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LEAD STORIES

Two local university presidents have announced plans to transition out of their positions, while a new president was announced at a third campus making this past spring one of the busiest for presidential activity in some time. Those making announcements include:

- **George Washington University President Steven Knapp**, who announced on June 7th that he would not seek to renew his contract which expires at the end of July 2017. President Knapp became the 16th president of GW in August 2007. His priorities have included enhancing the university’s partnerships with neighboring institutions, expanding the scope of its research, strengthening its worldwide community of alumni, enlarging its students’ opportunities for public service and leading its transformation into a model of urban sustainability. President Knapp will continue to serve as president through the next academic year, during which the university is expected to conduct a nationwide search for his successor;

- **National Intelligence University President Dr. David Ellison**, who has said that he will retire from the Presidency of NIU in late August 2017. His retirement will come after NIU moves its main campus from Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling in southeast Washington, DC to a newly refurbished facility in Bethesda, MD in the fall of 2016. In the upcoming year, the university will be able to conduct a national search even as President Ellison oversees NIU’s decennial reaffirmation of accreditation process. President Ellison has served since 2009; and

- **Richard Thomas**, MD, DDS, MG USA Retired was named the 6th president of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences over the summer. Dr. Thomas’s last assignment before retiring from the U.S. Army in May 2016 was a Chief Medical Officer and Director of the Defense Health Agency Healthcare Operations Director.

COMMENCEMENT
Spring Commencement Season 2016 resulted in thousands of graduates and happy parents, spouses, siblings, relatives and friends. Here are some of the details:

- **At Marymount University:**
  - Cardinal Donald Wuerl addressed 671 graduates on Sunday, May 15;
  - Marymount President Matthew D. Shank and Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees Marlene Malek awarded Wuerl with an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters;
  - Njoud Mathhar Abu-Jabar, who earned a BBA, gave the address for the graduating class;
  - Dr. Diana Venskus, Associate Professor of Physical Therapy, addressed Marymount’s 327 master’s degree candidates and 46 doctoral degree candidates; and
  - Allison Troutman Stueve, who earned an MBA, gave the address for the graduating class.

- **At Trinity Washington University:**
  - Nursing student Martece Yates was featured in two major profiles in the Washington Post. The first was an article about the documentary “Southeast 67,” which aired as she headed to Austin, Texas, for the film’s showing and panel discussion at South by Southwest. She was profiled again when she graduated from Trinity in May, overcoming great adversity and challenge.

- **At Gallaudet University:**
  - 227 undergraduates and 180 graduates received their degrees during Gallaudet’s 146th Commencement exercises held on campus on May 13th; and
  - Two student speakers—Ardavan Guity and Tong Song addressed the graduating class;
  - President Robert Cordano presided over her first commencement at Gallaudet;
  - Drs. Cynthia Neese Bailes and Marilyn Ann Sass-Lehrer from the Gallaudet Department of Education and Dr. Donna M. Mertens, from the Department of Educational Foundations and Research received professor emeritus status; and
  - The fifth annual Lavender Graduation Ceremony, a celebration featuring the 2016 graduates from the LGBTQ+ community at Gallaudet University (including allies) was held May 11th on campus. Class 2017 members Sean Norman and Stephanie Niaupari emceed the ceremony, which featured Edgar Palmer (’77), Executive Director of the Office of Diversity and Equity for Students, and Dr. Cara Miller (G ’10 and PhD ’11), Coordinator, LGBTQ+ Resource Center. The ceremony also featured a series of awards including:
    - The Drago Renteria Commitment to the LGBTQ+ Community Award which went to Morgann Smith;
    - Faculty/Staff Commitment Award to Dyana Thurgood (G ’15);
    - Most Distinguished Ally Award which went to Kellynette Gomez; and
    - The “Rainbow Keeper Award to the Department of Social Work.

- **At George Washington University:**
  - U.S. Senator Cory Booker, (D-N.J.), addressed an audience of approximately 25,000 on the National Mall on May 15th;
  - Senator Booker, Albert Harrison Small, philanthropist and President of Southern Engineering Corporation, and Baroness Joanna Shields, (MBA, ’87), Undersecretary of State and Minister for Internet Safety and Security for Her Majesty’s Government of the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland, each received an Honorary Doctorate of Public Service at the ceremony;
  - Julia Haigney, (BA ’11; J.D., ’16), delivered this year’s student address;
This year’s **George Washington Award Winners** were announced. **GW Award Winners** are nominated by other **GW** community members for their outstanding contributions to the university. They were:
- Rahul Simha, Professor of Computer Science;
- Elizabeth Amundson, University Registrar;
- Chris Evans, a senior in the **School of Media and Public Affairs**; and
- Tim Rabolt, a student in the **Graduate School of Education and Human Development**; and

Other special events were held during Commencement Week including the Athletics Graduation Ceremony on May 10th and the Senior Class Toast on May 12th.

**At National Defense University:**
- On April 19th, the **Information Resources Management College (IRMC or i-College)** held a combined Hall of Fame Ceremony and CIO Leadership Development Program (CIO LDP) Graduation on April 15th at Fort Lesley J. McNair;
  - Chancellor Jan Hamby, RADM (USN Ret.) presided over the ceremonies;
  - Ms. Melissa Hathaway, CEO of Hathaway Global Strategies LLC who was the Distinguished Lecturer and the Hall of Fame recipient, addressed the audience on the topic “Are We Cyber Ready?” and
  - 13 graduates from the **CIO Leadership Development Program** received diplomas while Mr. Nicholas Eichler from the U.S. Department of State, received the CIO LDP’s Distinguished Leadership Award; and
- On June 9th, over 500 graduates of four **NDU** colleges received Master’s Degrees at a ceremony held on the **NDU** campus of Fort Lesley J. McNair:
  - The distribution of degrees was as follows;
    - 91 received the Master of Science Degree in Government Information Leadership (GIL) from the **NDU Information Resources Management College (IRMC or iCollege)**;
    - 14 students completed requirements for the college’s Senior Service College (SSC) program, which was in its first/pilot year. The SSC curriculum focuses on information/cyberspace instrument of national security;
    - 162 graduated from the **College of International Security Affairs**;
    - 308 graduated from the **Eisenhower School**; and
    - 207 graduated from the **National War College**, 59 in the Counterterrorism concentration; and
  - General Joseph F. Dunford, Jr., United States Marine Corps, 19th Chairman of the Joint Chief’s of Staff, delivered the commencement address;

**At Howard University**, President Barack Obama gave commencement remarks eight years after he first visited campus during a pre-Democratic Presidential Primary Debate Reception in June 2007. **Washington Post** columnist Colby King used the occasion to write about all the “firsts” performed by **Howard University** alumni including:
- The nation’s first black Nobel Peace Prize winner, **Howard’s** former government department chairman Ralph Bunche (a prize also won by President Obama);
- The nation’s first African American winner of the Nobel Prize in Literature, **Howard** graduate and professor Toni Morrison;
• The first black attorney general from the state of Massachusetts and the first black U.S. Senator elected since Reconstruction, Edward Brooke;
• The nation’s first black Supreme Court justice, Thurgood Marshall;
• The nation’s first black elected governor, L. Douglas Wilder;
• The first black mayors of New York City and the District of Columbia, respectively David Dinkins and Walter Washington;
• The first black U.S. Army general, Benjamin O. Harris;
• The nation’s first black female ambassador, Patricia Roberts Harris;
• The first black member of Congress from Mississippi since reconstruction, Mike Espy; and
• The first black Social Security commissioner and first black deputy assistant to the president (and Colby King’s wife), Gwendolyn Stewart King; and


New Last Spring

This April, the Kogod School of Business at American University opened at the AU Center for Innovation in the Capital. The new Center provides innovation and entrepreneurship training, application, and research tools designed to energize a new generation of business leaders in the Greater Washington, DC region and beyond. The Center also provides entrepreneurs with access, on and off campus, to social, intellectual, and financial capital. At the Center’s launch event, DC Deputy Mayor Courtney Snowden announced the inauguration of Project 500, a partnership between the Center and the Office of the Deputy Mayor of Greater Economic Opportunity that will support 500 small businesses in DC. The program will also include special preferences to residents of Wards 7 and 8 as well as business operators in those wards.

In April, Howard University celebrated the opening of its first new laboratory building in more than 30 years. The Interdisciplinary Research Building, a $70 million edifice of glass and terracotta tile at the corner of Georgia Avenue and W Street, is designed to serve as a gateway to the main campus and assert the importance of scientific research at Howard. President Wayne A. I. Frederick said that he hopes the building will help in attracting academic talent and retain faculty.

