HUSSON UNIVERSITY

Ledger

Summer 2021 | husson.edu

COMMENCEMENT
Cold.
Windy.
Perfect.

p.14

U&HUSSON



Husson at the NCAA Tournament p.21



Opening Minds Through Art p.8



Welcoming a new season at The Gracie! p.20

GIVING DAY SUCCESS

The Husson community stepped up in unprecedented numbers for the third annual Giving Day on April 7, 2021.

Giving Day is a 24-hour fundraising marathon that encourages supporters to give to the area of Husson that means the most to them. Between the colleges and programs, athletics, or student clubs and organizations, the power is with the donors.

On that Wednesday, donors made 833 gifts and supported over 72 different areas of campus, raising more than $117,000.

"Due to the pandemic, we scaled back last year's Giving Day and encouraged support for students through the Emergency Financial Aid and Food Insecurity Funds," says **Lisa Frazell**, director of annual giving. "While restrictions are starting to lift, we are still living through a pandemic. We wanted to bring some 'normalcy' to our campus community."

To help educate the student body about the importance of giving, the Office of Advancement has hosted several events throughout the academic year, two of which focused on Giving Day. On Monday, April 5, students were invited to "ChocoTaco 'Bout Giving Day." This involved handing out the Klondike ice cream and ChocoTacos to students along with information on what Giving Day is, how to give, and why it's important.

New this year was the introduction of Husson's very own "Cash Cart." A philanthropy-based spoof of the Discovery Channel's "Cash Cab," students decorated Safety and Security's stretch golf cart to garner attention and encourage ridership. Students, faculty and staff were invited to make a $5-minimum donation to their area of choice to hitch a ride. Once on, riders were asked a series of questions by guest faculty and staff readers. Riders would win prizes or, depending on the difficulty level of the question, a $5 matching donation.

As a result, this year garnered an impressive 383 first-time donors, including 132 students and 122 employee donors. In addition, the alumni community stepped forward with 356 gifts. Sixty-one graduating classes were represented.



"We are incredibly grateful to those generous alumni donors who provided the challenge and matching gift funds for this year's Giving Day," said **Sarah Cary Robinson**, vice president for Advancement. "Donors loved the special challenges that were released throughout the day so much that, as the night progressed, we had other alumni step forward to provide additional matching gift opportunities."

Thank you to all who participated in this year's Giving Day. Your support has made student conferences, athletic trips, faculty development and program needs possible.

To see the complete results for this year's Giving Day, visit: **www.husson.edu/givingday**.

HUSSON UNIVERSITY

SUMMER 2021

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Husson supports equal opportunity in recruitment, admission, educational programs, and employment practices. The University complies with all major federal and state laws and executive orders requiring equal employment opportunity and/or affirmative action.

Dear Alumni and Friends,



Spring is always a time of renewal. As the trees begin to blossom after their long winter's nap, we bear witness to the return of life and growth in our natural surroundings.

Similarly, our campus is on the verge of renewal. As the number of vaccinated individuals increases, we all begin to envision a time when COVID-19 is behind us and life returns to a new "normal."

Husson is no different. We are looking forward to reinstating many of our pre-pandemic campus experiences. On May 8, we took a step toward normalcy with an outdoor commencement ceremony that adhered to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines.

When the fall semester begins in late August, provided the CDC indicates it's safe, the University will offer face-to-face classes. Athletics envisions a fall semester where student athletes get the opportunity to participate in a full season of competition. In addition, Student Life anticipates resuming a robust series of student activities and initiatives.

Late August will also be the time when we officially cut the ribbon for Harold Alfond Hall, the new home of Husson University's College of Business. We're looking forward to having many of you join us on campus for this exciting milestone on August 26, 2021.

Beyond renewal, spring and summer are the seasons here at Husson when we plan for growth. We will begin Phase One of a new science labs project that includes a new biology lab in Peabody Hall shortly. In addition, Phase Two will be a further upgrade of our other science labs. The trustees have approved this important project at a cost of $1.5 to $2.0 million. We are working to raise the funding for this major facilities upgrade.

Today's Husson is overcoming the challenges posed by the pandemic as we lay the foundation for future growth and success. Thank you for joining us in creating a bright future for our students.

Thankfully,



Robert A. Clark, PhD, CFA
President



On April 7, 2021, we reached out to the Husson community as part of our third annual Giving Day and asked them to support our students. The response was breathtaking. When the day was complete, 724 donors made 833 gifts supporting 72 different areas of campus for a total of $117,485.66!

What you don't see in those numbers is the breadth of support that touched virtually every aspect of Husson University. Some donors supported scholarships that are helping to make college more affordable. Others gave to specific programs in an effort to "pay it forward" to their current discipline and help others achieve professional success.

Students in crisis will benefit from the generosity of those who supported the Emergency Financial Aid Fund and Food Insecurity Fund. Specific sports teams received support from graduates who remembered the teamwork and camaraderie that shaped their experience at Husson. These are but a few examples.

Most impressive was seeing the Husson community come together for the day to help make our school stronger. In addition to the many alumni, parents and friends who chose to support their favorite area of campus; gifts were received from 132 students and 122 Husson employees.

Many students honored a faculty or staff member who made a difference during their time at Husson. Faculty and staff showed the respect and dedication they have for our students. It's clear that our University is more than just classes that lead to a professional career. Husson is a community.

The last year has been difficult for all of us individually, as an institution, as a community and as a country. On Giving Day, we showed the power of working together as a community to create a bright future for our students and to help them reach their full potential. It was magical. Thank you.

Best regards,



Sarah Cary Robinson
Vice President for Advancement

Around the Circle

Accomplishments, events and items of note happening at Husson

Campus

Husson Named Military Friendly School

Husson University was one of five Maine colleges and universities named as "Military Friendly Schools." More than 700 colleges and universities across the country received this recognition.

International Women's Day



Sarah Dyer, PhD(c), Husson University instructor and our new diversity, equity, and inclusion officer, was interviewed by Bangor's local ABC/FOX news station about the importance of International Women's Day. In the story Dyer said that the day is an opportunity to see where progress is still needed. "Where are the gaps? Where are women not being represented? Where are women not having equal protection under the law?" she asked.

Safe Driving Fair for Students



Tara Philbrick, a registered nurse in Husson University's Wellness Center helped coordinate a safe driving fair on campus. Students were able to get an inside look at how law enforcement officials conducted impaired driving evaluations during the event. Philbrick was interviewed by a reporter from local Bangor CBS affiliate, WABI-TV Channel 5.

College of Business

Media Coverage of New XR Degree Program



The *Bangor Daily News* ran an article about Husson University's new XR (extended reality) degree program. The article included a quote from **Brave Williams**, director of the iEX Center and associate professor. In the article he said, "There is strong evidence that industry, educational institutions, research organizations, and others will increasingly require the consultation of an extended reality professional," said Williams. "We believe our students will have many exciting career opportunities that integrate three-dimensional immersion and interaction into family and economic life. Our goal is to prepare professionals who will create seamless extended reality opportunities for everyone."

Information Diagnostics and Predicting Customer Purchases



Dr. Laura Gurney, an associate professor in the School of Technology and Innovation, coauthored an article for the Spring 2021 edition of the *Journal of Business, Economics and Technology (JBET)*. Dr. Indira Guzman and Dr. John "J.D." Eveland from Trident University were the other two academics who coauthored this examination of predictive modeling. The article, "Information Diagnosticity Influences on Online Consumer Purchase Intentions," examines how information diagnostics can be used to help accurately predict customer purchases and the different values and criteria consumers use when deciding on whether they should make a purchase.

Faculty Member's Study Analyzes Impact of Gaming



Christopher Bruce, an assistant professor in the School of Legal Studies has been contracted by the Massachusetts State Gaming Commission to conduct regular reviews of the impact of state casinos. The study, titled "Assessing the Influence of Gambling on Public Safety in Massachusetts Cities and Towns," looks at the MGM Springfield's first year and a half of operations.

Supreme Court Ruling Gets Attention from Husson Associate Professor



Spiro Doukas, an associate professor in the School of Hospitality, Sport and Tourism Management spoke to a reporter at Bangor's ABC/FOX news station about the Supreme Court's ruling on Alston v. NCAA. Doukas felt the decision could result in increased financial compensation for college athletes.

College of Health and Pharmacy

AAPS Journal Publishes Article Co-Authored by Dr. Zhang



Dr. Tao Zhang, an associate professor of pharmaceutical sciences, co-authored an article with Dr. Peng Zou, from the Food and Drug Administration, (FDA) called "Assessing Food Effects on Oral Drug Absorption Based on the Degree of Renal Excretion." It was published in *The AAPS (American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists) Journal.*

Husson's Chief Nurse Administrator Talks About Nursing Students Helping to Fight COVID-19



Dr. Valerie Sauda, chief nurse administrator, undergraduate director and assistant professor, was interviewed as part of a story about Husson students' experiences as frontline workers during the COVID-19 crisis. The story appeared on Bangor's local ABC/FOX news station.

College of Science and Humanities

Adjunct Faculty Member Authors Book on Trauma and Resilience

College of Science and Humanities Adjunct Professor **Keith Young** is the author of *Trauma and Resilience: Your Questions Answered*, a new book published by ABC-Clio/Greenwood. On the market since February 28, 2021, the book examines the experience of psychological trauma; how it can affect our minds, bodies and relationships; how recovery is achieved; and many of the most effective treatments that can help. "In writing this book, I wanted to assure survivors and their loved ones that recovery is possible and to back-up those claims up with comprehensive details and explanations about how it's done," said Young.

Dr. Kim McKeage and Colleagues Published in *Maine Policy Review*



Associate Professor **Kim K. McKeage**, Frank S. Wertheim, Sally Slovenski, and Sumaya El-Khalidi published "Food Insecurity in Maine Higher Education" in *Maine Policy Review*. The article analyzes data from the University of Maine Cooperative Extension and Maine Campus Compact to assess the extent and subsequent effects of food and housing insecurity within the college student population. A total of 26 higher education institutions throughout the state of Maine provided survey data. The researchers found significant food insecurity among respondents. The implications for higher education policy across Maine and practices at individual institutions were discussed.

Faculty Member is a Short Fiction Finalist for the Maine Literary Awards

"The Blessing Tobacco," a short story by **Morgan Talty**, an adjunct instructor of English, is a finalist for the Maine Literary Awards in Short Fiction.

