Dear Colleagues and Friends,

Over the years, the energy of our students and faculty, the dedicated work of our faculty and staff, and the governance oversight of our board of trustees has produced inspiring accomplishments for Carlow University. This fall, we saw a new era with the completion of our University Commons, a tangible result of this synergy.

The University Commons provides a beautiful, spacious environment for students to learn, discover, communicate with each other and faculty and staff, and relax. Already, the Commons is the center of student life and learning on our campus, forging a renewed sense of community. As Carlow’s first LEED-certified eligible structure, the Commons helps us reach outward to care for the planet we all share.

Thanks to our passionate faculty experts, Carlow students are not only challenged to excel as leaders who can effectively compete in today’s global economy, but they are guided to become ethical leaders who care for others and the world around them. To that end, we have added exciting, relevant new majors: criminal justice with a concentration in corrections, political science with a concentration in computer investigation and security issues, respiratory care, and high performance learning in education.

We are also actively developing partnerships with other institutions of higher learning—most recently the Community College of Allegheny County, the University of Pittsburgh, and the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center—to expand educational offerings and to help students better develop skill sets that address the current and future workforce needs of our region. Additional new alliances with the Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh and the City of Pittsburgh make education more accessible to families across the area.

This fall, we unveiled our new undergraduate general education curriculum, the Carlow Compass, thanks to the year-long efforts of a committee of faculty, administrators, staff, and students. Rooted in the liberal arts and the Catholic Intellectual Tradition, the Compass emphasizes career-readiness and ethical leadership, helping students find themselves so they can find their right paths into the world.

Two recent Carlow MBA graduates are blazing a path that leads right into the heart of Pittsburgh and meets the needs of those less fortunate. Their new venture, Farm Truck Foods—the product of a Carlow strategic planning course—brings fresh, organic nourishment to residents of “food deserts” across the city.

As always, none of these accomplishments would be possible without the continued support of our alumni, donors, and the entire Carlow University community. Thank you for providing the commitment and support that makes what we are accomplishing a reality. In this issue of Carlow University Magazine, I am honored to share our stories, evidence of our continued dedication to preparing career-ready, ethical leaders committed to a just and merciful world.

Sincerely,

Suzanne K. Mellon, PhD
President
To the Editor:

I found your article on “Montgomery at 50” in the Summer 2015 issue very interesting. Particularly since I married the student pictured on page 29, left of Kinnell. Her name was Merrily Konopka and we were married in 1968. I think the student to her left is Barbara Getsy Palso who was the maid of honor at our wedding. Merrily passed away in 2003 of pancreatic cancer. She only mentioned Montgomery a couple of times in 35 years of marriage, but I want to thank you for making it possible for her two daughters and two granddaughters to see what their mother and grandmother stood for.

Regards,
Tom Medd

We want to hear from you!

The editors welcome your letters of 300 words or fewer for inclusion in forthcoming issues of Carlow University Magazine. All letters to the editor may be used for publication unless the author explicitly states otherwise. Letters may be edited for style, length, clarity, grammar, and relevance to Carlow University happenings.

Please address submissions to:

Carlow University Magazine
3333 Fifth Avenue
Antonian Hall, 6th Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Letters may also be submitted online by emailing magazine@carlow.edu.
Hilltop Happenings

2015 SPRING COMMENCEMENT

Carlow University's 2015 Spring Commencement took place on Saturday, May 9, 2015, at Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall and Museum in Oakland. The graduating class consisted of 317 students, of which 207 received bachelor's degrees, 94 received master's degrees, and 16 were awarded their doctorates.

Graduation Caps

Beyond the standard one-size-fits-all black cap and gown, Carlow students bring their own style to their commencement ceremonies. From rhinestone-studded floral bling to an homage to Disney or Dr. Seuss, our graduates let their personalities shine. Whether they chose to decorate their caps or not, Carlow University congratulates the spring class of 2015.
If you live in the Pittsburgh area, chances are you have heard of the city’s new Healthy Ride bike-sharing program. But did you know that there is a rental kiosk just a few blocks from campus, on the corner of Forbes Avenue and Coltart Avenue near the Arby’s?

By registering at a kiosk, using the mobile app, or calling the customer service number, you can ride for as low as two dollars for 30 minutes. Those with a membership can get unlimited rides for a monthly fee. Check out HealthyRidePGH.com for more details.

Convocation
Bagpiper George Balderose led the procession from the Campus Green to the St. Agnes Center of Carlow University for the Academic Convocation, the event that officially kicks off the new academic year.
Zipping Around Town

In January of this year, Carlow began a partnership with Zipcar to offer another option for getting around town. University students, faculty, and staff get a huge membership discount of $15 per year (the normal membership fee is $70 per year).

You can reserve the campus Zipcar, as well as any other Zipcar, for an hourly rate (starting as low as $7 per hour) or a daily rate (starting at $68 per day). Reserving the Zipcar is easy: sign up at Zipcar.com.

Move-in Day

Aside from getting the acceptance letter, Move-in Day may be the most anticipated event of every first-year resident student’s life.

Mercy Service Day

On Friday, September 25, more than 300 Carlow students, faculty, and staff traded laptops and books for paintbrushes and rakes—volunteering at 16 nonprofit organizations throughout the city.
Night of the Celtic is a moving ceremony that involves new students, alumni, faculty, and parents. In many ways, it is a passing of the lamp of knowledge from former generations of Carlow students to the most recent. This year’s ceremony took place on Sunday, August 30, on the Campus Green.
VALERIE BACHARACH MET “A WHOLE COMMUNITY OF AMAZING WOMEN” IN CARLOW’S MADWOMEN IN THE ATTIC POETRY WRITING WORKSHOP.

—In the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, she details leading a poetry workshop for women recovering from addiction through POWER (Pennsylvania Organization for Women in Early Recovery).

“I CAN COMBINE MY THERAPY SKILLS WITH ART SKILLS TO HELP THE CHILDREN. I LOVE IT.”

—Brant Meehan, 2007 BSW graduate, in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, about his work leading an animal therapy class for children who have cancer or who have loved ones experiencing cancer.

“SHE CANNOT HEAR, BUT SHE THRIVED AT CARLOW UNIVERSITY.”

—Pittsburgh Post-Gazette headline about Danah Richter, whose first language is American Sign Language, upon her graduation from Carlow with a BA in social work.

“A LOT OF MY MEMORIES COME OUT THROUGH ART.”

—Marsha Lee Moore, a Carlow master’s in professional counseling student, in the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review, about the Women in Art Show and her company, Marsha’s Peace Art.

“It’s a common misconception that human trafficking doesn’t occur in the United States, in Pennsylvania or Pittsburgh.”

—Mary Burke, PhD, professor and director of Carlow’s doctoral program in counseling psychology, in an interview with WPXI-TV.

“RIGHT OFF THE BAT, WE’RE HELPING THE LOW-INCOME AREAS IN PITTSBURGH AND THE FOOD DESERTS.”

—Michelle Lagree-Pendel, 2014 Carlow MBA graduate and co-founder, Farm Truck Foods, in the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review.
Autumnal glory frames Carlow's tranquil Campus Green.
Farm fresh

Carlow MBA grads bring local foods to the communities that need them most

WOODEN CRATES BRIM WITH FRESH PRODUCE AND FRUIT. Burnished deep-purple plums share table space with fragrant local peaches, fresh apples, and ripe melons. Tiny, gem-like ruby and amber-colored grape tomatoes sit beside stacks of sweet corn. Jalapeños cozy up to huge white onions and striped delicata squash. Another table displays bags of lentils, rice, and spice blends, along with local, small-batch-roasted coffee. A huge chalkboard on the brightly painted truck behind the farm stand lists the goodies inside the truck’s solar-powered coolers—local grass-fed beef, antibiotic-free dairy, and fresh, handmade pasta, to name just a few options.

Beyond the shade of the white canopies, a fetching summer view of downtown Pittsburgh’s Golden Triangle beckons just across the street. A steady stream of customers comes through: A new Pitt student and her parents. A jogger who says she keeps forgetting to bring her money. A young couple in their Sunday best who come for peaches after the 11:30 a.m. mass (at Saint Mary of the Mount directly beside this Mt. Washington lot). A biker whose husband is a gardening aficionado. A young man who is head over heels for the homemade wheat bread. A middle-aged woman who talks shop with the farm truck operators about her cucumber and tomato crop woes. A suburban mom who snaps up a stunning, vibrant purple cauliflower and white green beans just for the fun of it.
Many customers are greeted enthusiastically with: “You’re back!” or “Good to see you again!”

This is Farm Truck Foods—the brainchild of Carlow MBA grads Michelle Lagree-Pendel ’15 and Meredith Neel-Jurinko ’14. Operational since early July, Farm Truck Foods takes the farm to the city, with a particular emphasis on neighborhoods and communities without a grocery or farmer's market within walking distance.

“The city of Pittsburgh is filled with food deserts where local residents lack access to fresh, affordable, healthy food,” says Lagree-Pendel.

Neel-Jurinko cites Pittsburgh food advocacy group Just Harvest’s statistic that 47 percent of Allegheny County residents have low access to nutrient-dense foods. “If Pittsburgh is going to continue to evolve, grow, and innovate, all residents need to have this access.”

Working with a variety of local and regional farms and producers, the duo—along with business partner Landon DePaulo, a 2014 graduate of Chatham University’s Masters of Food Studies program—brings its mobile market to those who need it most.

Farm Truck Foods currently services eight locations, seven days a week—all within the city limits or nearby, including low-income neighborhoods and two senior centers. Each location was carefully chosen to meet an existing need. Farm Truck Foods even delayed their launch date to allow SNAP/EBT cards (the 21st-century version of food stamps) as a form of payment.

“Farm Truck Foods is meeting a critical need in our community,” says Tina Walker, president of the Millvale Borough Development Corporation.

Walker explains that Millvale is considered a food desert—the nearest grocery is a mile and a half away and not accessible without a car. “It’s vital for a neighborhood to have the availability of fresh, locally produced foods within walking distance.”

Walker helped Farm Truck Foods launch its Millvale location and hopes to continue its partnership with the corporation’s latest project—Bennett Station Town Square, an 1880s building in the center of Millvale that Walker’s group is renovating to transform into a “fresh food hub” for local residents.
Another Farm Truck Foods community partner is Siena Kane, Allentown business district manager for the Hilltop Alliance: “Nine out of 11 Hilltop neighborhoods are considered food deserts, including Allentown.” Kane explains that community corner stores offer processed foods and a few staples, but Farm Truck Foods will bring Hilltop residents those staples (from local producers), as well as fresh meat, dairy, and produce year-round.

Fertile Soil for Innovation

Neel-Jurinko and Lagree-Pendel not only work at Farm Truck Foods, but also hold full-time “day” jobs for healthcare insurer Cigna. Lagree-Pendel is a registered dietician and health educator while Neel-Jurinko works as a quality coordinator, analyzing data to help improve care. The two didn’t even know each other when they began their Carlow MBAs, and a farm truck start-up was nothing either of them ever imagined.

Both women chose Carlow’s MBA program for its flexibility and evening online coursework (so one can continue working full-time). They had each signed up for Peggy McGarry’s Strategic Planning class in Fall 2012 when McGarry gave her students the option to use the Passion + Profit Slam (P+PS) new-business-idea competition, open to all graduate students in the region, as their semester-long project.

