the graduate nursing program and assistant professor both recently earned their Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degrees. DeRoche earned her DNP from Capella University while Murray earned her DNP with a concentration in nursing education from Quinnipiac University.

Nursing and NESCom Partner to Support Student Mental Health

Nursing Instructor **Priscilla Bisher**, MS, RN-BC partnered with **Mark Nason '97, '10, '18G**, MEd, a manager of communications at the New England School of Communications and students enrolled in "NU422 Community Mental Health," to create and deliver a series of public service





announcements (PSAs) for the radio. The PSAs are airing in Bangor, Maine on WHSN 89.3 FM and are designed to support students that live on Husson's campus who may need mental health support. Ways to address stress and anxiety caused by the pandemic are the focus of these public service announcements.

Chief Nursing Administrator Attends National Virtual Conference



Dr. Valerie Sauda, RN-BC, CNE, MGSF, the chief nurse administrator, undergraduate director and assistant professor in the School of Nursing recently attended a virtual conference sponsored by the American Association of the History of Nursing with her colleague Dr. Jane Brook, RN from the University of Manchester. Sauda is a member of the organization's Diversity and Inclusion Committee.

Physical Therapy Chair Presents at APTA Leadership Conference



Dr. Karen Huhn, PT, chair/program director of physical therapy and professor in the School of Physical Therapy was one of the presenters at the American Physical Therapy Association's Educational Leadership Conference on October 14-15, 2020. The conference was virtual. Huhn presented a pre-conference course with some PT colleagues from other colleges and universities called "Education Research: How to Begin Your Journey."

College of Science and Humanities

Assistant Professor Addresses Fake News



Dr. Elisabeth Marnik, an assistant professor of molecular biochemistry in the College of Science and Humanities, was the co-author of the article, "Navigating fake news as a scientist." The article appeared in the online publication *ecrLife*. According to their website, "*ecrLife* is a place for early career researchers (ECRs) to share stories, ideas and experiences about their journey in science. We publish submitted articles in a variety of themes ranging from peer-review, scientific publishing, research funding to life in science." Marnik is in the Genetic Society of American's (GSA) Early Career Leadership Program and serves on their Outreach and Communications Committee. The committee creates communication about science and collaborates on published pieces that appear in a variety of mediums. This article is the result of one of the committee's efforts.

English Professor's Book Examines the Underground Press of the 60s



Dr. Matthew Pifer, professor and coordinator of the Writing Center recently published a book called *Dissent and the Dynamics of Cultural Change: Lessons from the Underground Presses of the Late Sixties*. The book examines the alternative presses' critique of culture during a transformative period in U.S. history. In addition, the book analyzes the structure of dissent to better understand how cultural change is realized. It also explores the relationships between the public and the cultural institutions that define the values and social norms that shaped daily life.

Psychology Faculty Member Presents at National Sport Psychology Conference



The Association for Applied Sport Psychology (AASP) held its 35th annual meeting virtually on October 21-24, 2020. Attendees were sport psychology professionals and students, coaches, athletic trainers, and other sport connected professionals. **Dr. Christine Selby**, professor, was part of a prerecorded panel discussion with five other colleagues entitled, "Making Weight: Risks and Rewards." The discussion focused on the potential dangers associated with weight expectations in sport.

Faculty Collaborate on First STEM Career Webinar for Students at Husson







A collaboration between **Dr. Erin Owen**, associate professor and assistant dean; **Dr. Robert Northington**, assistant professor; and **Dr. Deborah Drew**, professor and director of graduate counseling programs resulted in the first ever STEM Career Webinar on Tuesday, October 6. The webinar featured a panel of three prominent biotechnology professionals. Students who attended the webinar were able to learn more about the growing career opportunities available in biotechnology. Alumni **Tracy Bantegui '13**, a vice president of product management at Cerahelix and **Zachary Boucher '18**, a research assistant in the Bolcun-Filas lab at The Jackson Laboratory participated in the panel discussion.

Associate Professor Speaks on College Student Hunger



Associate Professor **Dr. Kim McKeage**, is one of three people who spoke about the "Maine College Student Hunger Survey Results and Ramifications" at the Maine Hunger Dialogue on Friday, October 23. The purpose of the Maine Hunger Dialogue is to engage Maine college students and campus communities in the fight against hunger. The event was designed to increase awareness of food insecurity issues and provide opportunities for students to actively work to address hunger on their campuses and/or communities in collaborative partnerships with their institutions.

New England School of Communications

NESCom Assistant Professor Presents at Parson Audio Expo



NESCom Audio Engineering and Live Sound Technology Assistant Professor **Eric Ferguson** recently presented at the Parsons Audio Expo, in Dedham, Massachusetts. The presentation, titled "Don't Blame the Sound Person: The Science Behind Bad Sound," focused on psychoacoustics, acoustics, and sound system design. Parsons Audio Expo is the leading pro audio event in New England, with seminars, demonstrations, and trainings.

NESCom Director Mixes/Masters Album for Nashville Artist



Assistant Professor and New England School of Communications Academic Director **Edward Goguen**, MSEd, recently mixed and mastered the 10-song album "Get Found Again" for Nashville artist Jaded Ravins. The album was released earlier this year. The record was recorded at Rancho de la Luna recording studio in Joshua Tree, California. The studio has hosted a number of recording artists over the years including: Queens of the Stone Age, Joe Walsh, Sugarfoot, and the Foo Fighters.

Husson University inspires and prepares students for professional careers in current and emerging fields within the context of an education informed by the sciences and humanities.



Largest Graduating Class in Husson University History Honored During Zoom Commencement Ceremonies

In March 2020, COVID-19 was sweeping the country.

In response, Maine Governor Janet Mills issued a mandate to protect public health and safety, including a directive called "Stay Healthy at Home." This required people living in Maine to stay at home at all times unless they had an essential job or needed to go out to obtain food, medicine, health care, or another necessary purpose. Initially, public gatherings were limited to just 10 people or less.

With Commencement planned for early May 2020, Husson University was faced with the difficult prospect of having to cancel the event. A public gathering with approximately 7,000 people in the Cross Insurance Center's arena in Bangor certainly wasn't going to meet the state's guidelines for public gatherings during the pandemic.

"Commencement is an important milestone in the lives of our graduates," said Husson University President **Robert A. Clark**, PhD, CFA. "After completing their degrees, students embark on a new journey as independent, working professionals. While the COVID-19 pandemic did not allow us to celebrate our student's educational journey in May with a traditional commencement ceremony, we wanted to make sure the Class of 2020 and their families still got the opportunity to celebrate students' academic achievements."

To ensure students received an opportunity for recognition, Husson rescheduled their Graduate Hooding Ceremony and Commencement for October 2020. The University had hoped that the coronavirus would have subsided by that time and it could move forward with these events on October 18 and 19.

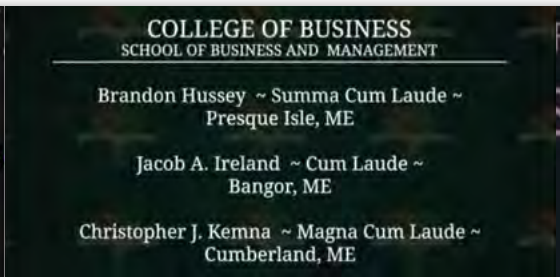
"Like many people at the time, we thought that the United States would have made significant progress in battling COVID-19 and the limits on public gatherings would have been lifted by then," continued Clark. "Unfortunately, under the restrictions put in place by Governor Mills the limit on indoor public gatherings only rose to 100 people. Understanding how disappointing it would be to all parties to cancel Commencement, we moved forward and developed an alternative ceremony to recognize students' achievements."

Instead of a large Commencement ceremony in an arena, Husson offered students the opportunity to participate in one of 11 smaller Zoom graduation ceremonies. These online ceremonies recognized students in specific colleges and schools. Graduates were honored as they wore their regalia in front of their classmates, family members, friends and professors. The graduation sessions took place in the early evening during the week of October 12.

The celebratory Zoom presentations included remarks from President Clark; **John Rohman '77**, chair of Husson University's Board of Trustees; and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost **Lynne Coy-Ogan**, EdD and the program's dean. In addition, the ceremonies recognized the valedictorians and salutatorian as well as honorary degree recipients. All of the graduates' names and degrees scrolled up the screen. Just like walking across the stage and accepting a diploma, these Zoom video events









Keeli Shae Wood '20 celebrated earning a bachelor's degree from Husson University at home with her family.

provided every graduate with some time in the limelight.

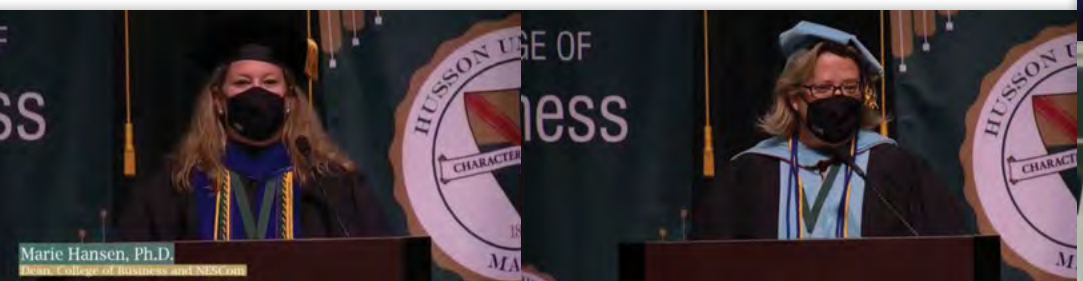
Prior to their graduation ceremony, each student was mailed a diploma cover and a copy of the full Commencement program. Students who earned honor cords also received them in the mail. This gave students the chance to wear their regalia and honor cords on camera as they held up their diploma covers. The talented faculty and staff at the New England School of Communications produced these high-quality virtual presentations. Students were encouraged to hold up signs and decorated mortarboards as part of the celebratory experience.

Students who graduated in August 2019, December 2019, May 2020 and August 2020 all had the opportunity to participate in the 2020 virtual Commencement ceremonies. The 11 ceremonies honored students from the schools of nursing; occupational therapy; physical therapy; education; pharmacy; accounting; business and management; hospitality, sport and tourism management (including IT); legal studies and the New England School of Communications (NESCom). In addition, students from the College of Science and Humanities were honored during their Commencement ceremonies. With 834 individuals earning a record 1,033 degrees and certificates, the Class of 2020 was the largest graduating class in Husson University's 122-year history.

During the business and management ceremony on October 15, **Joseph** and **Suzanne Cyr** received honorary Doctor of Business Administration degrees along with **Edward** and **Mary Ellen Darling**. (See article on page 8 for additional details about our honorary degree recipients.)

The University is proud of the Class of 2020. This class will always be remembered as a special group of students who were able to persevere and complete their educational goals during one of the most challenging periods in our nation's history.

"My hope is that our video presentation gave our graduates and their families the tremendous sense of pride and accomplishment that comes with the completion of a Husson University degree," said Coy-Ogan. "While the pandemic prevented us from celebrating together as part of a more traditional graduation ceremony, we will always be united as members of our Husson University family."





Partners in Life and Business Receive Honorary Degrees


The Darlings

This year, two couples received honorary degrees from Husson University.


The Cyrs

Joseph and Suzanne Cyr

Longtime Maine residents **Joseph and Suzanne Cyr** were each presented with an honorary Doctor of Business Administration degree. Joe graduated from Old Town High School in 1959 while Sue graduated from Hampden Academy in 1963. They both attended Husson University with Sue receiving an associate degree in legal secretarial science. A couple of years after graduating, Sue worked for President Chesley Husson, Sr.

Joe began a career in transportation and eventually became the owner/operator of John T. Cyr and Sons in 1967. Later in her career, Sue joined Joe at Cyr Bus Lines and began Cyr Northstar Tours. Joe has been an active member of Husson's Board of Trustees since 1992, while Sue is a member of our University's Women's Philanthropy Council.

Active members of the community, Joe was a founding director of Merrill Bank and the co-owner of Freightliner of Maine. In addition, Joe was a member of the Old Town/Orono Rotary Club for over 40 years. He was instrumental in the creation of Sarah's House in Holden. Joe was also the president of the Bangor Region Chamber of Commerce, as well as a member of the board of directors of the United Way, the Old Town/Orono YMCA and the Katahdin Area Boy Scouts of America.

Sue was an active volunteer for Meals on Wheels. She was also an active member of the Old Town/Orono YMCA Heritage Club, the Northern Light Healthcare Foundation and the "Remarkable Begins with You" Eastern Maine Healthcare Systems fundraising committee.

In 1991, the couple was named Entrepreneur of the Year, a distinction awarded to them by the Honorable Margaret Chase Smith. Joe and Sue received the Distinguished Citizens Award from the Katahdin Area Council, Boy Scouts of America on November 13, 2007.

Edward O. and Mary Ellen Darling

Edward and Mary Ellen Darling also received honorary Doctor of Business Administration degrees from Husson University. The two first met when they were in the seventh grade at St. John's Grammar School and have been inseparable ever since.

After graduating from John Bapst Memorial High School in Bangor, Mary Ellen attended nursing school in Boston while Ed went to a liberal arts school in New Hampshire. In 1962, they were married at St. John's Catholic Church in Bangor.

Mary Ellen graduated from nursing school and returned to Bangor to work at the "old" St. Joseph Hospital. Ed transferred to Husson College to obtain an education that would support a family. While in school, he balanced a full course load while also working 40 hours a week at his dad's automobile business. Ed graduated from Husson in 1964 and two years later, started Downeast Toyota in Brewer.

In 2005, Ed was invited to be a member of the Husson University Board of Trustees. As their business success evolved, the Darlings were able to "give back" to Husson. They believe in Husson's mission and want to show their gratitude for Ed's education.

Their service to the community includes stints as the chair of the St. Joseph Hospital Board of Directors and volunteer work on the church councils of St. John's in Bangor and St. Joseph's in Brewer. In November of 1997, Ed received the Mother Angela Award in recognition of exemplary service to the community and to St. Joseph Healthcare. Eight years later, Ed received the Norbert X. Dowd Award, the highest honor the Bangor Region Chamber of Commerce can bestow. Mary Ellen was a Parent Teacher Association (PTA) leader and a member of the Board of Trustees of John Bapst Memorial High School for 10 years.

Head of the Class 2020

Husson University's Valedictorians and Salutatorian

Becoming a valedictorian is no easy task. Reaching the highest-level of academic achievement usually requires students to maintain a perfect 4.0 grade point average (GPA) for four to six years.

This year, Husson University had three valedictorians. They were **Janell A. Reece**, **Nicole Ann Tapparo** and **Paige Alexis Timko**. All three of them received straight "A"s in all of their bachelor degree courses.

"Our three valedictorians and one salutatorian are shining examples of academic excellence," said Husson University President **Robert A. Clark**, PhD, CFA. "Their hard work and dedication to their studies over the course of their academic careers sets a standard for which every Husson University student should aspire."

This year's salutatorian is Canaan, Maine resident **Julian Oakes**. Oakes will be graduating from Husson University with a grade point average of 3.989. Oakes completed a Bachelor of Science in legal studies with a pre-law concentration, a general paralegal certificate, a paralegal certificate in advanced civil practice and a paralegal certificate in advanced criminal practice.

Valedictorian Janelle Reece is from Corinth, Maine. She graduated with a Bachelor of Science in communications technology with a concentration in audio engineering.

Topsfield, Massachusetts resident Nicole Ann Tapparo graduated with two degrees. She completed both a Bachelor of Science in criminal justice and a Bachelor of Science in psychology with a Mental Health Rehabilitation Technician/Community (MHRT/C) Certification.