The University of Maryland announced the latest step in the redevelopment of College Park—a $110 million mixed-use development on property that currently houses a Quality Inn and Plato’s Diner. Two developers will work with the University of Maryland Foundation to build a 300-unit luxury apartment building with more than 100,000 square feet of ground-floor retail. It is hoped that the development will attract a retail anchor and a high-end grocery tenant. Part of the project’s inspiration was the Monroe Street Market development in the Brookland neighborhood in DC, a project co-developed by the Catholic University of America.

New This Fall
A new dining option on the Foggy Bottom campus of George Washington University is opening this fall inside GW’s second-largest residence hall, District House. Five fast-casual restaurants—Wiseguy NY Pizza; Beef’n Bread; Chick-fil-A; GRK Fresh Greek; and Sol Mexican Grill—will lease retail spaces in the lower level of District House.

American University is piloting a new student Metro pass this fall called UPass. Students can use the pass to take unlimited rides on Metrobus and Metrorail during the academic year with each student paying $130 per semester for the use of the pass. Students cannot opt out of the program, but can use financial aid to cover the cost. Metro predicts the program will cost students about $1 a day. The Metro Board authorized the creation of the program in March 2016 and 85 percent of AU students voted “Yes” in a student referendum on whether to support the UPass program and pass its cost onto students. At the end of the fall semester, both Metro and AU will look at student satisfaction with the program.

**GOLD STARS**

Michael Keidar, professor in the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering at the George Washington University, has been selected as the 2016 American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics National Capital Section’s Engineer of the Year. Dr. Keidar received the award at the AIAA-NCS Honors and Awards Banquet held on May 24th.

The Smithsonian’s National Portrait Gallery selected Dana Tai Soon Buress, Chair of the Department of Theatre and Dance at George Washington University, as its first choreographer-in-residence. Over the next three years, Mr. Burgess, will create new works inspired by museum exhibitions and will participate in public discussions about dance and art. The Dana Tai Soon Burgess Dance Company will also premiere the new dances in the museum’s Robert and Arlene Kogod Courtyard.

Peter Nemes, assistant professor of chemistry at the George Washington University, was named an Emerging Investigator by the journal Analyst. The journal also featured on its cover page a manuscript co-authored by Dr. Nemes and Sally Moody, Professor of Anatomy and Regenerative Biology at GW. The research used a custom-built mass spectrometry platform from Dr. Nemes’ lab to find previously unknown differences between single embryonic cells that occupy the left and right sides of 8-cell Xenopus embryo, a powerful model for vertebrate embryonic development.

**SPOTLIGHT: PRESIDENTS**

President Patricia McGuire received several honors and invitations last spring including:

- Honorary degrees in May from Emmanuel College in Boston and another from Chatham University in Pittsburgh, where DC Mayor Muriel Bowser, a Chatham graduate, also received an honorary degree;
- An invitation to speak to the “Cornerstones Institute” at McKinley Tech High School—a conference of DC Public Schools teachers who are implementing Cornerstones, a new, innovative K-12 curriculum designed to empower students with specific skills and
milestones. **Trinity** graduate Gene Pinkard, who runs the school restructuring program for DC PS, gave the welcome address to the teachers;

- An invitation to participate in the Second Annual Education Summit, convened by *The Atlantic Magazine*. She participated in a panel on college accessibility and affordability, and attended a dinner sponsored by the Walton Family Foundation hosted by David Bradley, the Chairman of *The Atlantic*;

- An invitation to speak at the Girl Scouts National Centennial Celebration at the U.S. Capitol of the Gold Award, the highest honor that Girl Scouts can achieve, through the completion of a series of service projects. She also hosted a special dinner at *Trinity* for Girl Scouts who are working towards their Silver and Gold Awards;

- An invitation to join a group of students for an event in the US. Capitol hosted by *Trinity* graduate and House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi, which featured First Lady Michelle Obama and Dr. Jill Biden, who paid tribute to veterans and honored Retired Brigadier General Wilma Vaught;

- An invitation to speak on a panel and participate in a conference at Yale University, “Supporting Teachers in High-Poverty Public Schools,” focused on the urgency of supporting and retaining teachers in high-poverty, high-minority public schools. The conference was a follow-up to the White House Summit on College Opportunity and included Under Secretary of Education Ted Mitchell as well as officials from the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy as well as officials from the National Science Foundation; and

- An invitation to speak at the annual spring gathering of the DC Area Phi Beta Kappa. Her remarks were titled “Chaos and Commitment: Challenges for 21st Century Education.”

**George Washington University President Steven Knapp** participated in a weeklong visit to Israel with a delegation of presidents and chancellors from U.S. universities and colleges at the end of May. The visit was hosted by American Jewish Committee Project Interchange designed to teach participants about Israeli innovation and invite opportunities for academic partnerships.

**President McGuire** was active in the media last spring:

- She was quoted extensively in a *Catholic News Service* article about the need for Catholic leaders to be stronger in denouncing gun violence after the tragedy in Orlando. In the article, which ran in newspapers across the country, **President McGuire** said that “as the country processes the Orlando attack, it should be ‘a moment for the church to rise and to be a source not only of comfort but of some advocacy and direction’ for the church and the nation;”

- On another high profile matter—divisive racial incidents at the University of Missouri, she wrote an op-ed piece for *The Hechinger Report*. “How Can Mizzou Heal? A 1996 Campus Incident offers Some Lessons About Race,” in which she reflected on her own experience at *Trinity* which had made her stronger in the long run and more committed than ever to access and equity;

- She wrote on op-ed on the resignation of the president of Mount St. Mary’s University after he made controversial remarks regarding freshmen at the invitation of the editors of the *Chronicle of Higher Education*. Her article, “An Appalling Breach of Faith at
Mount St. Mary’s” was widely read, drew substantial comments and was also featured by the NAICU Daily News and the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators website. The National Catholic Reporter also focused on the topic in an article on the controversy entitled, “MD’s Mount St. Mary’s Brings Stinging Rebuke from Another Catholic College President.” Her blog for the Huffington Post was titled “Not the Disruption We Need;”

- She was quoted extensively in a University Business article about college presidents who critique college rankings in a piece entitled “Rankled by college rankings: As some lists gain credibility, presidents still criticize the one-size-fits-all-approach; and
- She made comments that were highlighted in an article in the New York Times, “Should Philosophy Departments Change Their Names? Readers Join the Debate.”

President Steven Knapp authored a guest column for the July 21st edition of the Washington Business Journal where he discussed ways in which local universities can close the innovation gap. He mentioned seven ways in which partnership between local universities and industry can help transform the region into a hub of innovation:

- First, he suggested that universities and tech companies directly supply each other’s needs in a “strategic basis” rather than ad hoc;
- Second, he suggested that academic and industrial investigators work side-by-side in university laboratories;
- Third, in order to avoid the “Valley of Death,” the financially vulnerable position of many startups between start-up capital and commercial investment, he said that universities can train inventors to assess an idea’s value to potential customers;
- Fourth, universities and companies can build joint centers;
- Fifth, universities can provide companies with an environment in which to try out new technologies;
- Sixth, universities can convene industry, academia, and government to seek changes in policies that inadvertently stymie innovation; and
- Seventh, companies can develop pipelines that make it easier to identify and recruit talented students, while universities develop innovative degree programs that match needs of local industry.

**Campus News**

In June, Georgetown University released its 20-year campus plan to serve as the planning structure for the university’s housing, transportation and student conduct from 2017 to 2036. In the plan, Georgetown promises to: maintain the same student enrollment maximums from its 2010 plan; renovate on-campus housing; and possibly build new housing by 2030. Georgetown also hopes to decrease the traffic levels to and from campus and continue its review of impacts of current traffic levels.

Trinity Washington University celebrated the completion of the Payden Academic Center with a Dedication and Ribbon-cutting Ceremony on June 4th. Among the ribbon-cutting highlights:
DC Mayor Muriel Bowser and DC Councilmember (and Trinity MBA graduate) Brandon Todd (D-Ward 4) spoke about Trinity’s vital role in the Washington Community;

Cardinal Donald Wuerl, of the Archdiocese of Washington, blessed the building and gave remarks that honored Trinity and the leadership of President Pat McGuire; and

Catholic University President John Garvey and Washington Board of Trade President Jim Dinegar were among the guests.