Tips for Managing Your Kids' Screen Time



Dr. Rachelle Smith appeared in a news story on ABC news station WVII-TV Channel 7 in Bangor. In the story she provided some tips for managing kids' screen time. "Don't use screens as a reward and don't take them away as a punishment," advised Smith. "Have a set time you're allowed to do it, maybe something you work out together."

How to Stay Focused During the Pandemic



A two-part series in the *Bangor Daily News* featured quotes from **Dr. David Prescott**, associate professor and director of healthcare studies. In the series, he talked about the distractions affecting people who are working from home. Prescott recommended setting up a designated workspace in order to maintain focus.

Assistant Professor Explains Vaccines at the Maine Science Festival



In an effort to help the public better understand how vaccines work, **Dr. Elisabeth Marnik**, assistant professor, hosted a one-hour online presentation for the Maine Science Festival. The presentation, called "COVID Vaccines Explained" provided an overview of the new COVID-19 vaccines and explained their role in helping to end the current worldwide pandemic.

New England School of Communications

NESCom Completes Screen Adaptation of Stephen King Short Story



Instructor **Franklin Welch**'s capstone class "VF441 Video Workshop," created a video adaptation of a short story from noted Maine horror author Stephen King. The video is based on the short story, "That Feeling, You Can Only Say What It Is In French" from King's book *Everything's Eventual*. Welch shared the presentation with Stephen King prior to a recent screening. According to Welch, King wrote back after viewing the video and had very positive things to say about the short film.

Radio PSAs Benefit the BARN (Bangor Area Recovery Network)

Manager of Communications **Mark Nason**'s students in MC202 Advanced Radio Applications worked this semester to create a series of four radio public service announcements (PSAs) for the Bangor Area Recovery Network (BARN). Working with the client, the students handled every aspect of the production including creative concept development, scriptwriting, and production. Once completed, the PSAs aired on WHSN 89.3. Additional copies were provided to other Bangor area radio stations.

Bridges Produces and Directs Series about Racially Diverse Businesses in Maine



Video Instructor **Kris Bridges** produced and directed the documentary series "Elevating Voices." This series created by Greenlight Maine highlights racially diverse businesses across Maine. Participants receive a grant of $5,000 from Bangor Savings Bank, as well as visibility for their featured business. The six episode series aired on Maine Public Television, Thursdays at 8 p.m. after the "PBS Newshour," Fridays at 3 p.m. and Sundays at 5:30 p.m.

A Nod to Nursing

For nearly 40 years, the Husson University – Eastern Maine Medical Center Baccalaureate Nursing Program remains committed to its core values of care.

The first time **Russell Keene** graduated from college, he earned a diesel and heavy equipment technology degree. "I worked for about five years in the industry and got paid very well," says Keene.

But a motorcycle crash in 2015 changed everything. "I broke my neck and dislocated my kneecap," says Keene. He spent about six months in the hospital. After, Keene tried returning to his job, but the physical demands made it impossible for him to continue.

Keene remembered the care he received at the hospital, in particular from nurses. The former diesel truck mechanic decided to go back to school and attend Husson University's School of Nursing program. "They didn't just look at my GPA on paper, they saw who I was as a person," says Keene. "That played the biggest role in my choosing to come here."

Keene is hoping to work at the Togus VA Medical Center in Augusta after graduating in May. He calls his educational experience at Husson a roller-coaster ride of rewards. "We've laughed together, and cried together, but in the end it was all worth it."

Keene is among a group **Dr. Val Sauda** refers to as "nurses in the making." The chief nurse administrator and undergraduate director at Husson's School of Nursing says while many larger schools are exclusive to 4.0 GPAs, "we take those students that have potential and by the end of the program, we've created nurses."

This past fall, Husson's School of Nursing saw its biggest incoming class, with an even larger increase expected in September. "Because of our size, we have a lot of flexibility in morphing our programs to meet the demands of the nursing environment," she explains. The latest expansion occurs this fall when graduate students can choose from three nurse practitioner tracks – family health, psychiatric and mental health, and an inaugural acute care program.

Husson students work with lifelike programmable manikins in the University's Wellness Learning Center. These pre-programmed simulations help students hone their skills before they work with real patients in clinical rotations.





In 1981, Husson established a School of Nursing with Eastern Maine Medical Center (EMMC). It offered students the opportunity to earn a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN). The first class was enrolled in the fall of 1983.

Since 1982, Husson University has partnered with Northern Light Eastern Maine Medical Center in Bangor to provide both undergraduate and graduate nursing students with an experiential learning experience that includes access to three simulation labs, high fidelity manikins, standardized patients and a skills lab. "Technology is such an integral part of Husson's nursing program," says **Dr. Annette DeRoche**, director of Husson's graduate nursing program. "In particular, approaches-to-care have adjusted as we navigate through the pandemic, and telehealth has been pushed to the forefront."

Husson nursing students were on the frontlines of the coronavirus crisis. They, along with those studying in the School of Pharmacy program, administered vaccinations at clinics around the state. Many of the graduate students actually worked in COVID units while also taking classes online.

Husson also recognizes the evolving needs of its students. The online graduate nursing program is the fastest growing program at the university. In the past three years, student enrollment has grown from 30 to 83. "We have a 95% first-time

passage rate," says DeRoche, "well above the national board first-time pass rate average of 86.9%."

> "We have a 95% first-time passage rate... well above the national board first-time pass rate average of 86.9%."
> —Dr. Annette DeRoche

The American Association of Colleges of Nursing recently announced it is adopting a new curriculum framework for nursing schools. The competency-based educational model mirrors what Husson is already doing in its School of Nursing program. "Husson University's nursing program has always been responsive to workforce needs," says **Rhonda Waskiewicz**, dean of the College of Health and Pharmacy. "Husson's School of Nursing maintains strong networks across all Maine healthcare facilities and organizations."

The Eastern Maine Medical Center School of Nursing program, which joined with Husson in 1982, was founded back in 1892. At that time, the hospital was known as Bangor General. **Cora Paradis** graduated from the school in 1944. The now 98-year old lived in a dorm room on the hospital campus. There was a lab on location and an underground tunnel that connected the residence hall to the hospital.

Paradis believes partnerships between hospitals and schools are the most important element in a nursing education. "To have a place where you can really see the patients, work with them, talk to them, know exactly what they need, is essential," Paradis says. "You can make real connections."

Jim (James) A. Husson '75 remembers how the nursing program got started at Husson University. "I graduated from the three-year diploma program from Eastern Maine Medical Center in 1975. At that time, EMMC knew they had to move to a university setting because diploma programs were falling out of favor, said Jim. "I suggested to my uncle, **Paul Husson ['09H],** that the program move to Husson College. Paul worked together with **Irene Shannon**, the director at EMMC to take this idea to the College's administration. **President Del Merrill** supported the idea and it became a reality. After Paul recruited the first class and the program obtained accreditation, we were on our way."

In 1980, Husson College entered into an agreement with EMMC to create a baccalaureate nursing program. The first class began in the fall of 1983. Until then, Husson was known as a business school. This was the first step toward becoming a university that offered comprehensive education in the health sciences field that would later include occupational and physical therapy as well as pharmacy. Shortly after Husson College transitioned to Husson University in 2008, the School of Health merged with the School of Education to become the school's first college; the College of Health and Education. In 2011, Husson's Department of Nursing became the School of Nursing.

Monica Collins was among a core group of health care professionals that developed Husson's nursing curriculum. She was working in the EMMC diploma program at the time, but also maintained an office on the Husson campus. "I came because they were going to be hooked with EMMC," she says. "That was a model that I always wanted to work in. With this model, there would be more avenues for application of theory to practice."

The first graduating class of Husson nursing students was in 1986 and it totaled seven. "It was a sound, solid program with a 100% passage rate in the licensure exam," recalls Collins. "The National League of Nursing was our first accrediting agency."

Collins helped design a pin for graduates. Husson's School of Nursing pinning ceremony is an annual and beloved tradition that continues today. Collins was appointed to the Husson School of Nursing faculty in 1984 where she taught at all levels. In 1993, she was inducted into the Husson Alumni Hall of Fame.

Reilly Bolin '21 graduated this past May with a BSN and a BS in psychology from Husson. While completing classes in the spring, Bolin accepted a job as a pediatric nurse at Northern Light Acadia Hospital in Bangor. She plans on returning to Husson to become a nurse practitioner. "My education at Husson has been nothing short of exceptional and inspirational," says Bolin. "I felt supported by my professors and I can honestly say that I look up to each person who taught me."

"A school of nursing is an opportunity to be an innovative engine and creator," says Sauda. "I really believe that the future nurse and advanced practice nurse is going to make a huge difference in how healthcare delivery happens in our country. It's really an exciting time to teach."



ROBERT O'DONNELL TRIBUTE

Robert O'Donnell '72, '82G, '05H passed away on Friday, April 9, 2021. O'Donnell Commons, home of Husson's current nursing program and several other healthcare programs bears his name; honoring his long-term commitment to, and love for, Husson.

After graduating in 1972 with a Bachelor of Science in business administration, O'Donnell served as Husson's financial aid director. He earned a Master of Science in business from Husson in 1982.

O'Donnell went on to have an extensive and successful banking and finance career that spanned three decades. In 1997, the now New Jersey Community Bank opened and thrived under his leadership. He served the bank as President and CEO until his retirement.

From 1999 to 2011, O'Donnell served on Husson's Board of Trustees and was inducted into the Husson Alumni Hall of Fame in 1982. He received an honorary Doctorate in Business Administration from Husson in 2005.

Always a devoted family man, Bob leaves behind his wife, Donna; sons Brendan and Rogan; and five grandchildren.



The Art of Adapting

Husson's Opening Minds through Art program connects students and older adults even during the pandemic

Like so many college students, Husson University sophomore **Sean Rudd, II** found the stresses of the pandemic challenging. But each Monday, he was able to forget about everything for a while, and focus solely on his art partner, Barbara.

"Having a set time to give my complete attention to Barbara was a blessing," says Rudd, who is majoring in physical therapy. "She was able to improve my mental health by expanding my perspective on life."

Barbara is one of eight older adults paired with students for Husson's bridge course, "Co-creating Across Generations" based on the "Opening Minds through Art (OMA)" national program. The idea is to bring young and old together to create art and forge friendships in the process. The program had just launched last spring when the pandemic hit.