P+PS—an initiative of Idea Foundry, a Pittsburgh-based economic development non-profit—asked its competitors to investigate barriers to growth in their local food economies and create market-based solutions. Once Lagree-Pendel and Neel-Jurinko found out they worked for the same company (convenient for meeting to work on the project), they teamed up for the competition.

“We wanted to focus on food scarcity,” recalls Neel-Jurinko. “I remember thinking, ‘hey, what if you put local produce on a truck and drove it around to areas that don’t have access?’”

It turns out another P+PS entrant had the same idea. A farm foods truck made perfect sense to Landon DePaulo, a food studies master’s candidate at Chatham. DePaulo had already worked for two years as an assistant project coordinator on the Veggie Mobile, a mobile market that travels to inner-city neighborhoods throughout the Albany, NY, area, where DePaulo grew up.

DePaulo joined forces with Neel-Jurinko and Lagree-Pendel when P+PS suggested they combine their separate but similar business ideas. The resulting enterprise—Farm Truck Foods—won the competition, earning $2,500 and $1,000 cash awards. Farm Truck Foods then applied and entered into InterSector, which is a 12-week business accelerator program sponsored by Idea Foundry.
“When they went in for their mentoring, they were farther down the line than a typical idea might be,” says Carlow business professor McGarry.

She helped the students hone their idea by facilitating a virtual strategy lab, resulting in a tangible strategic action plan. McGarry also tasked them with creating a value proposition; much of the original wording created as the Carlow class assignment is still part of Farm Truck Foods’s mission and vision today.

“They learned a ‘Good New Idea’ has to be unique and compelling, solve a real problem, have a high value to the customer, and be profitable,” McGarry says.

Lagree-Pendel knew they’d hit the mark with a compelling, high-value idea when she was speaking at a local senior community about Farm Truck Foods. One resident was so overcome with gratitude, she began to cry. “She had multiple mobility issues and wasn’t able to get to the grocery,” says Lagree-Pendel. “She was literally eating out of a vending machine.”

What Do I Do With This?

On a brilliant, hot Tuesday in late July, Lagree-Pendel and a diabetic intern from Penn State University pack up the truck and head to a city neighborhood perched high above downtown Pittsburgh. They’re teaching a class at the Allentown Learning and Engagement Center called “What Do I Do With This?”

Today, they’ve brought huge bunches of dark-green, wrinkly, vitamin-packed kale. They’ll be teaching a group of approximately 25 kids how to make pasta with sautéed garlic, parmesan, and kale.

“It’s a great new way to use kale in a dish that gives it a burst of flavor and a softer texture for the kids,” says Lagree-Pendel.

The verdict? Overwhelmingly positive.

Efforts like these are a vital component of Farm Truck Foods’s mission. They want to show customers that eating fresh can be both easy and affordable.

“It’s a misconception that this population doesn’t care about fresh produce,” says Lagree-Pendel. “It’s often more of an issue of not knowing how to prepare the foods. That’s where we come in.”

(L-R): Landon DePaulo, Michelle Lagree-Pendel, Jenny Dang, and Meredith Neel-Jurinko.
Edible Earth Organic Farm in Tionesta, Pa., is one of Farm Truck Foods’s main suppliers.

Lagree-Pendel prepares samples of fresh foods and hands out recipes and informational fliers about how to use and store foods at Farm Truck Foods stops. She also engages their customers in conversation, explaining what a food is and how to cook it. Many customers were thrown for a loop when the truck sold garlic scapes in the summer. The bud stalks that grow from garlic bulbs, scapes are harvested to encourage bulbs to grow larger (rather than put energy into flowering). They can be prepared either raw or cooked and are used any way you would use regular garlic or scallions, says Lagree-Pendel. She did a demo, preparing an easy scape pesto and providing samples.

“I shared the recipe along with other tips on how to utilize scapes, and we sold out by the end of the stop,” Lagree-Pendel recalls. “People appreciate and are more willing to try something new if they are able to sample it beforehand.”

In addition to providing food education, Farm Truck Foods also bridges the gap between farm and consumer, something Johnny Parker of Edible Earth Organic Farm in Tionesta, Pa., really appreciates.

“Our mission is to serve quality food to the underserved,” says Parker. Edible Earth raises USDA-certified organic vegetables, herbs, mushrooms, ginger, fruit, and pastured, non-certified pigs and chickens.

“Making farming a viable business is a challenge; it’s complex. You have to worry about how to deliver your product at the same time as how to grow and protect your product. It’s a lot to take on,” Parker says. “Having partnerships like Farm Truck Foods, where they focus on delivery and we focus on production, helps us both have a successful business and deliver to those who need it most.”
Farm Truck Foods’s altruistic mission will help it earn benefit corporation status in 2016. B-corps are required to not only consider the bottom line but also to be conscious of how their decisions will impact their employees, communities, and the environment. It’s business with a social conscience.

Farm Truck’s for-profit design is intentional, says Neel-Jurinko. “With a for-profit, you can actually invest and provide for more economic growth. You have to have a profit in order to scale and replicate the business to tackle more food disparities.”

Neel-Jurinko, Lagree-Pendel, and DePaulo aim to launch multiple farm food trucks as time goes on, continuing to develop new community and corporate partnerships for additional stops, as well as seeking out the best farms and producers to stock the trucks.

While Farm Truck Foods has only been operational for a few short months, changes are already in the works. Their latest venture is an online pre-order system that’s currently being piloted. It will give customers the chance to shop and pay online and then pick up their orders when Farm Truck Foods comes to their neighborhoods.

While efficient business operations are vital to the business, the heart of Farm Truck Foods will always be firmly rooted in community. “The whole concept of Farm Truck Foods is to benefit Pittsburgh residents and farmers by providing meaningful connections, access, awareness, and education,” says Neel-Jurinko. “There is no ‘I’ in any of our conversations; it’s always about what we can do to help the community grow and prosper.”
On July 16, area high-school students attending two Women of Spirit® workshops spent the morning at the Energy Innovation Center in Pittsburgh’s Hill District.

“Our young women explored a Pittsburgh landmark transformed into a LEED certified structure,” says René A. Picó, PhD, a Carlow associate professor of education specializing in science and technology. “The Center serves as an open training model and a nexus of groundbreaking educational and manufacturing organizations in green STREAM (Science-Technology-Research-Engineering-Art-Mathematics).”

Located on Bedford Avenue in the former Connelly Trade School, the Center is a multi-disciplinary green energy and sustainability institution, integrating workforce development programs, green technology research laboratories, a business incubator, and collaborative university-industry projects.

Student participants in Carlow’s Summer Science Nation and ECO Camp programs toured a renovated elevator shaft, new science labs, old classrooms, and the auditorium. There was a sense of past and present coming together to benefit the future.

From the outside, the Center still looks like it did when it opened in 1931. A series of steps lead up to the concrete building, still stained black in spots by years of smog and pollution from Pittsburgh’s many steel mills.
But on the inside, a three-phase renovation (phase one of which alone cost $40 million) is transforming the old school into a state-of-the-art, eco-friendly building. The building has received a platinum-level LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) ranking, the highest LEED level a building can receive.

“We have reused over 99 percent of the original building,” says Chaquita Barnett, executive assistant to the vice president of programming.

A number of sustainability features were created during initial renovations, such as an enhanced on-site water filtration system, which has decreased the site’s water runoff by 25 percent. A new saw-tooth roof design provides greater natural light over a larger area while decreasing the amount of direct sunlight, greatly reducing electricity usage.

“We have saved 57 percent in electricity, heating and cooling, and other utilities,” Barnett says, “just by using green technologies and methods.”

Jamaya Purdie, a student from the Ellis School attending the Summer Science Nation workshop, was impressed.

“This building is a really good example of taking the right steps toward reducing the effects of global warming and pollution,” says Purdie.

Many of the students had questions about career opportunities with the Energy Innovation Center, to which tour guide Cam Hick, a member of the Center’s marketing team, had the perfect response.

“A lot of people still think this is a man’s job. They still picture strong men in greasy jumpsuits working with tools,” she says. “But the truth is a lot of mechanical jobs are high-tech today, and all you really need to do is work a computer. We don’t just need men. We need women. We need everyone.”

And some of those budding future employees now have a better grasp of just what’s out there, thanks to the Women of Spirit® workshops.

“ECO Camp was a great chance to learn about environmental careers in a college setting along with other women who share an interest in the environment and to compare perspectives on how to go about change,” says camp participant Liz Woodwell, a student from Fox Chapel Area High School.

Through ECO Camp and Summer Science Nation, these young women learn not only how to improve and sustain the health of their planet but the important role each of them can play.

An on-site water filtration system, which has reduced the site’s water run-off by 25 percent, is one of the sustainability features at the Energy Innovation Center, located on the site of the former Connelly Trade School.

SUSTAINABILITY IN ACTION

Women of Spirit® ECO (Environmental Career Opportunities) campers got a firsthand look at wastewater engineering and sustainable agriculture enterprises at Eden Hall Farm in Pittsburgh’s North Hills.

“The trip to Eden Hall Farm was a particularly interesting opportunity to experience sustainability in action and meet with women leading the way in this expanding field.”

—ECO Camp participant Liz Woodwell

“Our visit to the Eden Hall Campus provided an incredible opportunity to appreciate the creation of a strategically designed ‘living green campus’ with explicitly integrated networks to renewable and sustainable systems and technologies, from field-to-table production to alternative use and conservation of energy and water resources.”

—René Picó, PhD, Carlow associate professor of education, ECO Camp faculty facilitator
"There is no typical day for Strong Women, Strong Girls (SWSG)," laughs Sabrina Saunders, a 2011 Carlow University alumna and the organization’s executive director. "One day I’m out meeting with potential corporate funders, the next I’m doing line dances with our girls."

"No matter what," she adds, "we are always rallying around the powerful mission to raise the aspirations of all girls."

A regionally based after-school mentoring program with locations in Boston and Pittsburgh, SWSG’s mission is to support positive mentoring relationships between college women and pre-adolescent girls in underserved local communities to help raise ambition and combat the dangers of low self-esteem. The program utilizes a multi-generational mentoring program and a service-based curriculum, the latter of which was recently developed in Pittsburgh.

The Pittsburgh office serves 24 area neighborhoods, and mentors include undergraduate women from six local universities, including Carlow. Mentors work with elementary school girls in grades 3-5, teaching them about influential women in history and helping them develop the skills they need to become strong women of tomorrow. Mentors may also be paired with local professional women through the Strong Leaders Program, a network that partners with SWSG.

Carlow University’s SWSG chapter is thriving, thanks to the ambitious efforts of three alumni: Saunders; 2011 liberal studies graduate Jenny Schaeffer, who is senior program and operations manager; and 2015 social work graduate Brittany Obey, who completed her social work field placement requirement at the Pittsburgh SWSG office during the Spring 2015 semester.

"Strong Women, Strong Girls is not just impacting the girls of today but making an investment in the women who will lead us tomorrow."

—Sabrina Saunders ’11
These three women were also instrumental in the creation of a brand-new service-learning course debuting this fall at Carlow: Girls in American Society. Taught by Jennifer Snyder-Duch, Carlow University associate professor of communication, the course works in conjunction with SWSG to focus on the state of girls in American society and enable students to test their classroom knowledge through related community service experiences.