The new academic center is named in honor of the family of Trinity graduate Joan A. Payden (’53), founder and CEO of Payden & Rygel in Los Angeles. Ms. Payden made a lead gift of $10 million for the project. The new Academic Center is Trinity’s first LEED certified building; features 12 state-of-the-art science and nursing labs; and has 23 classrooms and seminar spaces for all disciplines. It was designed by EYP/Architecture & Engineering, built by Clark Construction, LLC, cost $38 million and was completed on time and under budget.

Credit analysts at Moody’s Investors Service say that Howard University, through a set of financial deals, is now on the path to a financial turnaround after some years of financial strain. The deals cited—Howard’s conversion of a residence hall into luxury rentals and its participation in a Federal Communications Commission auction of its airwaves—were identified by Moody’s as signs of ongoing financial stability.

In May, George Mason University officially changed the name of its law school to the Antonin Scalia Law School, an action which generated much discussion when it was first announced shortly after Supreme Court Justice Scalia’s death in February. The State Council of Higher Education of Virginia (SCHEV) voted unanimously to approve the name change which was tied to a large gift from an anonymous donor and the Charles Koch Foundation. David Rehr, Senior Association Dean and Professor of Law at Mason, said that the university was pleased with SCHEV’s decision and that the generous gifts to the school would help “position us prominently among leading law schools and open doors for future students through scholarships and other major academic objectives.”

Also in May, George Washington University announced a $47.5 renovation of the Flagg Building, the historic 17th Street Beaux Arts building that houses the Corcoran School of Arts and Design at GW. The renovation promises to be the most comprehensive in the school’s history. It will include updates to the second-floor gallery and classroom space, as well as the preservation of the historic galleries and creation of new design classrooms. All current roof leaks and deficiencies in the building’s mechanical infrastructure will also be overhauled. The renovations are expected to extend through 2018.

Under Armour Inc. has signed a deal with Howard University to supply apparel and accessories to the school’s athletic teams. The pact marks Under Armour’s first partnership with a historically black college and university. The agreement requires Under Armour to design and make game-day uniforms for all 19 of Howard’s men’s and women’s varsity athletic teams. The deal took effect on July 1st.

GREEN CAMPUS
The U.S. Green Building Council’s Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) has certified another American University building as Gold. The McKinley Building is the second new construction on AU’s campus to receive the coveted Gold distinction after the School of International Service Building received the same designation in 2011. To meet the LEED Gold standard, the McKinley Building boasted a green roof; a water efficient landscape featuring native and adaptive species; an energy efficient design; and focused and improved energy and resource efficiency including low-flow toilets and sinks; the purchase of 100 percent renewable energy credits; usage of a green cleaning plan; and lighting level controls at work stations and in shared spaces. The Building also has a location within walking distance from numerous community resources including MetroBus and the AU shuttle to the Tenleytown Metro station.

The George Washington University Solar Institute is partnering with GW Planet Forward and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) to create educational multimedia materials about solar energy. The project is funded by a two-year, $430,000 award from the U.S. Department of Energy SunShot Initiative. Solar Institute experts will conduct surveys to determine topic areas and develop concepts and write scripts with support from NREL. Planet Forward will lend expertise in journalism, new media, production and editorial to create the content. GW students will take a hands-on role in developing video content, interviewing experts and post-production. The series will be available in the public, and videos will be released and archived on the GW Solar Institute website.

For the eighth year in a row, American University has been designated a Tree Campus USA University by the Arbor Day Foundation for its dedication to campus forestry management and environmental stewardship. AU is the only university in the District of Columbia to receive this distinction for eight years straight. AU also hosts the only university arboretum in Washington, DC. Representatives from the District’s Urban Forestry Administration and Department of Energy and the Environment announced the 2016 designation during the university’s 23rd annual Campus Beautification Day on April 13th when students, faculty, and staff pitched in to help beautify the campus by planting new trees, shrubs, and flowers. It was also announced that AU joined the District of Columbia and eleven other partners to plant an additional 3,000 trees in the District as part of the Canopy 3,000 initiative. The Initiative is a public-private partnership aimed at expanding the number of trees planted on private property and public spaces throughout DC.

Local universities have joined the “buy local” movement by hosting on-campus farmers markets including:

- Marymount University which on Saturday mornings hosts the Marymount Farmer’s Market on the Main Campus at the corner of North Glebe Road and Old Dominion Drive. The Market is designed to encourage North Arlington residents to walk, bike, jog, hop the metro or drive to the new market. It has been organized through a joint partnership between Marymount and the Arlington-based nonprofit Field to Table, Inc. The market is open Saturdays 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. through November 19th. For more information, go to http://www.marymount.edu/Home/News-Events/News?newsld=230; and
- American University which hosts a Farmer’s Market every Wednesday over the summer at the Washington College of Law, 4300 Nebraska Avenue, NW. The market is a coordinated effort between American University and Pennsylvania-based Agora
Farms, an intermediary for bringing Amish and Mennonite “English” farm goods to AU’s campus (and Capitol Hill’s Eastern Market). The local Upper Crust Bakery is also at the market offering fresh breads, cookies, pies and cobblers.

As part of its myriad efforts to be a leader in energy management, the Energy & Engineering (E&E) department at American University currently has a number of initiatives to work towards a net zero energy status:

- To achieve energy reduction, E&E engineers have installed sub-meters campus wide that measure energy consumption for domestic water, processed water, electricity and steam production. The data collected from the various meters will provide the E&E Energy Conservation Team with analytics for an overall picture of a building’s energy performance and compare it with similar buildings nationwide;

- AU is also redoubling its efforts to design for efficiency and smart energy use in its building renovations and new construction. Through AU’s commissioning program, the Facilities Management staff will test, utilize and instruct new staff on promoting energy efficiency in new buildings. The E&E team is also installing LED lighting and replacing less efficient metal halide, florescent (contains mercury) and incandescent light fixtures including Bender Library, Sports Center Garage, Katzen Art Garage and the Butler Pavilion Tunnel; and

- Since January 2016, AU has sourced 50 percent of its electrical power from a solar farm in North Carolina via a power purchase agreement with Duke Renewable Energy. AU has also begun purchasing renewable energy credits (REC) wherever switching power suppliers is not an option, and where electricity does not come from renewable sources.

**Class Notes**

The University of the District of Columbia has created a new program to attract the best and the brightest. The District of Columbia University Partnership (DC UP) provides a four-year scholarship offer to all of the valedictorians or salutatorians at each District public or public charter high school. In addition, each student is offered a $6,000 annual housing allowance. Other students can use program funds to cover tuition debt if the student left the university due to outstanding bills and wants to return and complete his or her education. The goal of the program is to align the university outreach with Mayor Muriel Bowser’s “Pathways to the Middle Class” agenda.

George Washington University Colonial Inauguration oriented incoming students and their families to GW, giving them an opportunity to speak with academic advising staff, engage with faculty, meet new friends and learn about DC. Four sessions were held throughout the month of June.

In July, the White House hosted an event for college-bound students who have overcome steep odds to reach their college dreams. Among the students feted by First Lady Michelle Obama and Secretary of Education John B. King, Jr was Nia Hill who is attending Howard University this fall. Nia moved six times during her senior year as she sought stability at home. Despite it all, she was admitted to Howard, the most storied HBCU in the country. Also at the event was Glendy
Hernandez, who emigrated from Guatemala to the U.S. at the age of 3 and has enrolled at Northern Virginia Community College this fall. Glendy had a 4.0 GPA in high school in Manassas, VA.

**ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

Gallaudet University’s Master of Public Administration Program (MPA), introduced in March 2012 with classes beginning in the fall of 2012, was admitted to the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs and Administration (NASPAA), an accrediting body of the MPA program. Effective April 2016, Gallaudet’s MPA Program is now part of the “principal representatives” list within the NASPAA program, and is among 300 other schools that also offer similar MPA programs.

George Washington University President Steven Knapp, the Michael and Lori Milken Dean of Public Health Lynn R. Goldman, and Chair of the Department of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences Loretta DiPietro participated in panel discussions as part of the Milken Institute Global Conference in Los Angeles on May 2nd to 4th. At a special evening reception on May 2nd, the GW School of Business, International Finance Corporation (IFC) and Milken Institute launched the IFC-Milken Institute Capital Markets Program, which GW began hosting this fall. The program’s inaugural class will join the next generation of capital market leaders in developing emerging economies.