"We ended up going remote at the end of the course last spring," says **Kathi Smith**, associate professor of studio art in the College of Science and Humanities and co-creator of Husson's bridge course. "We then spent the entire fall recalibrating for remote learning."

"We weren't going to let this go, even with a pandemic going on," adds **Dr. Laurie Mouradian**, chair of Husson's School of Occupational Therapy and co-creator of the OMA-based course. "It's such an important program."

Finding students wasn't a problem, they were eager to sign up after the success of the class in 2019. Finding older adult participants to be art partners was a different story, though. Before COVID-19, the school was working with a local assisted living facility. Now, that wasn't an option. Smith and Mouradian reached out to various community-based agencies to try to find older Mainers they could connect with.

"In rural Maine, there are so many older adults that either don't have access to the internet, or don't have access to a computer," says Mouradian. "We knew this was a tall order."













Since seniors were considered to be at high-risk during the pandemic, students interacted with them on art projects using Zoom.

Working together with Jean Jacobs, the Human Services Director for the town of Dexter, Husson students were able to partner with area seniors to create a variety of art projects.

It turns out this was exactly what the town of Dexter was looking for. "We're always searching for activities that our older folks can do," says **Jean Jacobs**, human services director for the town and head of the Dexter Age-Friendly Community Committee. "Those that don't necessarily have the social contacts and the economic ability to go out and do things on their own really benefit."

The classes were conducted over Zoom, with breakout rooms for each older adult and the student they were working with. Smith and Mouradian were able to virtually pop in, when needed. Because many of the Dexter-based participants were not able to access Zoom, Jacobs arranged for socially distanced computers right at the Dexter Town Office.

"I had a few that were really good with the computers and a couple that had never touched one before," says Jacobs. "When all of them were in session at the same time, I would end up running up and down the stairs of the town office to try and troubleshoot their problems. It was a bit of a workout."

Students enrolled in the course first learned how to make the art project on their own. They then facilitated, as their art partner created those same pieces. **Kayla Brooks**, a second year School of Occupational Therapy student admits it was difficult at first, not being physically there with her partner. "My relationship with my partner started somewhat slow as she was a bit reserved at first," says Brooks. "However, over the course of the class, it was so incredible to watch her open up to me and feel comfortable being silly and just having a fun time making art. Seeing her happy made me happy."

Lauren Melanson was fortunate to have two art partners. "The ability to create beautiful pieces of art while also developing a better understanding of older adults and how they perform is crucial for younger generations," says the sophomore occupational therapy student. "Time always seems to fly by when we're in a session."

"I know the students and their partners would have liked to be with each other in person," says Smith, "but they still created these amazing bonds in spite of being virtual." She laughed and added, "Dr. Mouradian and I would sometimes feel like we were interrupting them when we would check in on their sessions."

"I've heard how much each of them love their Husson students," says Jacobs. "Part of our mission is bridging generations. They can't wait to meet the students in person."

The participants created five art projects during the spring semester. "One of the ladies named her artwork– 'First Try and Second Try,'" says Jacobs. "She laughed like crazy saying she doesn't think any of them are good but she had a blast trying."

"Her final piece was called 'Dot-to-Dot', because her name is Dot," chuckles Jacobs.

Mouradian and Smith are now considering other applications of the "Opening Minds through Art" program, now they know they can go virtual. "There are a whole host of other people we can reach in the visual arts, and other kinds of arts, because of this program."

Rudd calls the experiences with his OMA partner "the best thing that has happened to me this semester. We were both able to give happiness and light to each other at a time when we both needed it in our lives."



Holding Career Fairs During the Pandemic

For many Husson students, graduation represents the end of one chapter of their lives and the beginning of another. It's a time when students leave our campus and enter the workforce. An essential part of this process is the job interview. Interviewing well can lead to the job of one's dreams.

Job interviews can be stressful enough without the added challenges of trying to arrange face-to-face meetings with prospective employers in the midst of a pandemic. Fortunately, for Husson students, our Career Services department developed an innovative new method of connecting students with prospective employers.

During the past year, Career Services hosted two virtual career fairs. The first virtual career fair took place in November 2020 and featured job opportunities in business, healthcare and other industries. The second virtual career fair took place in March 2021 and included employers looking for students with an interest in hospitality, tourism and sports management careers.

"We used Airmeet to make this happen," said **James Westhoff**, director of Career Services. "It was remarkable how similar it was to an in-person career fair. A series of employer 'tables' appear on screen. After clicking on a table, students can then participate in a live conversation with a prospective employer in a manner similar to what takes place during a Zoom meeting. Students also had the option to send employers their resume. Simultaneously, employers could provide students with copies of their organization's literature."

Sam Kunz, assistant director of Career Services sees more virtual career fairs in Husson's future. "Our plan is to use this technology and offer face-to-face career fairs in the fall. Embracing a hybrid career fair approach will allow Husson University to expand the geographic footprint of our employer outreach. The more companies we can bring to our career fairs, the more opportunities there will be for our students to land great jobs and internships."

> "The virtual job fair was a new experience for me and it was surprisingly easy to use,"
> —Alexis Hennigan

Alexis "Lexi" Hennigan was a student who helped plan this year's virtual career fair for students majoring in hospitality, sport and tourism management. "The virtual job fair was a new experience for me and it was surprisingly easy to use," said Hennigan. "It took maybe five minutes to register and the platform was really user-friendly. I think virtual job fairs will make it easier for students taking online courses from remote rural locations to participate."

Other Husson University students will benefit as well. First-year, sophomore, junior and senior students can use this online platform to obtain internships.

"Students and employers have both enthusiastically embraced virtual career fairs at Husson," said **Dr. Lee Speronis**, an associate professor at Husson University's School of Hospitality, Sport and Tourism Management. "It's a great way for students to get a feel for the organization they could work for. Organizations get a sense of what the potential employee has to offer. Everyone benefits. What could be better?"

PARTICIPATING COMPANIES

AAA Northern New England
Air National Guard
Alpha One Disability+ Aging Solutions
Asticou Inn
athenahealth, Inc.
Bangor Area Staffing Solutions (BASS)
Bangor Savings Bank
Bay View Collection
Bar Harbor Savings and Loan
Black Bear Inn and Conference Center/ University Inn
Camden National Bank
Camp Beech Cliff
Cianbro
Cross Insurance
David's Restaurants
Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS)
Dennis Paper & Food Service
Eastern Maine Development Corporation
Enterprise Holdings, Inc.
Enterprise Rent A Car
Holiday Inn By the Bay
Hollywood Casino
Lafayette Hotels
Last Drop Production
Machias Savings Bank
Maine Course Hospitality Group
Maine Department of Health and Human Services
Maine Savings Federal Credit Union
Maine Veterans' Homes – Bangor
MaineGeneral Health
MaineHealth
MEMIC
Migis Hotel Group
MMG Insurance
Northern Light Health
Ocean Properties
OP-Careers
Penobscot Community Health Care
Performance Foodservice – Northcenter
R.M. Flagg Foodservice Equipment
Sebasco Harbor Resort
Spurwink Services
St. Joseph Healthcare
State of Maine
Sunday River
Sweetser
The Bluenose Inn
The Jackson Laboratory
The Sherwin-Williams Company
UCP of Maine
Walmart
Westin Portland Harborview Hotel
Whitehall
Witham Family Hotels
Woodfords Family Services

Making Progress Toward Normal





While Fondly Remembering Homecoming 2019

When the pandemic came to America, life was disrupted. Husson University was no different. Yet despite the challenges posed by COVID-19, the University has survived and thrived.

When cases increased in March of 2020, Husson University took swift and decisive action. With only two days left to spring break, Husson extended their break by one week and successfully transitioned 768 classroom-based courses into online and teleconference-based distance education. This allowed students to complete their Spring 2020 semester classes.

Over the course of the summer of 2020, the University addressed different issues associated with the pandemic and crafted solutions. The University wanted to make sure students had the opportunity to engage in face-to-face, classroom-based education when they returned in the fall. Simultaneously, Husson developed online options for students to continue their education if that was their preference.

The university successfully addressed these priorities. In 2019, approximately 71% of Husson's classes were taught face-to-face, with 18% taught online and 5% taught in a hybrid format (a combination of face-to-face and online learning). By the fall of 2020, Husson successfully rebalanced their mix of course delivery options. While face-to-face classroom instruction was still dominant, it was reduced from 71% to 47%. Meanwhile, online learning increased to 29% while classes taught in a hybrid format increased to 21%.

Our emphasis on face-to-face and hybrid learning aligned with student preferences. According to two recently released studies from the EDUCAUSE Center for Analysis and Research, 70 percent of students preferred learning environments that were mostly or completely face-to-face.[1]

Husson University also adapted to the pandemic in other ways. When athletic conferences cancelled fall competition, Husson practices continued so that players could continue to develop their skills. And when limited conference play resumed in the winter of 2021, followed by a full conference schedule in the spring, the University encouraged full participation, provided conditions were safe.

Despite the need for physical distancing, campus life continued. With a little creativity, Student Life organized trivia contests on Zoom, craft projects under outdoor tents and movie nights at the Bangor Drive-In.

As we enter the second summer of the pandemic, many are wondering what the University will be like this fall. The University is hopeful that it can make progress toward a campus experience that's similar to what existed before COVID-19 and offer a higher percentage of face-to-face classes, provided the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) indicates that it's safe.

In addition to classes, Husson University wants to give students and alumni the opportunity to once again enjoy the camaraderie and fellowship that comes from hanging out with friends, and enjoying fun activities at the Gracie Theatre, the Furman Student Center and campus events, like Homecoming.

Students, faculty and staff are required to get vaccinated unless they have been granted a medical or religious exemption. Campus visitors will need to sign a self-assessment form and wear a mask if they haven't received a COVID-19 inoculation.

Our goal is to bring Husson University closer to what existed before the pandemic, while still protecting the health and safety of our campus community. We continue to be confident in the strength and fortitude of our Husson family, regardless of what the future brings.

1. EdSurge, "Most Students and Faculty Prefer Face-To-Face Instruction, EDUCAUSE Surveys Find", https://www.edsurge.com/news/2019-12-11-most-students-and-faculty-prefer-face-to-face-instruction-educause-surveys-find#:~:text=Among%20student%20respondents%2C%2070%20percent,with%2073%20percent%20preferring%20them Accessed: May 6, 2021.