The course is intended for students who are active members of the Carlow chapter of the SWSG program in fall of 2015. Students commit to the program September-April, and class participation includes coursework, SWSG training sessions, weekly meetings at Carlow, fundraisers, and weekly sessions and field trips with mentees.

The new course is modeled after Carlow’s Youth Media Advocacy Project (YMAP), a collaboration between Carlow University, Saturday Light Brigade Radio Productions, Inc., and the Consortium for Public Education. The project, which began in 2010, provides students with the knowledge, skills, and support to use the media to influence education policy decisions that impact their daily lives. Carlow students and high-school students work together to garner earned media coverage and also create and place high-quality paid media such as print ads and radio spots.

Schaeffer was involved with YMAP students while at Carlow, and she was convinced that a similar approach could be taken with SWSG.

“The moment I started at SWSG, I wanted us to develop a similar course. I saw how well aligned the missions of Carlow and SWSG are, with our focus on community development and service,” says Schaeffer.

Schaeffer reached out to Jim Kelly, PhD, Carlow University professor of social work and co-founder of YMAP, and together they began working with a group of Carlow faculty members to design the new course: Snyder-Duch; Sigrid King, PhD, chair and professor of English; and Anne Rashid, PhD, associate professor of English and interim director of women’s and gender studies. Snyder-Duch ultimately completed the course development.

“Jenny’s interests in social justice and Carlow’s focus on social justice and change really fit well together,” says Snyder-Duch. “The fact that she has come back to work together with us on this is amazing.”

“Looking back on my YMAP experience, I distinguished the huge benefits of learning something in the classroom ... and then being able to immediately apply the lessons that week through service,” says Schaeffer.

“If this course weren’t connected to SWSG,” says Snyder-Duch, “students would be learning from a textbook. Instead, they are learning hands-on from the girls themselves, making meaningful connections through their experience as mentors.”

Snyder-Duch credits Obey’s work guiding Carlow’s SWSG chapter and recruiting fellow students to enroll in the new course.

During her last year as a Carlow student, Obey was the University’s SWSG chapter director. Under her leadership, the chapter grew from a small handful of dedicated students to more than 40 mentors. She also helped kick-start a student-led executive board that oversaw numerous fundraisers and on-campus events.

“This was definitely a life-changing experience that taught me many skills, both personal and professional,” says Obey. “It granted me the opportunity to pursue my passion for working with at-risk girls and investing in the future of my community.”

Saunders hopes the course will create a platform for students to give back to the community, serving as an investment in the students themselves.

“By focusing on gender-specific mentoring, we are creating a unique space for students to thrive as leaders both on and off campus,” says Saunders.

Looking toward the future, SWSG will focus on strengthening its program model and expanding throughout the region. This year, the organization added a sixth Pittsburgh chapter.

“We believe all girls need heroes that look like them in order to feel capable,” says Saunders. “Girls become more confident and aware of what they want, and they are able to communicate that clearly. Strong Women, Strong Girls is not just impacting the girls of today but making an investment in the women who will lead us tomorrow.”
Cultivating Carlow’s Secret Gardens

AS SHE GIVES AN INFORMAL TOUR of some of the campus gardens, Sister Mary Joy Haywood, RSM, PhD points out a hibiscus, lilies, and maple and cherry willow trees on the Carlow hilltop in the middle of Pittsburgh.

“This campus has a very diverse plant life,” says Sister Mary Joy, a former professor and a Sister of Mercy.

Her interest in plants developed as a young child growing up on a farm in Greene County, Pa. She describes her father, a taxidermist for the Carnegie Museum of Natural History, as a naturalist.

“That’s just an interest that stuck,” Sister Mary Joy says about her love of plants. “And I’ve never lost it.”

In her “secret garden” in the center of the convent, Sister Mary Joy shows off rosemary, sage, basil, and other herbs in her hothouse garden. All of the herbs are grown from seed by Sister Mary Joy and are often used in meals for the Sisters of Mercy.

“When it’s nice outside, some of the Sisters will eat out here and feed the birds bread,” Sister Mary Joy says, shooing a few birds back toward the feeder, since she has no bread.

From the time she was a little girl, she always wanted to be a Sister of Mercy. In 1951, at the age of 21, Sister Mary Joy pronounced her vows.

“All of the Sisters of Mercy are very educated women,” she says. “That is something I really admire.”

Sister Mary Joy went on to earn two doctoral degrees from Michigan State University, one in botany and another in plant pathology. In addition to teaching botany at Carlow from 1975 to 2000, she also lived and taught in Puerto Rico and Papua New Guinea.

Today, Sister Mary Joy has the same enthusiasm for education. She is a research associate for the Carnegie Museum of Natural History and is a member of the Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania. For the Botanical Society’s 100th anniversary, she co-wrote The Wildflowers of Pennsylvania.

Many of Carlow’s flowers—and 80 percent of the trees—are native to Pennsylvania, she says. And they provide numerous benefits to the campus community, both academically and environmentally.

Some of the biology professors are able to teach using the plants found on campus, an option that is not necessarily available to every college located in an urban area.

“The flowers and trees have a calming effect on students,” she says, “especially during stressful times in a semester.” They also provide a refuge for birds and other wildlife.

Sister Mary Joy has written grants for and received 52 trees for Carlow’s campus.

“Everyone wants to go green and be environmentally friendly today,” she says. “Planting trees is one of the easiest ways to do that.”

Currently, Sister Mary Joy is working on a publication about Carlow’s trees, to help visitors identify the trees for themselves.

If you ask students and alumni what they like most about Carlow, you may hear them say it is forgetting they are in the city. Sister Mary Joy thinks so, too.

“To see so much green in a city setting is a surprise,” she says. “A lot of people will say it is quite beautiful, and I agree.”

Sister Mary Joy Haywood, RSM, PhD
A PRE-TEEN IS PERCHED on a park bench, ear buds in, rocking to tunes on her iPod.

A five-year-old is curled up on a lawn chair at an outdoor café, fixated on video games on his tablet while his parents chat with friends.

Sound familiar?

Now enter The Campus School of Carlow University, which focuses on environmental education in all of its programs, immersing students, preschool-grade 8, in the world around them, countering today’s electronic culture.

“Our commitment to the environment revolves around our responsibility, as a Catholic school, to protect God’s creation and teach our children about that call to preserve the environment that we live in,” says Michelle Peduto, The Campus School’s executive director and head of school.

The commitment starts early—as early as age three with preschoolers, like those in Stephanie Conrad’s Montessori classroom.

The students tend a brand-new garden next to the main entrance of the Mercy Convent, thanks to generous funding from the Shea Foundation.

Two Shea Foundation grants have enabled The Campus School to establish and develop an outdoor classroom, in partnership with the Sisters of Mercy, who provided the space.

The School has been working on the garden area for two summers now—the first grant helped get the garden off the ground and establish programs for younger children. The second grant allowed them to extend the program to Upper School children, who will be monitoring environmental changes such as air and water quality.

“It’s a beautiful space,” says Peduto, who adds that it’s also a great place to engage University students, such as undergraduate early childhood majors in the classes of Carlow Professor Rae Ann Hirsh, DEd, who planned garden activities for the preschoolers last spring, such as bird house building and rock garden construction.

“Our goal is to go even further,” says Peduto. “We can allow children to get dirty and messy and really learn about the world around them.”

And in today’s cyber world, soil under the fingernails is a good thing.

Once they move up to the primary grades, students continue their environmental journey with hands-on activities and field trips. In fourth grade, they are immersed in water quality issues, traveling to the Allegheny County Sanitary Authority (ALCOSAN) Water Treatment plant to study the entire water treatment process.

“It’s really cool,” says science teacher Andrea Shannon. “They are shocked to see how dirty the water is at first. But then they see the clean, fresh-smelling water that is put back into the river.”

Students look forward to fifth grade—the year they travel to the Lutherlyn Environmental Education Program (LEEP) in Prospect, Pa. for a three-day immersion in nature.

At Lutherlyn, they find and examine micro-organisms in the stream bed, test soil, and participate in an archaeological dig. They learn orienteering skills and explore the first straw bale house built in Pennsylvania, where they learn about alternative energy, sustainable lifestyles, and recycled products.

At the Upper School, Carole Wojciechowski is the school’s science curriculum chairperson and teaches seventh and eighth grade science. For 17 of the 19 years she’s been teaching at The Campus School, she’s introduced her students to the life of the city’s three rivers through RiverQuest, a non-profit educational organization that operates a river learning center for students, teachers, and the community of Southwestern Pennsylvania.

The Allegheny, Monongahela, and Ohio Rivers themselves are at the center of RiverQuest’s education program, which is taught aboard Explorer, a custom-constructed, state-of-the-art green educational vessel.

Wojciechowski’s students begin studying water in the classroom in the fall. They spend six weeks in the classroom practicing water testing and researching river history, discovering which animals are pollution tolerant. Their study culminates with the RiverQuest trip, where they assess not only the water itself but also collect insects and plankton. The more diverse animals they find, the healthier the river.

Wojciechowski has witnessed firsthand the environmental shift over the last 17 years. Students collect more different types of animals than ever. And they also see more birds.

“That’s the whole point,” says Wojciechowski, “to show what a positive impact we can have on our environment.”
CARLOW ROUNDTABLE
Rooted in Mercy

Left side—bottom to top: Kimberly Lee-Asonevich, MBA (Mount Aloysius College), Suzanne Mellon, PhD (Carlow University), Amy Ferdinanndt Stolley, PhD (Saint Xavier University), Cynthia Busin Nicola, EdD (Carlow University), Moya Dittmeier, EdD (Conference for Mercy Higher Education), Johann Vento, PhD (Georgian Court University), Andrea Cecilli (Mount Aloysius College), and Chris Meaner (Carlow University).

Right side—bottom to top: Amy Knox Brown, PhD (College of St. Mary), Mary Onufer, MS (Carlow University), Sister Sheila Carney, RSM (Carlow University), Sister Mary-Paula Cancienne, RSM (Georgian Court University), Karla Mason Bergen, PhD (College of St. Mary), Amber Lenhard, MBA (Mount Aloysius College), Denise Vanacore, PhD (Gwynedd Mercy University), and Wade Luquet, PhD (Gwynedd Mercy University).
In 2007, a small group of Carlow faculty and staff gathered to discuss the possibility of a new venture for the University—a convening, in Ireland, of colleagues from Mercy colleges and universities to celebrate our common roots and to reflect together on the significance and implications of working in a Mercy institution. Thus was born the Carlow Roundtable.

In the intervening years, 79 faculty and staff from 12 schools have participated. The Roundtable is staffed by Susan O’Rourke, EdD, professor of education and director of Carlow’s special education program; Mary Onufer, co-chair, Carlow University Faculty Assembly and assistant professor, Fraud and Forensics; and Sister Sheila Carney, RSM, special assistant to the president for Mercy heritage, Center for Mercy Heritage and Service.

The sixth Roundtable took place in May, 2015, with 18 participants from seven Mercy colleges and universities and from the Conference for Mercy Higher Education. This year, President Suzanne Mellon, PhD, was the first Carlow president to attend the conference.

The group initially gathered at Mercy International Centre in Dublin, built by Catherine McAuley in 1827 to house her fledgling ministries. Here participants savored the experience of being in the place from which the meaning and values of Mercy higher education emanate.