> *"Their hard work and dedication to their studies over the course of their academic careers sets a standard that every Husson University student should aspire to."*
> —Dr. Robert A. Clark

Valedictorian Paige Alexis Timko completed one degree and three certificates. At Commencement, she received a Bachelor of Science in legal studies with a pre-law concentration, a general paralegal certificate, a paralegal certificate in advanced civil practice and a paralegal certificate in advanced criminal practice. Timko is from Veazie, Maine.

All four of these individuals were recognized for their academic accomplishments, along with the rest of the Class of 2020, as part of 11 special live streaming versions of Husson University's 121st Annual Commencement Exercises during the week of October 12, 2020. The formal commencement exercises, originally scheduled to take place in May, had to be delayed due to the coronavirus pandemic. Produced by the New England School of Communications, these streaming video presentations recognized the 864 individuals who earned a record 1,068 undergraduate and graduate degrees at Husson. This was the University's largest graduating class in its 122-year history.

"The video presentations were a creative way to celebrate students' academic achievements," said **Lynne Coy-Ogan**, EdD, senior vice president for academic affairs and provost at Husson University. "Having all of this year's graduates participating in the live video presentations provided everyone with a sense of community and connection during this time of social distancing. Our best wishes go with each of our graduates, including our valedictorians and salutatorian, as they continue forward to become the leaders of the coming generation."


Janell A. Reece


Nicole Ann Tapparo


Paige Alexis Timko


Julian Oakes



Swinging for Success

Bob Winskowicz ’83 is using his professional experience and passion for golf to develop a unique pair of golf shoes.



Bob Winskowicz grew up with the game of golf. “My father played a fair amount of the game,” says Winskowicz from his home in Windham, New Hampshire. “I picked it up as a child and stayed with it.”

Winskowicz was a member of the golf team while he pursued a B.S. in business administration, concentrating in marketing management. One would assume he’d consider a career in the sport. “I did not,” chuckles Winskowicz, “not at all.”

Instead, Winskowicz had his eye on the consumer goods business. He credits much of that to his professor, **Russell Eustice**, who passed away in 2005. “Professor Eustice worked at Johnson and Johnson so he gave us a very unique perspective on marketing products,” says Winskowicz. “It left a mark on me.”

Soon after graduating from Husson, Winskowicz went to work in the health and beauty aids business. A connection there would parlay into an executive leadership position at MacGregor Golf and eventually a position as senior vice president of sales and marketing for the Arnold Palmer Golf Company.

Six years ago, Winskowicz was out on the golf range practicing his swing. He’d just come from work and was still wearing his dress shoes. “And they had square toes,” explains Winskowicz. “I noticed that when I started hitting golf balls, I had better balance. I looked down at my foot line and realized I could better establish my body position which is always a challenge for golfers.”

Winskowicz realized he may have just hit a hole in one. He immediately hired two award winning footwear designers. “I told them I just want to start with a more square-toed shoe,” he says. “But then we thought, why stop there?”

In January, Winskowicz launched SQAIRZ (pronounced squares), a golf shoe and accessory company online. In addition to the squared toes, his shoes feature a wider base for even more balance and stability, as well as cleats positioned directly under the foot’s four pressure points to provide better connection with the greens. There’s also a heel stabilizer and silicon nubs to keep laces locked in place.

“It was serendipitous,” says Winskowicz. “The square toe became the cornerstone and facilitated everything else.”

SQAIRZ golf shoes debuted at the PGA show in Orlando, Florida earlier this year. “We were voted Best Product of the PGA show,” says Winskowicz proudly. “Another publication called us ‘Most Innovative’ and *PGA* magazine said we’re going to change the face of golf footwear.”

Winskowicz credits both his instructional and social experiences at Husson with where he is today. “I was in student government and a fraternity member,” he says. “Today, when I am invited to speak at business colleges and universities, I tell them that who you know is more important than what you know. I give Husson an equal nod for the opportunities they provided to grow my relationships along with my education.”

sqairz.com/



Alumni Find Qualified Talent at Husson

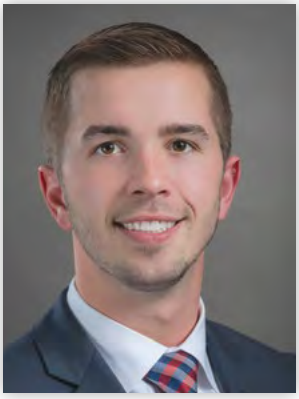
The COVID-19 pandemic created a challenging job market for recent college graduates. According to the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, at the end of the Great Recession, the unemployment rate for college graduates, ages 20 to 24, was 10.8%. (June 2009) This past May, when the Class of 2020 graduated, this same unemployment rate was 15.6%. And while the unemployment rate for recent college graduates has dropped recently, many students are still looking for work in their chosen career fields.

Despite the current job market, recent Husson graduates are being hired by employers who understand and appreciate the value of their degrees. These employers are Husson alumni.

WHEN EAGLES HELP EAGLES, EVERYONE WINS.

Companies get talented, enthusiastic employees, and graduates get that all-important first job. If you're an employer interested in learning more about how Husson interns or graduates can enhance your business, call James Westhoff in Career Services at 207-992-4909 or email him at westhoffj@husson.edu.





"Here at Oldfield Wealth Partners, we focus on financial planning," said **Nate Freeman '03**. "Our practice helps individuals, families and business owners define their financial goals and pursue them with the least amount of risk. We needed people who understood financial concepts, risk, and the fears and anxieties people have about retirement."

Caleb Warren '20 fit the bill. "Caleb first joined us as an intern, but we hired him on a part time basis even before he graduated," said Freeman. "We told him, as soon as you graduate, there's a position here for you."

Warren credits Husson's Bachelor of Science in business administration (BSBA) with a concentration in financial planning degree, with helping him get so far so fast. Earning this degree allowed him to sit for the CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ exam.

"Having the CFP® mark is a huge accomplishment for anyone," he said. "You take a seven-and-a-half hour exam all in one day. I was able to pass the exam on the first try, thanks in part to Husson." Once Warren completes his experience requirements, he'll be the first graduate of Husson's BSBA in financial planning program to earn the CFP® designation.

"At Husson, you're definitely able to polish yourself into an individual who'll be set up for a great career," said Warren.





Other alumni hired recent graduates with different skill sets. **Tracy Bantegui '13**, is a vice president of project management with Cerahelix, a manufacturer of membranes and filters that clean industrial wastewater. "As a former student myself, I understanding the University's curriculum," said Bantegui. "At Husson, I can often find graduates who are knowledgeable about chemistry and biology."

One of Bantequi's recent hires, **Victoria Rideout '19**, felt that her Husson degree prepared her for the workforce and allowed her to explore alternative career options. "I graduated from Husson with a Bachelor of Science in forensic science," said Rideout. "The degree was so versatile. In forensics, you need to develop a deep understanding of organic chemistry, microbiology and lab procedures. As an application scientist at Cerahelix, I use all of that knowledge daily."

Providing students with the knowledge they need to succeed isn't the only way Husson University faculty members help students. "Husson professors are really connected with area businesses," said Rideout. "They use those connections to help students get different internship and job opportunities."

"New graduates need to keep their options open," concluded Rideout. "I went from forensics to becoming an application scientist. You never know what's going to come along."

[1] FRED, Economic Data/St. Louis Fed, "Unemployment Rate - College Graduates - Bachelor's Degree, 20 to 24 years," **https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/CGBD2024**.
[2] Ibid

Recent Graduates Begin Lives of Accomplishment

Over 96% of Husson University graduates are either employed or in graduate school within one year of completing their undergraduate degrees. Many of these new alumni are already enjoying career success. Here are the stories of four recent Husson graduates who entered the workforce and began a variety of exciting careers.

Morgan Knowles '20

"The pandemic's created a situation that's anything but normal....As nurses, we've really had to step up our game and work together as a team..."

When Morgan Knowles graduated from Husson University this past May with a Bachelor of Science in nursing, (BSN), the COVID-19 pandemic was already in full swing. Today, she's a staff registered nurse at New Hanover Regional Medical Center in Wilmington, North Carolina.

"The pandemic's created a situation that's anything but normal," said Knowles. "As nurses, we've really had to step up our game and work together as a team. Despite the challenge, I'm proud to be in this profession. Nurses never give up. We're always trying to help others no matter what."

Knowles credits Husson University with helping her put her best foot forward. "I feel like Husson has an amazing nursing program. All of my professors and clinical educators were outstanding."



The University's emphasis on professionalism and ethics wasn't lost on Knowles. "I think it takes a compassionate knowledgeable person to become a nurse. We're the ones who are always at the bedside with patients and their families. Nurses have to be very empathetic and understanding."

"I also think it takes a lot of perseverance and drive to be a nurse because nursing school isn't easy, although it's definitely worth it," continued Knowles. "It's a career with lots of options. If you don't go into bedside care, you can go into management or research. Despite being different career paths, they all start with earning a BSN."

According to Knowles, "Husson prepares you for your life after college. The benefits of my education didn't stop after graduation. I would definitely recommend Husson to anybody."

Patrick Caldwell '20



When Patrick Caldwell graduated from high school, he wasn't sure what he wanted to do with his life. So instead of going to college, he joined the Army. "I felt like it gave me a lot of insight into the world and helped me mature." During his time in the Army, Caldwell worked in a warehouse environment and learned a lot about different supply chain management techniques. After a nine-month tour of duty in Afghanistan, he received an honorable discharge.

His experience in the Army instilled within him a deep appreciation for military service. "The military is an all-volunteer force. Many people enlist because they believe in the importance of military service," said Caldwell.

"The faculty at NESCom gave me a lot of insight. I can't thank Jeff Hope, Mark Nason and John Easton enough."

This appreciation is probably why he's so proud to have received an offer to work for the Veterans Administration in Augusta, Maine. "Supporting our veterans is always a noble thing to do," he said.

Of his new job, Caldwell said, "Basically, I'll be helping to improve the administrative functions of a VA healthcare office. I'll make sure patients are greeted, phone calls are answered, and files are organized. It's not only a way to generate income, it's a way to help fellow veterans get the medical care and resources they need."

Caldwell's experience at the New England School of Communications (NESCom) is a lot like what he wants to bring to the Veterans Administration. "The faculty at NESCom gave me a lot of insight. I can't thank Jeff Hope, Mark Nason and John Easton enough. They cared about me and were always willing to help. More than instructors, they're part of a NESCom family."

Jayme Safford ’19



The experiences Jayme Safford had during her high school years, kindled her interest in criminal justice. “In high school, I learned about different aspects of the law and the constantly evolving nature of the field,” she said. Simultaneously, Safford’s family became involved in foster care. This allowed her to see how the law affects children’s lives.

These experiences motivated Safford to attend Husson University and earn a Bachelor of Science in criminal justice and a paralegal certificate. She soon realized that her degree had applications beyond law enforcement. Today, Safford is a physical security administrator at Bar Harbor Bank and Trust.

“…My work helps prevent bank robberies and debit card fraud. Every day is different and I love that.”

“I currently help out the fraud team,” said Safford. “Besides assisting bank personnel with their security needs, I help make sure all of the cameras in our various branches are working properly. I also review video surveillance footage. My work helps prevent bank robberies and debit card fraud. Every day is different and I love that.”

Safford attributes her current success to Husson University’s faculty. “After I graduated, I couldn’t find a job that grabbed my interest. Then one day, the School of Legal Studies’ Director, John Michaud, sent me this job posting. He found out about it because my boss at Bar Harbor Bank and Trust is a Husson alumna. Apparently, lots of businesses contact the University because they love hiring Husson graduates.”

The interest that Husson faculty show in graduates is something Safford appreciates. “The fact that they stay in touch shows how much they care and that they’re not just focused on teaching. Husson faculty members help you with your future life. They really want you to succeed, and it shows.”

Bailey Graychase ’20

“I’d like to get a master’s degree and become a physician’s assistant who specializes in sports medicine…”

In high school, Bailey Graychase loved playing soccer. As a striker, he scored numerous goals on opposing teams. One day, during his sophomore year of high school, he tore his meniscus and injured his knee.

“I had multiple injuries all through high school. They included sprained ankles, sprained knees, a torn meniscus and then in college, I tore my ACL while I was playing a pickup basketball game,” said Graychase. These experiences inspired Graychase to become a sports medicine professional and help athletes recover from their injuries. He reached that goal when he was hired by Surgi-Care as a consignment inventory technician just three weeks after earning two bachelor’s degrees from Husson University in kinesiology and biology.

“I work with multiple hospitals and other health-related organizations to provide sports medicine and orthopedic bracing along with continuous passive motion machines for people who have total knee replacement surgeries. I also go to patients’ homes and fit them for braces.”



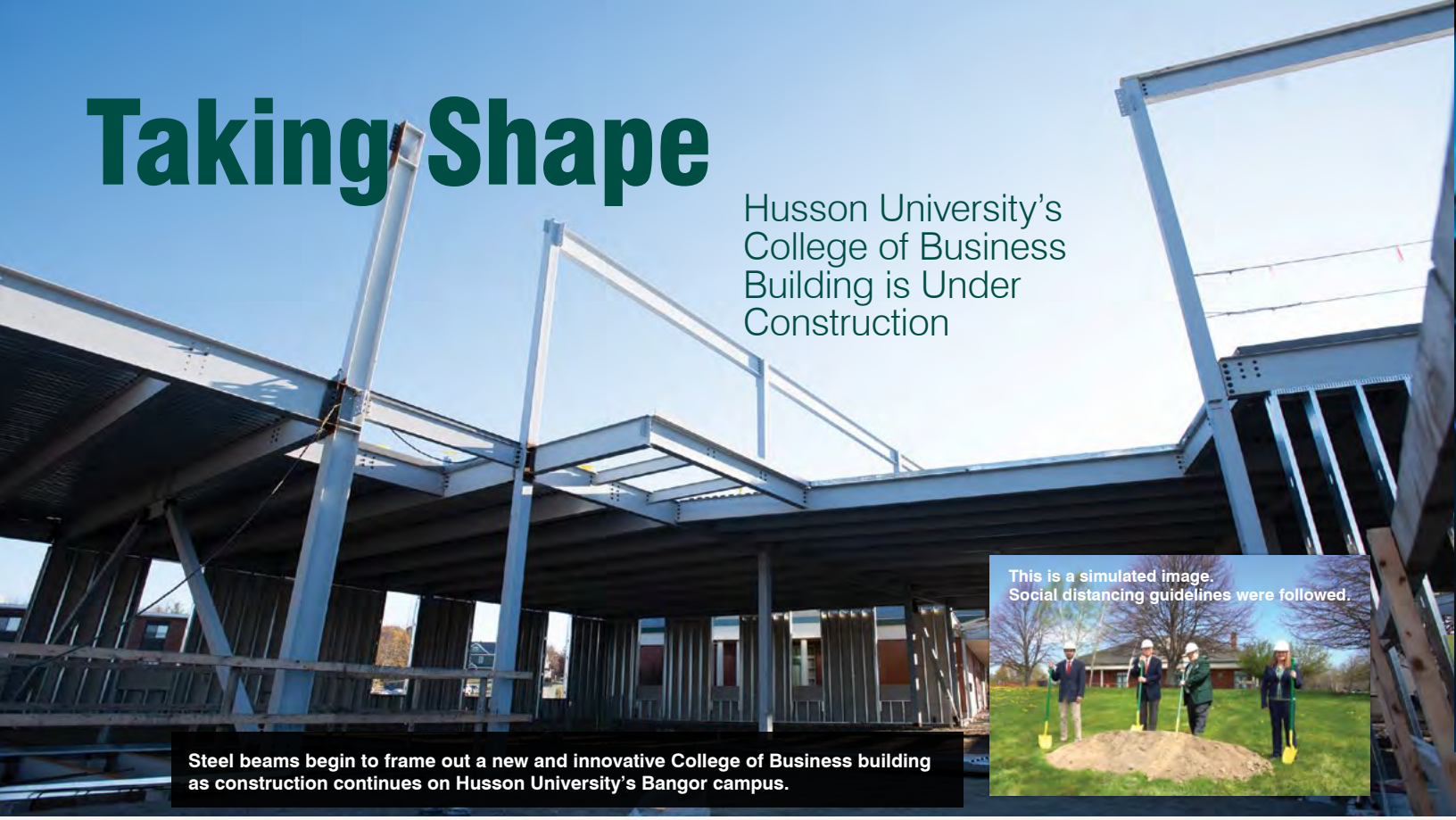
Graychase has longer-term aspirations as well. He hopes to practice under a sports medicine surgeon one day. “I’d like to get a master’s degree and become a physician’s assistant who specializes in sports medicine,” he said. “I’m constantly amazed by the human body and I really enjoy being able to make a difference in people’s lives.”