Milo Entrepreneurs Make their Neighbors their Priority

Amanda Larson Butterfield '97 and **David Butterfield '96** feel a deep connection to the town of Milo, Maine. With a population of just over 2,300 people, Milo is the kind of place where people have a strong attachment to their community.

"I think that being involved and giving back to your community helps to build trust with your customers and neighbors."

—David Butterfield

"Everybody knows everybody in Milo," said Amanda. "I grew up in this area. My parents and grandparents are from the area. I know most of the people who come to our businesses on a first name basis."

Small town life, however, hasn't prevented David and Amanda from becoming successful entrepreneurs. They own a Tradewinds grocery store with Dunkin' Donuts as a tenant, a laundromat, a car wash, and sell gasoline in Milo. They also own a Tim Horton's in Clinton.

"The only thing that I haven't yet been able to add to our services here is a pharmacy," said David. "But my daughter goes to Husson and is in the pharmacy program. I've already told her that after she graduates, we've got some space for her to renovate for a drug store," chuckled David.

Having such a deep connection to the community, has motivated Amanda and David to help support their neighbors and friends. "They're supporting us, and we're supporting them, said Amanda.



This community spirit became evident during the pandemic. "We were fortunate in many ways in that we were able to stay in business," said Amanda. "Even though it was pretty scary, our grocery store was an essential business and we had to be here. David and I were here every day, with our employees, supporting them, working right alongside them, trying to get stuff on the shelves and doing the best we could to get our neighbors the things they needed. Thankfully, our employees stuck with us and came to work every day, even though some were scared. They just did a great job working with us to get through it all."

David and Amanda help show their appreciation to the community through the Tradewinds "Penny a Gallon" program at the gas pump. In the past, the couple helped support Northern Light Cancer Care in Brewer, Maine. "At that point my Dad had just passed away from cancer and the facility was in the midst of a capital campaign, said David. "But after the capital campaign concluded, we started thinking, 'Well, what else can we do?' So we opened up the program. We still donate a penny a gallon for every gallon of gas sold but now we also support local charities right here in our community. We want to give back to the people that support us."

"I think that being involved and giving back to your community helps to build trust with your customers and neighbors, said David. Amanda agreed and added, "It says that we're here with you. We're your people."



Self-Described "County Girl" Leads Katahdin Trust's Marketing Efforts

> "I always say, 'I love what I do and I do what I love.'… It makes getting up and going to work every day enjoyable and fun."
>
> —Krista Doody Putnam

As the executive vice president and chief marking officer at Katahdin Trust Company, **Krista Doody Putnam '03** spends most of her days focusing on high-level strategic initiatives for one of Northern Maine's leading financial institutions. Her journey to the heights of professional success took years of hard work.

"I grew up and graduated from high school in Aroostook County. When it came time for college, I chose Husson University in Bangor. But after spending two years on campus, I became homesick. I'm a 'county girl' at heart," said Putnam.

"Despite that, finishing college was my number one goal. When I learned I could finish my Bachelor of Science in business administration with a concentration in marketing up in Caribou, because Husson had an extension up there at the time, I went for it. It was the ideal solution for me. I was able to live in the county and finish my degree."

As senior year approached, Putnam's thoughts turned toward getting a job. "I remember seeing an ad in the newspaper for a marketing assistant at Katahdin Trust Company. I was so excited. I was thinking, 'Oh my gosh! There's a job in marketing up here. This is just perfect,'" she said. "But being young and naïve I was also thinking, 'Why does a bank need to market? You just go to the bank to get money,'" she said with a laugh.

Three months before graduating from Husson in May of 2003, Putnam accepted a job at Katahdin Trust and quickly learned why marketing is essential to a bank's success. She began as a marketing assistant.

In 2008, the bank promoted her to marketing officer. Over the next 10 years, Putnam continued to advance through the company's ranks. She was named assistant vice president of marketing and later vice president. When her boss and mentor retired in 2016, she was selected to replace her. Putnam has led the marketing department ever since and in 2018; she was named senior vice president of marketing and joined the senior management team. She continues to grow professionally. In 2021, Putnam was named executive vice president and the bank's chief marketing officer.

Putnam feels that starting at the bottom and working her way up made her a better leader. "Since I've been in my team members' shoes, I know what they need to achieve the bank's goals. It's not just, 'Here's a task, go do it.' It's 'Here's why this needs to be done and why it needs to be executed correctly.'"

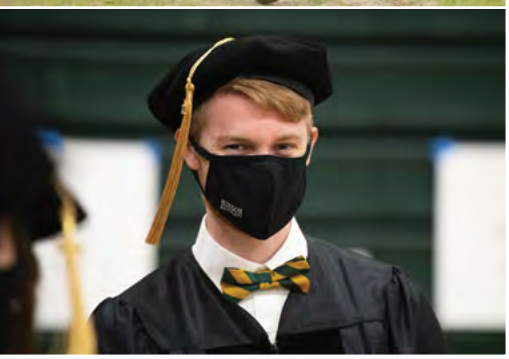
"I always say that, 'I love what I do and I do what I love.' People do a better job when they're doing something that they love. They put in more effort. Also, it makes getting up and going to work every day more enjoyable," said Putnam.

For Putnam, it's also important to work for an organization that has a strong connection to Aroostook County. "Living and raising a family here is important to me," she said. "I'm a county girl and this is the place I call home."

Commencement 2021









Husson University wanted to provide our graduates with the recognition they deserved for their academic achievements, while still protecting everyone's health during the pandemic.

To make that happen, the University held two traditional outdoor commencement exercises for undergraduate and graduate students on Saturday, May 8, 2021 at the Dr. John W. Winkin Sports Complex on their Bangor Campus.

Commencement consisted of two ceremonies. At 10 a.m., there was a Commencement ceremony for students who completed master's degrees, doctoral degrees and/or graduate certificates. Later that day, at 2 p.m., there was a Commencement ceremony for all undergraduate students.

Each graduate was given the opportunity to invite two guests. All guests were required to sit in assigned seats by section in order to ensure appropriate physical distancing and facilitate contact tracing, if needed. Every student had the opportunity to cross the stage in full regalia. In addition, in accordance with CDC guidelines, all guests and graduating students wore masks. Special masks with the Husson University logo were provided to all graduates.

Our graduation ceremonies recognized individuals who completed their degrees from Husson University's College of Business, College of Health and Pharmacy, College of Science and Humanities and the New England School of Communications (NESCom). This year, Husson University awarded more than 942 degrees to 764 graduates.

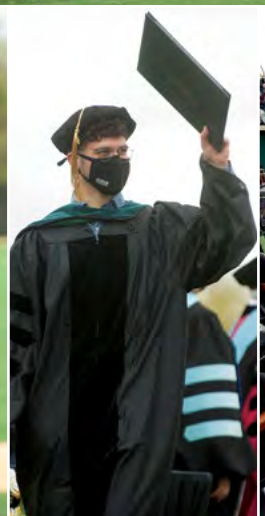










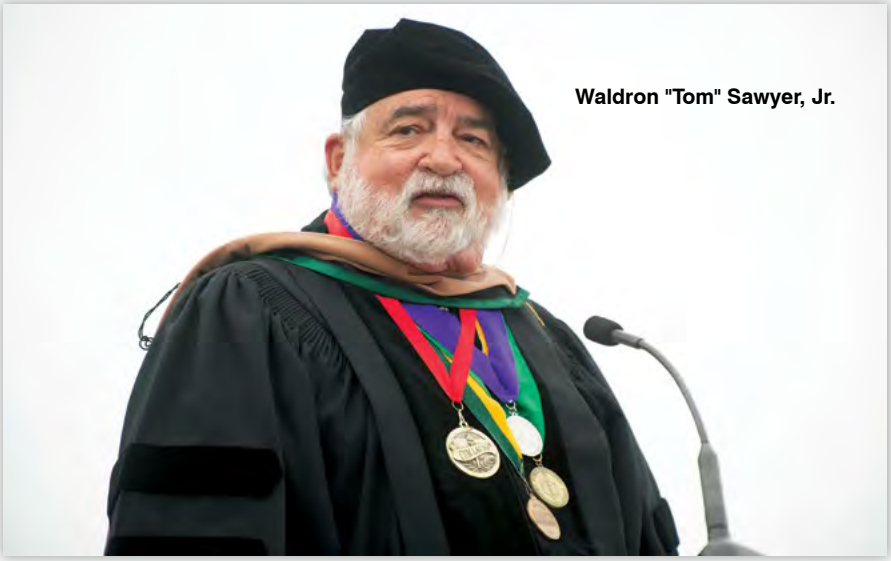





YOU CAN CHANGE THE WORLD GIRL
FNP '21
YOU ROCK
PEACE OUT

W. Tom Sawyer, Jr. and the Husson Student Academic Leaders

While the name "Tom Sawyer" may conjure up images of paddlewheel riverboats and a friend named Huckleberry Finn, there is another person of the same name who has made important contributions to the success of Husson University for more than three decades.



Waldron "Tom" Sawyer, Jr.

On the morning of Saturday, May 8, 2021, **Waldron "Tom" Sawyer, Jr., '21H** received an honorary doctorate of business administration from Husson in recognition of his dedication to entrepreneurship, philanthropy and his 34 years of service to the University.

"The W. Tom and Bonnie Sawyer Library here on our Bangor campus would not have been possible without Tom's generosity of spirit and his dedication to serving the greater Bangor community," said **Robert A. Clark**, PhD, CFA, president of Husson University. "His business prowess, commitment to social responsibility and our state make him more than deserving of this high honor."

Dan Hutchins '83, vice chair of the Husson University Board of Trustees, assisted with hooding Sawyer during the Commencement Ceremony and had this to say of him. "Tom has tirelessly supported numerous causes and organizations in our area. Both respected and liked, he is one of those people who helps make the world a better place."

Born and raised in Bangor, Maine, Waldron "Tom" Sawyer, Jr., graduated from Bangor High School and earned his bachelor's degree in education from the University of Denver in 1972. He's recognized as a leading entrepreneur and philanthropist throughout the Greater Bangor area and nationwide.

Sawyer has owned several businesses over the course of his career. They include the Sawyer Environmental Recovery Facility, the Breakwater 1904 Inn (1991–1998), the Pine Tree Landfill (1974–1996), and the Southwest Harbor Boat Marina (1993–1998). As a successful business owner, he's also helped develop the potential of others by successfully investing in projects and businesses including the Bangor Historic Raceway and the Turtle Head Marina.