The presentations and discussions occurred in what is now the International Room—a space which highlights the life and work of contemporary Sisters of Mercy around the world. This space housed the school for poor girls in the early days of the ministry, thus making it the first Mercy classroom and the perfect place to reflect on Mercy as the basis of Carlow’s educational endeavors today.

This classroom was a particularly apt location for these conversations. Guided by the Roundtable theme, “Mercy: Our Lens on the World,” participants schooled one another on the application of Mercy values to their disciplines. “Learning an Administrative Ethic from Mother Catherine McAuley,” “Did the Sisters of Mercy Contribute to the Development of Social Work?” and “The Challenge and the Art of Teaching Mercy Spirituality” were among the presentations.


O’Rourke and colleagues Kevin Spencer and Kyle Holbrook showcased their work in Uganda with “Focusing on Mercy to Create Transformational Experiences to Improve the Lives of Vulnerable Children: Narratives from an Artist, a Magician and a Dreamer.”

Chris Meaner, director of campus life and student activities, discussed the relationship between student affairs and academic affairs in “Setting a Mercy Curriculum in Motion: The First Year Experience as Campus-wide Collaboration.”

Roundtable participants travelled to Belfast for a day to view the famous murals related to the years of conflict in Northern Ireland. While there, they were joined by Marie Martin, former Carlow adjunct professor and previous international officer of the Western Education and Library Board of Northern Ireland. Martin was joined by her husband Joe, lifelong educator and chair of a number of educational organizations in Northern Ireland. The Martins are residents of Omagh, the site of a horrific bombing in 1998, and they led the group in a profound discussion of the effects of terrorism on a population and especially on children.

The final days of the gathering were held at Glendalough, the remains of a fifth century monastic city where Celtic spirituality and the beauty of the Wicklow Mountains embraced participants. Nicola summarized the response of Roundtable participants: “My experience was an ‘awakening of Mercy,’” she said. “The gracious and giving spirit of Catherine McAuley was in every step, every smile, every presentation.”
The air is crisp this early autumn morning. Wispy, rose-colored clouds reflect in the SageGlass of Carlow’s new University Commons. Just inside, a few students linger near the Commons cafe, takeout cups in hand, defrosting after the walk up the driveway.

Upstairs, students are already busy—several drawn to comfortable study spots where soft, natural light pours through floor-to-ceiling windows. On the fourth floor, the interactive learning classroom is filled with students who are attentive to their professor and to vibrant graphics displayed collaboratively via WOW Vision.

The Commons is alive, and it’s hard to imagine Carlow without it. After a year of construction and renovation, this elegant, innovative building is already the center of student life and learning on campus—just a few months after opening its doors to students in late August 2015.

“The University Commons addresses the critical need we have had for years,” says Carlow University President Suzanne Mellon, PhD, “the need for a space designed for students and, more importantly, for student success.”

Carlow’s students are overjoyed.
“All students now have a place to call home,” says Rhonda Ekwunoh, a senior political science major from Pittsburgh and president of Carlow’s Student Government Association. “The ample study room in the building, in addition to the state-of-the-art programming spaces, has already brought a new life to this campus.”

Mellon emphasizes the support received from the entire Carlow community in completing the project.

“Instead of creating a facility that would serve our needs now,” she says, “our board of trustees knew we needed a University commons that would support future growth; one that would continue to grow with our needs.”

State-of-the-art programming includes “smart” technology that will facilitate learning and also connect students to faculty or other students who may not even be present in the classroom.

“We wanted to provide easy methods to enable our students to use technology,” says Jeffrey Devlin, chief information officer at Carlow. “The collaborative spaces were designed so that students can work together on projects.”

Every study room or classroom in the University Commons contains a flat screen monitor that students and faculty can tap into from any number of devices—a laptop computer, a tablet, or even a smart phone.

“The beauty of it is your work can be on your device, but you can use the flat screens in the study rooms to share your work with others,” says Devlin, adding that it is also possible for people to attend class or work as part of a group without even being in Oakland. “Everyone doesn’t have to be in the same room to work together.”

The fourth floor interactive learning room can be used for long-distance learning, something that Carlow is utilizing more frequently in graduate and undergraduate classes.

Hannah Rycerz, a junior political science major from Granville, Ohio, and president of Comfortable study space abounds in the third floor Grace Library.
Alpha Phi Omega, is especially impressed with the interactive classroom’s ability to reach people halfway around the world. “I think it would be really cool to have a class with a student from Australia,” she says.

Nowhere is the technology more versatile than in the Hopkins Communication Lab.

“This is the classroom of the future for teaching skills to students,” says Rachel Furman, director of the Hopkins Communication Lab and an assistant professor in the communication department. “In our new space, we still serve the basic needs of a communication lab for students who need tutoring or help with speech anxiety, but now we can do so much more.”

As she says this, she opens a door to a control room where a teacher, hidden behind a two-way mirror, can observe three separate rooms with groups of students working on presentations and give immediate feedback to each group individually. The applications go beyond the communication major, too.

“The space we have here is completely new and innovative,” says Katie Giles, a senior nursing major from Mt. Pleasant, Pa. As a work study, she has presented alongside Furman at two national conferences and provides training for new tutors in the lab. “I don’t believe there is another college or university in the country that has the technology that we have in the Hopkins Lab.”

Carlow’s new Compass curriculum (see related article page 37) has worked to integrate speaking throughout all disciplines, but it’s not just what people say that’s important, but also what they may say non-verbally.

“As a nursing major, my experience working in the Hopkins Lab has changed how I communicate with people on a person-to-person basis,” says Giles. “It has enhanced my nursing career tenfold. I now understand why it is important to look at your patients when you interact with them. The skills I have learned here have made my patient care better.”

All of it, the verbal and non-verbal skills that Carlow students will need in their chosen profession, can be taught in the Hopkins Lab.

“This is an innovative use of technology and learning,” says Furman. “These are classrooms that are looking like more of a lab experience.”
Grace Library is named for Sister Regis Grace, RSM, Carlow’s first academic dean.

For all that’s new in the University Commons, it is still home to Grace Library, which filled the entire building prior to renovation. The library, now located on the third floor, is named for Sister Regis Grace, RSM, the Sister of Mercy who was the first academic dean and the acting president for the first 22 years of what was then known as Mount Mercy College.

The library, though, has greatly transformed since the renovation—and certainly since Sister Regis Grace’s days.

“Library functions have really changed over the last couple of decades,” says one of the building’s architects, Kenneth Lee, vice president of MacLachlan Cornelius & Filoni Architects, Inc. “Universities around the country are responding by rethinking the way they use that traditional library space. They’re incorporating new functions while eliminating others.”

The same amount of information that was contained on three floors of the old library can now be contained digitally in far less space, which, Lee adds, freed up additional space for features such as smart classrooms.

“By condensing the library, we were able to bring in so many more resources,” he says, “resources that are absolutely revolutionary in terms of improving the academic and social connections on campus.”

But don’t take an architect’s word for it; the librarians like the changes, too.

“The library space in the University Commons is new and exciting,” says Andrea K. Leyko, interim director of library services. “Although we are now located on one floor instead of three, we offer our usual print and online resources, and a lot more. We now have an open and inviting space with well-equipped group study rooms, individual study spaces, a large updated computer lab, and lots of comfy seating.”

Tara Cabache, a junior accounting/forensic accounting major from Massachusetts, says “more students want to come here because it is a much more open space to hang out or do homework.”

Because student needs were the central focus of the Commons design, students were asked to contribute their ideas.
The same amount of information contained on three floors of the old library is now contained digitally in far less space.
“Our voices were heard in relation to this beautiful building,” says Ekwunoh. Fellow Student Government member Antonia Murabito, a senior communications for advocacy major from Saltsburg, Pa., couldn’t agree more.

“Student government had input into this design,” says Murabito. “We have a lot of student activities, so there is a lot of space for meetings and storage for student organizations.”

In addition to Student Activities, the University Commons is home to an array of student services, including the Center for Academic Achievement, the Center for Digital Learning and Innovation, Disability Services, the Center for Experiential Learning, as well as several computer labs and printing stations. The Information Center is now centrally located near the second floor entrance.

Chris Meaner, director of student life, describes the Commons as “unbelievable.” He admits he was nervous about moving his office out of the residence halls—one of the busiest student hubs on campus—and into the new University Commons. But any reservations soon disappeared when he saw the new offices, the articulating stairwell, and imagined how the students would react.

“This is twice as much space as we used to have, and that stairwell is epic,” says Meaner. “I can’t see students not wanting to be in this building.”

Deidra Balchak, a senior biology major from Belle Vernon, Pa., couldn’t agree more. “Now that all the student services are here,” she says, “it is the hub of campus.”

And it is the center of life for commuter students, too—students like Kevin Zimmerman, a junior accounting major who travels back and forth from Avalon, Pa.

“We just had a small space in Frances Warde Hall before, but there is much more room in the University Commons,” he says. “I love it here. I love the colors. The soft yellows and blues are cool and relaxing.”

In fact, the needs of the entire community were taken into consideration by the architects when they designed the new building, beginning with tinted curtain wall windows that are energy efficient and allow light to enter but also enable people to see each other.

“It was important to facilitate the connection between the exterior and interior of the building, because that helps to facilitate a connection between people,” says Lee. “We wanted people to be able to look down from the window of the café and wave to their friend who was walking up the street, or for a professor to walk out of Antonian
The University Commons has been designed to be environmentally sustainable and has achieved LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified status through improvements to the quality of the site, reductions in water and energy consumption, and use of materials that reduced the impact on the environment while providing a healthy and safe work environment for faculty and students.

Innovation in Design
The building will be used as a teaching tool to educate about the important health benefits of sustainable design.

Sustainable Site Design
By renovating an existing structure with the same footprint, the former Grace Library building, Carlow reduced landscape and site disturbance.

Energy Efficiency
Energy usage is reduced by 19 percent, enhanced refrigerant management practices are used, and SageGlass protects against solar heat gain.

Water Efficiency
Water use reduction is important in the LEED certification process. Plumbing fixtures were selected to reduce water consumption.

Materials and Resources
Roughly 75 percent of construction waste was diverted from landfills and recycled or reused. Materials content is at least 10 percent recycled.

Indoor Air Quality
Ventilation was increased by 30 percent. Low-VOC materials were utilized, ductwork was covered during construction, and indoor chemical and pollutant sources were closely controlled.
“The University Commons is designed, constructed, maintained, and operated in a manner that saves money and resources, has a positive impact on the health of the occupants, and promotes renewable, clean energy,” says Carney.

It’s not just the earthly aspects that were planned for in the new University Commons, but the spiritual side has been accounted for, as well.

Tucked into the fifth floor of the Commons, overlooking the campus green, is the McAuley Chapel, dedicated on Carlow Day, September 18, 2015, by David A. Zubik, bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh (see article page 43). The chapel is ready to receive all those who seek the guidance, comfort, and familiarity that places of worship can offer.

There is also a Muslim prayer room on the fifth floor, complete with directional markings for orientation toward Mecca and requisite foot-washing basins in nearby restrooms.

It’s these kinds of small changes that speak positively to the evolution of spirituality and faith on campus and position Carlow as a leader for students of all faiths.

