National Defense University Welcomes a New President

Vice Admiral Frederick J. Roegge (USN) became the National Defense University’s 16th president on September 25th. The Chairman of the Joints Chief of Staff, General Joseph F. Dunford, Jr., presided over the Change of President Ceremony in which responsibility transferred from Major General Frederick M. Padilla, USMC, to Vice Admiral Roegge. Arriving from his previous position as Commander, Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, Admiral Roegge said of NDU, “What NDU does every day is to make our students just as effective at launching ideas as launching ordnance. . . . And that makes a huge difference to our military, our whole of government, our nation and our allies around the world.”

Consortium Schools Respond to Natural Disasters

The Catholic University of America is opening its doors to undergraduate students currently enrolled in degree programs in colleges and universities in Puerto Rico. In addition, on December 1st, the Catholic University of America Symphony Orchestra and CUA Chamber Choir performed in the Annual Christmas Concert for Charity at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Proceeds from the concert were designated for Catholic Charities USA—Hurricane Relief.

Consortium Schools Respond to President Trump’s Recission of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program

Catholic University of America President John Garvey issued a statement in response to the Trump Administration’s decision to end the DACA program on September 5th. He appeared on EWTN Nightly, Relevant Radio’s morning air, and the statement appeared in Crux, Catholic News Agency and America Magazine.

On September 8th, a group of undocumented Georgetown University students spent two hours on Capitol Hill at the invitation of DREAM Act sponsor and Georgetown alumnus Sen. Richard Durbin (D-Ill). The students sat in the Senate Gallery as Senator Durbin (SFS’66 and L’69) and other senators spoke in support of legislation that would provide qualifying undocumented minors with conditional, and ultimately,
permanent residency. Scott Fleming, Georgetown’s Associate Vice President for Federal Relations and Arelis Palacios, Director of Georgetown's Undocumented Student Services accompanied the students to Capitol Hill, where they spent about two hours with Sen. Durbin over pizza talking about the DREAM act.

**Georgetown University President John J. DeGioia, George Mason University President Ángel Cabrera, Montgomery College President DeRionne Pollard and Northern Virginia Community College President Scott Ralls** joined together with area students in mid-October to call on Congress to pass a bipartisan DREAM Act to continue protections for students under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA). The event was organized as part of an American Council on Education (ACE) initiative joining colleges and universities around the country to speak out in favor of DREAMers. The presidents said it was imperative to protect their institutions’ undocumented students from deportation with a permanent legislative replacement. About 800,000 children were brought to the U.S. by their parents in violation of U.S. immigration laws. The DACA program will expire on March 5 without Congressional action. (For more on DACA and Immigration matters, see “International Affairs” under “News You Can Use”)

**NEW INITIATIVES**

On September 9, the College of Agriculture, Urban Sustainability and Environmental Sciences (CAUSES) of the University of the District of Columbia announced it I partnering with the Mission Continues Washington DC Service Platoon to continue to build on one of CAUSES’s site--the East Capitol Urban Farm in Ward 7. The East Capitol Farm is leading the university’s community farming initiatives connecting the community located in areas classified as ‘food deserts” to sustainable, healthy foods. The new partnership will host local kids, the community, and education leaders to provide them with the fruits of their labors and teach them about the efficacy of sustainable, community farming.

In October, the District’s public hospital, the United Medical Center (UMC), has inked a contract with George Washington University-linked doctor’s group to provide care in UMC’s emergency room. DC Mayor Muriel Bowser announced the new arrangement saying that GW Medical Associates had been selected after an extensive search for a new contractor. It is hoped that arrangement will improve the quality of care and ensure that residents of Wards 7 and 8 have equal access to high quality care as those in other regions of the city.

The University of Maryland has launched a new Center for Diversity and Inclusion in Higher Education which will be a national hub for research, policy, professional standards and consultation for universities on critical issues related to diversity and inclusion in higher education. The Center will bring together key faculty members from UMD, other major universities and major national higher education associations to form a high level think-tank and research center for diversity and inclusion issues in higher education across the country and abroad. The Center will be housed in the Counseling, Higher Education and Special Education Department of the College of Education.