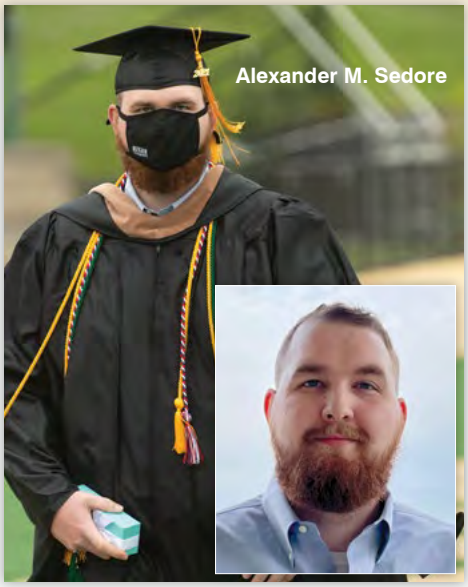
When he is not running business enterprises, Sawyer contributes his time and energy to a variety of boards and organizations. These include the Maine Businesses for Social Responsibility, the Anah Highlanders (Drum Major), and the Maine Community Foundation board of directors. Sawyer has also served as an honorary trustee of the Jackson Laboratory, and an officer in the Penobscot Bay Sail and Power Squadron. Other area organizations he has supported include the United Way of Eastern Maine, the Greater Bangor Chamber of Commerce, Maine Blue Cross & Blue Shield and Maine Robotics.

His contributions to the community include serving as a member of the Bangor City Council from 1986-1993 and the Bangor Education Foundation from 1987-1994. He also served as the mayor of Bangor in 1989 and was a Maine state senator from 2000-2004.

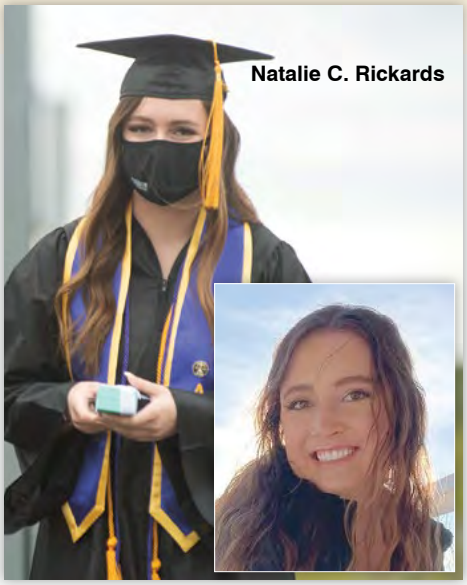
Sawyer was named the vice chair of the Husson University Board of Trustees in 1987 and awarded an honorary bachelor's degree that same year. He was elected chair of the board of trustees in 2004, and served in that capacity for two years. Sawyer previously received the Husson Chief Award in 2001 and the Chesley H. Husson, Sr. Award from Husson College in 2005, in recognition of his service to our University.

He is proud to serve his country and continues to be an active member of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary. Sawyer holds the rank of Flotilla Commander. In addition, Sawyer is recognized as a Master U.S. Merchant Marine Officer and holds a 100-ton Master's License.

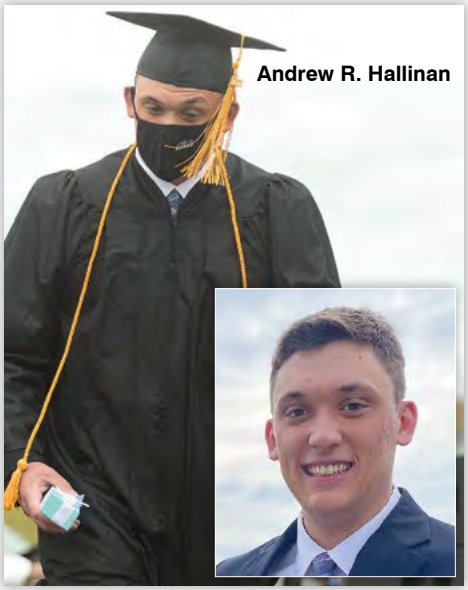
Sawyer wasn't the only individual singled out for recognition at













this year's Commencement. Husson University also recognized three valedictorians with perfect 4.0 grade point averages (GPAs) and four salutatorians with 3.992 GPAs.

The three valedictorians were **Christine E. Bratcher**, **Natalie C. Rickards** and **Ariana K. Wortman**. Bratcher graduated with a Bachelor of Science in business administration. Rickards graduated with one degree and three certificates. During her time at Husson, she completed a Bachelor of Science in legal studies with a pre-law concentration, a paralegal studies certificate, an advanced civil practice paralegal certificate and an advanced criminal practice paralegal certificate. Wortman completed a Bachelor of Science in elementary education degree.

In addition to the three valedictorians, Husson University recognized four salutatorians this year. Salutatorian **Andrew R. Hallinan** graduated with a Bachelor of Science in business administration.



Adam Joseph LaFleur was another salutatorian. He graduated with a Bachelor of Science in mass communications with a concentration in sports journalism.

Salutatorian **Alexander M. Sedore** graduated with two degrees and four certificates. During his time at Husson University, he completed both a Bachelor of Science in hospitality and tourism management and a Master of Business Administration (MBA) with a concentration in hospitality and tourism management. In addition, Sedore completed undergraduate certificates in accounting and sales as well as graduate certificates in data analytics and healthcare management.

With two degrees and two certificates, **Emma Claire Wallace** rounded off this year's class of salutatorians. Wallace completed a Bachelor of Science in criminal justice as well as a Master of Science in criminal justice administration. Adding to her academic achievements, Wallace completed a paralegal certificate and an advanced criminal practice paralegal certificate.

All of the individuals who received special recognition at our 122nd Annual Commencement Ceremonies embody the spirit of Husson University. Through dedication and hard work, they have all achieved personal and academic success. Their character and humility have made them Husson University degree recipients we can all be proud of.

New Associate Provost of Online and Distance Education, Dean of Science and Humanities, and VP of Enrollment Management to Focus on New Technologies, Growth and Academic Excellence



"I've always been a passionate advocate for traditional and nontraditional learners in search of a better life."
— Dr. Amy Arnett

The more **Dr. Amy Arnett** learned about Husson University, the more convinced she was that she was the right person to become the University's new associate provost of online and distance education. "I've always been a passionate advocate for traditional and nontraditional learners in search of a better life," said Arnett. "That same passion is shared by everyone I've met at Husson. I looked forward to joining this team and developing curriculum and processes specifically for online students. These efforts will make Husson University's superb career-focused online programs even better."

With a doctorate of biology from the University of Vermont and a bachelor's degree in biology from the University of Michigan, Arnett brings a wealth of experience in online and distance education to Husson. Prior to joining Husson, she was the vice president of distance education at Unity College in Unity, Maine. She took on that role after serving as Unity's chief distance education officer and distance education dean of curriculum.



Providing innovative, results-oriented leadership is important to **Dr. Phillip Taylor**, Husson University's new College of Science and Humanities dean. "Husson's ability to deliver cost-effective education in a student-centered environment made this an attractive opportunity for me."

Taylor's academic journey began at East Stroudsburg University where he earned a Bachelor of Arts in chemistry and a Bachelor of Arts in biochemistry in 1988. Three years later, he completed a Master of Science in biology from this same educational institution. In 1997, Taylor earned his doctorate in molecular and cellular biology from Ohio University. A year later, he completed a Master of Business Administration (MBA) from the same institution.

In additional to his academic qualifications, Taylor has six years of professional experience as the chief operating officer at Ohio University's College of Business. Prior to that, he spent 11 years at Paul Smith's College as their dean of science, liberal arts, and business; dean of CALA (Commercial, Applied and Liberal Arts); and a full professor. Taylor also worked at Glenville State College from 1999 to July 2004 as the chair of the division of Arts and Sciences and the founding director of the college's Presidential Scholars program.



Michael Fox, Husson University's new vice president of enrollment management, is committed to growth. Prior to joining Husson, Fox was the dean of enrollment and marketing at Northern Vermont University (NVU). "I'm looking to increase enrollments. At NVU, I helped grow applications and acceptances by 30% while increasing the diversity of the incoming class. My goal is to find students who will be a good fit for the Husson educational experience," said Fox.

In addition to his leadership responsibilities at NVU, Fox has 15 years of progressive experience in higher education enrollment, financial aid and retention. From 2015 – 2018, Fox served as the director of admissions at Buena Vista University in Storm Lake, Iowa. Prior to this position, Fox worked for seven years at Wilkes University in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. During his tenure at Wilkes, he served in a variety of capacities including director of enrollment projects, chair of the University Staff Advisory Committee, associate director and assistant director of admissions.

Fox has a Bachelor of Arts and a Master of Education from Wilkes University.



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WITH MANY HAPPY RETURNS

When you know the secret of throwing a boomerang, it always returns to you.

In the same way, Husson has a "secret" way you can make a gift and get a return.

With a Charitable Gift Annuity you make a gift to Husson, but receive an income from that gift. At your passing, the remaining funds go to Husson to create your legacy here.

HUSSON'S CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY GIVES YOU INCOME PAYMENTS EVERY YEAR FOR AS LONG AS YOU LIVE. When you fund a charitable gift annuity, we agree to send you a check each year for as long as you live, based on your funding amount and your age at the time of funding. The payment amount never changes. In addition:

- You may receive an income tax deduction this year for part of the funding amount.
- If you fund it by transferring stock, some of your capital gains are eliminated, some spread over a number of years.
- After a lifetime of payments to you, any remaining funds automatically support Husson's mission in your name.

Call or email Sarah Cary Robinson, Vice President for Advancement at 207-941-7617 or robinsons@husson.edu to learn what your payment rate and tax benefits will be. When you do, ask about deferred charitable gift annuities and other options that may give you greater payments and tax benefits.

THE GRACIE IS BACK!

"Rejuvenated and Inspired!"

TICKET*INFO*: gracietheatre.com / 207.941.7888

Those are the words of **Jeri Misler**, managing director of the Gracie Theatre, when she thinks about a live, fall season. "With plans for a diverse, entertaining season in the works, the goal is to welcome patrons back to the theatre by offering safe, live performances," said Misler.

The Gracie season is slated to begin September 25 with a live concert featuring the unique sound of soul and R & B with the five-time Grammy nominated band AMBROSIA. Other shows include an evening of stand-up comedy, a classical concert duet of violin and guitar performed by Chee-Yun Kim and Mak Grgic, and Sister will be back in Late Nite Catechism with "The Holy Ghost and Other Terrifying Tales."