“Throughout the design and construction process we spoke often of the Commons as being central to the campus,” says Sister Sheila Carney, RSM, special assistant to the president for Mercy heritage. “In these weeks, as the building has taken on life, that has become more than a descriptor of location. It is rapidly becoming the center of campus life, a place of learning and collaboration and interaction. The re-location of the University chapel to the Commons speaks to the centrality of our Catholic identity.”

The fact that construction only took 11 months makes the new University Commons all the more striking.

Sister Sheila Carney sums the result of those productive 11 months perfectly.

“A popular new spot on campus, the Frank B. Fuhrer Commons Café.

“On a campus where space is at a premium, the spaciousness of the Commons is a rare gift,” she says. “The lovely open staircase that rises through the center of the building may be seen as a metaphor for the educational process, opening our minds and enlightening our imaginations and creativity.”
As an art historian with a commitment to object-based learning and the importance of museums and galleries, Sylvia Rhor, PhD, associate professor of art history, has always championed the important role of academic museums and galleries. She emphasizes the broad reach of the new Carlow University Gallery, located on the second floor of the University Commons.

“This is not just an art gallery,” she says. “This space serves to further the mission of the University in connecting people through art. It’s a space for experiential learning, for discussion of core themes, and will very much be a teaching gallery.”

Rhor and Bill DeBernardi, associate professor of art at Carlow, are co-directors of the new gallery. They are proud to feature the work of Diane Samuels, an internationally acclaimed artist and co-founder of Pittsburgh’s City of Asylum, as the inaugural exhibit.

The works in Samuels’ Carlow exhibition—a monumental roll of blue parchment, a colorful map of India, a book of seemingly blank pages—require visitors to move closer to engage with hidden stories.

From Herman Melville’s canonical Moby Dick to the lesser-known story of a Polish refugee, Samuels uses the words that guide those narratives as the raw material for her art. Painstakingly transcribing each word from a book or interview, she brings new life, color, and texture to these already profound stories.

Over time, Samuels’ art will extend beyond the gallery walls and will live throughout the entire University Commons. Her exhibit serves as the starting point for a permanent public art project that she will create over the next year.

The project, “101 Poems,” will take several months to come to fruition. The idea is to integrate poetry into the bricks and mortar of the building. Poems will be chosen from a number of sources, including historic documents, writings of the Sisters of Mercy, as well as work from Carlow students, alumni, and faculty.

“I thought it would be nice to scatter poems—both large and small—throughout the University Commons,” she says. “Some you will see in the atrium. Some will be so small that you won’t notice them for a long time: a tile in the elevator, a bookmark in a book.”

“Diane’s work will be a lyrical piece that will lead people through the building,” says Rhor. “She has done a lot of research about Carlow, and she is working closely with us to amass a set of poems to really voice who we are as a community.”

One of Samuels’ considerations when planning a work of public art is to keep in mind the people who will use the space on a daily basis.

“I like being part of the community,” says Samuels. “I will be spending time in the new building, meeting people, asking what they think, asking if they have favorite poems or texts that they would like me to include.”
LOU BOYLE, PhD

Pointing the Compass in the Right Direction

FOR THE PAST 19 YEARS, LOU BOYLE, PHD, has taught in the English department at Carlow University. Students who have taken one of his English literature classes may find it hard to imagine him doing anything else, but there was a time when “Lou Boyle, English Professor,” almost became “Lou Boyle, Pharmacist.”

“I started as a pharmacy major at Duquesne University,” he says “But it [pharmacy] was too dry for me.”

Any self-respecting fan of Monty Python—as Boyle is—remembers the catchphrase, “and now for something completely different.” Boyle has lived it. Taking stock of what he did well and what he loved to do, he decided to change his major to English.

“I’ve always loved to read, always loved to write, so I asked myself, ‘why not do something along those lines?’”

Boyle’s parents were supportive of his decision to switch gears and study English. “My parents never questioned the value of reading Shakespeare,” says Boyle, who went on to earn his bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral degrees from Duquesne.

Today, as chair of Carlow’s English department, he specializes in medieval literature, particularly the King Arthur legends, Boyle has had his work published in book—T. H. White’s Reinterpretation of Malory’s Le Morte DArthur: An Analysis of Shifting Meaning and Unstable Language—and article form, including a recent piece in the journal Arthuriana. Not surprisingly, he sees a fascination with the King Arthur story that has continued to intrigue people for more than 1,000 years.

“There is something about this story,” he says. “It is a love story; there are religious and political implications, and it is about the relationships between men and women.”

Further evidence of the story’s appeal can be seen in popular books and movies that draw upon elements from the Arthurian legends.

“Whether it is sword fights or monsters and dragons, you can see parallels with such popular works as Star Wars, Harry Potter, and The Da Vinci Code,” he says. “There was less of a dividing line between science and magic back in the Middle Ages. We still want to believe there is magic in today’s world.”

Boyle is a firm believer in the power of the humanities. “Research shows employers are looking for employees who have problem-solving skills, can work well with clients and co-workers, and who aren’t afraid to take the initiative,” he says. “Basic concepts like logic and using evidence to support your conclusions; you can take that anywhere.”

Boyle draws the analogy that a student studying the liberal arts is similar to an athlete running around the track to condition his or her body.

“Liberal arts is brain practice,” he says. “It makes your brain resilient.”

With that understanding, Boyle was the ideal person to chair the Carlow Compass, an intensive curriculum redesign effort that was instituted as the new general education curriculum this fall.

Boyle says the Compass provides students with increased opportunities to explore subjects of interest, without losing sight of fundamental outcomes and liberal arts skills.

“The Carlow Compass represents a more modern approach to learning and is an effort to make sure everyone is not so siloed from each other,” he says. “It is really exciting and different than anything Carlow has done before.”
THANKS TO A YEAR-LONG INTENSIVE CURRICULUM REDESIGN EFFORT, Carlow University proudly instituted the brand-new Carlow Compass general education curriculum this fall.

More than 200 incoming first-year students were introduced to the new curriculum at a Core retreat during New Student Orientation. Those students are delving into intriguing new Critical Exploration offerings like Philosophy, Comedy and Humor; Art Under Hitler; Creative Problem Solving; and Stairway to Heaven: God and Rock.

“We've already received some very positive responses to the new Carlow Compass curriculum,” says Lou Boyle, PhD, director of core curriculum; chair and professor of English. “First-year students are finding the Critical Exploration courses engaging, and we know that many of them are actively exploring minors and possible second majors.”

Emphasizing career-readiness and ethical leadership, the new curriculum enables students to design, navigate, and explore their own educational pathways within their major courses of study, in alignment with the university’s mission, vision, and Mercy heritage. The Compass is rooted in the liberal arts and the Catholic Intellectual Tradition and aims to guide students toward their academic and professional goals. The name, the Carlow Compass, was chosen from suggestions submitted by faculty and staff.

A committee of Carlow University faculty and administrators began the redesign process in the summer of 2014—expanding their efforts to include input from more than 65 Carlow faculty, administrators, staff, and student volunteers.

A final version of the curriculum was adopted with overwhelming support by the University Faculty Assembly in the Spring 2015 semester. The Carlow Compass Curriculum went into effect for all first-year, non-transfer students entering in the Fall 2015 term and will go into effect for all other incoming students in the Fall 2016 term.

“Liberal arts is brain practice. It makes your brain resilient.”

—Lou Boyle, PhD
“WHEREVER YOU ARE DESIGNING, a painting and book cover, etc., it all has a foundation in the same principles of design and art,” says freelance graphic designer and illustrator Joshua “Stretch” Carter when asked why he chose Carlow’s fine arts program. “I felt like a fine arts education would bring my work experience and technical knowledge full circle and help me move forward as an effective designer and communicator.”

Carter came to Carlow a bit later in life, after working for several years as a graphic designer and a tattoo artist. “Having that time to find out what it was I really wanted to do, what my style is, what I really wanted to work on, and my strengths and weaknesses made me a better student and a more open-minded learner.”

It also gave him time to learn a lesson many students struggle with: “Failing is a necessary part of the process.”

Carlow isn’t Carter’s first college experience, and like all of Carlow’s students, he chose the University carefully. “I did not want to attend another technical program,” he says. “Right out of high school I received my associate’s degree from a two-year design program and had a mediocre experience. I wanted to attend a university and receive a university degree. Carlow’s art program fit the bill perfectly.”

Carlow University turned out to be a good fit in many ways. Though he is not a particularly religious person, Carlow’s theology courses have been Carter’s favorites.

“Dr. Alverson opened my mind to some big ideas,” he says. “Not only from a theology standpoint, but life in general. I remember his lecture on hermeneutics just turned me upside down.”

As an artist, Carter believes in working with his hands. He spends a lot of time in his wood shop. “Woodworking for me is the perfect mixture of design and art,” he says. “Working with a computer ... you don’t get the same interaction you get from painting or sculpting. As an artist I need that interaction with the material. Woodworking gives me that interaction at the same time fulfilling my need to create things.”

A native Pittsburgher, Carter calls Lawrenceville home. In his spare time he can be found at his fiancé Dora’s corner store, the 52nd St. Market, or walking his dog, fishing, or drumming with country singer-songwriter Molly Alphabet. Still, he notes the importance of sitting quietly to think, sketch, and contemplate, saying, “I am a quiet person and need that time alone to collect my thoughts, stay organized, and problem solve.”

Though he has enjoyed freelancing, Carter would ultimately prefer to let someone else take care of accounting and business tasks. After graduating he will “start an agency career here in Pittsburgh,” because “being able to go to work and just think and design would be incredible.”
AIMEE MILARSKI’S job is for the birds—and she wouldn’t have it any other way.

Her days are colored by the vibrant pink wings of the scarlet ibis, the blue-and-lemon-yellow feathers of the turquoise tanager, and the bold tuxedoes of the Atlantic puffins with their showy painted-orange beaks—just to name a few.

As an aviculturist for the National Aquarium in Baltimore, Md., Milarski is responsible for a variety of birds (as well as sloths and tamarins) in the “North Atlantic to the Pacific” and “Upland Tropical Rain Forest” exhibits. Milarski’s duties include exhibit cleaning, husbandry, animal training, and feedings. She works with staff vets for long-term management of health issues and also does public feedings each day to give visitors a glimpse into the behind-the-scenes world of the aquarium.

A Pittsburgh native and Carlow biology graduate, Milarski is no stranger to working with animals; she first began volunteering at the National Aviary in Pittsburgh at age 14 and continued her work there for more than eight solid years—all throughout high school and while earning her college degree.

“If you want to get into the field, start working with animals,” advises Milarski. “You can have knowledge and degrees, but to get into the zoo community, the experience is what will eventually get you there.”

As time went on, Milarski gained more experience and was rewarded with escalating responsibility at the aviary. She started at 14 with no animal contact (instead, she did diet prep) and graduated to recording monthly meeting minutes for the volunteer council, then to acting as an informal classroom instructor and “owl encounter” presenter, and finally to caring for and exercising the resident birds.

When it came time to choose a college, Milarski knew she wanted to work with animals, but wasn’t sure what specific direction she would take. She applied to several universities but chose Carlow for its small class sizes.

“That made such a huge difference. I got more one-on-one with my professors; they were always there to help us,” recalls Milarski.