“What I find fascinating about our bodies is that, even though we may be injured, our bodies are always trying to find a way to compensate. They’re always working to make sure we’re able to perform our everyday tasks even when something is injured. Our bodies are a living wonder.”

Explore your Husson future.
husson.edu

Taking Shape

Husson University's College of Business Building is Under Construction



Steel beams begin to frame out a new and innovative College of Business building as construction continues on Husson University's Bangor campus.

This is a simulated image. Social distancing guidelines were followed.

Earthmoving equipment has leveled the ground where excavation took place. The foundation has been poured and the support structure of steel girders and beams stretch toward the sky. Everyone on the construction site works feverishly to stay on schedule. The building must be ready to open in the fall of 2021.

As the new College of Business begins to take shape, it quickly becomes apparent that this construction project is a major operation. Once completed, the building will feature 42,500 square feet of experiential classrooms and offices supported by an advanced technology infrastructure.

"Every day, the College of Business building moves one step closer to completion," said **Marie Hansen**, JD, PhD, SHRM-SCP, dean of the College of Business and the New England School of Communications (NESCom). "Even though we are months away from opening, you can already sense the impact this structure will have on our business programs and our Bangor campus."

Husson University President **Robert A. Clark**, PhD, CFA, feels that the construction process is exhilarating. "Today, our campus community is inspired as this new signature building rises from the ground. Its construction serves as a reminder of the bright future that's ahead for Husson University."

Creating a new home for the College of Business isn't easy. "Constructing this facility in the midst of a COVID-19 pandemic presents its own set of challenges," said **Thomas Warren**, associate vice president for Auxiliary Services. "Construction crews wear masks along with their hardhats as they attend to the many details necessary to making this facility a reality."

Even the groundbreaking for the new building had to take the coronavirus into account. For example, the groundbreaking video included a scene that showed four people shoveling dirt simultaneously. This didn't happen in real life because of the need to maintain physical distancing.

"With the help of Osborne Media and some creative editing, we were able to show all of the groundbreaking ceremony participants together in one location," said **Matt Green-Hamann '00**, director of digital communications at Husson University.

Donor support made this new facility possible. The largest gift was provided by the Harold Alford Foundation, who provided the University with a $4 million matching gift as part of the fundraising process. When added together with other generous gifts from students, alumni, faculty, staff and friends of the University, Husson was able to raise the money it needed to bring this building to life.

Anyone interested in watching the progress of the new College of Business building can do so by visiting **husson.edu/campaign** and clicking on the "View the Construction Livestream" button.

"Once completed, the new facility will make Husson University the undisputed leader in business education here in Maine," said **John Rohman '77**, chair of Husson University's Board of Trustees. "More students already choose to obtain their MBAs from Husson University than any other college or university in our state. This new building will give our students a home they can be proud of."

Husson University Unveils New Television Remote Truck

Most technologically advanced mobile unit in the U.S. owned by a college or university



The New England School of Communications' (NESCom's) new television remote truck is a video and audio engineering marvel. After a year-and-a-half of planning, and extensive coordination between faculty experts in different disciplines, the truck is now ready to provide students with advanced hands-on educational experiences.

"What's remarkable about this TV studio on wheels is that the entire build out was completed by our in-house staff. All of the information technology, production capabilities and engineering expertise that made this truck possible came from in-house sources," said **Rodney Verrill '10, '13**, NESCom's manager of operations. "Our ability to plan, design and install all of the equipment in this truck saved the University over $125,000."

The new remote truck, otherwise known as the mobile production unit (MPU), has a redesigned interior layout that facilitates experiential learning. The previous truck was divided into four separate compartments. This made it difficult for different departments involved in a remote production to interact with each other.

The new design allows instructors to walk from the front to the back of the vehicle unimpeded. This gives instructors and support staff the opportunity to provide more coaching to students during a production. The enhanced physical layout also facilitates collaboration and communication between multiple departments.

"Creating this vehicle was really a team effort," said **Steve Toothaker,** NESCom engineer. "Rodney Verrill was the project lead and I did the engineering. Besides us, we worked with **Matt Bryant**, systems administrator on the IT; **Ed Goguen '08**, MSEd, assistant professor and the NESCom academic director on the audio, and **John Easton '12G**, MBA, video program coordinator and instructor."

With the MPU completed, students will now be able to broadcast live Husson sporting events, including our football, basketball and soccer games. In addition, students get the opportunity to cover the annual Maine State High School Basketball Tournament, broadcast annually over Maine Public television stations. Besides multi-camera coverage of sporting events, the new mobile truck serves as the control room for broadcast television shows like "The Nite Show with Danny Cashman" and "Greenlight Maine." These shows are produced on campus.

A number of employers regularly contact Husson University to hire our NESCom graduates because they have experience in our mobile truck. These graduates go on to support national and worldwide broadcast productions. The truck also serves as a valuable Husson recruiting tool.

"We bring our truck to high schools throughout Maine and New Hampshire," said Verrill. "Once high school students see the quality of the equipment they'll get to work with, they're hooked and want to know more about the academic programs at NESCom."

If you know of a student who is interested in pursuing a career in video or audio production, have them contact Louise Grant, associate director of admissions via email at grantl@husson.edu or by phone at 207.973.1093.



A nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectrometer will enhance the experiential learning opportunities of students working in Husson University's updated biology lab facility, once it is completed.

Updated Health Science Laboratories to Support Enrollment Demand

The job market in the United States continues to evolve to meet the ever-changing needs of the marketplace. Those who understand biology have a variety of career opportunities available to them. These include biological technicians, biochemists, genetic counselors, health communication specialists, health educators, pharmacists, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, nurses, occupational therapists, physical therapists, as well as medical and health services managers.[1]

"The increased enrollments in Husson University's health science programs mirror the growth of job opportunities in these professions," said **Melissa Rosenberg**, director of admissions. "One third of the University's current student population is presently enrolled in health science programs. That's over 1,000 students."

While growth is a good thing for Husson, it can strain available resources. Over the past three years, the number of students taking classes in biology has doubled. Increased enrollments in nursing and other health science programs are driving this demand.

The extensive usage has made it evident that the University's current lab spaces are beyond full capacity and in need of an update. Improving and increasing the amount of lab space is necessary for the continued growth of Husson's health science programs.

Updating the University's biological laboratory facilities will assist the University in recruiting and retaining students. In addition, Husson graduates will be better prepared to enter the workforce if they have experience working in a modern laboratory environment.

"We also attract top-level students to Husson who want to complete undergraduate science degrees then go on to graduate school," said **Dr. Erin Owen**, an associate professor and the assistant dean of Husson University's College of Science and Humanities. "After earning their degrees here, these students are prepared to go on and earn doctoral degrees in health professions such as medicine or in scientific disciplines"

In addition to a renovated space, the University will need to add new equipment that increases research opportunities for both students and faculty members. One such piece of equipment is a nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectrometer. NMR spectroscopy allows individuals to observe magnetic fields around atomic nuclei. This equipment offers important educational benefits. With an NMR spectrometer, Husson University will be able to help students better understand the inner-workings of cells and biological processes at the molecular level.

Husson University and our students have a bright future in the health sciences. The COVID-19 pandemic has fueled increased demand for knowledgeable employees who are comfortable working in clinical laboratories. In addition, there is an aging baby boom population that will require medical assistance. By 2025, there will be a shortage of 2,700 nurses in our state.[2] Health science professionals will be in demand for decades to come. Enhanced biological laboratory facilities will help solidify Husson University's leadership role in educating the workers of tomorrow in this important economic sector.

[1] TheBalanceCareers.com, "Best Jobs for Graduates With a Biology Degree," **https://www.thebalancecareers.com/top-jobs-for-biology-majors-2059884**
[2] NEWSCENTER Maine, "Question 4: this bond question could help Maine's nursing shortage," **https://www.newscentermaine.com/article/news/local/now/question-4-this-bond-question-could-help-maines-nursing-shortage/97-607635138**



Sarah Spahr, (left) a senior pursuing a Bachelor of Science in healthcare administration and public health and a Master of Science in occupational therapy worked, pre-COVID, with a resident at Ross Manor (right) on an art project that stimulated his creativity and cognitive abilities.

Artful Aging

A new bridge course at Husson is helping students to connect with Maine's fastest growing population

Kathi Smith, MFA, joined the Husson University faculty as a Fine Arts instructor in 2014. In 2015 she was approached by **Dr. Laurie Mouradian**, chair of the School of Occupational Therapy. She said, 'You don't know me but I want to do a project with you involving older adults. 'I'll be back in a couple of years with more information."

True to her word, Mouradian met up with Smith again a couple of years later with a plan. The University had received a grant from the Davis Educational Foundation for Re-envisioning General Education. The development of bridge courses, classes that combine those in the College of Science and Humanities with other schools and colleges within Husson, fit perfectly in the framework of the grant. "I was still not 100-percent sure what I wanted to do but I knew it would involve students doing art with older adults," says Mouradian.

The course concept was awarded funding from the Davis grant as well as two other institutional grants to support the scholarship embedded in the program. What came next was a labor of love, determination and perseverance. "We started meeting every week for about two years," says Mouradian. "I've never worked this hard on a course in my life but it has been worth it."

Smith visited a program based out of the Schools of Occupational Therapy and Nursing that provided art activities to community settings. At the same time Mouradian enrolled in one of Smith's art classes. "I thought- if we're going to work together, I need to make sure she actually likes me first," said Mouradian, laughing.

In the process of reviewing the academic literature, the women found a program called Opening Minds through Art, based out of the Scripps Gerontology Center at Miami University in Ohio. It connects students and those with Alzheimer's and other dementia related illnesses through creativity. Some of the institutional research funds allowed Mouradian and Smith to travel to Ohio for training and to become certified facilitators in the program.

Once they were trained, a connection was made with the Sylvia Ross Home, an assisted living setting conveniently located just down the road from the school. This past spring, the inaugural Co-Creating Across Generations bridge course was launched.



This Ross Manor resident (right) enjoyed working on her art project with Husson student Julia O'Leary (left).

Each Friday, tables and chairs were set up at the Ross Home for classwork. "The older adults are the artists," explains Mouradian. "The students do the projects themselves for the first six weeks of the course to learn how to do them, then walk the residents through those same projects for the second half."

Each project comes with a kit of carefully organized supplies for the artist. "It's very well-structured which optimizes the older adult's functional abilities because the projects are failure free." says Mouradian.

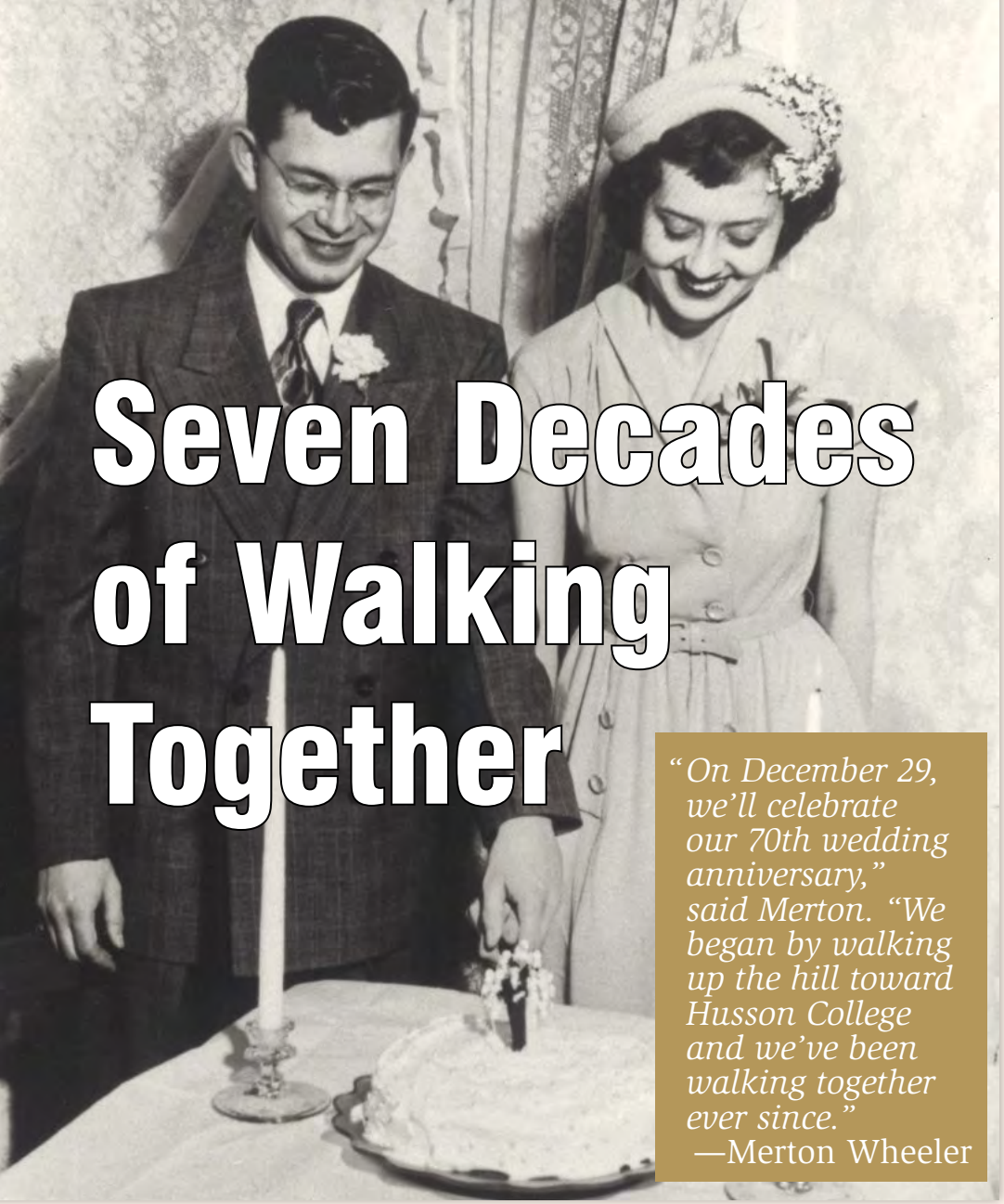
All of the art projects are process oriented. "The artists work from gut intuition and feeling," says Smith. "There's a lot of printmaking, ink stamping, collage, painting. And each activity has multiple layers of abstraction. Each time, the senior artist is making the choice with the student helping them to facilitate that decision."