With great enthusiasm, Misler is also looking ahead to Spring 2022. "We have a full spring season planned with acts including 'Queen Flash, a tribute to Queen', 'Le Vent du Nord' an Acadian Folk Group, and 'Love Letters', a special Valentine's show starring two actors from the series 'L.A. Law'."

While the curtains have been closed on live performances because of the pandemic, the "show" went on. Misler made sure patrons were not starved for quality entertainment, "We offered a free online concert each month to our email patrons. I scoured the internet looking for either 'real-time' concerts that were being offered for free with an optional donation, or I found previously recorded concerts of groups who I thought would appeal to the Gracie patrons. I shared them in an email each month and received favorable responses."

Among the positive respondents was **Paula Ballesteros, RN '94, '05G**, who said, "Jeri sent links to some performances I could watch online." Yet this patron is looking forward to attending the performances at the Gracie in person, "I've missed them this past year. The shows were always affordable and top notch."

Patron and chief human resources officer at Husson University, **Janet Kelle, '05, '18G** is very excited for the new season. "I can't wait for the Gracie to return to live performances! I love attending shows there; the theatre doesn't have a bad seat in the house!"

NESCom students are also looking forward to the Gracie hosting live performances. Live sound and entertainment production majors have the opportunity each season to work alongside national and international touring artists.

Misler added, "The entire season promises to be diverse, exciting, entertaining and at times, thought provoking. We strive to provide something for everyone, with the hope of drawing diverse crowds back to the Gracie and look forward to having new and returning patrons walk through our doors again this fall."





Season Sponsor
Bangor Savings Bank
You matter more.

GRACIE 21-22 SEASON

Sat., **Sept. 25** – 7:30 pm
AMBROSIA

Sun., **Oct. 17** – 2:00 pm
CHEE-YUN AND MAK GRGIC

Fri., **Oct. 29** – 7:30 pm
LATE NITE CATECHISM, "THE HOLY GHOST AND OTHER TERRIFYING TALES"

Thur., **Nov. 11** – 7:00 pm
BOOGIE MOTHERLAND, AN EVENING OF COMEDY WITH KAREN MORGAN

Fri., **Jan. 28** – 7:00 pm
CROSS THAT RIVER

Sat., **Feb. 12** – 5:00 pm
LOVE LETTERS

Sat., **Feb. 26** – 7:30 pm
LE VENT DU NORD

Sat., **March 26** – 7:30 pm
QUEEN FLASH

Thur., **April 28** – 7:00 pm
TAKE 3





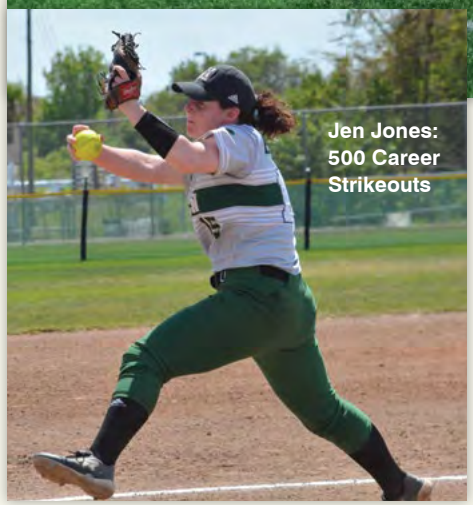
Gracie Theatre "You Pick 4" tickets go on sale August 9. Tickets for single events go on sale August 23. Tickets are available at www.gracietheatre.com or by calling the theatre box office at 941-7888.

— Provided certain COVID restrictions are lifted as expected —

From Diapers... To Two-Time NAC Champions



Born in Sanford, Maine, Morgan Coleman has a near-perfect fielding percentage of .983.



Jen Jones: 500 Career Strikeouts

Current Husson University graduate students, **Jen Jones** and **Morgan Coleman**, have a unique bond as teammates. These two Eagles have been playing together since their tee-ball days, growing up in Acton, Maine. Barely out of diapers, these two were playmates at age three and have been inseparable ever since. Even their moms are best friends.

Throughout the years, Jones and Coleman have played on at least six different teams together, leading up to their Husson debut in March 2017 and wrapping up their softball careers together in 2021 as fifth-year graduate students. This dynamic duo will be leaving behind quite the legacy and rather large shoes to fill as the Husson first baseman and starting pitcher.

At first base, Coleman has nearly perfected the "split and reach" to secure 447 putouts throughout her career, along with eight assists and 21 double plays for a near-perfect fielding percentage of .983 (fourth best in HU program history). Despite COVID-19 cutting the 2020 season short, Coleman accumulated 106 hits, 85 RBI, and scored 45 runs in 123 games. A power-hitter, Coleman is often spotted as the cleanup in the batting order after racking up 24 doubles, one triple, and nine home runs, including a clutch grand slam in the 2019 North Atlantic Conference (NAC) Softball Championship to help put the game out of reach as the Eagles won 8-0 in five innings.

Coleman wasn't the only player to put on an extraordinary performance in the field during the 2019 NAC Championship. Jones was untouchable in the circle, throwing a perfect game, and the second no-hitter of her career. Fast forward two years; on March 25, 2021, Jen Jones became the first player in HU softball program history to surpass 500 career strikeouts. When asked if she knew that such a big life-changing moment could possibly happen that day, Jones answered "I knew I was close to breaking the record, but I was really trying hard not to look at the stats because I didn't want to choke. Leave it to my dad to ruin that. He let me know how close I was right before the game. So yes, I did know that I was really close, but I was trying hard not to think about it. I had been told before that the record was untouchable so I am really proud that I was able to surpass it."

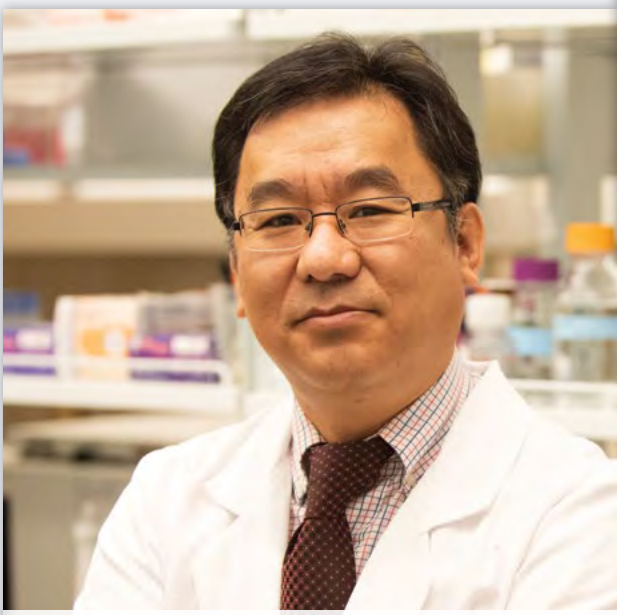
Funny enough, both Jones and Coleman had originally wanted to be catchers in the beginning of their careers. Coleman explains, "I started catching in middle school because most of the other girls were afraid to catch for Jen, but I stopped catching in high school and that's when I really started playing first base." For Jones, "I always wanted to be a catcher, but growing up in a small town we never had a pitcher. It was just kind of a role that I fell into. Now, I am very happy I fell into that role. My sister, who is four years older, fell into the same pitching role. Even though she was so much older, I always wanted to be as good as her. Every time she would practice, I would practice. I think that's where I fell in love with pitching. I get bored very easily, but with pitching there is always something more you can work towards. Whether it be adding spin to a pitch or working out how you will get in the batter's head."

As the two Eagles look towards the future, Jones dreams of becoming a traveling physical therapist and eventually settling down and adding the title "coach" to her resume. Coleman plans on finding a job working with kids as an occupational therapist. The two comrades with be sorely missed by the Husson softball program, as Head Coach **Diann Ramsey** adds, "It has been such a pleasure coaching Jen Jones and Morgan Coleman. They bring a special presence to the program both on and off of the field with their leadership and contagious personalities. Not only are they competitive and talented softball players, they are wonderful people who will leave a long-lasting impression on their teammates, coaches and the program."

The Husson softball team not only made it to the NCAA championship tournament this year, but also hosted their first-ever NCAA DIII Softball Regional Round. The Eagles made it to the top-sixteen teams in the nation with a 2-2 record in the 2021 NCAA regional round of the championship and closed out an outstanding season with a 29-3 overall record. Leading her team from the circle and at the plate, Jones was named the 2021 Bangor, Maine Regional Most Outstanding Player. She leaves Husson with the most career appearances in the circle (101), innings pitched (536.0), strikeouts (603), wins (54), saves (4), and strikeouts/7 innings. (7.88).

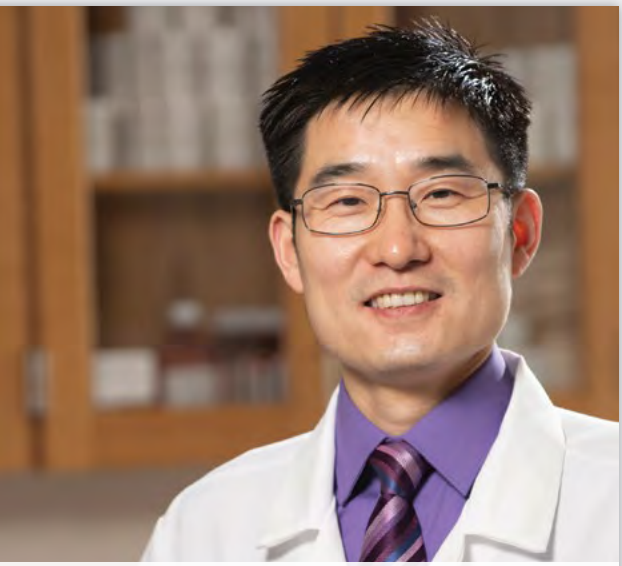
Shortly after the regional tournament concluded, Husson softball's **Kenzie Dore** was named the 2021 Schutt Sports/ National Fastpitch Coaches Association (NFCA) Division III National Freshman of the Year – the first ever student-athlete at Husson to receive this honor.

Better Healthcare Starts with Research



Healthcare research is important to all of us. It leads to new treatments and enhances lives. At Husson University, groundbreaking research is currently underway that could impact the health of children, as well as the treatment of cancer and neurodegenerative disorders.