In October, American University announced the creation of a new Center for the Undergraduate Experience to create a unified living-learning community space where support for students is integrated and outreach to parents and families of students is coordinated.
The Annandale Campus of the Northern Virginia Community College hosted a ribbon cutting and celebration ceremony for the official opening of its Digital Anatomy and Physiology Laboratory in the CS Building. The lab includes an Anatomage Table, which is a life-size 3-D reconstruction of actual cadavers and AdInstruments Powerlabs for physiology work such as EKG, EEG, spirometry and blood pressure functions. Additionally, the lab is equipped with digital microscopy capabilities which allows computers to act as a microscope. The Anatomage Table can be found at a few of NOVAs campuses including the Medical Education Campus.

The University of Maryland, College Park (UMCP) and the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) have announced five new programs as signature projects of the University of Maryland Strategic Partnership: MPowering the State—a collaboration between the state of Maryland’s two most powerful public research institutions. The strategic partnership seeks to leverage university assets to enhance the state’s economy. Projects identified for support include:

- The Maryland Blended Reality Center which will capitalize on the growth of virtual and augmented reality and develop innovative new uses, combining the advanced computing, visual capture and display resources at UMCP with the clinical data, biomedical and patient care at UMB. The Center will be led by Amitabh Varshney, Ph.D., Professor and Director, University of Maryland Institute for Advanced Computer Studies, UMCP and Sarah Murthi,. MD, Clinical Assistant Professor of Surgery, School of Medicine, UMB;

- The Opioid Use Disorders project will combine UMB and UMCP’s expertise in preclinical, clinical and policy areas to address the opioid epidemic in the state of Maryland and will be led by Asaf Keller, Ph.D., Professor, Anatomy & Neurobiology, School of Medicine, UMB and Eric Wish, Ph.D., Associate Professor and Director, Center for Substance Abuse Research, UMCP;

- The Health Informatics and Data Science partnership will develop a health informatics specialization within the Bachelor of Science in Information Science degree at UMCP, and will explore other degrees and pathways between existing programs to educate the next generation of health informatics professionals. The partnership will be led by Keith Reynolds, DDS, Ph.D., MA, Dean, School of Dentistry, UMB;

- The Center of Excellence in Cochlear Implants will combine the strengths of both institutions to provide educational training, clinical services, and basic and translational biomedical research on cochlear implants and usher in an era of personalized hearing rehabilitation. The center will be led by Rochelle Newman, Ph.D., Professor and Chair, Department of Hearing & Speech Sciences, UMCP; Ronna Hertzano, MD, Associate Professor, Otorhinolaryngology—Head & Neck Surgery, School of Medicine, UMB; and David Eisenman, MD, Associate Professor, Otorhinolaryngology—Head and Neck Surgery, School of Medicine, UMB; and

- The Policing Partnership program will create a collaborative, inter-campus effort aimed at improving relationships between local police departments and community residents; and expanding research, business development and educational opportunities in the field. The program will be led by Gregory Ball, Ph.D., Professor and Dean, College of Behavioral & Social Sciences, UMCP; Bonnie Thornton Dill, Ph.D., Professor and Dean, College of Arts and Humanities, UMCP; Lucy Dalglish, JD, Professor and Dean, Philip Merrill College of Journalism, UMPC; Gerald Wilkinson, Ph.D., Professor and Interim Dean, College of Computer, Mathematics and Natural Sciences, UMCP; and Donald Tobin, JD, Dean and Professor of Law, Francis King Carey School of Law, UMB.
The Catholic University of America has announced several new initiatives this fall including:

- The signing by Provost Andrew Abela on September 12th of a new agreement with the Atkins Company to continue a long-standing commercial partnership between the university’s Vitreous State Laboratory (VSL) and the company. The new agreement has a projected value to CUA that could amount to as much as $80 million over its 10-year term, based on past performance. VSL is a research and development facility focused on the study of glass and its many uses. Since the late 1970’s, much of VSL’s work has centered on nuclear waste and its management through a process called vitrification, in which radioactive waste is transformed into glass using a 2,000-degree Fahrenheit melter. The resulting glass remains radioactive, but the waste no longer leaches into the surrounding environment;

- The establishment of the Center for the Study of Statesmanship (CSS) which launched on September 13th at an event held at the National Press Club. CSS has been founded to promote research, teaching and public discussion about how statesmanship can defuse conflict and foster respectful foreign and domestic relations; and

- The launch on September 20th of a unique partnership between the Busch School of Business and Economics and the Boston-based Initiative for a Competitive Inner City (ICIC). The new effort is focused on 125 DC-based small businesses who gather under the umbrella of the effort to network; learn from experts about strategy, leadership, marketing and finance; and to participate in coaching sessions.