"The relationships formed are priceless," says **Jane O'Loughlin French**, Sylvia Ross Home administrator. "The younger people who came to work the program brought fresh air, happiness and optimism that energized our facility. Many residents shared with me that they actually felt a physical boost. The relationships reminded them they are not a list of pills, medical ailments or limitations. We are living proof that arts are essential."

At the end of the semester, there was an art show displaying all the work. The students also kept a journal during the semester. Mouradian and Smith would eventually like to expand the course to include fifth-year physical therapy students working with residents in the memory care unit of the Ross Home.

"It's been a remarkable experience already," says Mouradian. "To see how excited the students are to work with the older adults. We actually address ageism at the beginning and it just floors the students. This course really opens their eyes."

"Both the students and seniors say the most heartfelt things to us," adds Smith. "They are seeing the direct benefits and connections between art and health, it's really meaningful and beautiful."



Seven Decades of Walking Together

"On December 29, we'll celebrate our 70th wedding anniversary," said Merton. "We began by walking up the hill toward Husson College and we've been walking together ever since."
—Merton Wheeler

When Merton and Gloria Wheeler '50/'50 both got off their respective busses simultaneously at the Park Theatre in Bangor in July 1949, they had no idea how their lives would intertwine.

The two of them had enrolled in Husson College's summer session so they walked up the Park Street hill together to get to class. That walk was the beginning of a long and happy relationship.

"On December 29, we'll celebrate our 70th wedding anniversary," said Merton. "We began by walking up the hill toward Husson College and we've been walking together ever since."

According to Merton, Husson College only had three career tracks when they attended. Students could become an accountant, a secretary or a teacher. Merton was enrolled in the accounting program while Gloria was studying to be an executive secretary.

"When I was there, the College had hired a top-notch accountant to teach our class. His exam only consisted of four questions. I completed the exam in about 20 minutes. After I was done, I looked up and everyone else was scratching their heads. After reviewing my answers I decided, 'No. I'm not going to change a thing.' One of my best friends stayed the entire class and an additional half-hour and still didn't get the right answers. When I got mine back, I got all four questions right."

Merton thinks that his talent with numbers helped make him a good match for Gloria. "Gloria has incredible verbal skills. She knows how to spell every word, the proper grammar and all of that," said Merton. "I do well with numbers. That's why I was successful at bookkeeping and managing budgets. Together, we're a perfect match."

Gloria credits Husson College with teaching her business etiquette. As an executive secretary for presidents and senior managers at the University of Maine and the New Hampshire Fire Insurance Company, Gloria always did her best to help her supervisors shine. She would often handle the executives' correspondence. "When less important letters would come in, I'd say, 'You know, I can write these up for you and all you have to do is sign them.' That would free them up to do other things. 'Go ahead' they'd say and I never got a complaint about a single letter I wrote."

With love, respect and complementary talents, both Merton and Gloria were able to forge a relationship that stood the test of time. "Everything we've done, we've done together. Fortunately we both like the same things and like working together," said Merton. "She's a wonderful lady." "And he's a wonderful man," added Gloria. "And we respect and support each other. We don't have to go to the nursing home and no one comes in to help us. We take care of ourselves and each other."

"We do the housework together and go out for a walk every evening." Merton added, "We've walked all over Orono, the beaches in Maine, New Hampshire, and other places. There's always something new to see around the corner. Life's full of surprises."



From Furniture Store to Pharmacy School

After a successful run in the furniture business, **Peter McLean '82, '13G** is finding fulfillment again in a new career at Husson's School of Pharmacy.

If you told Peter McLean back in 1982 that the newly graduated business major would return to Husson University three decades later to become a pharmacist, "nope, not in a million years," he says, chuckling.

McLean first graduated from Husson with a B.S. in business administration. One year later, he purchased Stonington's Furniture store in Rockland. In 1983, he and his wife moved the business to Brewer.

"For the first 23 years, it was a great ride," says McLean. "But during those last three years, I realized my work there was done." McLean's daughter was getting ready to graduate from high school around the same time he was considering possible career alternatives. During that same period, Husson University was opening their School of Pharmacy. His daughter, **Erika McLean '09**, suggested that she and dad attend college together.

"I talked to Billy Miller (former owner of Miller Drug) and he thought I'd be good at it," says McLean. So, he sold his share of the furniture store business and came back to Husson University for a second degree. But returning to college 30 years later would prove to be a test for McLean's memory and math skills.

"It was kind of crazy. I didn't remember things as well as I used to," McLean says, smiling. "I had to take calculus which I hadn't done since high school. The first test, I got a 58 so I had my work cut out for me."

Thankfully, the faculty and staff that felt like family to McLean during his first time at college, returned in full force. "The campus is bigger but the doors are still open," he says. "If you need help, it doesn't matter who it is, they'll be there. The Provost will take you to where you need to go. There's still that real sense of community here."

McLean has strong ties within his own family to Husson. "My mother went to school with **Del Merrill** and **Paul Husson**," says McLean. "Paul is a close family friend." His sister, **Cynthia Peterson '86** was part of the first graduating class of nurses at Husson. She went on to teach at the nursing school, retiring just last year. McLean's daughter earned a degree in science and humanities with a minor in mathematics.



Peter McLean, Pharm.D., is the director of experiential education at Husson University's School of Pharmacy.

> *"I would not be where I am today had I not gone to Husson both in '83 and in '13," he says. "I've been very fortunate...."*
>
> —Peter McLean

His niece, **Meghann Peterson '09** is now a student success advisor at Husson.

At McLean's PharmD graduation ceremony, he was given a special award from his classmates for mentoring them. He went on to work as a pharmacist for Rite Aid and Hannaford. He worked in a hospital for a bit before an opportunity back at his alma mater presented itself.

"It was like it was tailor made for me," says McLean. He is now the director of experiential education in the Pharmacy department at Husson University. "I love working with students, trying to help them figure out what career path they want to be on. It fuels me, and gets me out of bed in the morning."

McLean admits his career path isn't the typical road travelled, but happily acknowledges he wouldn't change a thing. "I would not be where I am today had I not gone to Husson both in '83 and in '13," he says. "I've been very fortunate. I don't know if that is something everyone can say."

Putting Husson Alumni on the Map



> *"With more than 26,000 Husson Eagle alumni located all over the world, people are sure to find a fellow graduate's business somewhere near them."*
> —Sarah Robinson

Every year, students from all across the United States attend Husson University in order to get a high quality, hands-on education at an affordable price. During the Fall 2020 semester, students from 31 states were enrolled in Husson courses. The University is dedicated to providing all of our students with the skills they need to achieve career success.

After graduation, many Husson alumni start their own businesses. Given the hard work and professionalism exhibited by our graduates, it's not surprising that businesses owned by Husson alumni can be found in the United States and a variety of other countries.

"If I had the choice, I'd prefer to support a Husson alumni-owned business," said **Keith Piehler**, director of alumni relations. "Unfortunately, we've never had a place where people could go to find out where Husson alumni businesses were located, and the kinds of services they offered."

That's all changed thanks to a new interactive map created by Husson University's Office of Advancement. The map is divided into a variety of categories so visitors can easily find a Husson alumni-owned business that offers the services they're looking for in different cities.

These categories include professional services; health and wellness; fun, hobbies and leisure; hospitality; transportation; home, garden and real estate; pet care; breweries, groceries, and restaurants; and retail stores. Website visitors can click on the name of business establishments in the left column or on the various map icons to get more information.

"This 'Eagle' eye view of companies has the added benefit of assisting Husson students and alumni interested in professional networking," said **Sarah Robinson**, vice president for advancement.

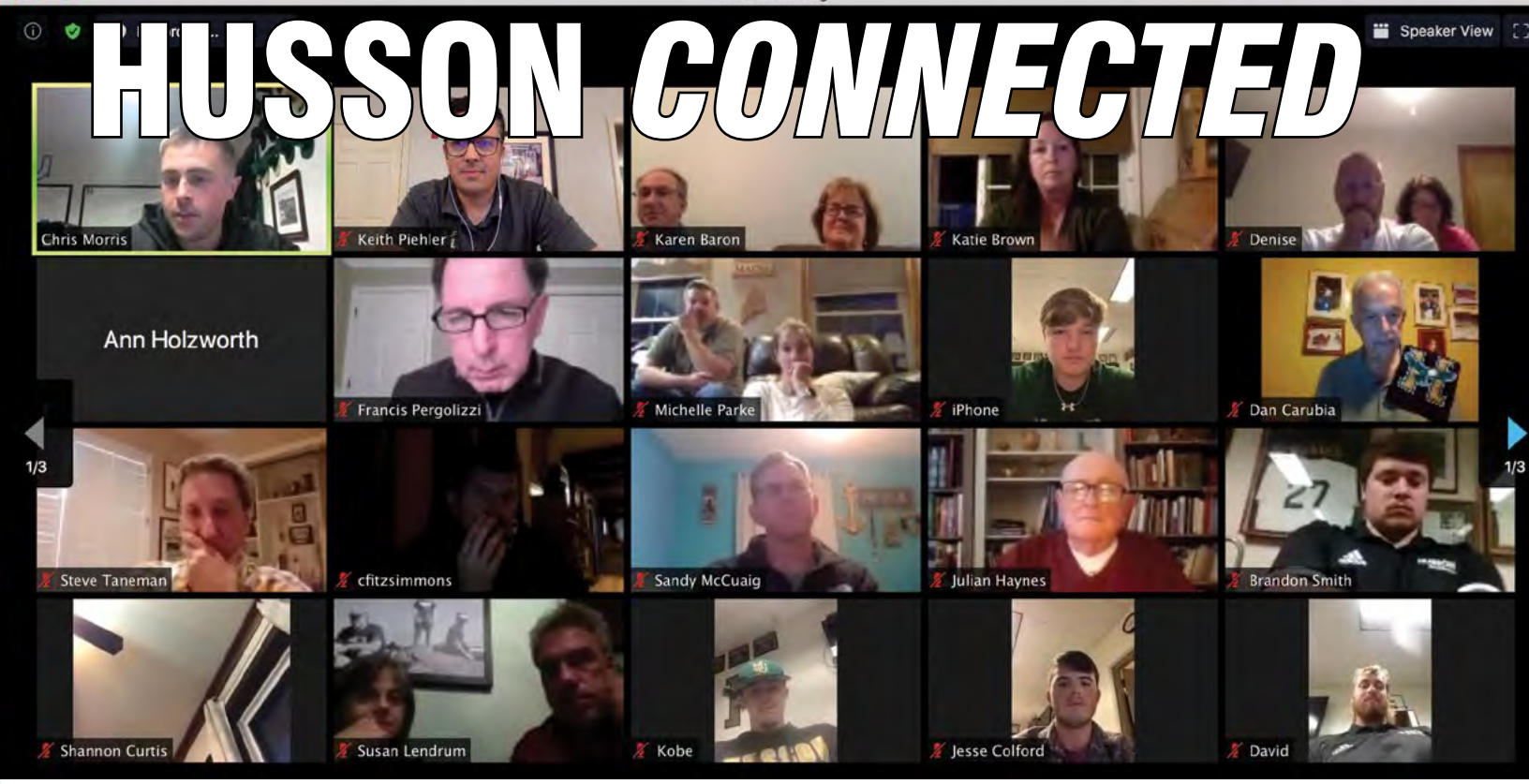
"With more than 26,000 Husson Eagle alumni located all over the world, people are sure to find a fellow graduate's business somewhere near them."

So far, the map includes listings for over 100 alumni-owned business. There's no charge for any Husson business interested in being added to this map.

"This is a unique opportunity for alumni to share information about their business, make connections with other Husson alumni business owners, and support local businesses," said Piehler. "Anyone who's interested in being added to the map just has to go to the website and fill out the form."

The online map for "Husson University Alumni-Owned Businesses" can be found at **www.husson.edu/alumni/engage/businessmap** and Keith Piehler can be reached at 207.941.7875.

HUSSON CONNECTED



As the pandemic progressed, it became apparent that Husson University wouldn't be able to hold its traditional slate of events. While we all missed being able to attend Homecoming and tailgating with students, friends and family, Husson refused to let COVID-19 drive a wedge between the University and our alumni. Instead, we shifted our focus toward online events as a way to maintain our Eagle connections.

We asked for your input as we worked to develop appealing online programming and you came through. Alumni Relations received over 400 responses to our online engagement survey. Thank you for helping to shape our online event offerings!

Your ideas resulted in a series of online opportunities for Husson University alumni and friends. These included Zoom presentations with several of our athletic teams. One recent highlight was a successful Zoom conversation with Head Football Coach **Nat Clark**, Director of Athletics **Frank Pergolizzi**, and players **Tyler Halls**, **Frank Curran**, and **Jake Cameron**. **Keith Piehler**, director of alumni relations, moderated the 40-minute conversation, where presenters spoke in a conversational-style format. Online attendees were then able to ask questions as the session wrapped up.

Our next event included Head Baseball Coach **Chris Morris '10, '12**, and several other presenters. We were pleased to have 48 individuals on the video conference call, with staff, alumni, students and parents in attendance.

Our goal is to share news, information and insights about all of Husson's teams over the course of the year. This fall, alumni were able to participate in online conversations with our field hockey and softball teams. We will also provide you with information designed to make your life easier and more rewarding. With access to a variety of experts, including our superb faculty, alumni will hear about buying a home for the first time and e-sports. You will also receive insights from young alumni into professional behavior and learn about careers in the Maine State Police.

To date, our online events have been a terrific success and well received by both the staff and attendees. **Dan Carubia '70**, attended the baseball and football Zoom presentations. He was very impressed by everything that Husson University was doing. "You'll never know just how far you might have gone, or how successful a career you could have had, if you don't get a good education. Sports is part of that. Competing in sports provides life lessons that will help you when you compete in life. I really enjoyed these presentations. Thank you very much for letting me be a part of them."

In case you missed any of these presentations, they can be viewed on our "Alumni and Friends" YouTube page. We're looking forward to creating more online sessions in the future, so stay tuned!