Dr. Tao Zhang, an associate professor of pharmaceutical sciences at Husson University's School of Pharmacy, is currently in the later stages of a two-year, $264,000 research study and the first year of a related $584,000 study. Both studies are funded by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and focus on medication use during lactation.



"Our ultimate goal is to provide evidence to determine if it's safe for babies to consume a mother's milk after she's taken medication..."
—Dr. Tao Zhang

"When a lactating woman takes medication and the drug is present in her milk, her infant could be exposed to the risks associated with the medication," said Zhang. "Determining the amount of a drug transferred into breast milk is critical to assessing the risks and benefits of medication use for breastfeeding mothers."

"Our ultimate goal is to give mothers the information they need to determine if it's safe for their babies to consume their breastmilk after taking a specific medication," concluded Zhang.

Dr. Shuhua Bai, professor of pharmaceutics in Husson University's School of Pharmacy, is also conducting healthcare-related research. With a two-year grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) for $127,000, Bai is researching the use of nanoparticles as carriers to deliver medication to targeted cells in the body. Undetectable to the human eye, nanoparticles may only be a few hundred atoms wide. This is the University's first NIH grant.

"When patients take medication, they are given a compound to address a particular health issue," said Bai. "We need to get these compounds to specific cells as part of disease treatments. By getting medication to where it's needed, we can increase the efficacy of treatments and minimize side effects."

"For example, chemotherapy delivers a needed drug throughout the human body to kill cancer. Unfortunately, as chemotherapy treats the disease, it also creates severe toxicity in healthy tissue. Our new nanoparticles can target tumor cells while ignoring healthy tissue and organs. In addition to cancer, nanoparticles could be used to bring drugs to the brain and help successfully treat neurodegenerative diseases, like Alzheimer's or Parkinson's disease."

"...nanoparticles could be used to bring drugs to the brain and help successfully treat neurodegenerative diseases, like Alzheimer's or Parkinson's disease."
—Dr. Shuhua Bai

Both Zhang and Bai agree that Husson University's support has been critical to their success. "Husson provides researchers with time, scheduling and equipment flexibility. I think we have a relationship that works well for everyone involved," said Zhang.

Bai added that Husson University's School of Pharmacy is dedicated to including students in their research lab work. "Lab experience provides students with hands-on, experiential learning that demonstrates how research can improve healthcare," he said. "After working in the lab with faculty researchers, some students get a research poster or manuscript published. This helps when they apply to medical school or graduate school."

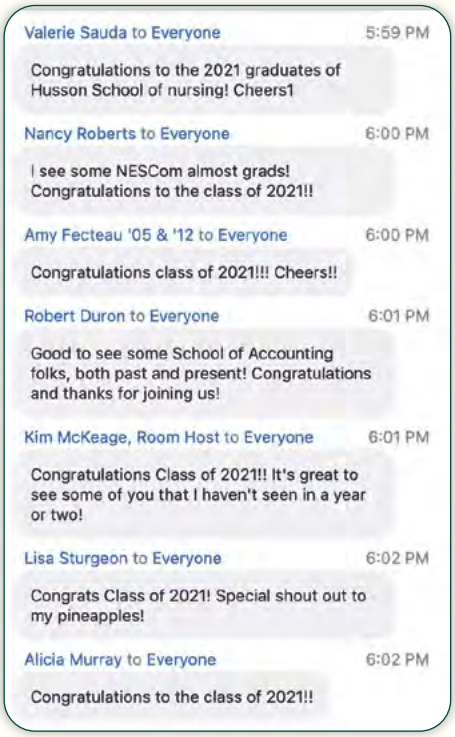


CHAMPAGNE TOAST

When the traditional Champagne Toast was cancelled due to the pandemic last year, plans were set into motion [at that time] for this year's event. It proved to be more than successful considering it was the first ever, online event of its kind. "We had 90 individuals in attendance which is fantastic, considering how busy people are this time of year," said **Keith Piehler**, director of alumni relations.

In years past, the event would draw some 150 students, alumni, faculty and staff. The evening included networking, socializing, hors d'oeuvres, a champagne toast, music and dancing. This year the event took place virtually via Zoom. Piehler said, "When I emailed the Class of 2021 to announce the event, I had 35 register in the first five minutes! Students look forward to the opportunity to share an evening with classmates and the chance to network and meet alumni. The event provides students with a smooth transition into the Alumni Association and gives them a chance connect with folks who could become familiar faces."

What this year's online event offered, however, was more far-reaching. Piehler explained, "This year, with it being online, there was an opportunity for alumni from around the country and the world to join in. Alumni had the chance to learn more about the graduates and share professional tips and stories."



A video message for the graduating seniors from **Amy Fecteau '05, '12G** and **Ryan Bartlett '15** offered support and congratulations on what has been an unprecedented final year. Bartlett said, "It's an opportunity to recognize the class's accomplishments, provide a proper celebration after years of hard work, and bring the class together for a fun-filled evening before they all venture off into their own separate and individual adventures post-graduation."



Fecteau added, "These events also allow camaraderie and interaction between all of our student populations, including on campus and online, which fosters a sense of inclusiveness. Our attendance at the Champagne Toast affirms the importance and the joy of staying connected to alumni and to Husson University."

One member of the class of '21, **Victoria Green**, had this event on her radar since her freshman year. "Getting to have a Champagne Toast as a member of the Class of 2021 was one of the moments that helped me end my time as a Husson student and enter into my new role as a member of the Alumni Association."

"While we hope to be able to return to an in-person Champagne Toast celebration in the Campus Center next year, I can see us using online events as a way to engage with alumni from all over the world in the future," said Piehler. "The possibilities are endless."



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

1970s



Representative **Joseph F. Underwood '71** has been elected to the 130th legislature as a representative from District 147 – Presque Isle.

Cindy (McLennan) Motta '76 recently retired from NHTrust as vice president trust officer after almost 13 years with the company, a subsidiary of New Hampshire Mutual Bancorp. She worked for many years as a banking and trust operations professional before joining NHTrust as the vice president of customer relationships, operations, and administration.

Natalie (Scavo) Massita '77 is an animal rescuer and animal welfare advocate in Utica, New York. She also is a professor at the Utica School of Commerce.

1980s



Dawn (Grant) Stubbs '80 recently retired after serving 40 years as the administrative secretary at Narraguagus Jr./Sr. High School. She also served 30 years as the adult education secretary and seven years as the adult education director for MSAD #37. She has two children and eight grandchildren. One of her children, **Justina Stubbs**, graduated from Husson in 2010. Dawn plans to spend time with her family and travel.

Randy Harris '85 has achieved the prestigious milestone of coaching his 400th win in February 2021 and joins only 28 other Maine basketball coaches who have done the same. Harris has been the boy's basketball coach for Lee Academy since 1984 and has since coached over 720 games. He credits the quality of his relationships with his players to his work at the school as a teacher, coach, and athletic administrator for the high school.

1990s

Larry Shaw '92, '19H received an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters degree from the University of Maine Presque Isle during their virtual commencement ceremony this spring. He delivered the University's commencement address in 2020.

Misty Coolidge '95, '98 was named Mrs. Maine USA 2021 in January and will represent the state in the national Mrs. USA Pageant in Omaha, Nebraska in July. Coolidge is a successful businesswoman, operating two highly sought after wedding businesses and venues, Coolidge Family Farm and Coolidge Chapel, as well as a mobile bar company, Maine Mixologists. Equal to her business tenacity is her dedication to the community. She and her family believe in giving back to their community through a variety of activities, including serving as a member of the local school board, the GNG Development Corp. board, and starting a local Empowering Women's group. She also volunteers for the Good Shepherd Food Bank.



Renee Ouellette '96 has been appointed to the Finance Authority of Maine's board of directors by Governor Janet T. Mills. She will fill the board's designated CPA position for a four-year term. Ouellette currently serves as the president and CEO of University Credit Union (UCU) and has over 25 years of experience in the finance industry.

Aimee (Pereira) Morrell '96 was promoted to director of human resources at Cranmore Mountain Resort in New Hampshire. Morrell has been with the resort since 2004, starting out in guest services and moving into the human resources field shortly thereafter.

Amanda (Pomerleau) Waters '97 was hired as the athletic director for St. Andrew's School in Savannah, GA. She was most recently Mater Dei High School in California's athletic director.

Kris Doody '97G, CEO of Cary Medical Center and Pines Health Services, delivered the commencement address at the University of Presque Isle's virtual commencement ceremony. She also received an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters degree from the institution.

2000s

Changsu Kristopher Lee '00G is opening Bangor's first Korean restaurant, Korean Dad, with his daughter, Alexa. The restaurant will be a casual, homespun place where Lee will serve well-known Korean dishes like bulgogi, bibimbap, japchae, and his homemade kimchi. In addition to cooking, Lee teaches mathematics and business at Eastern Maine Community College.

Amy Berry '05G was sworn in on April 14 as the interim police chief for the South Portland Police Department. She has been with the department since 1977 and has served as the deputy chief since 2001.

Matt Mulligan, who attended Husson from 2003 to 2005, will be inducted into the Maine Sports Hall of Fame in September 2021. After transferring to the University of Maine, Mulligan went on to play in the NFL for eight seasons. He made the playoffs with the Jets, Patriots, and Lions.

Jason Mazur '06 has been named executive director of the Gloversville

Housing Authority (GHA) in New York. He brings business management experience to his new position after previously serving as warehouse supervisor for Dollar General in Amsterdam, NY.



Gregory Page '07 has joined Acadia Federal Credit Union as a branch manager for the Ashland location. He has over 25 years of experience in software development and will oversee all branch operations in his new role.

Nina Hummel '08 first joined the Knox County Sheriff's Office (KCSO) in Knoxville, Tenn. in 2010 as a patrol officer. After almost seven years, she moved to corrections and in February 2020 joined the KCSO's Family Crimes Unit. Here, she became one of the 10 detectives in the unit and has since been named Detective of the Month twice.

Kimberly Smith '08G taught a grant-writing workshop via Zoom in April that was hosted by the Central Aroostook Chamber of Commerce and the Presque Isle Historical Society. She is the secretary and treasurer of the Presque Isle Historical Society and has been involved with writing grants for over 20 years as the executive director of four non-profits. She is currently the resource development officer for the City of Presque Isle.