She is especially grateful to her advisor, Michael Capp, PhD, chair and professor of the biology department, who helped focus her efforts and design her career path. Milarski ultimately chose a biology major with a concentration in organismal biology and ecology and a minor in chemistry.

“My Carlow degree helped build my self-confidence,” says Milarski. “Though my track was not as popular as some other paths, I benefitted because I was able to design exactly what I wanted.”

As Milarski earned her degree, she added yet more animal experience to her resume, working as a Kids’ Kingdom intern at the Pittsburgh Zoo and PPG Aquarium and interning at the Animal Rescue League Wildlife Center in Verona, Pa. After graduation, she worked as an avian specialist at the Catoctin Wildlife Preserve and Zoo in Thurmont, Md., and then as a shelter technician at the Meyers Animal Shelter/Adams Country SPCA in Gettysburg, Pa.

This past July, she volunteered with Project Puffin on Matinicus Rock, a 22-acre offshore island located in Maine’s outer Penobscot Bay. She spent 14 days studying Atlantic puffins, razorbills, black guillemots, common murres, arctic terns, and common terns.

She has been at the National Aquarium for three years now and couldn’t be happier. “I love it here and hope to be here for a long time,” she says. “The birds teach me a lot. I’ve learned so much from being able to see them achieve adulthood. It’s a miracle to see these animals thrive and survive.”
Keep a finger on the pulse of Carlow’s digital social scene by checking out updates like these at www.carlow.edu/social

The University Commons sign arrives one month before completion.

#TBT Carlow University’s view—back then known as Mount Mercy College—overlooking the Monongahela River.

Getting Social

Taking a slow stroll through campus reveals beautiful architectural details such as these Corinthian column tops on St. Agnes.

A warm welcome to the class of 2019!

Spotted in Pittsburgh’s Cultural District, this historic marker celebrates the Sisters of Mercy opening their first convent here in 1843.
Our First Year Mentors and RAs are here to help all first-year and transfer students transition into college life at Carlow University.

A beautiful foggy morning looking out over A.J. Palumbo Hall and the Monongahela River.

This year’s PlayFair team-building event for first-year students and First Year Mentors was a great way for students to meet each other.

Fun during orientation week!
WOODROW WILSON VISITING FELLOW

Dede Thompson Bartlett visited Carlow University November 9-12, 2015 as a Woodrow Wilson Visiting Fellow. Bartlett is Carlow’s 2015-2016 MBA Executive in Residence.

Carlow University invited the general public to join in three discussions with Bartlett, held at the AJ Palumbo Hall of Science and Technology: on Monday, November 9, for an event co-sponsored by Schneider Downs, “Women in Corporate Leadership and Surviving Career Catastrophe;” on Tuesday, November 10, for an event co-sponsored by the YWCA of Greater Pittsburgh, “Ways to Empower yourself for the Workplace;” and on Wednesday, November 11, for “Are you Safe? helping Domestic Violence Victims Become Survivors,” co-sponsored by Mercy Behavioral Health.

A director of the American University of Central Asia Foundation, Legal Momentum, and the Corporate Alliance to End Partner Violence, Bartlett co-chairs the Jim and Dede Bartlett Foundation, where she is committed to increasing the number of women in STEM fields. She was an executive officer with Mobil Corporation and Altria Group, where she developed an award-winning domestic violence awareness program.

The Woodrow Wilson Visiting Fellows program, administered by the Council of Independent Colleges, brings prominent nonacademic professionals to US campuses for substantive dialogue with students and faculty members.

CONFERENCE FOR MERCY HIGHER EDUCATION PEER REVIEW TEAM VISITS CARLOW

The spirit of Mercy is alive and well at Carlow University. That was the finding of the Conference for Mercy Higher Education (CMHE) institutional peer review team that visited Carlow University in April, 2015.

“The peer-review team was tasked to explore the presence, expression, and effectiveness of the core mission of Carlow University, as this core mission is informed by its Catholic identity and Mercy charism,” said Moya Dittmeier, PhD, the executive director of CMHE and a member of the four-person peer review team.

In addition to Dittmeier, the CMHE team consisted of two former members of the Carlow community who are now at other Mercy institutions. Jane Gerety, RSM, PhD, president of Salve Regina University and a former English faculty and academic dean at Carlow, chaired the peer review team. Mary Paula Cancienne, RSM, PhD, an assistant professor of theology at Georgian Court University and a former adjunct faculty member in theology at Carlow, and Sister Catherine McMahon, the special assistant to the president for mission and planning at Gwynedd-Mercy University, were the other members of the peer review team.

All 16 CMHE institutions will be visited by a peer review team. The fact that Carlow’s CMHE review was actually timed to occur about 12 months before the University goes through its Middle States accreditation review was not an accident.

“The review by the conference validates the strength of our identity as a Mercy institution,” said Carlow President Suzanne Mellon, PhD, “in both what we contribute to the community and to the institution.”

The team met with various constituencies within the University—administrators, faculty, students, and staff—over the course of April 7-9, and on the final day of the visit, the team shared their views and experiences of how well Carlow is upholding the principles of a Mercy/Catholic institution.

During the exit interview, the peer review team reported that “Dr. Suzanne Mellon, University president; the University’s board of trustees; the administration, faculty, and staff of the University; and, in particular, the special assistant to the president for Mercy heritage, Sister Sheila Carney, are to be commended for the manner, both purposeful and profound, with which the Mercy mission and ethos are brought to life and fruition at Carlow University.”

SAVE THE DATE

CARLOW UNIVERSITY WOMEN OF SPIRIT® AWARD CEREMONY

Join us as we recognize outstanding women who exemplify the Carlow mission in their personal and professional lives.

Venue to be announced.
BRAND-NEW MAJORS NOW AVAILABLE

Beginning with the Fall 2015 semester, students have exciting new degree options at Carlow

CRIMINAL JUSTICE WITH A CONCENTRATION IN CORRECTIONS
Students who want to right wrongs, affect change, fight for victims’ rights, and advocate for a justice system that is fairer and more inclusive can fulfill their career goals with the new bachelor’s degree in criminal justice with a concentration in corrections. Criminal justice students learn where, how, and why crimes affect individuals, families, and societies and how they can help to change those dynamics.

HIGH PERFORMANCE LEARNING
Want to play a pivotal role in redefining teaching and learning in this century? The new online master’s degree, the Master of Science in Leadership for High Performance Learning with optional Pennsylvania Principal Certification, offers a groundbreaking departure from the current culture of performance management and teaching to-the-test.

POLITICAL SCIENCE WITH A CONCENTRATION IN COMPUTER INVESTIGATIONS AND SECURITY ISSUES
Ready to combat cyber crime and international terrorism? The new bachelor’s degree in political science with a concentration in computer investigations and security issues is a perfect blend of technology and political science that puts students on the cutting edge of the growing field of international security.

ONLINE REGISTERED NURSE (RN) TO BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING (BSN)
Each year, many professional practice settings require or prefer to hire and promote RNs with a BSN (Bachelor of Science in Nursing). Busy RNs looking for a competitive edge need look no further than Carlow University. We now offer an RN-to-BSN program completely online (in addition to all in-class, or a hybrid of online and in-class). In this highly flexible program, students are able to stay in their current positions while earning this increasingly important degree—an excellent base for lifelong learning, professional advancement, and graduate school.

RESPIRATORY CARE
The demand for respiratory therapists is on the rise, and Carlow’s new Bachelor of Science in Respiratory Care is one of only 60 programs in the country to prepare students for this important role. Please see the related article about this timely and relevant new program on page 44.

MCAULEY CHAPEL BLESSING

Carlow Day, September 18, 2015, began with a significant event in the history of Carlow University. During the Mass of the Holy Spirit, David A. Zubik, bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh, blessed the new McAuley Chapel on the fifth floor of the University Commons.

Made possible by a generous gift from McAuley Ministries, this sacred space is the first chapel to become part of the Carlow community since 1963, when the Frances Warde Hall chapel was built. An official decree establishing McAuley Chapel was signed by Bishop Zubik and by Rita Ferko Joyce, chancellor of the Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh.
NEW RESPIRATORY CARE PROGRAM ONE OF 60 IN NATION

Carlow has the only program to utilize cutting-edge Anatomage table

An average person breathes approximately 28,800 times per day, often without noticing. For someone who suffers from asthma, emphysema, or countless other cardiopulmonary disorders, each breath can be a struggle that drastically impairs the ability to complete everyday tasks.

Respiratory illnesses are more common today, as the nation’s middle-aged and elderly populations continue to expand.

It’s no surprise, then, that the demand for highly educated respiratory therapists is on the rise. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, by 2022, employment of respiratory therapists is projected to grow 19 percent, faster than the average for all other occupations.

To meet that demand, Carlow University launched a new Bachelor of Science degree in Respiratory Care (BSRC) this fall, one of just 60 such programs in the country. The program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC).

The program is the first in the country to integrate an Anatomage virtual dissection table into some of its respiratory care courses. The Anatomage table is the only instrument that displays true gross human anatomy in real-life size. Utilization of the device integrates medical imaging data and 3D interactive human models to provide students with the most accurate anatomical representation of all body structures and organ systems.

The Anatomage table is located in Carlow’s newly constructed respiratory care laboratory and simulation center, located on the second floor of the A.J. Palumbo Hall of Science and Technology.

“Students in this program have the most technologically advanced tools to optimize educational outcomes and promote their smooth transitions into the workforce,” said Michael Mehall, MEd, BSRT, RRT-NPS, CPFT, chair of the Respiratory Care program.

Carlow’s comprehensive BSRC program will combine classroom lectures and hands-on laboratory training with a variety of clinical experiences that will prepare students to thrive as advanced level respiratory care practitioners. Graduates will be eligible to participate in the National Board of Respiratory Care Examinations.

“Students admitted to this program will be able to take advantage of the University’s longstanding relationships with world-renowned health systems, while still working and learning with Carlow faculty,” said Suzanne Mellon, PhD, president of Carlow University.

With their Bachelor of Science in Respiratory Care, Carlow students will be able to work in a variety of settings, including neonatal/pediatric units, sleep laboratories, outpatient care centers, pulmonary function laboratories, and critical care units. Students can also pursue careers as hyperbaric oxygenation technicians, asthma educators, flight therapists, home care specialists, medical sales associates, and acute care clinicians.

“Carlow’s BSRC program provides a dynamic, specialized, academic, and technical education that will prepare our students to be integral members of a health-care team,” said Mehall.

L-R: Kimberly Haley, Respiratory Care program clinical director, and Michael Mehall, chair of the Respiratory Care program. The program is one of the first in the country to integrate an Anatomage virtual dissection table (pictured at right and top right) into some of the respiratory care courses. The Anatomage table uses medical imaging data to display true gross human anatomy in real-life size.
CARLOW ANNOUNCES EXCITING NEW PARTNERSHIPS

CARLOW University continues to make new connections throughout the Greater Pittsburgh area, offering new academic options to students.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF ALLEGHENY COUNTY (CCAC)
With this partnership, students can earn their associate degree at CCAC and seamlessly transfer to Carlow to complete their bachelor’s degree in any of more than 30 programs of study.