You can stay connected to Husson alumni in a variety of ways:

Facebook: @HussonAlumni
Instagram: @HussonAlumni
husson.edu/alumni
There you can:
- Link to our alumni YouTube page
- Volunteer with Husson
- Discover our Alumni Business Map
- Update your contact information
- Make a gift

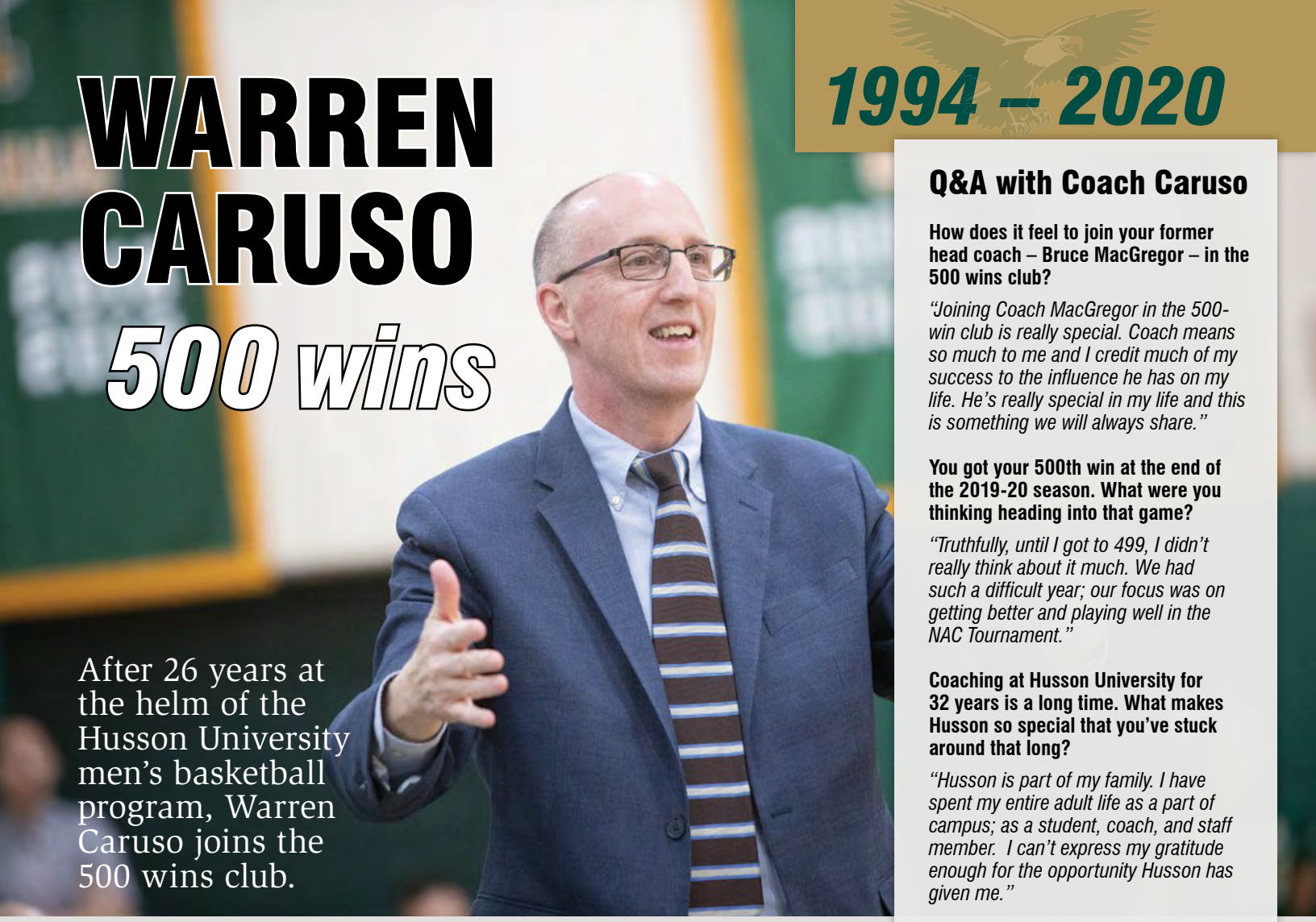
And more!

Events page link:
husson.edu/alumni/events
E-newsletter: please email alumni@husson.edu to be added to the email list

WARREN CARUSO

500 wins

1994 – 2020



After 26 years at the helm of the Husson University men's basketball program, Warren Caruso joins the 500 wins club.

Entering into the 2019-20 season, **Caruso** needed 12 wins to reach 500. With 25 games set to play on a tough competitive schedule, he finished out the regular season just one victory away from the big 500 as the Eagles advanced on to post-season action. As the No. 3 seed heading into the North Atlantic Conference (NAC) Tournament, the Husson men's basketball team was set to host Northern Vermont University-Johnson for the NAC Quarterfinal game on Saturday, February 22. The Eagles had split with the Badgers during the season having beat them in Newman Gym, 85-74. It was a close game of back-and-forth buckets for the two teams up until the fourth quarter when Husson began to pull away. With a resounding 70-61 win over NVU-Johnson in the NAC quarterfinals, head coach Warren Caruso achieved his 500th career victory.

"We have had tremendous support and many special student-athletes as well as assistant coaches," remarked Coach Caruso. "My achievement of 500 wins is a product of many incredible people that have come into my life. I want to thank all of them."

As the winningest coach in NAC history and the second winningest coach in program history, Caruso currently holds a successful career record of 500-239 (.677). This past season, he tied his own former coach and mentor, **Bruce MacGregor**, as the longest tenured head coach in HU program history while also joining MacGregor and **Kissy Walker** as the only coaches at Husson to reach 500 career victories in a single sport.

Over the course of 26 years, Caruso has been named Coach of the Year nine times while capturing 14 regular season titles, 13 conference championships, and making 13 national tournament appearances. He joined the staff immediately upon graduating from Husson in 1989 and assisted for six years before becoming MacGregor's successor. Since stepping onto campus in 1984, the Husson Sports Hall of Famer has seen the men's basketball program from all angles – as a student-athlete, assistant coach, and head coach - throughout his 36 years as an Eagle.

Coach Caruso was welcomed into the Husson University Sports Hall of Fame as a student-athlete and coach in 2006. He earned a Bachelor of Science in public accounting from Husson in 1989, a Master of Science in business from Husson in 2003, and a Master of Science in human relations from Husson in 2018.

Congratulations Coach Caruso on 500!

Q&A with Coach Caruso

How does it feel to join your former head coach – Bruce MacGregor – in the 500 wins club?

"Joining Coach MacGregor in the 500-win club is really special. Coach means so much to me and I credit much of my success to the influence he has on my life. He's really special in my life and this is something we will always share."

You got your 500th win at the end of the 2019-20 season. What were you thinking heading into that game?

"Truthfully, until I got to 499, I didn't really think about it much. We had such a difficult year; our focus was on getting better and playing well in the NAC Tournament."

Coaching at Husson University for 32 years is a long time. What makes Husson so special that you've stuck around that long?

"Husson is part of my family. I have spent my entire adult life as a part of campus; as a student, coach, and staff member. I can't express my gratitude enough for the opportunity Husson has given me."

When did you know that coaching intercollegiate basketball was your passion and in your future?

"I always wanted to coach; it was part of my life plan. I never thought about coaching in college until Coach offered me the opportunity in 1988-89. That was a special season for the program. I have been hooked ever since."

Season Cancellations and Renovations



Upgrades to athletic facilities will make future competition better

This 360-degree image of the retiled Webber Pool provides an expansive view of this athletic facility. The 25-yard, six-lane, competitive pool is located in the William P. Newman Athletic Facility and the home of Husson's men's and women's swimming and diving programs.

Here in Maine, fall is always memorable. As the leaves change color and the weather gets colder, college campuses are once again filled with the sounds of athletic competition.

"Unfortunately, college campuses are quieter than usual this year," said **Frank Pergolizzi**, Husson University's director of athletics. "In an effort to protect our students' health during the pandemic, Husson University made the difficult decision not to engage in any athletic competition during the Fall 2020 semester."

The fall sports affected by the decision to suspend competition included football, field hockey, volleyball, men's and women's soccer, men's and women's golf, men's and women's cross country, and women's tennis. Despite the lack of intercollegiate competition, Husson student-athletes are still practicing. Staying in shape is essential.

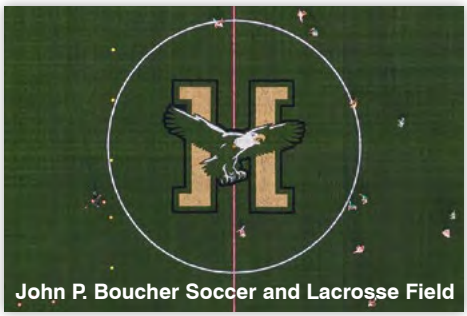
Fortunately, the loss of the fall season will not affect students' athletic eligibility. The NCAA Division III Administrative Committee approved a blanket waiver. Thanks to the waiver, student-athletes who compete in 50% or less of the sport's maximum number of competitions will not lose a season of eligibility to compete in college sports.

Since there wasn't any athletic activity on campus during the spring, summer and fall, the University took the opportunity to institute several upgrades.

Nearly a million dollars was spent by Husson to enhance the John P. Boucher soccer and lacrosse field, the floor of the William P. Newman Gymnasium, and the Webber Pool.

The cancellation of fall competition was not the only reason Husson decided to move forward with these facility renovations. The health and safety of Husson students is the University's most important priority. To protect students, Husson installed a new FieldTurf surface at the John P. Boucher soccer and lacrosse field. This substantial investment in new artificial turf will help protect student-athletes from possible injury going forward.

When Husson basketball players resume play at the William P. Newman Gymnasium, they'll find a newly refinished basketball court surface. Besides stripping and refinishing the hardwood, the University repainted the court with an updated center court graphic. Baldwin will be proud to cheer on his Husson Eagles on this new surface!



John P. Boucher Soccer and Lacrosse Field

Our men's and women's swimming and diving teams will benefit from new tile on the deck of the Webber Pool when they take to the water. Besides giving the Webber pool a cleaner look, the tile will help keep the pool's surface clean and prevent permanent water lines from forming. In addition, the tile provides a non-slip surface, which helps prevent injury when swimmers and divers are getting in and out of the pool.

Other improvements included new padding on the softball backstop and upgrades to the women's cross country/ track & field locker room. The new locker room will be a source of pride for Husson Eagle athletes. It will also help in the University's recruitment efforts when potential students visit the Bangor campus.

Husson University will continue to make sure existing facilities meet the University's high standards for safety as the campus continues to grow. These efforts will help ensure that the University remains an attractive educational destination for both potential and existing students.

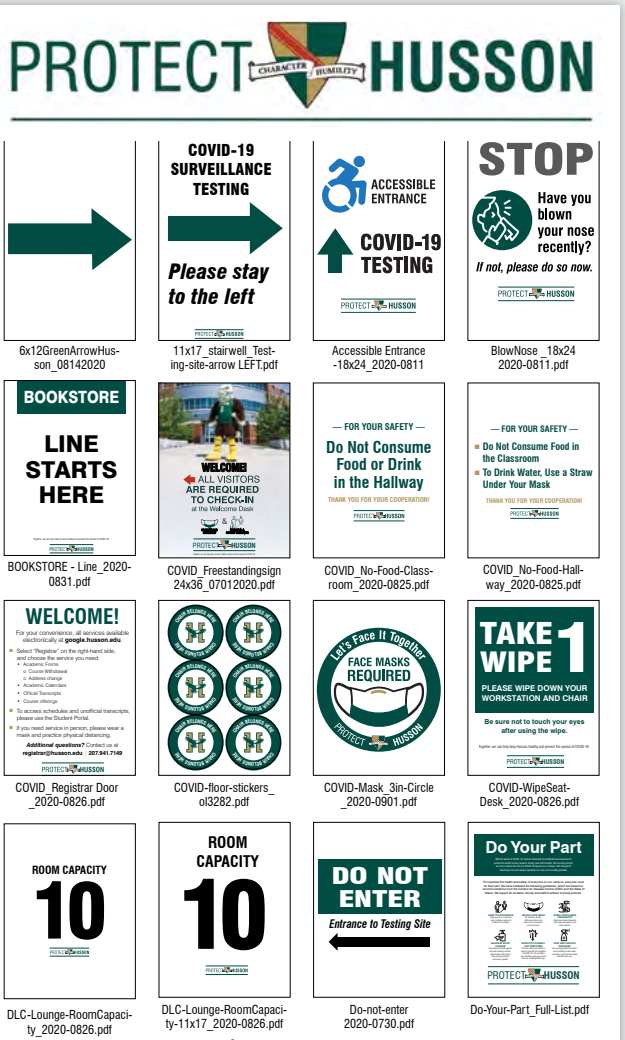
Despite the pandemic, Husson University Athletics is looking to the future with optimism. "After we get past COVID-19, Husson Athletics will be stronger than ever before," concluded Pergolizzi. "We are looking forward to resuming our seasons, in our refurbished facilities, as soon as it safe to do so. Our goal is to make the Husson Eagles conference championship contenders."

Masking, Distancing and Testing:

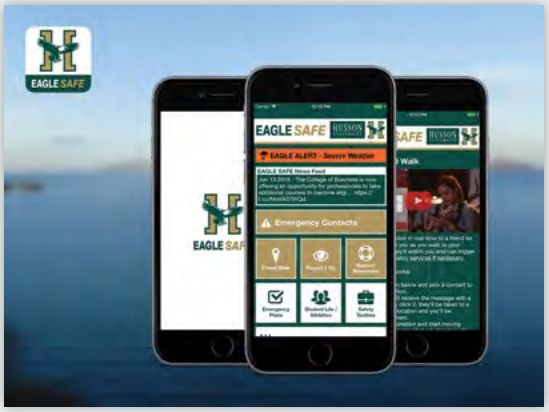
The effects of COVID-19 on Husson's Bangor Campus

When the pandemic disrupted academic and campus life here at Husson, our leadership, faculty and staff all pulled together to find creative and innovative solutions.

With hard work, we developed a series of procedures and protocols that helped protect our students while still providing a top-notch experiential learning experience. Making this happen required on-campus teamwork and the support of students and their families.



To reduce the potential for off-campus exposure to COVID-19, Husson compressed our academic schedule. During the fall semester, classes were held on Labor Day and the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. In addition, the traditional two-day October break was eliminated. Most students would head home for the Thanksgiving holiday and stay at home for the remainder of the semester.



To reduce the potential for disease transmission, the University offered multiple course delivery options. These included face-to-face, hybrid, and online classes. The percentage of courses in 2020 offered in a face-to-face format decreased from 71% of our course offering to 47%. Simultaneously, the number of hybrid courses increased from 5% to 21% while the number of online course offering available through the internet increased from 18% to 29%.

Even though the University continued to offer face-to-face instruction, the classroom experience was different from years' past. In accordance with guidelines from state and federal Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) and local public health partners, all students, employees and campus visitors were required to wear masks in group gatherings and public spaces.

The University also increased the physical distance between students in the classroom. To provide students with greater separation, larger spaces like the Furman Student Center, the Richard E. Dyke Center for Family Business and the Gracie Theatre hosted classes.

The daily routine of students, faculty and staff was affected as well. All were required to complete a daily self-assessment through the Eagle Safe App on their phones. In addition, all students were required to complete online COVID-19 awareness and prevention training.

Further, all students taking in-person courses at Husson University's Bangor campus were required to participate in regularly scheduled surveillance tests for the coronavirus and to monitor their health for any possible symptoms.

To keep students from feeling confined in their rooms, Student Life came up with an assortment of activities that still allowed students to interact while remaining physically separated. These included movie night at the Bangor Drive-In, virtual magic shows, individual art activities, and much more.

A variety of physical enhancements were added to strategic areas. Signage on the floor assisted with physical distancing. Plexiglas safety barriers protected staff and students in high volume areas like the Welcome Center, Student Accounts and Dining Services.

2020 has certainly been a year that challenged our entire Husson University community. Despite that, everyone at Husson University continues moving forward. Like past generations who overcame disease, wars and economic upheavals, our students demonstrated the character and humility that have come to characterize graduates of Husson University.

Supporting our Students

Husson, like many charities, faces unprecedented challenges in the wake of COVID19.

One critical area of needed funding is financial aid for our students. While the University provides over $18 million in institutional aid to students each year, gaps always remain. The pandemic has further increased our students' need for financial assistance. Besides needing scholarship aid, we are also aware that some of our students face food insecurity issues. The University was recently able to assist 25 students in difficult circumstances by providing them with grocery gift cards, thanks to the generosity of alumni and friends who contributed to Husson's Food Insecurity Fund earlier this year.

Can you help our students out? Gifts can be earmarked for financial aid, the Food Insecurity Fund, or virtually any area on campus that holds special meaning to you. Unrestricted gifts allow us to use the money where it is most needed. Regardless, every dollars raised is used to support our students in their quest to get a quality education.