Montgomery College introduced a new and improved emergency alert system for students, employees, and the community. This enhanced capability is offered through a platform from Rave Mobile Safety, a national leader in emergency notification systems for colleges and universities. The new MC Alert System can send emergency information quickly and efficiently to students, employees, parents, and community members via text messages, email, voice messages, digital signage and social media.

In September, a full-service Hotel at the University of Maryland opened as the culmination of several years of work between the private developer David Hillman of Southern Management, the University of Maryland College Park Foundation, the University of Maryland and the City of College Park. The hotel has 297 rooms, an Elizabeth Arden Red Door Spa, and four restaurants including Bagels & Grinds, Potomac Pizza, the Old Maryland Grill and Kapnos Taverna. The hotel managers expect half of the room-nights to come from group business due to academic conferences at the university, the College Park Innovation District or the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration which is located in the neighborhood.

**SPOTLIGHT: PRESIDENTS**

Thomas J. LeBlanc was inaugurated as George Washington University’s 17th President on November 13. The ceremonies, which took place at the Charles E. Smith Center, featured a series of speakers welcoming the new president including Peak Sen Chua, President of the GW Student Association; Sulvia Marotta-Walters, Chair, GW Faculty Senate Executive Committee; Venessa Perry, President, GW Alumni Association; Barbra, Giorginia, Executive Director, GW Libraries; Donna Shalala, President Emerita, University of Miami; Forrest Malzman, Provost and Executive Vice President, Academic Affairs, and Nelson A. Carbonell, Jr., Chair of the GW Board of Trustees. President LeBlanc previously served as the Executive Vice President and Provost of the University of Miami.
The *Washingtonian Magazine* announced its Power 100: Washington’s most influential newsmakers of 2017. Several Consortium member presidents were on the list including:

- American University President Sylvia Burwell;
- George Mason University President Ángel Cabrera;
- George Washington University President Thomas LeBlanc;
- Howard University President Wayne Fredericks;
- Northern Virginia Community College President Scott Ralls; and
- Prince Georges Community College President Charlene Dukes.

Also on the list—George Mason University’s Professor Stephen Fuller.

The Anti-Defamation League (ADL) of Washington, DC honored Georgetown University President John J. DeGioia in September with its Achievement Award at a celebratory dinner. The award is the highest honor the ADL’s regional office can bestow upon an individual. Individuals making tributes honoring President DeGioia at the dinner included Rabbi David Saperstein, Director Emeritus, Religious Action Center for Reform Judaism who has taught seminars at Georgetown Law for 35 years; Georgetown alumnus Paul Tagliabue (C’62), Vice Chair of the Board of Directors and former NFL Commissioner; DC Mayor Muriel Bowser; and Georgetown alumnus Ted Leonsis (C’77), a former Georgetown Board of Directors member who received the ADL award in 2002.

During President Roberta J Cordano’s “Welcome Home” address, held on September 12th, she discussed six short-term strategic priorities for the university, which would run from October 2017 through 2020. Those priorities are designed to strengthen Gallaudet’s foundation and align resources for the university’s long-term transformation. They are:

- Intentionally developing Gallaudet’s bilingual (ASL/English) mission while leveraging and validating the multicultural identities within its community;
- Diversity, equity and inclusive excellence;
- Creating a thriving community;
- Student/learner success and experience;
- Creating learners, leaders, innovators, and change-makers as part of Gallaudet’s bilingual (ASL/English) mission;
- Investing in institutional infrastructure;
- Strengthening Gallaudet’s strategic positioning for transformation;
- Focusing on the Sixth Street development, research, and thought leadership;
- Enhancing academic and community vitality; and
- Strengthening and diversifying revenue streams and improving financial planning and management practices.

Shortly after being listed as a Top 10 college nationally for adult learners by *Washington Monthly Magazine*, AARP made a special trip to Montgomery College to present President DiRionne Pollard with another “non-traditional” honor. Joined by two MC lifelong learners, President Pollard was presented with a framed copy of AARP’s nationally-published magazine featuring the MC’s Lifelong Learning Institute. The “Where we Live: Communities of All Ages” series highlights inspiring ideas and solutions
from America’s community leaders to improve their communities, respond to pressing issues, and build partnerships.