- CCAC nursing students are simultaneously admitted to Carlow’s RN-BSN program at a reduced tuition and are able to accelerate into the MSN program.
- Students in any of CCAC’s 25 allied health programs are able to continue their studies towards any bachelor’s degree at Carlow.
- Graduates of CCAC’s business management program are able to continue their studies towards a Bachelor of Science in Management at Carlow.
- Affirmation of PA TRAC (Pennsylvania Transfer and Articulation Center) records all of the PA TRAC programs that exist between CCAC and Carlow, helping associate degree graduates seamlessly transfer credits towards 29 Carlow bachelor’s degrees. Carlow is the only private institution in Western Pennsylvania that offers PA TRAC.
- CCAC students will also be eligible for generous transfer scholarships from Carlow.

THE UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH
- Carlow and the University of Pittsburgh School of Law are partnering to offer an early assurance 3+3 law program. Qualified students receive a $5,000 scholarship for their first year of law school.

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH MEDICAL CENTER (UPMC)
Under this agreement, eligible students at any one of three UPMC schools of nursing are simultaneously admitted into Carlow’s RN-BSN program.

THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF PITTSBURGH
This agreement can benefit both teachers and students in the Diocese of Pittsburgh.

- Full-time teachers or principals in the dioce will receive a 50% percent tuition discount each semester on Carlow’s new master of Leadership for High Performance Learning (MS).
- Carlow offers a $20,000 award ($5,000 per year for four years) for students who attended Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh schools from grades 1-12. For students who attended and graduated from a Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh high school but did not attend Catholic school in the early grades, Carlow offers a $10,000 award ($2,500 per year for four years).

CITY OF PITTSBURGH
- Carlow offers City of Pittsburgh employees and their spouses or partners a 20 percent discount on any undergraduate or graduate program. Dependent children of city employees receive a $2,000 discount on full-time, undergraduate annual tuition.

JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY EVENTS

In celebration of the Jubilee Year of Mercy declared by Pope Francis as December 8, 2015-November 20, 2016, Carlow University is planning a number of events. To begin the celebration, a painting has been commissioned by internationally recognized artist Janet McKenzie, known especially for her Christ of the Millennium. The new piece, an interpretation of Our Lady of Mercy, will be unveiled in the University Commons on December 8. Numerous events are planned in celebration of the Jubilee Year—including a speaker series—perfect opportunities for our community to delve deeper into this core Mercy value.

SPEAKER SERIES

JANUARY 20, 2016
Rabbi Aaron Bino, rabbi at Rodef Shalom, will present Mercy in the Hebrew scriptures.

MARCH 31, 2016
Judith Schubert, RSM, a scripture scholar and faculty member at Georgian Court University in Lakewood, N.J., will present Mercy in the Christian Scriptures.

SEPTEMBER 22, 2016
Pat Talone, RSM, vice president for mission services at the Catholic Health Association, will present Mercy and Biomedical Ethics.

OCTOBER 20, 2016
DEDICATING CARLOW’S NEW UNIVERSITY COMMONS

ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2015, under a tent on the Carlow University Campus Green—and beneath a pristine sky—the Carlow community gathered with alumni, friends, community partners, and local government officials to dedicate the new University Commons.

“A quality educational experience has the power to transform lives and create new opportunities,” said President Suzanne Mellon, PhD, during her welcoming remarks. “That is our vision for this facility.”

The University Commons is the signature project of Carlow University’s recent Comprehensive Campaign, which began in 2010 and raised in excess of $33 million dollars—more than any other Carlow fundraising endeavor to date. The project was completed on time (in just one year) and under budget (totalling $19.9 million).
Mellon emphasized the financial support of alumni, faculty, staff, and numerous institutions and foundations in completing the Commons project. Acknowledging the support of many donors—whose names are listed throughout the Commons and on an illuminated glass donor wall on the second floor—she highlighted the generosity of 1940 alumna Rita McGinley. Thanks to McGinley’s gift—the largest in University history—Carlow was able to create the Rita M. McGinley Center for Student Success, now located on the fourth floor of the University Commons. The McGinley Center is home to the Center for Digital Learning and Innovation, the Hopkins Communications Lab, the Center for Academic Success, and the Massey Computer Lab.

Mellon cited the support and vision of the Carlow University Board of Trustees in undertaking the first major construction on campus in 16 years. “Coming in as a new president, with the support of the board of trustees, we were able to complete this project—and do so in less than a year,” she said.

Bill Peduto, mayor of the City of Pittsburgh, offered words of congratulations and marveled at the impact the Commons would have on the greater Pittsburgh community. “The University Commons transformation is symbolic of all that’s happening in this little corner of Pittsburgh,” said Peduto. “That’s what you’re seeing here today … a true renaissance. What you’re doing here today—we will be seeing the spin off for years to come.”
CELTIC SENIORS ’16

CROSS COUNTRY

MARA CARSON
MAJOR: Nursing
HOMETOWN: Freeport, Pa.

JOSHUA DOOSE
MAJOR: Business
HOMETOWN: Braddock, Pa.

TIRRELL HARRIS
MAJOR: Accounting/Forensic Accounting
HOMETOWN: Pittsburgh, Pa.

JUSTIN HARSHBARGER
MAJOR: Biology
HOMETOWN: Somerset, Pa.

ELIZABETH HOLMES
MAJOR: Biology
HOMETOWN: Lancaster, Pa.

OLIVIA SWIERGOL
MAJOR: Nursing
HOMETOWN: Butler, Pa.

VOLLEYBALL

CARLY BONK
POSITION: Outside Hitter
MAJOR: Mass Media Communications

KELSEY BONK
POSITION: Defensive Spec.
MAJOR: Mass Media Communications

AMBER BUSSARD
POSITION: Middle Hitter
MAJOR: Nursing
HOMETOWN: Ruffs Dale, Pa.

NICOLLE DRISCOLL
POSITION: Middle Hitter
MAJOR: Management in Health Services
HOMETOWN: White Oak, Pa.

ASHLEY GROOMS
POSITION: Setter
MAJOR: Nursing
HOMETOWN: Butler, Pa.

SOCERR

RACHEL DILL
POSITION: Defense
MAJOR: Biology/Perfusion
HOMETOWN: Vinton, Va.

SARAH SCHWARTZ
POSITION: Forward
MAJOR: Nursing
HOMETOWN: Baldwin, Pa.
Carlow University is pleased to introduce the Carlow Alumni-Athlete Alliance (CA3). The group was started by Director of Athletics George Sliman, Director of Alumni Relations Rose Woolley, and a committee of alumni-athletes: Kelly Arroyo ’05, Pamela Arroyo ’06’10, Rachel Blonski ’13, Carol Husa ’94, Valerie (Phillips) Mazza ’00, and Stephanie Woodruff ’02.

The organization hopes to gain interest and momentum among the more than 800 current student-athletes and to increase networking opportunities, build mentoring, and fundraise for the future.

“The group will not only help athlete alums but will also benefit the current student-athletes,” says Blonski, who played softball while earning her biology degree with an autopsy specialist concentration and a psychology minor.

CA3’s first events—held during homecoming weekend—included a Walk of Fame ceremony and reception, an alumni-athlete-only cocktail reception, and a tailgate on the green open to all students, student-athletes, and alumni.

“We will look to plan an alumni-athlete and student-athlete-focused event for each season or quarterly,” says Mazza, a former basketball player with a BA in business/communications and a minor in professional writing. “Alumni-athletes should stay tuned for more details as they are confirmed,” she says, encouraging interested alumni-athletes to friend CA3 on Facebook and to look for updates in their mailboxes and inboxes.

“We are excited to include all athlete alums in the process,” adds Blonski. “We hope that they will come back for the events, enjoy them, and reconnect with their teammates, classmates, and fellow alumni-athletes.”

New Additions to the Fall 2016 Sports Lineup

CARLOW UNIVERSITY WILL ADD MEN’S SOCCER TEAM AND MEN’S AND WOMEN’S GOLF TEAMS TO ITS ATHLETICS LINEUP STARTING WITH THE FALL 2016 SEMESTER.

“Student athletes interested in playing soccer or golf at a collegiate level will have the opportunity to make history by being the first members of these three Carlow teams,” said George Sliman, Carlow’s director of athletics.

The men’s soccer team will practice and play at Highmark Stadium, home of the Pittsburgh Riverhounds, the city’s pro soccer team. Marcus Pollidore, head coach of the women’s team, will also coach the men’s team.

The men’s and women’s golf teams will compete in both fall and spring. Their practice course will be Schenley Park, and the home course is still being determined. Ryan Shank, assistant coach of Carlow’s men’s basketball team, will coach both the men’s and women’s golf teams.

“Joining a brand new team creates a tremendous opportunity for high school student athletes because they will be able to compete for starting positions immediately,” said Sliman. “It’s a tremendous opportunity for a student athlete who is ready to take the next step both athletically and academically.”

Carlow Sports Talk is webcast on the third Monday of each month beginning at 8:30 p.m. The show, which is featured on the MSA Sports Network, is hosted by Carlow senior volleyball players Carly and Kelsey Bonk, and Jake Holmes. Pictured, left to right, are: Kelsey Bonk, Carly Bonk, senior volleyball player Niccole Driscoll, head coach Julie Gaul, Jake Holmes (seated), and Carlow’s director of athletics, George Sliman.
NEW ALUMNI CAREER NETWORK FACILITATES VALUABLE CONNECTIONS

JOINING THE ALUMNI CAREER NETWORK IS AN EASY WAY TO STAY CONNECTED AND GIVE BACK TO YOUR ALMA MATER.

The Alumni Career Network is a new initiative that connects Carlow students and job-seeking alumni with Carlow alumni from a variety of professions and industry areas. “Joining the Alumni Career Network is an easy way to stay connected and give back to your alma mater,” says Erin Bridgen, director of Carlow’s Office of Career Development.

Offered completely online, alumni who join the network can share knowledge and expertise with students exploring career options, help students and job-seeking alumni to build their professional networks, and assist students in developing workplace readiness.

Setting up your Alumni Career Network profile is quick and easy. The network asks for basic information regarding your education, employment, and interests. You can choose your privacy level and preferred contact method, and set a maximum number of contacts per month.

“Members of the Alumni Career Network can expect to be contacted by Carlow students or alumni seeking information or networking connections related to their particular career/industry area,” says Bridgen. “These contacts can be made by phone or e-mail, according to the member’s preferred contact method.

In-person meetings are not necessary, unless you have chosen to make such arrangements.” Those in the Alumni Career Network can also become involved in other Office of Career Development activities including serving as a guest speaker for career programs, hosting a job shadow or intern, and conducting resume reviews and/or mock interviews.

JOIN TODAY!
www.myinterface.com/carlow/mentor

CARLOW UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS, FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016

First row L-R: Joanne Malenock, PhD ’59 (past president), Emily Noel ’07 (co-vice president), Elizabeth Brown ’08 (co-vice president), Valerie Phillips Mazza ’00, and Ashley Kunkle ’11.

Second row L-R: Carol Glock ’75, Bernadette Skoczylas ’69, Irene Toma ’93, Mary Ann Miller ’71, Suzanne Paone, DHA ’85, Janice Nash, DNP ’12 (faculty representative), Becky Flaherty ’00, ’06, Christine Aikens Wolfe ’70, ’99, Annette Condeluci ’79, Sandi DiMola, JD (faculty representative), and Alison Piccolino ’12.