On May 19, 2016, Gallaudet University established a collaborative agreement with John A. Logan College (JALC), in Carlinville, Illinois, to allow students in the two-year Interpreter Preparation Program at JALC to transfer credits into Gallaudet’s two-year Bachelor of Arts in Interpretation program. Gallaudet has similar agreements with Central Piedmont Community College in Charlotte, NC; Austin Community College in Austin, TX; Front Range Community College in Westminster, CO; and Ohlone College in Freemont, CA.

**INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

George Washington University’s Elliott School of International Affairs, GW’s Institute for International Economic Policy and the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative launched the 2016 Global Multidimensional Poverty Index focused on multidimensional poverty in America on June 9th. The Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative issued a news briefing covering 44 countries in Africa and 465 regions of 41 of those countries and detailing changes over time for more than 30 sub-Saharan African countries. The data portrayed a wide variety of experiences in the pace and pattern of multidimensional poverty reduction. James Foster, Professor of Economics and International Affairs at GW; Sabina Alkire, the Oliver T. Carr Jr. Professor of International Affairs at GW and Director of the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative; Linda Etim, Assistant Administrator for Africa at USAID; Angela Lusigi, Strategic Advisor at the Regional Bureau for Africa of the United Nations Development Programme; and João Pedro Azevedo, Lead Economist and Global Lead on Welfare Measurement and Statistical Capacity at the World Bank, made remarks at the event held in the Elliott School’s City View Room.
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Created as part of First Lady Michelle Obama’s Reach Higher Initiative in 2014, College Signing Day celebrates graduating high school students for making a commitment to higher education. DC Public Schools and the DC Office of the State Superintendent (OSSE) hosted their second annual DC Celebration at George Washington University’s Smith Center on April 29th. U.S. Secretary of Education John King, DC State Superintendent of Education Hanseul Kang and GW President Steven Knapp made remarks. The GW Office of Admissions also invited incoming Stephen Joel Trachtenberg scholars to participate.

Research and Tech

Dr. Stephen Fuller, an economist at George Mason University, issued his annual jobs report in July showing that the DC Metropolitan Area added an impressive 81,100 jobs in the one-year period ending in June—a 2.4 percent employment growth rate, which was much higher than the national average. On a positive note, unemployment rates remained low with most new jobs coming in the leisure, hospitality, retail and health care industries. The news was not all good, however. Job growth was underwhelming in the professional and business services—sectors where there are more highly paid jobs.

A team of researchers at George Washington University led by Emilia Entcheva, Professor of Biomedical Engineering, has developed a faster method to predict whether potential new drugs will cause heart arrhythmias using optogenetics, a technique that uses light to control cells. While optogenetics has been used in neuroscience for a decade, this technique is relatively new in cardiac research. The research was published in Nature Communications and was co-authored by Christina M. Ambrosi at GW and former members of Dr. Entcheva’s lab at Stony Brook University—Harold Bien, John C. Williams, and Jinzhu Yu.

Gallaudet University recently received grant awards for the development of bimodal bilingualism, and to support a workshop that uses artificial creatures who can engage in interactive communication with young sign language learners. The purpose of the work will be to validate a previous finding that deaf children with cochlear implants who have continuous exposure to American Sign Language (ASL) show similar performance on English language tests to children of deaf adults, and consistently outperform deaf cochlear implanted children without ASL exposure. These findings challenge the assumption that signing is harmful to the English development of children with cochlear implants. Additional co-principal investigators include Dr. Deborah Chen Pichler, Associate Professor in the Department of Linguistics; Dr. Diane Lillo-Martin, Professor of Linguistics at the University of Connecticut; and Dr. Ronice de Quadros, a Professor at the Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina in Brazil.

In June, the School of Nursing and Health Studies at Georgetown University issued a report finding that among District of Columbia residents, the average black man has a life expectancy of 68.8 years, almost 15 years shorter than the average white man; the average black woman meanwhile, has a life expectancy of 76.2 years, nine less than her white peer. The report
also examined health care access and found that despite improvements, African Americans in the District still lag behind when compared to other ethnic groups. The report was submitted to DC Mayor Muriel Bowser and the DC Commission on African-American Affairs.

Closer scrutiny of data from the social network Twitter would have helped to diagnose and predict the rise of the two outsider candidates in the 2016 presidential election, according to a new Public Echoes of Rhetoric in America (PEORIA) Project report released May 24th. George Washington University Graduate School of Political Management professors Michael Cohen, Michael Cornfield, and Lara Brown found that Twitter provides valuable intelligence on the amount of attention candidates are getting from an important segment of the public. Both Mr. Trump and Sen. Sanders were heavy Twitter users and the platform allowed both to mitigate shortcomings each candidate had in “traditional” campaign measures.

The Dental Trade Alliance commissioned Dr. Uma Kelekar, an Assistant Professor of Healthcare Management and Legal Studies at Marymount University, to study the costs and benefits of expanding oral health care. Based on the findings, the group released a new white paper, “An Unexpected Strategy for Reducing Health Care Cost,” to its members in April. The paper suggests that relatively inexpensive routine dental care could bring health care costs down by eliminating the need for more drastic and expensive treatment later.

In July, the Georgetown University Center on Education issued a report showing a structural shift in the job market following the most recent economic recession which has radically changed the composition of the American workforce. Four-year college graduates, for the first time, comprise a larger share of the workforce than those who have only got a high school diploma. “The trend away from an economy that was anchored in high school to an economy anchored in post-secondary education and training has accelerated in the last two to three recessions,” said Anthony P. Carnevale, Director of the Georgetown Center and author of the report.

A new report, “Foot Traffic Ahead: Ranking Walkable Urbanism in America’s Largest Metros,” co-written by a George Washington University researcher studied walkable urbanism in the 30 largest U.S. metro areas. The research concluded that for the first time in possibly 60 years, office, retail and multi-family occupied rental space has a greater market share than drivable suburbs. The six metro areas with the most walkable urban space are: New York City; Washington, DC; Boston, Chicago; San Francisco; and Seattle. The research was published by Christopher Leinberger, the Charles Bendit Distinguished Scholar and Research Professor and Chair of the Center for Real Estate and Urban Analysis at the GW School of Business, and Michael Rodriguez, Director of Research for Smart Growth America.

The Washington Post reported on the difficulty colleges are facing in recruiting new presidents. An ACE survey found that only 30% of sitting provosts wanted to become presidents and the average age of college presidents is 61 (compared to 56 for the typical corporate CEO’s). In addition, the job of college president has grown more complex with more expected including balancing the budget, fundraising and pleasing alumni, faculty members and students. The Arizona State University-Georgetown University Academy for Innovative Higher Education Leadership has looked at the issue and come up with a list of skills needed—risk-taking; vision; passion about educational access for students; focus on data driven decision making and strategic communications skills.
George Washington University faculty received several grants to continue or begin their research including:

- Igor Efimov, Chair of the Department of Biomedical Engineering and the Alisann and Terry Collins Professors of Biomedical Engineering at GW, and his colleagues Natalia Travanova (Johns Hopkins University) and John Rogers (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign) who have received a $6 million Leducq grant as part of the Transatlantic Network of Excellence program. Dr. Efimov, who is the U.S. coordinator of the program, co-directs it with Michel Haïssaguerre of the University of Bordeaux in France. The award is for “RHYTHM” which stands for Repolarization Heterogeneity Imaging for Personalized Therapy of Heart Arrhythmia;

- David Mendelowitz, Vice Chair of the Department of Pharmacology and Psychology at GW and Matthew Kay, Associate Professor of Biomedical Engineering at GW, who have received a National Institutes of Health R01 research grant from the National Heart Lung and Blood Institute to study the activation of parasympathetic nerves during heart failure. The project was awarded for four years with a total budget of $1,564,600. Dr. Mendelowitz is the principal investigator and will lead the neuroscience aspects of the project. Dr. Kay, the co-investigator overseeing key personnel, will receive one-third of the budget to lead the cardiovascular aspects of the project. The researchers aim to show whether or not chronic activation of neurons in the hypothalamus will blunt the deleterious effects of heart failure disease on cardiac function; and

- Chunlei Liang, Professor of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering at GW, has received a five-year, $507,159 National Science Foundation (NSF) CAREER award for his project “CAREER: A Novel and Fast Open-Source Code for Global Simulation of Stratified Convection and Magnetohydrodynamics of the Sun.” The goal of this project is to create a unique capability for predicting density-stratified magnetohydrodynamics of the sun. This research is expected to lay a foundation for developing methods for predicting extreme space weather, such as the event of a “super solar flare” following by an extreme geomagnetic storm.