Our students work hard. Please consider giving our students a hand up with a gift this year.

As you consider your support, the following information may be useful to make your gift as tax-wise as possible in 2020:

1. Don't itemize?

In 2020, you can deduct $300 in charitable contributions as well as take the standard deduction. While not a huge sum, don't leave this deduction on the table!

2. Making contributions of $1000 or more?

Consider gifting stock you own in non-retirement accounts and avoid paying capital gains tax on the transfer. It's a great way to clear your portfolio of a stock you'd like to sell but have continued to hold because you haven't wanted to incur an additional capital gains tax. If you own a stock that has gone up in value significantly that you wish to retain, consider gifting the stock to Husson and using the cash you were planning to give to Husson to repurchase the stock and "refresh" your cost basis at its new higher price.

3. Are you over 70 ½ and taking distributions from your IRA?

A qualified charitable contribution from your IRA can make sense for both itemizers and non-itemizers. You can give up to $100,000 to charity from your IRA. If these gifts are made directly to charity, they will not be included as income to you. Many individuals make gifts of at least the required minimum distribution (RMD) that they have to take each year. While the RMD for 2020 has been waived due to the CARES Act, you should check with your advisor whether this may still make sense for you.

4. Looking to make a significant gift?

In 2020, as part of the CARES Act, you can deduct any cash gifts up to 100% of your adjusted gross income (AGI). So if your AGI is $100,000, and you write Husson a check for $100,000, you can take a charitable income tax deduction of $100,000 in 2020. The previous deduction limit was 50% of your AGI ($50,000 in the example).

Show our students you care and use the enclosed envelope to make a gift today.

If you have questions about how to give most advantageously or are interested in learning about making a bequest to Husson, please email Sarah Robinson at robinsons@husson.edu or call her at (207) 941.7617.

Class News & Notes

Promotions, engagements, weddings, birth announcements and other accomplishments. Class notes can be found online at **husson.edu/class-notes**

Submit *your* class notes at **husson.edu/alumni**

Class NOTES

1940s

Barbara Harris '43 has been named Maine Veterans Homes – Scarborough's Veteran of the Month for January 2020 for her countless life accomplishments. Barbara is a World War II Navy veteran who built a cabin in the woods of West Enfield, ME with her own hands, a Husson Hall of Fame women's basketball player, an educator at Sweet Briar College, one of the nation's top private women's colleges, and co-founder of Camp Good News in Livermore Falls.

1980s

John "JK" Kolasinski '81 served as President of the American Baseball Coaches Association (13,000 members worldwide) in 2019. JK was also married on July 4, 2019. He and his bride Kim were able to travel together to represent the association at the MLB All Star Game and the World Series. Every baseball fan's dream! JK began his coaching career at Husson 32 years ago. He is in his 17th year at Sienna Heights University in Adrian, Michigan. A member of the Husson Sports Hall of Fame, JK writes that he "gets a kick out of seeing the names of kids at Husson whose parents either played for him or were RAs in the dorms, like Mazurek, Curtis and Allen." In his note to Paul Husson he also says, "What a great time we had with John Winkin and the team, traveling and playing in Japan.



Alan Clifford '82 has accepted a new leadership position, executive vice president of corporate projects, at Principle Business Enterprises, Inc. (PBE). Clifford joined PBE in 2000 as plant manager and his role has grown and expanded with the company's growth.

John Hopping '83 was inducted into the Ipswich High School Athletic Hall of Fame in 2019 for his standout career on the school's baseball and soccer teams.

Monsignor Andrew Dubois '84 has been appointed as pastor for St. Paul the Apostle Parish by the Diocese of Portland. He took over for Father Frank Murray after his retirement in August. St. Paul the Apostle Parish consists of six churches in the Greater Bangor area.

Eric Hall '84 ΤΕΦ and his wife Jen have sold their family business, Hall Funeral Home in Bridgton. The Hall Funeral Home has served the community since 1833. Hall was the sixth generation of the family to operate the firm. He and Jen are looking forward to a new and exciting future. Many of you will remember Hall as an admissions counselor at Husson in the eighties.

TKE Reunion 2020
50 Years After
TKE ALUMNI
Husson University

The TKE brothers will be holding a reunion (postponed due to COVID19 restrictions) for all members that will occur during **Homecoming in Fall 2021** to celebrate our 50th year. If you haven't already contacted the Reunion Organizing Committee and wish to be added to our list for updates, please send your contact details to **alphaomegatke@gmail.com**.

Peter Brunette '84G was approved as an ed tech III for the Lake Region Vocational Center in Naples, Maine. He previously worked as an instructor with Windham Adult Education and was self-employed in people skills development.

Douglas DiMora '69 retired in 2004 after serving as the chief financial officer of the Garlinghouse Publishing Company for 20 years. He has been active in school activities for East Hartford High School in Connecticut ever since. DiMora has assisted in a weekly program called "Connections" on a volunteer basis with the help of the head librarian, Kristine Edmonds. This weekly 40-minute class allows students the opportunity to take a break from their everyday peer pressure and the strain of keeping their grades up. To help connect with the students, DiMora works with them on their level. During their time with him, they participate in interactive physical activities and games, and discuss a variety of social topics, including bullying and vaping. DiMora gains confidence with his students as he gets the opportunity to work with them as first-year students through their senior year. He continues to interact with children, serving as a school crossing guard in East Hartford. DiMora lives in Vernon Rockville, Connecticut, and has two children – a son in Las Cruces, New Mexico and a daughter in Portland, Oregon.



East Hartford High School Head Librarian Kristine Edmonds (left) works together with Douglas DiMora '69 (right) on "Connections," a weekly program for high school students.



In her pre-COVID travels abroad, **Provost Lynne Coy-Ogan** met with alumnus **Thaviwat Saksri '85G** in Thailand. Saksri has been instrumental in the planning of Husson alumni gatherings in Thailand. He works in the green energy business producing electric power from biomass and together with his wife, owns a jewelry business trading precious stones.

Merrill Barter Jr. '89 ΚΔΦ is a managing director at Baker, Newman Noyes (BNN) in Portland, Maine. He has been with BNN for 11 years. Barter is in their tax practice and is the state and local tax (SALT) practice leader. He has 25 years of experience in his field. Merrill's father was a member of the Class of 1950 at Husson.

Saundra Pelletier '89, '91, CEO of Evofem Biosciences, was named to the PharmaVoice100 Most Inspiring People. This is an annual list of the 100 most innovative, influential and inspirational people in the life-sciences industry who have made the biggest impact in their fields. Pelletier was recognized for her commitment to advancing the sexual and reproductive health of women around the world.

1990s

Shawn Anderson '95G has been named as the chief executive officer of Houlton Regional Hospital. A Caribou native, Anderson served as chief operating officer for Cary Medical Center for the last 15 years.

Jennifer Bagley, ETE **'96, '08G** is the current medical director and owner of Family Circles Healthcare in Hartland, ME. She is married to **Troy Bagley,** TKE, **'96** and has two children, Abigail, 18 and Zachary, 12.

Renee Ouellette '96 has been appointed as University Credit Union's (UCU) newest president and CEO. She is the first female president and CEO in UCU's 52-year history and has been with the bank for more than 10 years.

Tim Goff '97 has joined the board of directors at the United Way of Aroostook. He currently serves as the branch manager for the Presque Isle Branch of Machias Savings Bank and also serves on the boards for the Fort Fairfield Quality of Place Council, The Francis Malcolm Science Center Advisory Board, The Center for Advancement of Rural Living, Junior Achievement, Northern Light Health and the Frontier Fish and Game Club.

Amanda Waters '97 has become the new athletic director at Mater Dei High School in Santa Ana, California.

Michael Peterson, FACHE '98, president and CEO of Androscoggin Valley Hospital was honored by N.H. Business Review as one of the most influential leaders in the inaugural New Hampshire 200 list in 2019. The New Hampshire 200 includes the state's most influential business leaders across major industries and are selected following extensive contacts, interviews, and months of research.

Dan Curtis '99 has been promoted to vice president of operations in the downeast region for Hammond Lumber, overseeing operations in Bar Harbor, Blue Hill, Cherryfield, Ellsworth, and Machias. He will continue to serve as the branch manager in Ellsworth. Curtis joined Hammond Lumber through the acquisition of EBS where he served as branch manager for 16 years.

2000s

Angela Oechslie '00 was recently named the new Project > Login Program Director. Project > Login is a program focused on growing tech talent in Maine. Oechslie brings a wealth of workforce knowledge and experience to her role with the Project > Login program. She was a workforce development specialist at Eastern Maine Development Corporation and the workforce coordinator at Tri-County Workforce Investment Board. She is past chair of Building Bridges, a business and education partnership through the Bangor Region Chamber of Commerce, and a member of the Bangor Region Leadership Institute '18. She is passionate about matching students and adults with educational programs and quality job opportunities in Maine. Angela holds a communications degree from NESCom at Husson University, a BS in business administration from the University of Maine at Augusta, and a Master of Science degree in organizational communication from Murray State University. She joined Educate Maine in 2016 as the Project > Login program coordinator and worked on many projects and initiatives that contributed to the growth and national recognition of the program. She was also instrumental in growing the FocusMaine Intern Experience cohorts in Bangor and Augusta this past summer.

Boubacar Thiam '00 '02 was in to visit Paul Husson recently with good news! He has successfully completed his MBA from Colorado Technical University of Denver.

Adam F. Kohler '01 retired after nine years with the Defense Finance and Accounting Service in Limestone, Maine and U. S. Customs & Border Protection in Orlando, Florida. He has completed a brief memoir of his experiences during his 20-year Air Force career. He and his wife, Karen, have one daughter and four grandchildren. They all reside in Titusville, Florida.

Winfield Brown '02G has been elected to the board of directors for Unitil Corporation in New Hampshire. Unitil Corporation is a public utility holding company providing natural gas and electricity in Maine, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts.

Amie Drammeh '03 is corporate controller for Trinity Lifestyles Management of Atlanta, Georgia. Trinity Lifestyles Management manages independent living communities and assisted living facilities throughout the State of Georgia. Drammeh has been with the company for over 15 years starting as an accountant soon after graduating from Husson.

Jared Foster '03 has joined Central High School in Corinth as the athletic administrator. In his new role, Foster plans to establish solid youth programs in the Corinth area to serve as feeder programs for the Central High School teams.

Dana Gendrea '03 has been appointed as the new Aroostook County finance director and deputy treasurer. Gendrea previously served as the director of

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finance for the town of Madawaska and in the accounting department of Northern Maine Medical Center.

Lucas Martin, MSPT '03 has joined Somersworth Physical Therapy in New Hampshire as their newest physical therapist. He has had his research on improving the gait in patients with Parkinson's disease published in a 2006 issue of the *Journal of Physical Therapy* and has spent most of his career in outpatient orthopedic practice. His special interest is in foot and ankle injuries as well as improving running biomechanics.

Kim Tarbox '03, a licensed Maine real estate agent for 20 years, has been named president of Maine Life Real Estate Co. She has been with the team since 2015 and has consistently been a top performer.

Karen Craft '04G has established a consulting company focusing on the healthcare industry called Focus on Results (www.focusx3.com). The company provides consulting services and guidance tailored to individual company situations, departments, or teams to reshape and rebuild systems to make operations more efficient and effective. Craft most recently served as a senior-level executive at Magnetic Resonance Technologies of Maine.

Carmen Look '05G has joined Lobster 207 LLC, also known as the Maine Lobstering Union, as the chief financial officer. She has over 20 years of experience in finance and tax preparation, most of which was related to the Maine's lobster industry.

Jennifer Wilbur '05 is the community relations director at The Landing at Saco Bay, an assisted living community in Saco, ME.

Sara Bryant '06 is the new varsity softball coach for Belfast Area High School. Sara is an alumnus of BAHS and has been coaching since 2008. In addition to her new role as softball coach, she is the field hockey coach for Troy Howard Middle School and is a special education teacher at Belfast Area High School.

MMG Insurance has promoted **Terri Ouellette '07G** to accounting manager and **AJ Cloukey '16G** to assistant accounting manager. Ouellette has been with the insurance company since 1998 and has earned her Certificate in General Insurance, Associate in Insurance Services (AIS), Associate in Reinsurance (ARe), and Associate in Insurance Accounting and Finance (AIAF). AJ has been with MMG Insurance since 2000 and has earned his Associate in Insurance Accounting and Finance (AIAF) as well as attending the leadership development program at the University of Wisconsin.

Chelsey Szabo '07 has been promoted to outpatient nurse manager at Cary Medical Center. She will oversee all nursing functions serving outpatients who visit the hospital for various services including the emergency department. Szabo first joined Cary Medical Center in 2007 as a registered nurse and charge nurse in the acute care unit. She has since passed the critical care course and holds Critical Care Emergency Medical Transport Certification.

Philip Chaput '08 recently completed his 11th year of teaching physical education in Thetford, VT. He also completed his tenure as president of SHAPE (Society of Health and Physical Educators) Vermont in the fall of 2019. In May 2019, he received his master's degree in athletic leadership with concentrations in coaching and administration from Castleton University. Chaput also became the general manager of the Upper Valley Nighthawks in the NECBL in the summer of 2019. Philip lives in Hartford, VT with his wife, Natalie and two daughters Maria and Carmen.



Dr. Jason Falvey '08, '10 DPT has joined the University of Maryland Medical School faculty as an assistant professor of physical therapy and epidemiology.

Adrienne Baker '09 has joined Maine Central Institute as the school nurse. She has a diverse nursing background and most recently served as the clinical manager of a pediatric primary care office.

Erald Sino '09G is vice president, commercial banker, domestic and multinational corporations at J.P. Morgan Chase & Co in Greenville, South Carolina.

2010s

Rachel Johnson '10G splits her professional time between a federal entity and the Air National Guard, located more than 600 miles away. Johnson is both an evidence custodian for the Department of Defense DNA Operations at the Armed Forces Medical Examiner System at Dover Air Force Base in Delaware, and a master sergeant, unit-training manager in the Air National Guard with the 101st Air Refueling Wing in Maine.



Ray Harrington '10, a talented filmmaker and comedian, made his late-night television debut on Conan O'Brien on January 29. Throughout his career, Ray has been named "Best Comedian" by the Providence Phoenix, selected for Comedy Central's 'Up Next' Showcase, won the LA Comedy Festival for his documentary BE A MAN, and was a finalist in the Boston Comedy Festival.

Justin Michaud '10 has joined Tile as the senior customer support manager.

Alex Sirois '10 has joined the Town of Raymond as the new code enforcement officer. He will be responsible for evaluating, educating, and enforcing local codes as well as other administrative services within code enforcement.



Fluent IMC, an integrated marketing communications agency based in Westbrook ME founded by **Marnie Grumbach, MBA '11G**, was recognized at the Maine Public Relations Council's 2019 Golden Arrow Awards with receipt of the Gold Award and two Honorable Mentions. Marnie also received the President's Award for her work with the Maine Public Relations Council. Fluent was also the recipient of the Home Care & Hospice Alliance of Maine's Media Award for its promotion of Hospice of Southern Maine's virtual reality training tool. Pictured from left to right, Heidi Farber and Daryl Cady, Hospice of Southern Maine; Marnie Grumbach and Emily Broadbent, Fluent IMC.

Jenna Dubord '11 is engaged to Andy Broomhall. The couple resides in Portland, ME, both working in physical therapy and are planning an August 2021 wedding.