Not present: Heidi Meier, DBA, CPA ’77 (president of alumni board), Judith Klingensmith ’63 (secretary of alumni board), Jane Kwasniewski ’79, Marcee Radakovitch, DNP ’10, and Elizabeth Smith ’15.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP DINNER

Front row L-R: Tara Doyle, Tianna Foore, and Chloe Giovannetti. Back row L-R: Bernadette Skoczylas ’69 and Barbara Kraft ’83.
CARLOW UNIVERSITY CADETS

The Carlow University Cadet Program began in 1961 under the leadership of Sister Elizabeth Carroll (Sister Thomas Aquinas) and Sister Mary Paul Hickey. Prospective high-school senior girls were referred to Carlow by local pastors, who identified them as individuals with the characteristics and academic credentials to manage an intense academic program. The Cadet program began a week after high school graduation and continued through holiday breaks, Saturdays, and summers, resulting in receipt of a bachelor’s degree in education that was earned in just two years. The Cadets taught in their home parishes or at The Campus School of Carlow University for the two years following their Carlow graduation. The program ended in 1971.

On May 1, 2015, Cadet alumni gathered for a reunion planning meeting tea at the Mercy Convent, served by the Inn at Negley. Sister Mary Paul welcomed the alumni to reconnect and to help plan a special reunion for Cadets during Carlow University Homecoming Weekend in October.

HOMECOMING PLANNING COMMITTEE

L-R: Allisandra Supinski ’15, Angela Hay ’15, Sandra Olenick ’65, Rosemary Howley ’65, Cassie Ruane ’65, Nancy Brenza ’65, and Elizabeth Smith ’15.

L-R: Jane Kwasniewski ’79, Theresa Reese ’95, Bernadette Skoczylas ’69, Anita Sammartino Dacal ’69, and Ruby Holmes ’00.

L-R: Valerie Phillips Mazza ’00, Elizabeth Smith ’15, Allisandra Supinski ’15, and Angela Hay ’15.
Honoring the Carlow Laureates, recipients of the University’s most prestigious honor for alumni. Congratulations to these outstanding women whose work, thoughts, and actions demonstrate the highest standards of professional accomplishment and leadership.

L-R: Deanne D’Emilio, JD; Louise Malakoff, JD ’67; Margaret Rosenzweig, PhD ’81; Ellie Wymard, PhD ’68; Sister Patricia McCan, RSM, PhD ’61, accepting on behalf of Sister Grace Ann Geibel, RSM ’61; Barbara Capozzi Kirr ’60; and Suzanne Mellon, PhD.


L-R: Michael Rosenzweig, JD, and Margaret Rosenzweig, PhD ’81.

L-R: Sister Sheila Carney, RSM ’67 and Louise Malakoff, JD ’67.

L-R: Deanne D’Emilio, JD; Louise Malakoff, JD ’67; Margaret Rosenzweig, PhD ’81; Ellie Wymard, PhD ’68; Sister Patricia McCan, RSM, PhD ’61, accepting on behalf of Sister Grace Ann Geibel, RSM ’61; Barbara Capozzi Kirr ’60; and Suzanne Mellon, PhD.

L-R: Suzanna McInerney, Patrick McGowan ’64, and Michelleann ‘Mike’ McGowan ’64.

L-R: Dory Domínguez ’67 and Louise Malakoff, JD ’67.
CARLOW LAUNCHES A D.C. ALUMNI CHAPTER

This newly established Washington, D.C. alumni chapter will provide many opportunities for alumni to reconnect and meet other alumni in and around the area, offering social and networking events, faculty speakers, community service projects, and cultural outings. If you would like to join the inaugural chapter leadership team or become a chapter member, email alumni@carlow.edu or contact Rose Woolley at 412.578.6274.

JULY REUNION PLANNING

ALUMNI GATHERING TULSA, OKLAHOMA

L-R: Washington, D.C. chapter leadership team members Susan Fishburn ’74, Maraya Lasinsky ’03, Janine Greenberg ’06, and Meghan Foy ’10.

CHICAGO 2015

L-R: Katherine McDonough Madden ’55; Joy Tolbert Nelson, JD ’90; Lisa Sweetney Swint ’85; Paula Martin ’83; Kathleen Yosko ’73; Janet Thompson ’72, ’74; Marsha McDonough Braunlich ’68; and Eleanor Deidge ’69.
HOMECOMING 2015

Cadet and 50th Reception at the Duquesne Club
L-R: L-R: Bernadette Burger Skoczylas ’69, Martha Wolff Davis ’65, Alice Reynolds Berlinski ’65, Sandra Horney Petrosky ’65, Sister Mary Paul Hickey, RSM, Cheryl McCafferty St. George ’66, Mary Lou Henry Hrach ’65, and Rosemary Howley ’65.

Alumni Dinner at the Duquesne Club

Saturday Breakfast

Friends Reunite at Brunch

Alumni Activities

Homecoming 2015

L-R: Suzanne Mellon, PhD and Margaret Mangan, JD ’70.

L-R: Valerie Phillips Mazza ’00 and husband Joe Mazza.

Front L-R: Mary Kay Isler Schaner ’60 and Joan Halloran Moore ’60. Back L-R: Susellen McShane ’60 and Nancy Kane Thompson ’60.

L-R: Dorothy Lucas Bacon ’65 and Nancy O’Donnell Brenza ’65.

Couple at Sunday Brunch

L-R: Dr. Len Vertuno, Nancy Reardon Vertuno ’65, Jack Dambaugh, Cecilia Zak Dambaugh ’65, Robert Danehy, and Sylvia Spincie Danehy ’65.
**MANAGEMENT OF YOUR RESOURCES SESSION**

L-R: Anita Sammartino Dacal ’69, Leslie Kolenda ’11, Stacey Payne ’99, Bernadette Burger Skoczylas ’69, Bonnie Vojtek DiCarlo ’64, Maxine Bonadio Oleyar ’70, Katherine Hufnagel Hawkes ’65, and Susan Bruni Jones ’70.

**HAPPY HOUR AT REED SMITH LLP**

L-R: Susan Butter Polojac ’06 and Hershawna Turner.

L-R: Annette Lucente Condeluci ’79 and Eileen Murray.

**TAILGATE LUNCH**

L-R: Vincent Bucci, Tirrell Harris, and Brian Vratonic ’15.

**CLASS OF 1970 ALUMNI AT THE TAILGATE**

Front L-R: Judy Giovannitti ’70, Christine Aikens Wolfe ’70, ’99, and Patricia Faber ’70. Back L-R: Patricia Carroll Burkardt ’70 and Celine Rosenberger Clouse ’70.

**ALUMNI ATHLETES ALLIANCE LEADERS AT THE TAILGATE**

L-R: Stephanie Woodruff ’02, Carol Schmidt Husa ’94, George Sliman, Valerie Phillips Mazza ’00, and Rachel Bionski ’13.

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**Save the Date**

Homecoming 2016

October 7-9, 2016

Stay Connected!

Send your e-mail to alumni@carlow.edu to receive updates on the latest alumni news and events.
The Carlow Fund closes the gap between opportunity and reality. Your investment ensures that Carlow University is positioned for success.

Make a gift. Make an impact. Show the world you’re #CarlowProud today.

Give today at www.carlow.edu/give

For more information, please contact Aoife Toomey at astoomey@carlow.edu or 412.578.6654.
50s

Dorothy Flaherty Weldon ’59, past president of the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians (LAOH), was one of the four honorees at the eighth annual Sisters Place Recognition on May 9, 2015 at Georgetown Centre in Pleasant Hills, Pa. A supportive housing community committed to assisting families achieve self-sufficiency, Sisters Place shares the vision of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Saint Vincent DePaul, and Saint Louise de Marillac.

60s

Mary A. Zambito-Molinari ’66 was coordinator of a core group of nurses who developed curriculum, policies and procedures, lab experiences, and a textbook for a health care assistant program giving local Mexicans the opportunity to work as caregivers in homes, nursing homes, and medical offices.

70s

Joyce Frauenholz ’76 has taught English for the Community College of Allegheny County (CCAC) for the past 35 years, serving as chair of the arts and humanities department at the school’s North Campus since 2011. Joyce is forever grateful to Carlow for the dedication and encouragement of its teachers, particularly Sister Maureen Walsh, who captured her imagination in her literature classes, and Professor Richard Devlin, who found meaning in her artwork.

Annette Lucente Condeluci ’79 accepted a position as a development officer at the Epilepsy Foundation this past June.

BIRTHS

Mary Ann Miller ’71 welcomed her fifth grandchild, Emmett James Miller, on February 2, 2015.

Carol Glock ’75 and her husband, Timothy, welcomed their newest grandchild, Landon Frank Glock, on July 9th, 2015.

80s

Mary Ellen Mehler Quinn, mother of Margaret Quinn Rosenzweig ’81, died May 1, 2015.

IN MEMORIAM

40s

Sister M. Magdalene “Mary” Lovrich ’45 died May 21, 2015.

50s

Florence Falkenhagen Ward ’50 died May 2, 2015.

Mary Jane Breiner Tovey ’53 died May 23, 2015.

Rita A. McDonough Bren ’54 died April 19, 2015.

Dorothy Fetter Psuty ’54 died March 26, 2015.
ALUMNI ACTIVITIES

Theresa M. Sudetic ’59 died April 15, 2015.

60s

Catherine McCormick ’60 died June 27, 2015.

Judy Hancock Pfie Birdsley ’62 died August 7, 2015.

Honorable Donna Bost Cervini ’62 died March 25, 2014.

Sister Ann Margaret Bolf OSF ’66 died June 27, 2015.

Sister Rose Marie Vogel ’66 died May 24, 2015.

Sandra K. Fabbozzi Arjona ’69 died April 29, 2015.

70s


Rev. Sherry Sparks ’70 died May 27, 2015.

Barbara L. Milsak ’72 died April 1, 2015.

Carolyn C. Hoch, PhD ’76 died April 12, 2015.

Virginia R. "Ginny" Kaschak ’78 died May 2, 2015.

80s

Dr. Stanley L. Pollock ’82 died August 3, 2015.

Barbara E. Kraft ’83 died May 17, 2015.

90s

Judith G. “Judy” Martin ’95 died May 1, 2015.

00s

Bridget M. “Maggi” Moore Schessler ’01 died May 1, 2014.

Friends

Elsie Hilliard Hillman, a 1994 Carlow University Woman of Spirit® and a Carlow trustee emerita, died on August 4, 2015.

As the chairwoman of the state Republican National Committee from 1978 to 1996, Elsie helped advance the careers of a number of Pennsylvania’s Republican governors, but also had friends in the Democratic Party. She approached politics as a way to build bridges between people and advance social causes.


Have you recently moved, married, had a baby, changed jobs, earned an advanced degree, or received a promotion? If so, please send us your news, updated information, or business card, and we will send you a Carlow University luggage tag as our way of saying thanks.

Please send alumni news to Rose Woolley

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CALL: 412.578.6274

VISIT: www.carlow.edu/ShareYourNews
From Diane Samuels’ inaugural exhibition in the Carlow University Gallery: *Midnight’s Children, Salman Rushdie* is a hand transcription of Salman Rushdie’s *Midnight’s Children* in 1001 parts, joined to form a map of India on August 15, 1947, its date of independence. The “midnight’s children” of the book’s title are the 1001 children born in the first hour of Indian independence.