On the Book Shelf

Gallaudet University affiliated researchers, Dr. Laura Maddox, Gallaudet (Ph.D., ’15), a freelance interpreter; and Dr. Brenda Nicodemus, Associate Professor in Gallaudet’s Department of Interpretation, co-authored an article titled “The Committee in My Head: Examining Self-Talk of American Sign Language-English Interpreters,” which was published in the journal Translation and Interpreting Studies in July 2016. The survey-based study confirms the existence of self-talk within the interpreting profession; describes the phenomenon; and calls for an increased awareness of it to benefit both working interpreters and interpreter education programs. Self-talk, comments that people make to themselves, gained interest in the 1980’s as researchers recognized that athletic performance could be improved by directing its use.

Campus Support
In April, Catholic University received $47 million in gifts to support business education and other academic programs, a philanthropic bonanza for the school that included a record donation from the Busch Family Foundation. The money will be used to renovate an academic building—Maloney Hall—that will house the business school. The new school’s name will be the Tim and Steph Busch School of Business and Economics. Tim Busch, a businessman from Irvine, CA, is a University Trustee. The Busch Gift is nearly double CUA’s previous donation record—$8 million—a total previously reached only twice.

Northern Virginia businessman Dwight C. Schar, a homebuilding executive who is also a partial owner of the Washington Redskins football team, has donated $10 million to George Mason University which will be used to support its School of Policy, Government and International Affairs. The School will be renamed the Schar School of Policy and Government in his honor.

**Campus Movers and Shakers**

Kim Russo has been named the Chief Operating Officer at George Washington University Hospital. Ms. Russo assumed her new responsibilities on June 3rd. She joined GW Hospital in 1997 as a speech-language pathologist and has served in several administrative positions at the hospital prior to this appointment.

Sr. Patricia O’Brien, SND, Chair of the Trinity Washington University Board of Trustees, wrote an insightful op-ed for the Association of Governing Board’s Trusteeship magazine. In the article, Sr. O’Brien argued for the importance of student stories and encouraged trustees to take the time to listen to the students at the universities where they serve to make sure that student needs are met.

Forrest Maltzman was appointed George Washington University Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs, according to a university announcement on June 27th. Dr. Maltzman has served in the role in an interim capacity since January 1st. The University Provost oversees all academic matters across GW’s 10 schools, as well as the Division of Student Affairs and GW Athletics.

Gallaudet University was heavily represented at the 29th annual iteration of the National Conference on Race and Ethnicity in American Higher Education (NCORE), held May 31st to June 4th:

- On June 3, Gallaudet University alumni and faculty members Dr. Genie Gertz, (’92), dean, College of Arts and Sciences; Dr. Judy Mounty (G ’03), Research Scientist (ODES); and Bunmi Aina (’96), Director, ODES and Keeping the Promise, gave a two-part major workshop on Deaf Identity Development; Deaf Identify 101 (Introduction to D/deaf Experiences for Higher Education Professionals) and 102 (Intersectionality and D/deaf Experiences for Higher Education Professionals. Both sessions were well-attended and included lively and thought-provoking interaction with the curious (and questioning) audience; and

- On June 1, Aina led a concurrent workshop for advanced level learners, with program coordinator Delia Lozano (’10). The well attended workshop, titled Anchoring Black and
Latino/a Deaf Students in Academic Success, discussed how theoretical models were transferred into concrete practice in the successful implementation of a signature, voluntary participation retention program designed to serve the needs of Black and Latino/a Deaf students at Gallaudet.

On May 13th, the George Washington University announced that Caroline Laguerre-Brown would join GW as Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Community Engagement. Ms. Laguerre-Brown was previously at Johns Hopkins University, where she served as Vice Provost for Institutional Equity since 2010. Ms. Laguerre-Brown will lead GW’s efforts to advise diversity and inclusion throughout the university. In addition to the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, she will oversee the Honey W. Nashman Center for Civic Engagement and Public Service, the Office of Disability Support Services, the Multicultural Student Services Center, and the Title IX Office. She began her role on August 1st.

Gallaudet University alumnus and faculty member Dr. Clifton Langdon (G ’09 and Ph.D. ’14), Assistant Professor, Ph.D. in Educational Neuroscience Program; and Jelica Nuccio (MPH), founder of Tactile Communications, attended the White House to represent Gallaudet University and the Tactile Mind at an event co-hosted by Stanford Medicine X on partnerships in research on June 2nd. The Tactile Mind, headquartered at Gallaudet University, is a network of scientists, scholars, and community leaders drawn together by a mutual interest at the Pro-tactile movement. The Pro-tactile movement is based on the idea that all human activity can be realized via touch—that hearing and vision are not necessary for such things as navigation, social interaction, and communication. At the White House, Langdon and Nuccio shared these exciting developments with entrepreneurs, educators, policy makers, government officials, publishers and researchers.

On May 15th, George Washington University’s Corcoran School of the Arts and Design announced the selection of artist Mel Chin as the inaugural William Willson Corcoran Visiting Professor of Community Engagement. Mr. Chin brings more than 40 years of experience as an artists whose cross-disciplinary work defies boundaries in order to influence people’s realities and provoke greater social awareness and responsibility. During his appointment in the 2016-2017 academic year, Mr. Chin will teach classes and collaborate with Corcoran students and faculty to design and execute a project that engages the Washington, DC community. While in DC, Mr. Chin specifically hopes to expand on his “Operation Paydirt/Fundred Dollar Bill Project,” a nationwide, artist-driven plan to eliminate childhood lead poisoning.

**BIG MEN (AND WOMEN) ON CAMPUS**

The Capital Area Tibetan Association hosted “Public Talk By His Holiness, The 14th Dalai Lama” on June 13th on American University’s campus. The ticketed event was streamed live as the Dalai Lama offered an address entitled “Peaceful Mind in the Modern World.”

On May 16th, George Washington University’s Center for Cyber and Homeland Security (CCHS) cohosted, with Northrop Grumman Corporation, a special forum on the Department of Defense Cyber Strategy. Representative James R. Langevin (D-R.I.) keynoted the event, which was followed by a panel discussion. On May 19th, CCHS and the Program on
Extremism hosted an address by Rep. Michael McCaul (R-TX), Chairman of the House Committee on Homeland Security, where he provided an update on the status of the fight against ISIS and assess key policy and operational challenges facing the U.S. and its allies in their efforts to combat ISIS and disrupt terrorist plotting. CCHS Director Frank Cilluffo served as moderator at both events.

U.S. Labor Secretary Tom Perez spoke about the jobs outlook on May 18th to an audience of students at George Washington University’s Milken Institute School of Public Health. Mr. Perez’s address to students touched on the success and future of the Affordable Care Act; the need for a new “social compact” between employers and their workers; and a call to graduates to tackle issues of equality and access to healthcare.


SPOTLIGHT: STUDENTS

Marymount University graduate students Danielle Stewart and Aubrey Beachy Martin have earned $3,000 scholarships from HR Leadership Awards of Greater Washington (HRLA). The scholarships are part of HRLA’s effort to promote and advance excellence in the human resource profession in the greater Washington, DC area. Scholarship recipients were recognized at the HRLA Gala Awards ceremony on June 7th.

George Washington University announced School of Media and Public Affairs senior Nana Agyemang as the second recipient of the annual White House Correspondents Association (WHCA) scholarship. The WHCA scholarship provides a GW journalism student with a financial award and a seat at the annual WHCA Dinner.

Trinity Washington University student and Dreamer Scholar, Bruna Distinto, wrote a powerful essay on the Supreme Court case on immigration that was published by Teen Vogue. The article, entitled “I Used to be an Undocumented Immigrant Until This New Action Changed my Life. And How a New Supreme Court Case Could Make Me Illegal Again,” ran in the January 2016 issue.

American University law student Stephen Shapiro got his day in court when his suit was heard by a three-judge federal court panel. Shapiro has challenged Maryland’s congressional district map arguing that the boundaries violate the First Amendment rights of Republican voters. After the case was thrown out in 2014, Mr. Shapiro pressed for a rehearing, which was granted in December 2015. The hearing was held in July.