Stacy Shaw '11G has been promoted to senior vice president and chief information officer for MMG Insurance in Presque isle. Shaw joined MMG as a programmer in 1998 and has held several positions since.

Amanda Millay '11 has joined Pulse Marketing Agency as the marketing and design specialist.

Ericka York '11 is the head park ranger at Camden Hills State Park in Camden, ME.

Christopher Lloyd '12 has published the first book of his Titans saga entitled, Titans: Rise of Legends. The saga follows Elric Blake as he discovers his own powers and abilities he only read about in comics. More information in his book, as well as the upcoming novels in the saga, Titans: Dark Catalyst, Titans: Cold-Blooded Orphans, and Titans: Revelation, can be found at cjtitan.com.

Lindsey Oliver McCormick KA **'13** has joined the MaineGeneral Health team in Augusta as a development officer in the Office of Philanthropy.

Kristin Spellman '13 is a lead producer for KOKH FOX 25 News in Oklahoma.



Megan McDonald '15, '20G has joined Leone, McDonnell & Roberts, PA as a staff accountant in their North Conway office. Prior to joining the firm, McDonald was a bookkeeper and tax preparer for a small bookkeeping company.

Bryce Libby '15G has joined Crossroads Maine, an addiction treatment and behavioral health treatment center in Scarborough, as the outpatient scientific supervisor. Libby brings over 12 years of counseling expertise to his new role.

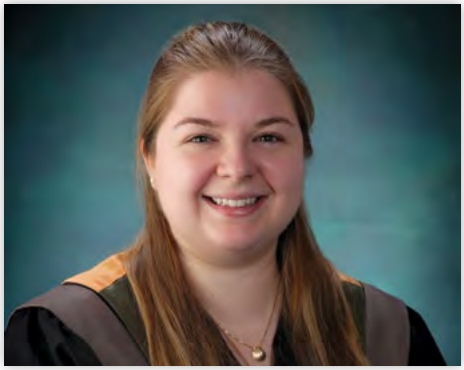
Johanna Anderson '16G has been selected to join the board of directors for Tompkins Trust Co. She currently serves as executive director of Ithaca Neighborhood Housing Services in New York.

Desiree Beal '16, '20G has joined The O.T. Spot as an occupational therapist. She previously worked in several organizations as a behavioral health specialist and caregiver.

Jack Hilton '16 has been promoted to graduate orientee clinician at Northern Light Health. He first joined the health organization in September 2019 as a social work intern.

Andrew Logan '16 has been named head football coach at Hampden Academy. He currently serves as a sixth-grade teacher and athletic director at Reeds Brook Middle School in Hampden and had previously been the assistant football coach at Bangor High School.

Victoria McIntyre '16, '19 DPT has joined Cary Medical Center as a physical therapist in their Caribou office. Her professional interest focuses on orthopedics and sports-related outpatient physical therapy.



Erin Rollins '16 graduated from Atlantic Veterinary College in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Canada, on May 8, 2020, earning a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree. Rollins received the Dr. Greg Fleming Memorial Award at her white coat ceremony. She is now practicing at Harbor Road Veterinary Hospital in South Thomaston, Maine.

Matthew McInnis '17 has been named the operations director for the Bucksport YMCA.

Nathan Whewell '17 has joined Apple as an operations specialist.

Isabella Bouchard '18 is the director of art for the Maine Arts Academy in Sidney, ME.

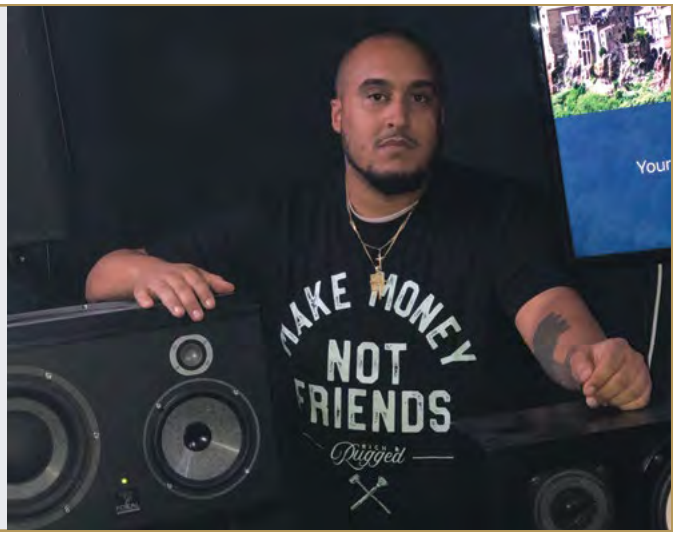
Grant Gerber '18 is a smart home integrator and AV installer for Regent5.

Brandon McDonald '18 has been appointed as program manager for entrepreneurial development at Northern Maine Development Commission in Caribou. His role is to encourage and support a new generation of entrepreneurs in Aroostook and Washington counties to improve the region's economic growth through the support of small business success.

Miranda Pelkey '18 has joined Eastern Maine Development Corporation as a counselor in their Maine PTAC program. In this role, she provides hands-on training and support for obtaining and managing government contracts to businesses in Hancock, Penobscot, Piscataquis and Waldo counties.

GRAMMY NOMINATION

New England School of Communications (NESCom) audio engineer alumnus **Manny Mercado '10** was nominated for a Grammy for his work on "Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse." His work contributed to the success of the track "Start a Riot" by Duckwrth and Shaboozey. The song was part of the Grammy nominated soundtrack nominated for "Best Compilation Soundtrack for Visual Media." In 2019, the "Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse" soundtrack won a Golden Globe award. The Academy Award-winning animated film is about a teen Spider-Man who joins with other Spider-Men from different dimensions to save New York from Wilson "The Kingpin" Fisk, a crime overlord.



Ian Sotomayor, '18, '19 MSOT has joined Cary Medical Center's outpatient rehabilitation team as an occupational therapist focusing on hand/wrist/elbow therapy, as well as treating shoulder-related orthopedic disorders.

Katelynd Sperry '18G recently began working for OTELCO as a project manager in its New Gloucester, Maine office. She came to OTELCO from Bath Iron Works.



Amy Rioux '18 was promoted to key customer specialist in Total Care at Geiger. She first started with Geiger in 2016 as an administrative customer care specialist and customer advocate and was promoted to assistant program manager in 2017.

Ryan Tribou '18 works as an audio technician out of Pennsylvania and has had the opportunity to work with a number of high profile music acts over the last two years. After six months of training, he worked his first event as a sound technician at the Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival in California. Tribou then found himself working on tour with Queen and Adam Lambert for several months before working with the Jonas Brothers.

Abigail Beaulieu '19 is now an event coordinator for Spectra. She previously worked for Lafayette Hotels as an online brand specialist.

Chase Bosse '19 was sworn in as the newest officer of the Waldoboro Police Department in December 2019. He has spent the last two years as a patrol deputy with the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office.

Matthew Campbell '19 graduated from the New Hampshire Police Academy on December 20, 2019 and has started his law enforcement career with the Amherst Police Department.

Theodore Hallett '19 is a field engineer, acoustic specialist at CIANBRO.

Natalia Tonseth, APRN-FNP '19G has joined Maine Medical Partners as a family nurse practitioner in South Portland, specializing in urology.

Olivia Williams '19, who is currently a student at William & Mary Law School, has been selected to join the *William & Mary Law Review*, which is ranked among the top law journals in the country.

2020s

Rachel Maxwell '20, who finished her classes in December and joined Sutherland Weston Marketing Communications in Bangor as a digital specialist, recently had her first blog post picked up by leading industry publication, *Social Media Today*. Her blog, "Social Media Post Lengths for Higher Engagement," contains an infographic listing of optimal social posting lengths that will help spark more engagement. The blog post can be found at: **www.sutherlandweston.com/blog**.

Stephanie Michaud, FNP '20G has completed requirements for national certification as a family nurse practitioner and has joined Northern Maine Medical Center as a nocturnist in the Emergency department.

ATTENDED

Tatsuya Izumikawa, who attended Husson for two years, is regional manager for United Chemi-con, Inc. for the Greater Chicago Area. After leaving Husson he earned his degree at the University of West Florida. Izumikawa has been with the firm for 14 years.

IN MEMORIAM

FROM NOVEMBER 2019 THROUGH OCTOBER 2020

1930s: Angie A. KEYSER ’35 **1940s:** Harriet Priscilla (Clevette) GOODWIN ’41 | Trudell “Trudy” GORDON ’41 | Doris Vernon (Littlefield) CHAPMAN ’42 EMGH | Shirley Carlisle NELSON ’42 | Jennie L. (Bowden) SEEKINS ’43 | Geraldean (Geddy) Hurd VAFIADES ’44 | Marilyn Swallow GILES ’45 | Eleanor Grace SARGENT ’46 EMGH | Rheta Alston JAMESON ’47 | Elizabeth "Jo" Joan MARQUIS ’47 EMGH | Joyce (Spencer) DAVIS ’48 EMGH | Nina Bowden HANSEN ’48 | Phyllis Wardwell GOSS ’48 EMGH | Harold Dennis JOHNSON ’48 | Eunice Mary Harding SIBLEY ’48 | Merle E. FENLASON ’49 | Audrey Hewitt GRIFFIN ’49 EMGH | Clinton P. MCEACHERN ’49, ’96H | Phyllis Louise (Tolman) MOIR ’49 **1950s:** Maxine Elizabeth ARBO ’51 EMGH | Dawn COOKSON-ROUNDY ’51 | Theresa N. (Nicholson) DENTREMONT ’51, ’96H | Edgar "Ed" George MACE ’51 | Mary E. HUSKINS ’52 EMGH | Barbara Ann (Bell) POTTS ’52 | Louise Alice (Grinnell) CALDERWOOD ’53 | Elinor M. CRAIG ’53 EMGH | Charlene DONAHUE ’53 EMGH | Marie A. MOSCA ’53 | Allen Chadwick FERNALD ’54 | Grace Ann HODGDON ’54 | Jane L. (Blethen) OTIS ’55 EMGH | Norman L. KNAPP ’56 | George W. MERRY ’52, ’57 | Marilyn Lee (Elwell) SOMERS "Minu" ’56 | Orene J. (Melcher) BERG ’57 | Bertrand Donald ALBERT ’59 | Linwood Niles NORTON ’59 | Carol Ann TURNER ’59 EMGH | Edward "Ted" F. WILSON ’59 **1960s:** Robert CHANDLER ’60 | Landon REYNOLDS ’60 | Claire Joanne Mitchell ROBINSON ’60 EMGH | Jeanette Marie (Cameron) SHERMAN ’60 | Carolyn Maynard COSSETTE ’61 | Elizabeth Ann "Betty" HARRINGTON ’61 | John MAGUIRE ’61 | Diane Allen STEWART ’61 | Verna Barrows Noyes BOONE ’62 ΔΣΔ | Jere M. DONAHUE ’63 | Ronald GIROUX ’63 | Barbara WILBUR ’63 EMGH | Robert Harold ANDERSON ’64 | Sandra N. GOTT ’64 | Dianne E. LEVESQUE ’64 | Donald Vincent “Vinnie” MCLAUGHLIN Jr. ’64 | Alice Robinson DAY ’66 | Arthur C. "Archie" VEROW ’66 | Stephanie (Tibbetts) COLPITTS ’67 | Mimi GAUTHIER ’67 | Donald H. BRIGGS ’68 | David L. KENNEDY ’68 | Rebecca "Becky" McCrea GRIFFETH ’68 EMGH | Glenda SNOW ’68 | Joel FISHMAN ’69 | David S. PARKER ’69 | Leslie Krom (Thomas) RYDELL ’69 | Brewer Eleanor E. (Bohan) TRACY ’69 **1970s:** Frederick W. CONLEY ’70 | Nelson HALEY ’70 | Robert Alan INGLES ’70 | Normand “Norm” H. PROVENCHER ’70 | Wanda LYFORD-MORAN ’71 | Gardner BOYST ’72 | Vanrudee "Dee" HUMPHREY ’72 | David Eugene O’CONNELL ’72 | Philippe E. TROTTIER ’72 | Calvin M. (Marty) ROME ’73 | Richard E. JACKSON ’74 | Bernice "Bunny" Marie Hardin GENDREAU ’75 | Joseph G. PARKER ’77 **1980s:** Kip Alexander CAMERON ’83 | Priscilla ESPLING ’83 | Carolyn M. MOONEY-WEGERDT ’83 | Barbara (Swazey) KELLEY ’88 | William F. MORRILL, Sr. ’88 | Judy Anita (Ruge) CARPENTER ’89G | Allen I. PERLEY ’89 **1990s:** Richard Frank STRELKA ’90 | Scott Benjamin BROMFIELD ’92, ’94 ΤΕΦ | Michele (Ham) BROWN ’92 | Debra Sue Ann (Gauvin) SMITH ’93 | Sandra Billings SHEPARD ’94 | Beth QUINT ’95 | Jay K. BANKS ’97G **2000s:** Robin Fogg (JANDREAU) ’05 | Corey Marshall WILCOX ’07 **2010s:** Donald Francis DOUVILLE ’11 | Brittany Marie ALLEY ESTES ’12, ’13G | Matthew Francis FOLEY ’12 | Ezequiel Josue ROMERO ’17 **ATTENDED:** Joan (Thibodeau) GARDINER 1947 | Delphine Leona O’BRIEN 1949 | Reginald Theodore HAMEL 1956 | Ret. U.S. Navy Capt. Vernon S. LUNT 1976-1984 | Michael Louis MARTELL 1965-1967 | Francisco Sablan SALAS, Jr. 1968-1974 | Martin J. PHILLIPS 1970-1972 | Diane J. (Maguire) WILLEY 1978 | Timothy Elmer BENTON 1982-1983 | Charles J.H. "Chuck" VEIT III 1990-1991 | Barbara Ann GORDON 2000-2002 | Cecelia Elizabeth MANNER 2003-2005 | Shane S. BROWN 2006-2011 | Robert Abram “Bob” CUMMINGS | Lila "Annette" Gray HORTON | Therese Daigle SARTAIN | Erwin S. "Kip" SOULE **STAFF:** Charles A. SHIELDS 2006-2018 **FACULTY** (inc. adjunct)**:** Rick DAVIS 1987-1989; 2006-2014 | Walter MCINTIRE **FRIENDS OF HUSSON:** Thomas Alfred GREENQUIST | Charles Lawrence HILDRETH Jr. **HONORARY ALUMNI:** Woodrow CROSS ’06H | Hilda Hutchins MCCOLLUM ’08H | Galen COLE ’17H

It was quiet at night in Maine,
And peaceful being there alone.
It was dark at night in Maine.
The trees and brush merged with the black sky,
And nothing at all could be seen except the stars.

“The Stars in Maine” by Peter Mansbach



Husson University Remembers

Hilda Hutchins McCollum

January 7, 1937 – July 10, 2020

Hilda Hutchins McCollum made it her life mission to put her family, neighbors and community first. When a donation from the longtime member of the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees at Husson University made a performing arts center possible at the school, McCollum didn't want it named after her. Instead, McCollum asked that the theatre be named in honor of her granddaughter, **Grace McCollum**. And that's how the Gracie Theatre got its name!

The Gracie Theatre wasn't the only campus facility McCollum made possible at Husson University. In addition to the theatre, her support helped create the Kenduskeag Research Institute, located in the Newman Gymnasium building.

The Husson community is mourning the loss of McCollum who passed away July 10 at her home in Bangor. She was 83 years old.

McCollum raised her family in Washington, D.C. but moved back to Bangor in 1995.