Katrina (Virgie) DiBiase '09 was ranked as the top female loan officer in Maine for 2020 by The Warren Group, a premier real estate data collection agency. She is a senior loan officer with Northstar Mortgage Group.

2010s

Joshua Gallagher '10 has joined the Somerset County Sheriff's Office as a deputy and has been assigned to the Madison division.

Josh LaPierre '10, '10G, '14G was promoted to principal at Baker Newman Noyes. Based at the Portland headquarters, LaPierre provides tax advisory, consulting, planning and compliance services for businesses with both domestic and international operations.

Jennifer (Granata) Schmitz, FNP-C '11G has been named chief nursing officer for Southern Maine Health Center (SMHC). She first joined MaineHealth/SMHC in 2002 as an emergency department nurse and rose to become the senior director for hospital-based services in 2019.

Deb (Moore) Sabatino '12 has been promoted to vice president, human resources at The MEMIC Group. She has over 25 years of human resources experience and began her career at MEMIC in 2008 as a human resources specialist. Sabatino has earned the designations of Senior Professional in Human Resources (SPHR), Society for Human Resource Management-Senior Certified Professional (SHRM-SCP), and Workers' Compensation Professional (WCP).

First Lt. Ellen Morrison '14 accepted the command of the 251st Engineer Company of the Maine National Guard in a ceremony on April 30, becoming the first female officer to command Maine's combat engineer unit. She has served as the unit executive officer since October 2019 and previously served as a platoon leader and executive officer with Augusta's 152nd Support Maintenance Company.

Laura Brown '15, '15G has been named the director of operations for the Poland Spring Preservation Society. As a Poland native, Brown has extensive knowledge of the town and has worked at the Poland Spring Resort for over 15 years in multiple capacities. She also served on the Poland Spring Preservation Society's board of directors for six years.



Dustin Dubay '15 has launched a podcast, Finance Fundamentals, on Spotify. Using his experience as a senior consultant for North Highland in North Carolina and his passion for investments, Dubay discusses personal finances and the road to financial freedom in an easy and understandable way.

Bret Martin '16, '20G has joined Blue Willow Counseling as a mental health clinician.

Jennifer Snow '16, '16G has joined the staff at Black Bear Inn and Conference Center, owned by fellow alumnus **Tracey (Davis) Whitten '92**, as their new director of sales and events.

Joey Cannan '18G was named executive vice president of Acadia Federal Credit Union in April. He has 25 years of experience in the banking and mortgage industry, most recently as the senior vice president and director of operations at Bangor Savings Bank.

Sarah Wilson '18, '19G has joined Greater Boston Home Health Care Services, Inc. as an occupational therapist.

Mikala Holt, JD '19 has joined the law offices of Boothby, Silver, & Ricker, LLC as an associate attorney after passing the Maine Bar Exam in February.

Bethany Kraske '19, '20G has joined the Hermon therapy team of Gallant Therapy Services as an occupational therapist.

Courtney O'Donnell '19G has been chosen as the City of Bangor's next assistant city manager. She previously worked for the city as the administrative assistant to the Bangor city manager, **Cathy Conlow**, from 2015 to 2017. For the last few years, she has served as the town manager for Stockton Springs and Casco.

2020s

Sadie Royer, MBA '20, '20G joined Scott's Recreation in the spring of 2020 in the accounting department and has been promoted to director of human resources for all Scott's locations, as well as Maine Equipment Rentals, Houlton Powersports, and Priority Auto Sales.

Amber Schreier '20 has joined Hannaford Supermarkets as the assistant manager of customer service.

Husson is proud to be Maine's #1 MBA choice!

husson.edu/mba

IN MEMORIAM

1940s: Velma "Pug" (WEART) Clinton ’43 | Elsie (PRAY) Catell ’45 | Freda (MCPHEE) Grant ’47 | Arlene (BUCK) Frechette ’49 **1950s:** Virginia "Ginny" (GOULETTE) Veazie ’50 | Glenice Una (ESPLING) Kelley ’54 EMGH | Priscilla (WOODWARD) Dugan ’56 | Robert F. VIOLA, Sr. ’57 | Janet (LOMBARD) Curtis ’58 EMGH | John E. VANIER ’58 | Paul Raymond BAILLARGEON ’59 **1960s:** Joan M. (CUNNINGHAM) Gordon ’62 EMGH | Ruel William DUTTON ’62 | Daniel Jerome LECLAIR ’62 | Paul DOLSON ’63 | Roger Allen CARROLL ’64 | Louis J. BONOMO, Jr. ’67 | Alvin (Al) Leroy GASS ’68 | John B. WILARY, Jr. ’69 **1970s:** Douglas J. PIERCE ’70 | James C. "Jim" SOUTER ’71 | Robert O'Donnell ’72, ’82G, ’05 | Shirley (CLARK) Fowles ’75 | Linda Lou (GILES) Clark ’77 **1980s:** Terrance J. PERRY ’87 | Robert Dwight KING ’89, ’09G **1990s:** Magdalene “Maggie” C. BAILOR ’91 | Scott Harlan Whitehouse LIBBY ’92 | Dwayne Leon KNOWLTON ’94 | Jerold BURDIN ’98 **ATTENDED:** Clarence L. RODICK Jr. 1953-1954 | William Joseph (Bill) VACHON 1957-1958 | Judith P. (GAMMON) Baird 1964 | Wilfred R. “Bill” GUINARD 1965 | George C. HASAY 1971 | Ann L. BISHOP 1980-1983 | Jonathan DEVEAU Sr. 1996-1997 | Judith (ANDERSON) Pullen | LeForest Earl DODGE, Jr. | Horace “Hoddy” E. D. EDWARDS | Suzanne (MCKENZIE) Jacobs | Pamela (STROUT) Davis **HONORARY:** Sidney UNOBSKEY ’09H



Springtime comes to the Husson University campus

HOMECOMING 2021

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

- *Alumni Hall of Fame Ceremony Honoring:*
  - Alumnus – Tim Cabral ’90
  - Alumnus – Allen L'Italien ’88
  - Young Alumna – Kasey Mehuren-Kimmel ’09
  - Honorary Alumni – Tom and Mary Martz
  - Presidential Outstanding Service Award – Dan Hutchins ’83

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

- *President’s Breakfast* – for first-year students and their families
- *Tailgating*
- *Athletic Games* – Football, Men’s and Women’s Soccer, Field Hockey
- *Alumni Reception after the football game*
- *“Ambrosia” concert* – Gracie Theatre

Save the date for September 24 & 25 and look for more information coming to your mailbox or on husson.edu/homecoming.









ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Lisa Sturgeon '11, '15G
Bangor Alumni Board

Scott Stacey '83 (left)
Southern Maine Alumni Board

Paul Husson (right)
Husson Fellow



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



LISA: During college I interned at Bangor International Airport (BGR) in the Marketing department where I developed a love and passion for marketing and tourism. After graduating with my undergraduate degree, I was hired full-time and had the opportunity to travel the country promoting travel to Maine and the Greater Bangor Region. In 2014, I became the communication and resource manager for Bangor's iconic Geaghan's Pub and helped to develop and grow the Geaghan Brothers Brewing Company brand. After graduating from Husson for the second time, I started teaching part-time in Husson's College of Business as well. I transitioned to focus more on marketing by taking a position at Sutherland Weston Marketing Communications, where I focused on marketing strategies for both for-profit and not-for-profit businesses with varying budgets and goals. During COVID-19, time permitted me to focus on my dream and reason for attending Husson in the first place – becoming a wedding planner. Today, I am the owner of Getting Married in Maine, where I help couples both from here and away celebrate their love in the beautiful Pine Tree State. I also serve as grant manager for The Maine Highlands, part of the Maine Office of Tourism's regional marketing efforts. My passion for promoting the region has come full circle.



SCOTT: Following graduation, I worked in our small family business for a couple of years. This included hotels, promoting concerts and producing a television show. I then entered the insurance industry where I still work today. The first half of my insurance career was in the property and casualty claims field. I had a great run as an adjuster and claim manager for Commercial Union Insurance Company and was fortunate to learn and work with a couple of world class mentors. A promotion took me from Bangor to Portland where, for the last 19 years, I've worked as an insurance broker. I joined the Norton Insurance Agency in 2002 and became a partner in 2007. In 2016, we merged our company with HUB International, the fifth largest insurance broker in the world. I like telling people I spent the first half of my career managing the end of the insurance process, making sure claims were settled timely and accurately. Now I'm at the beginning, building commercial insurance programs.

2. How did Husson prepare you for your career?



LISA: My time at Husson prepared me for my career path by learning the importance of continuous learning, saying yes to new challenges, and understanding that the network of Eagles is vast!



SCOTT: The relationships and experiences I forged with fraternity brothers, fraternity sisters, fellow students, professors and administration, along with growing up in our family's business, formed the foundation of my career. I've learned life's peaks and valleys are handled best when you have a solid foundation.

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



LISA: My internship at BGR allowed me to make many connections within the community and further afield that have helped me personally and professionally to this day!



SCOTT: Bob Goodwin, professor, advisor to Kappa Delta Phi Fraternity, mentor and friend provided life lessons inside and outside the classroom. Also, Dewey Martin, – he was a world class professor! I still have flashbacks to the 3:00 am alarm clock going off to study for my managerial accounting exams. I worked harder in his classes than any other.

4. How are you staying connected to Husson?



LISA: I enjoy staying connected to Husson by continuing to teach the next generation of hospitality and business leaders, serving on the Husson Alumni Board, and paying it back by offering internship opportunities with my company Getting Married in Maine.



SCOTT: I'm still very close with a number of fraternity brothers and friends from my Husson days. I also serve on the Southern Maine Alumni Board where I have met new alumni and learned more about the Husson University of today and tomorrow.

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



LISA: I enjoy time unplugging with my husband, son, and collection of fur babies, traveling throughout Maine, exploring new places, and reading a good book or two by the water.



SCOTT: I like to watch my children compete as student athletes; I don't miss any games. In the "off season" you can find me on a boat somewhere...

HUSSON UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF ADVANCEMENT

Want to find out what we're up to in 2021?

Follow us on **Facebook** and **Instagram** at @HussonAlumni or visit us at **husson.edu/alumni/events**

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Save the Date!

THURSDAY | AUGUST 26, 2021
1:00 PM

Ribbon-cutting and Celebration

Harold Alfond Hall

Home of the College of Business



Register at **husson.edu/campaign**