George Washington University announced on May 11th that five graduating undergraduate seniors have been selected for the 2016 Presidential Administrative Fellow program, now in its 27th
year. Marisa Cordon, Dor Hirsh Bar Gai, Grace Mausser, Zunara Naeem and Alex Wang will participate in the two-year fellowship program and receive a stipend covering up to 42 credits for the GW master’s degree of their choice while gaining professional experience in a GW school or department. Fellows are selected for their academic achievement, demonstrated leadership qualities and commitment to service. The 2016 Fellows hail from Texas, Virginia, Israel, Taiwan and Guatemala and have varied academic interests ranging from public health and engineering to economics and sustainable energy management.

The Washington Post profiled some unconventional students at area universities including:

- Aubrey Whitehead who is 42 and served nine years of active duty in the military. This fall he is interning in the University Career Services office at George Mason University and is teaching an undergraduate course. The internship is required as part of Whitehead’s Ph.D. program in educational psychology at GMU; and
- Shelby Giles show is 32 and, after working as a federal consultant, is providing pro bono consulting services as part of a course in public relations and corporate communications master’s program at Georgetown University. John Trybus, Deputy Director for Georgetown’s Center for Social Impact Communications said that the work experience gave the students a “safe space” to explore career paths.

Both students said their work history has contributed to their academic experience.

Two American University students were recognized recently by President Obama for their volunteer work with the non-profit MEANS Database (MEANS). MEANS’ mission is to divert excess food bound for landfills into the hands of people who need it nationwide. One of the award winners, College of Arts and Sciences student Maria Rose Belding, is the Co-Founder and Executive Director of MEANS. The other award winner, Zoey Jordan Salisbury, is a School of Communications strategic communications student who serves as the Director of Communications of MEANS. Both women received the President’s Volunteer Service Award, which recognizes service over the previous 12-month period. In addition, Maria Belding also received the President’s Lifetime Achievement Award for completing more than 4,000 hours of service. And Zoey Salisbury received the Gold Award for performing more than 250 hours of service in a year.

On May 26th, the George Washington University Office of Military and Veteran Student Services led the university’s annual commemoration of Memorial Day with a wreath laying at the university’s Veterans Memorial Park. Currently more than 1,800 veterans, military service members and their dependents are enrolled at GW.

**Summer in (and out of) the City**

A new technology program at the University of the District of Columbia was designed to help 100 minority middle school boys learn 3-D modeling and app development and expose them to future career opportunities in the tech sector. The Verizon Minority Male Makers Program located at UDC offered a free, four-week summer boot camp to Washington boys, aiming to give rising sixth-through eighth-graders in the District’s schools a chance to get a boost in areas in which they are widely underrepresented. The program was open to students at DC Public Schools, charters and private schools and was the first-of-its-kind in the city.
**American University Katzen’s Arts Center** hosted two summer camp programs for children:

- The Imagination Stage, a theatre program focused on children, ran dance and acting campus sessions for students in grades 7-10 at AU from June 20 to July 8; and
- The Levine School of Music, which provides music education for children, also offered programs for campers ages 3-and-a-half to 12 and Teen Apprentices in grades 7-12. This summer’s theme was “Food, Glorious Food,” with all projects focused on food.

**Marymount University** has again received a $92,000 grant from the National Science Foundation and the National Security agency for an annual summer camp series that provides middle and high school students experience working on cybersecurity and some basic knowledge that can help keep them stay safe online. The goal of GenCyber, as it is known, is to attract, educate and inspire a new generation of college-bound students to the field of cybersecurity, according to Diane Murphy, Chair of Marymount’s Department of Information Technology, Management Sciences and Cybersecurity. The camps are tremendously popular and reached enrollment capacity quickly this summer.

**American University’s School of International Service** welcomed high school students on campus this summer for Community of Scholars, a rigorous college-credit program geared to rising high school juniors and seniors interested in international affairs. The program, which began in 2008, offers three course selections—“Worlds Apart, Worlds Together: Conflict, Culture and Cooperation,” “Diplomacy and Dictators: U.S. Foreign Policy in an Uncertain World;” and “Justice and Sustainability: Global Environmental Politics in the 21st Century.” The courses, taught by SIS faculty, featured seminar-style discussion and hands-on simulations. While not in class, students can attend briefings at agencies and non-profits, experiencing what it might be like to study and work in the nation’s capital.

**CAMPUS LIFE**

College Park launched its own bike-sharing system in May delivering on the City’s long-delayed promise to expand the city’s bike infrastructure and make biking a bigger part of College Park’s transit network. The program, known as mBike, brings 125 bicycles to 14 stations within the city and the University of Maryland campus. Zagster, a Massachusetts-based company that runs 130 bike-sharing programs across the U.S., has a three-year contract to operate mBike. At UM, it is hoped the program will create better connectivity between university facilities and the city.

In more transit news, **American University** said it was piloting a new pass offering unlimited Metrobus and Metrorail rides at a discount price to AU students. The U-Pass is priced at $130 per semester and is available to every full-time undergraduate student. It is being paid for by a will by a fee assessed on every full-time undergraduate students on campus. The eligible students can use the pass for unlimited travel during the academic year. Prior to offering the program, **American University** surveyed its student body to determine whether it would support such a program. Eighty-five percent of the student body voted in favor of participation as well as the $130 per semester per full-time student fee.
A former George Washington University dormitory has been converted to a luxury rental building even as it retains its “college” feel. Varsity on K, at 950 24th Street, NW, is geared toward millennials including college seniors, graduate students, interns and recent graduates. Varsity Investment, which developed the property, has focused on off-campus student housing for nearly a decade and has created such housing at the University of Maryland, Johns Hopkins, University of California, Berkeley and the University of Michigan. Varsity on K is the company’s first project in the District of Columbia. GW leased the property for student housing from 2001 until last year. It has relocated the residents of what was GW’s City Hall to District House, an 880-bed mega-dorm at 2121 H Street, NW which opened this fall.

**Campus and Community**

American University once again invited its neighbors to enroll in a class during the summer semester as part of **AU’s Community Audit Program**. The program offers adults ages 60 and older who live in the 20016 zip code the opportunity to attend university courses on a noncredit basis for a modest charge. Auditors may listen to the same lectures and work from the same texts as enrolled students. Courses cost $100 with $75 of that fee going as a donation to the **Alumni Association Scholarship Fund**, which finances a scholarship every other year to an AU freshman legacy student.

The **University of Maryland** and the City of College Park have announced a new Safety Ambassador Pilot Program which aims to increase and enhance public safety through non-sworn, trained community patrols. In partnership with the City and the College Park City-University Partnership, UM will focus its efforts on improving the city’s safety and hospitality through six Safety Ambassadors that patrol the area on foot and bicycle. The Ambassadors patrolled all summer Friday through Sunday.

Once again, on August 19th, **American University** screened an outdoor film—the year, the family friendly animated feature *Zootopia*—for the benefit of neighbors and friends of **American University**. Free popcorn was provided to all attendees.

"Make Music,” a free world-wide celebration of music was observed on June 21st for the first time in the Tenleytown neighborhood of Washington DC and was strongly supported by American University. Multiple venues throughout the neighborhood hosted free live music performances including **AU’s Washington College of Law**. The celebration featured large and small ensembles and solo artists who performed music from various genres. Launched in France in 1982 as the *Fête de la Musique*, it is now held on the summer solstice in more than 700 cities in 120 countries. Nine years ago the concept came to New York and this past summer, more than 35 U.S. cities participated, including Tenleytown in Washington, DC.

**The Place to Be**

The **National Defense University** hosted a major conference on the cyber world entitled Cyber Beacon III: Exploring Cyberspace through Engaging Thought” on July 13th and 14th. The goal of the conference was to give thought leaders of the cyber security domain to examine policy, operations
and technology with a particular focus on NDU’s cyberspace program. Speakers included NDU President Major General F. M Padilla, USMC; NDU Chancellor Dr. John Yaeger; NDU Information Resources Management College Chancellor Jan Hamby, RADM (Ret.), USN, various faculty from NDU, the Rand Corporation, U.S. Cyber Command (various military services) and various federal agencies.

The George Washington University School of Media and Public Affairs celebrated its 25th anniversary at an evening event with students, alumni, faculty and friends in the Elliott School of International Affairs’ City View Room on May 6th. A special pre-celebration event, Ignite Talks, featured the latest faculty research in journalism and political communication.

Educators, administrators, students, parents, policymakers and experts from across the field of education gathered for The Atlantic’s second annual Education Summit at George Washington University’s Dorothy Betts Marvin Theatre. The conference covered a range of topics from early childhood learning to the continued segregation of schools and challenges for students seeking to access a college education. On May 17th, Maria Ferguson, Executive Director of GW’s Center for Education Policy, provided the conference’s opening remarks. GW Graduate School of Education and Human Development Dean Michael Feuer participated on a panel on teacher training. And, GW President Steven Knapp joined a panel on May 18th on College Cost and Accessibility.