Grace and Hilda at the groundbreaking ceremony in October 2007.

While in Washington, McCollum chaired the Board of Governance for the Columbia Lighthouse for the Blind. Then-President Ronald Reagan appointed her to his National Commission on the Disabled.

After returning to Bangor, McCollum was active on the boards of Good Samaritan Agency, the Bangor Symphony and the Maine Tree Foundation.

In 2008, she was awarded an honorary Doctor of Public Service from Husson University. Two years later, McCollum was the recipient of the Bangor Region Chamber of Commerce's Community Service Award.

McCollum's legacy of giving continues. Her family is asking that anyone wishing to remember Hilda Hutchins McCollum do so with a donation to the Gracie Theatre as well as the Columbia Lighthouse for the Blind.

Woodrow Cross '06H

December 29, 1916 – July 26, 2020

Woodrow Cross was a revered entrepreneur who epitomized Husson's principles of "character" and "humility." Born on a small farm in Bradford, Maine, Cross's knack for business became apparent at age six, when he sold seeds door-to-door to other farmers. In 1954, he moved his family to Bangor and started selling insurance from his kitchen table. From those humble beginnings, Cross Insurance has grown to be one of the 20 largest privately held insurance agencies according to *Insurance Journal*.

Always a man of family, faith and community, he married Janette Bean in 1943, while serving in the United States Army during WWII. Known for his incredible work ethic, Cross relished going to work each day with his sons Royce and the late Brent Cross, along with his grandsons Jonathan and Woodrow II. He supported his community and numerous charities. In recognition of his efforts, he was inducted into the Junior Achievement Maine Business Hall of Fame, received the key to the City of Bangor, and received the prestigious Norbert Dowd Award from the Bangor Regional Chamber of Commerce.

Cross received an honorary Doctor of Business Administration from Husson University in 2006 in recognition of his service to the community and his success in business. Recognizing the importance of education, Cross and his family established two named endowed scholarships at Husson that help support struggling students.



Woodrow Cross at Commencement in 2006.

Mary Beth Martz

July 14, 1948 – October 21, 2020

Mary Beth Martz passed away on October 21, 2020. Born Mary Elizabeth Markway in Wardsville, Missouri, on July 14, 1948, she died in West Lebanon, New Hampshire, surrounded by family, including her husband of 19 years, retired Husson University Vice President for Advancement Tom Martz.

Beloved wife, mother, and grandmother, Mary Beth lived a life filled with family, friends, art and love. Her wanderlust took her around the globe, from the streets of Paris to the woods of Maine and everywhere in between.

In college, she studied art. She adored Mary Cassatt, the impressionist painter whose portraits of mothers and children simplified a universe that often felt complicated.

Wherever Mary Beth went, she found community. She was always befriending neighbors and volunteering at the universities where Tom worked. While at Husson University, she helped establish the Tom & Mary Martz International Experience Scholarship Fund, and made provisions for additional funding as part of their estate plan. She wanted others to see the amazing things the world had given to her.

Mary Beth later moved to New Hampshire to be closer to family. Even as cancer tried to slow her down, Mary Beth summoned the energy to pack 25 hours' of deeds into a 24-hour day.

She has now joined her sons Gabriel and Michael in a better place and is survived by Tom; children Adam Rieke (Amy), Sara Passan (Jeff) and Catherine Pettus (Jason); grandchildren Gabriel and Elizabeth Rieke, Jack and Luke Passan, and Alice and Jude Pettus; mother Pauline Markway; eight brothers and sisters; and dozens of nieces and nephews.



Mary Martz celebrated her shared love of funky clothing with her granddaughter Alice Pettus during Martz's 72nd birthday on July 14, 2020.

Galen Cole '17H

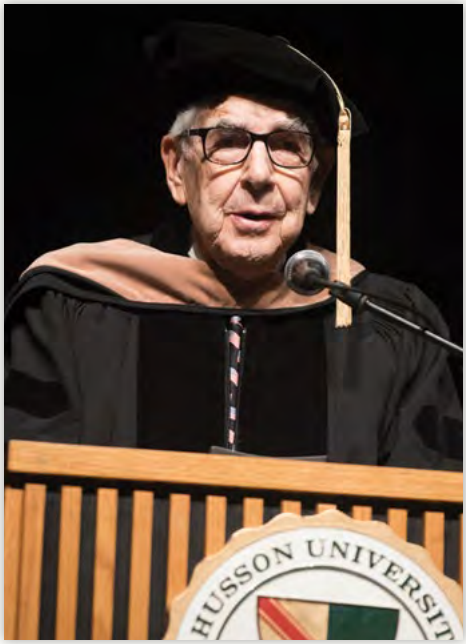
November 29, 1925 – January 9, 2020

On April 2, 1945, **Galen Cole** was wounded in a battle in Germany that wiped out his entire squad. He promised himself and God that if he survived, he would work to leave his fellow man better off than he had found them. True to his word, Cole spent the rest of his life fulfilling that promise. During his 50-year career, he built Cole's Express into a regional transportation powerhouse serving Maine, Northern New England and the Canadian Maritimes. This business success allowed him to help others.

He and his wife Suzanne are best known for establishing the Galen Cole Family Land Transportation Museum. Dedicated to Maine's rich history of transportation, the museum also pays tribute to veterans of the Armed Services. The facility has given Maine-made walking sticks to over 10,000 Maine veterans. In addition, over 200 veterans have shared their military experiences with the 50,000 students who participated in the museum's Ambassadors of Patriotism program.

Always community-minded, Cole served on the Bangor City Council, including one term as mayor. He led the Bangor Region Chamber of Commerce, Bangor YMCA, Target Area Development Corporation, Downeast Friends of The Jackson Laboratory, and Associated Industries of Maine. For his service to others and his dedication to veterans, he received the National Americanism Award from the Military Order of the Purple Heart, as well as other awards.

In 2017, Husson awarded Cole an honorary Doctor of Business Administration in recognition of his business success and community service. In an effort to help others, Cole established a named endowed scholarship fund at Husson that will help future generations of Maine students earn their degrees.



Galen Cole at Commencement in 2017.

Making the Numbers

Gene Richardson ’68 created accounting software that was eventually sold to a Fortune 500 company.

Many decide to attend college because of a career choice. For Gene Richardson ’68 the exact opposite was true. "He knew he didn’t want to join the family’s logging business," says his widow, **Laurel Richardson**. "And in order to do that, he needed a degree."

When Richardson was 16 years old, his father was struck by lightning. Gene had to take over the day to day operations of the family’s logging business in Milo, Maine. It was hard work and long hours. Richardson realized that wasn’t a life he wanted for himself.

He enrolled at Husson College to learn how to run his own business, although he wasn’t sure what it would be. At first, the freshman was a bit more interested in the social aspect of school. "And **Clara Swan ’33, ’04H, ’95H** called him in," says Laurel. "She said– You are not doing well, you can do better and if you don’t smarten up, you’re out. That’s all it took, Gene did great at school after that."

Richardson commuted to school, working at Freese’s Department store in Bangor in between. "He actually made the Husson basketball team," says Laurel, "but Gene couldn’t commit because he just didn’t have the time."

Right after graduation, Richardson married Laurel. The two actually met in kindergarten and were sweethearts all through high school. One month later, he was drafted into the U.S. Army as a cryptographer, decoding and then recoding military messages. "It was a top secret mission," says Laurel. "When he came home, he had to go through a program that erased that part of his memory."

Upon his return home, Richardson went to work for NCR as a salesman, selling data communications technology and high-quality video display computer terminals. He quickly realized that was his calling. Richardson made the decision to start his own business, and he and another co-worker created a computer business in Bangor, named Economy Systems Incorporated (ESI) which later became Advanced Data Systems; ESI offered computer hardware sales, programming and repair. "At that time, it was unusual to have all that under one roof," says Laurel.

"He started out in our home," recalls Gene’s daughter, **Michele Richardson**. "A little bedroom at the top of the stairs, that contained a desk made out of a door placed across two saw-horses.”

Gene would eventually buy-out his partner and take the reins. The first thing Richardson did was change the name of the company from Economy Systems Incorporated to Advanced Data Systems. "To him, economy meant cheap and he didn’t like anything cheap," says Laurel with a smile.

During his time selling computers, Richardson had been working closely with the Maine Department of Education. He discovered there was a very large need for educational accounting software programs, for grades K-12, that could accommodate the Accounting Handbook Model Chart of Accounts (handbook IIR). He had found his niche.

Richardson’s daughter Michele jokes that she started working for her dad as a kid. "I would do bulk mailings, answer the phones and help with entering prospects into databases" she explains. In 2000, she signed on full-time as a sales rep. "I didn’t know the difference between a debit and a credit, and now I sell accounting software."

Over the next few years, Advanced Data Systems would purchase the source code of RealWorld Software and create a Fund Accounting Module. ProFund (Professional Fund Accounting) was born.

Profund has since evolved to ’ProFund 2000,’ and to the current system ’Profund SQL.’ Profund SQL is still being used by 140 schools in Maine, NH, VT and CT.

In 2007, Richardson sold Advanced Data Systems to software giant Tyler Technologies for $4.7M. He would go on to purchase part of Telford Aviation in Bangor, starting Maine Aero Services. He also began a solar power business with his son, **Paul**.



"Gene always needed to keep busy," says Laurel. "He loved to fish, he loved to fly, we would go camping, snowmobiling, boating. I just never knew what he would want to do next."

Sadly, that zest for life would be cut short. Gene Richardson died in 2016 after battling brain cancer. His family and clients still deeply miss the man who knew the value of a hard earned dollar but never lost sight of the priceless pieces in his life. "I didn’t doubt for a minute that he wouldn’t do well," says Laurel. "He was just a go-getter, smart, good with people. And he liked what he was doing."

"To know your dad as a father but also as a boss, a coworker, a role model and CEO is pretty special," adds Michele.



The family of Gene Richardson still treasure his memory. They include (from left to right). His grandson Brody, son Gene, daughter Michele, widow Laurel, son Paul and grandson Brock.



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Brian Walsh ’79
Vice Chair
Southern Maine Alumni Board

MyMy Nguyen ’15, ’15G
Bangor Alumni Board



1. Tell us a little bit about your work history, and what you’re doing now.



MYMY: I live in Bangor and have been working at Bar Harbor Bank & Trust as a portfolio manager in commercial banking for about four years.



BRIAN: In May of 1979 I went to work for Moore Business Forms in Watertown, Massachusetts and later started Walsh Printing & Graphics in 1993 which I still own and operate today out of Westbrook, Maine.

2. What is something you appreciate about Husson?



MYMY: There are many things I appreciate about Husson including the student support, the safe and welcoming environment, and most importantly, the school’s effort to ensure student success.



BRIAN: I have appreciated watching Husson’s growth from a small college with a New England flavor into a national and international University.

3. Tell us about an individual or experience that made an impact on your time at Husson



MYMY: I value all of the internship opportunities provided during my time at Husson. I also had many great faculty members who went above and beyond to ensure my future success.



BRIAN: Two experiences I have cherished from Husson to this day are being on the 1975-76 Men’s Basketball team that held a 30-1 record and played in the NAIA National Tournament in Kansas City, Missouri at the Kemper Arena. The other was being able to run the Arrowhead Lounge in 1978-79 under the leadership of Mr. Manship as a co-op opportunity. It was during this time that I secured my first job with Moore Business Forms upon graduation and met my wife of 40 years, Sharon George ’80.

4. Why do you value serving on one of our Alumni Boards?



MYMY: I value the connections with other Husson graduates and the sense of belonging to the University as Husson alumni.



BRIAN: Serving on the Alumni Board helps me stay in touch with the University and alumni. It allows me to see firsthand the growth of the University through both the infrastructure and student population.

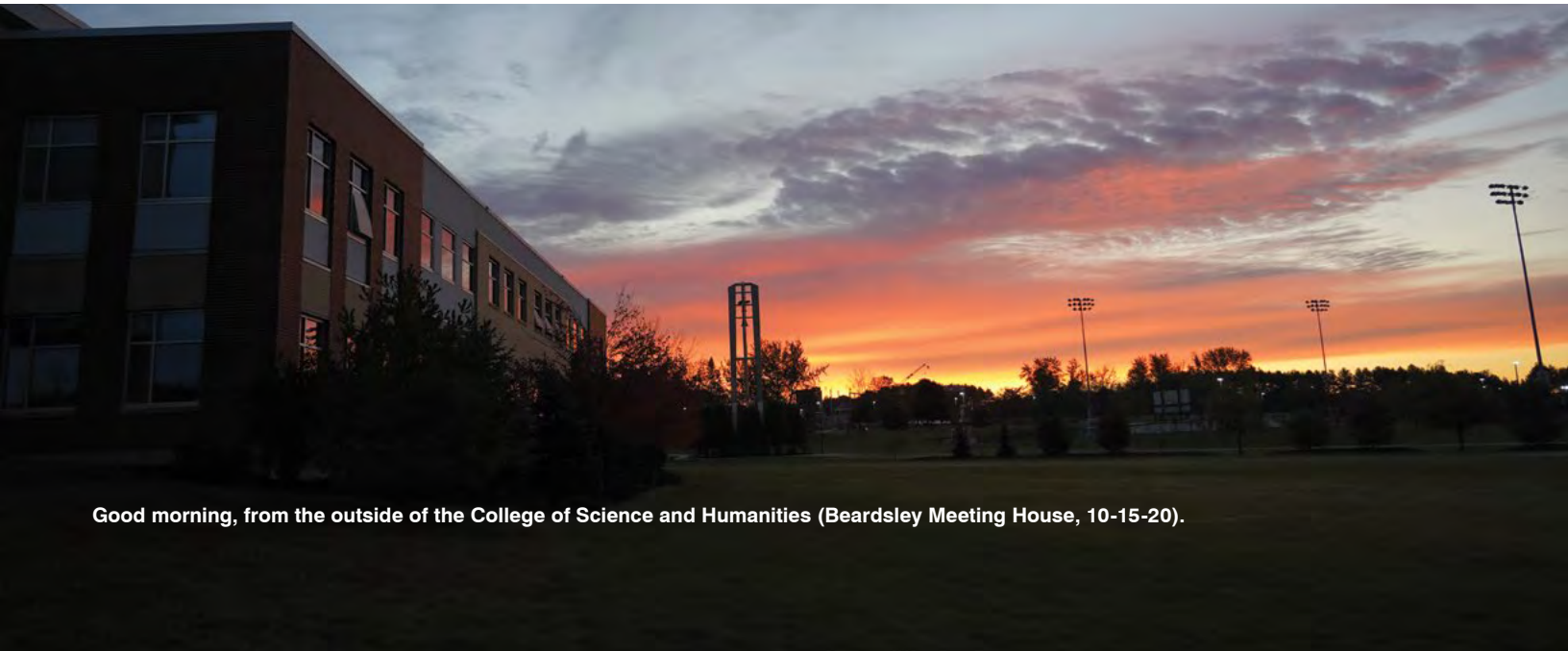
5. What do you like to do in your free time?



MYMY: I enjoy spending time with family and friends, especially outdoor activities during the summer.



BRIAN: I like to spend time with my family, travel and play golf.



Good morning, from the outside of the College of Science and Humanities (Beardsley Meeting House, 10-15-20).

HUSSON UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF ADVANCEMENT

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  - To update your contact information: **husson.edu/alumni/alumniaddress**

During the current healthcare crisis, we hope you and your loved ones are staying healthy. For the latest information on Husson University's pandemic response, visit our "Protect Husson" page at **www.husson.edu/return-to-campus**.