The College of Agriculture, Urban Sustainability and Environmental Sciences (CAUSES) at the University of the District of Columbia hosted the 2016 Conference of the International Society for Ecological Economics (ISEE). Entitled “Transforming the Economy: Sustaining Food, Water, Energy and Justice,” the conference examined solutions for a socially and environmentally sustainable future. The International Society for Bio-Physical Economics also held its proceedings as part of the conference. Speakers included Frances Moore Lappe, author of Diet for a Small Planet, Dr. Gar Alperovitz, Co-founder of the Democracy Collaborative and President of the National Center for Economic and Security Alternatives, and Dr. Peter May, Senior Environmental Scientist at Biohabitats, Inc.

George Washington University’s Global Women’s Institute (GWI) was a co-sponsor of the Gender 360 Summit, an official side event of the White House’s United State of Women conference held June 15th. Organized by the human development nonprofit FHI 360, the Summit brought together more than 1,000 attendees, including Tina Tchen, Chief of Staff to First Lady Michelle Obama; and Catherine Russell, U.S. Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women’s Issues. GWI Director Mary Ellsberg moderated a panel at the Summit, which also featured young advocates from around the world.

### Arts and Culture

A $5 million gift from the Avenir Foundation will provide state-of-the-art conservation equipment and technology to enhance long-term care for the 20,000-piece Textile Collection at GW. In recognition of the Foundation’s generous contribution, George Washington University announced May 26th that it will name the museum’s collections storage and conversation facility,
located in Ashburn, VA, the Avenir Foundation Conservation and Collections Resource Center.

To commemorate the 400\(^{th}\) anniversary of William Shakespeare’s death in 1616, his First Folio has been traveling the country visiting all 50 states. The traveling exhibit entitled “First Folio! The Book that Gave Us Shakespeare,” as part of the “Wonder of Will” yearlong celebration hosted by the Folger Shakespeare Library in partnership with the Cincinnati Museum Center and the American Library Association will stop at Gallaudet University as it’s Washington DC stop from October 7th to 29\(^{th}\). The university will celebrate with exhibits, performances, a lecture series and festivals featuring both local and national talent. The Folio features 36 Shakespearean plays including tragedies—Hamlet, Macbeth, and Julius Caesar—History plans—Henry V and Richard III; and comedies—Twelfth Night; The Tempest and As You Like It. Many of these works have been performed at Gallaudet by deaf actors over the past 100 years.

On June 13\(^{th}\), the Corcoran Board of Trustees announced that it had donated the Corcoran’s archives, in their entirety, to the George Washington University. The archives contains 2,000 boxes of historical documents, photographs, artifacts and advertising material of the Corcoran Gallery and the Corcoran College of Art + Design, now the Corcoran School of Arts and Design at GW. The archives document nearly 150 years of the life of an American institution of art and art education. They include 17 letterpress volumes of outgoing correspondence concerning Corcoran activities, architectural drawings by Ernest Flagg of the gallery’s historic Beaux-Arts building, and documents related to a controversial, and ultimately cancelled, exhibition by the artist Robert Mapplethorpe. After nearly a decade in inaccessible storage, the archives will be available to the public at the Special Collections Research Center in GW’s Gelman Library.

Over the summer, the American University Museum at the Katzen Arts Center featured a number of exhibits highlighting art from all over the world including:

- “Contemporary North Korean Art: The Evolution of Socialist Realism,” which is the first exhibit of its kind in the United States. The exhibit sought to broaden understanding of North Korean art beyond stereotypes of propaganda and kitsch to show sophisticated and nuanced expressive achievements. The exhibit specifically focused on the development of Chosonhwa, North Korea’s predominant painting medium revered as the nation’s most refined ink-and-brush painting on rice paper;
- “Examining Life Through Social Realities,” which is a collections of materials documenting and examining life and the social realities of people living on the Korean peninsula through the Realist Paintings of 10 South Korean contemporary artists. Exhibition curator GimChoe Eunyeong explains that the definitions of Realism has changed over time, but the Realism of South Korea closely approximates 19\(^{th}\)-century French Realist painter Gustave Courbet’s use of the term to manifest artists’ perspectives of the world through expressive techniques and methods;
- “Bandits & Heroes, Poets & Saints: Popular Art of the Northeast of Brazil,” which explores how the ancient cultures of Africa blended with indigenous and colonial Portuguese traditions to form the vibrant and complex cultural mosaic of modern Brazil. Photographs and works of popular art, including sculptures, paintings, prints, religious objects, toys, and booklets of poetry are intended to draw visitors into the complex and vibrant culture
of the Northeast of Brazil and introduce the festivals, heroes and spiritual traditions of Brazil’s Northeast;

- “The Looking Glass: Artist Immigrants of Washington,” which features the work of 10 artists who left Latin America for many different reasons over the last 60 years—primarily for safety, freedom, and opportunity—and made their homes, and their artistic careers and contributions in the Washington, DC region. They include Joan Belmar and Juan Downey from Chile; Carolina Mayorga from Colombia; Ric Garcia, Lenny Campello, and Jose Ignacio Bermudez from Cuba; Muriel Hasbun from El Salvador; Frida Larios from Honduras; Irene Cloutheir from Mexico and Nal Ojeda from Uruguay; and

- “Art Cart: Honoring the Legacy,” which ties together two cities—Washington, DC and New York City—in an inter-generational, inter-disciplinary project. The exhibition included paintings, photography, printmaking, sculpture, mixed media and installations by ART CART artists that highlight turning points in the artists’ lives and careers including the Civil Rights and Women’s Movements. Eight DC-based professional visual artists aged 62 and older are matched with students in art, healthcare, and aging disciplines to document and preserve the artistic legacy. The artists are Alonzo Davis, Cheryl Edwards, Annette Fortt, Cianne Fragione, Pauline Jakobsberg, E.J. Montgomery, Annette Polan, and Terry Svat. The exhibit was curated by Pamela Lawton and Adjoa Burrowes and sponsored by the Research Center for Arts and Culture at the Actors Fund.

**SPORTS**

**George Washington University Athletics** hosted the fifth annual **Georgy Awards** on April 26th at Lisner Auditorium. The awards show recognizes the top student-athletes, teams and moments from **GW Athletics** over the past academic year.

The **University of Maryland Athletic Department** announced a budget surplus for 2015 when the fiscal year ended on June 30th. The $127,593 surplus came mostly because of the growing revenues the university is receiving from its alliance with the Big 10. Big 10 revenue nearly doubled between 2014 and 2015.

**George Washington University Athletics**—in conjunction with the NCAA and the University of North Carolina at Greensboro Institute to Promote Athlete Health and Wellness—hosted a symposium for coaches on student-athlete mental health awareness. Panelists discussed the current culture of awareness; the continuum of mental health; and best practices associated with identification, screening, referrals and providing care to student-athletes. The symposium was held in **GW’s** Charles E. Smith Center on May 3rd.

Several **George Washington University** teams, coaches and athletes were recognized for excellence as spring semester closed with a series of awards announced for the athletes including:

- The **GW Lacrosse Team**, which boasted three players who Atlantic 10 postseason honors including senior midfielder Olivia Boudreau and junior attacker Bailey Forcier, who were both named to the All-Conference Second Team; and graduate student defender Jacqui Stevens landed on the All-Academic Squad;
• **GW’s Men’s Tennis** senior Danil Zelenkoc, who was named to the College Sports Information Directors of America Academic All-District II At-Large First Team. Zelenkoc is the only Atlantic-10 student-athlete to grab a men’s At-Large selection. To be nominated, a student-athlete must be a starter or important reserve with a minimum 3.30 cumulative GPA (on a 4.0 scale) who has completed at least one full year at their current institution, and must have participated in at least 50 percent of the team’s games;

• **GW Sailing** which garnered a No. 6 national ranking and won two women’s Middle Atlantic Intercollegiate Sailing Association Championships. The Colonials also finished 10th at the Inter-Collegiate Sailing Association (ICSA)/Sperry Women’s Nationals;

• **GW rising senior shortstop Kevin Mahala**, who was chosen by the Pittsburgh Pirates in the 18th round of the Major League Baseball First-Year Player Draft on June 11th. The Basking Ridge, NJ native joins former teammates Shane Kemp in being the only other Colonial to be selected by the Pirates. Mr. Kemp went in the 26th round of last year’s draft and is currently in the Pirates minor league system;

• **GW Women’s Basketball Head Coach Jennifer Rizzotti**, who was one of five former collegiate scholar-athletes inducted into the Collegiate Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) Academic All-America Hall of Fame on June 13th as part of CoSIDA’s annual convention. Created in 1988, the CoSIDA Academic All-America Hall of Fame recognizes Academic All-Americans who received their college diploma at least 10 years ago, have achieved lifetime success in their professional careers, and are committed to philanthropic causes; and

• **The GW Men’s and Women’s Swimming and Diving Teams**, which have been named College Swimming Coaches Association of America (CSCAA) Scholar All-America Teams for the Spring 2016 semester. GW is one of 388 institutions to receive Scholar All-America Team recognition. To be selected as a CSCAA Scholar All-America Team, programs must have achieved a grade-point average of 3.00 or higher over the spring semester. GW women’s squad posted a team GPA of 3.42 this spring, while the men’s team achieved a team 3.09 GPA. In 11 of the last 12 semesters, both squads have earned CSAA Scholar All-America distinction.

**LIFE AFTER COLLEGE**

A new solo retrospective of the work of Alma Thomas has been staged at the Studio Museum in Harlem. Ms. Thomas, who died in 1978 at the age of 86, was the first fine arts graduate of Howard University. She also studied painting at American University after earning a master’s degree from Columbia University Teacher’s College. She was also the first black woman to have a solo show at the Whitney Museum in 1972. In an article about the show in the New Yorker, author Peter Schjeldahl observed that Ms. Thomas “didn’t change art history, but she gave it a twist that merits attention, respect and something very like love.”

*Spring Awakening*, the Broadway musical revival produced by Deaf West Theatre and involving Gallaudet University alumni and current student was honored with several Tony Award nominations including:

• Joshua Castille, who earned three Tony Award nominations for Best Revival of a Musical;

• Ben Stanton, who was nominated for Best Lighting Design of a Musical; and
Michael Arden, who was nominated for Best Direction of a Musical. Additional Gallaudet alumni in the cast included David J. Kurs (’98), Deaf West Artistic Director and Producer; Sandra Mae Frank (’13); Amelia Hensley (’13); Daniel Durant (E ’14); and Russell Harvard (’07). Marlee Matlin (H ’87) made her Broadway debut in the musical.

A Trinity Washington University graduate, Stacia Brown, is the producer of a popular new radio series and podcast, “The Rise of Charm City” which focuses on their history of Baltimore.

In June, the U.S. Supreme Court held 4-3 that the race conscious admissions program used by the University of Texas at Austin was constitutional. George Washington University alumnus Gregory Garre (JD ’91) argued the case successfully on the part of UT-Austin. This is not Mr. Garre’s first Supreme Court case. Prior to joining the firm of Latham & Watkins, he served as the 44th Solicitor General of the United States.

Gallaudet University alumnas Dr. Nancy Hlibok (G ’93 and G ’96) and Annette Reichman (’83) have been selected as superintendents of schools for the deaf. On April 13, Amann was named as the site superintendent for the California School for the Deaf (CSD), Riverside, and on May 2, Reichman was named as the superintendent for Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and Blind (ASDB).

• Amann earned a BA in government and a MS in administration from Gallaudet and a PhD in Language, Reading and Culture from the University of Arizona. She is currently Director of Special Projects and Development at Deaf Community Services of San Diego, Inc. When she assumed her position on July 25th, she was the first deaf and visually impaired person in the school’s 104-year history; and

• After earning a BA in psychology from Gallaudet, Reichman received an MS in rehabilitation counseling with the deaf from the University of Arizona. Since 1999, Reichman has been employed by the U.S. Department of Education, first as the chief of the Deafness and Communication Disorders Branch, and, for the past 11 years, as the Director of the Office of Special Institutions.

George Washington University Graduate School of Education and Human Development alumnus Jason Sterlacci won the 2016 Jeopardy Teachers Tournament $100,000 Grand Prize as well as a spot in Jeopardy’s Annual Tournament of Champions, competing against the year’s top winners. Mr. Sterlacci is an English teacher at Burnet Middle School in Union, NJ.

Gallaudet University alumnus Nyle DiMarco (’13) and professional dance partner Peta Murgatroyd won the Mirrorball trophy for winning Season 22 of ABC’s “Dancing with the Stars,” causing accolades to pour in from social media, online publications and television. Many remarked on his capability in winning a dancing competition as a deaf man—a first for the Deaf community and for the show. Gallaudet University President Roberta Cordano sent personal congratulations noting his role as a tireless advocate and spokesperson for Language Equality and Acquisition for Deaf Kids (LEAD-K) as well as an outstanding editor for Gallaudet University and the Deaf community at large.

A University of Maryland startup that makes high-nutrient coffee captured the first prize in April in Kevin Planks’ annual Cupid’s Cup entrepreneurship contest. Javazen, a company that
makes coffee grounds infused with green tea and designed to provide a healthier caffeine boost, was one of six companies to move on to the final round of the startup competition at UMD. The company was founded by four UM students and made their final presentation to a panel of high-profile judges, including Plank; Cleveland Cavaliers owner Dan Gilbert; local author Wes Moore; and Ariana Huffington, founder and formerly Editor-in-Chief of the Huffington Post. Plank, CEO of sportswear company Under Armour and a UM alumnus, started the Cupid’s Cup in 2005 to help fund startups founded by college students. The other five finalists were:

- Headbands of Hope, a company that creates headbands for girls going through chemotherapy;
- Mybestbox, a company that provides a box packed with a number of items that promote a healthy lifestyle;
- Plova Chewing Gum, which makes gum designed to clean your teeth as you chew;
- Six Foods, a company that uses cricket flour to make tortilla chips; and
- Wolf & Shepherd, which designs business shoes to provide the same comfort as an athletic shoe.

The Rappaport Center for Law and Public Policy at Boston College Law School announced its list of 2016 Fellows including Gallaudet University alumnae Rachel Rose (‘10). After leaving Gallaudet and before enrolling in Law School at Boston College, Ms. Rose served in the Peace Corps in Kenya and Guyana as part of the Deaf Education Program. As part of her fellowship, Ms. Rose will be interning at the Civil Rights Division at the Office of the Attorney General. Rappaport Fellows are selected from law students in the Boston Metro areas who are interested in further exploring public policy work and public service at the highest levels of state and local government.

Gallaudet University alumnae JoAnn Benfield (‘06, ’09 and G-’11) has been named director of the Gallaudet University Regional Center South, hosted at Austin Community College (ACC), Riverside Campus. Benfield has served as the center’s Interim Director since August 2014, and previously served as its program coordinator. She has taught English for Speakers of Other Languages at ACC, and English and theater at the Texas School for the Deaf. She is an accomplished theatrical writer, American Sign Language translator and coach, performer, dancer with many stage and film credits.

**What’s Next?**

**Campus Calendar**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 10</td>
<td>Catholic, George Mason, Georgetown, National Intelligence, Trinity Washington Universities and the University of the District of Columbia October Holiday, Campuses are closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 10-11</td>
<td>Marymount University October Holiday. Campus is closed.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 14</td>
<td>American University October Holiday. Campus is closed.</td>
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Nov. 9 Classes end at National Intelligence University

Nov. 11 Howard University and the University of the District of Columbia November Holiday. Campuses are closed.

Nov. 21-25 Thanksgiving Holiday at Gallaudet University. Campus is closed.

Nov. 23-26 Thanksgiving Holiday at George Washington and Trinity Washington Universities. Campuses are closed.

Nov. 23 (noon)-to Nov 27 Thanksgiving Holiday at Howard University. Campus is closed.

Nov. 23-27 Thanksgiving Holiday at American, George Mason, and Marymount Universities. Campuses are closed.

Nov. 23-28 Thanksgiving Holiday at Catholic and Georgetown Universities. Campuses are closed.

Nov. 24-26 Thanksgiving Holiday at the University of the District of Columbia. Campus is closed.

Dec. 1 Classes end at Howard University

Dec. 7 Classes end at Georgetown University and the University of the District of Columbia

Dec. 9 Classes end at American and Trinity Washington Universities

Dec. 10 Classes end at George Mason University

Dec. 12 Classes end at Catholic, Gallaudet, George Washington, and Marymount Universities and the University of Maryland