Catholic University of America President John Garvey’s words have been seen in print recently:

- He published commentary in the *Washington Examiner* on Amy Barrett, a Catholic federal judicial nominee. His op-ed was then cited in articles at *CatholicCulture.org*, *America Magazine*, a Catholic News Agency story and an *Examiner* editorial. His quote in *America* was referenced in a *Deseret News* story. The Catholic News Agency and the *National Review* also quoted CUA’s Associate Professor of Theology, Chad Pecknold who drafted commentary for the *Wall Street Journal*;

- **President Garvey** was interviewed for a story in the *Atlantic*;

- He appeared on *Fox News Journal Editorial Report*; and

- He was interviewed in *Crux* about how colleges should be places where there can be civil exchanges of ideas, debates and discussions.

Georgetown University President John J. DeGioia was one of a group of 30 university presidents, heads of state and CEOs in New York in September to officially unveil a new gender parity report for the United Nations Women HeForShe campaign. Last year, the university announced a partnership as an Impact Champion with the campaign, an international movement that encourages men and boys to advocate for gender equality. While in New York, President DeGioia explored global gender equity along with Vittorio Colao, CEO of Vodafone, during a HeForShe panel discussion moderated by *TIME* magazine columnist Susanna Schrobsdorff. **President DeGioia**’s remarks focused on *Georgetown’s Institute for Women, Peace & Security*, headed up by Melanne Verveer, the first United States Ambassador-at Large for Global Women’s Issues.

American University President Sylvia Mathews Burwell addressed a conference on health reform held at AU in October offering advice to the soon-to-be newly appointed Chief of the U.S. Health and Human Service Department. President Burwell previously served as Health Secretary in the Obama Administration. **President Burwell**’s advice—"As much as you can, get out [of the office],” she said arguing that HHS Director should talk to everyone from CEO’s to Head Start kids to visiting Native American tribal leaders and everyone in between. She also recommended that the Director align the agency’s vision with the president but also meet with people who might be impacted by the agency’s policies.

**GOLD STARS**

Rita Colwell, a Distinguished University Professor in the University of Maryland Institute for Advanced Computer Studies (UMIACS) has been named the 2017 laureate of the International Prize for Biology for her outstanding contributions to marine microbiology, bioinformatics and the understanding and prevention of cholera. Colwell is the 33rd recipient of the International Prize for Biology, generally recognized as one of the most prestigious honors a natural scientist can receive. In awarding the prize, Japan’s Society for the Promotion of Science honored Colwell as a pioneer in the use of computational tools and DNA sequencing to identify and classify marine bacteria and other microorganisms, work that helped lay the foundation for the bioinformatics revolution. The prize also recognizes Colwell’s life-saving contributions to the understanding and prevention of cholera, an acute diarrheal disease, caused by ingestion of water or food contaminated with *Vibrio cholera*, which according to the World Health
Organization is responsible for approximately 1 to 4 million illnesses and 20,000 to 140,000 deaths each year.

American University was awarded the Prevention Excellence Award by EVERFI, Inc., the nation’s leading education technology innovators. AU is among five universities in the US to receive this designation for its commitment to adopting the highest standards in sexual assault prevention education. Colleges and universities that have joined the Campus Prevention Network are eligible for consideration to receive the award through completing the Sexual Assault Diagnostic Inventory (SADI)—a comprehensive research-based assessment of a school’s prevention programs and practices grounded in a decade of peer-reviewed literature on best practices in prevention. American University joined the Campus Prevention Network in 2015. Awardees were selected based on their SADI scores, Campus Prevention Network staff interviews with campus professionals and a careful review of each institution’s effort.

The University of Maryland School of Public Policy won the inaugural Voinovich Public Innovation Challenge at the Network Schools of Public Policy Affairs and Administration (NASPAA) Annual Conference on October 13th for Maryland’s “Do Good Campus.” The pitch competition, established to honor the memory of former Senator George V. Voinovich (R-OH), encourages creative problem solving approaches to social innovation in education. The award is sponsored by NASPAA, an international association of nearly 300 universities with schools and programs in public policy and public affairs and Ohio University’s Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs. University of Maryland’s Do Good Campus is a new, scalable model for higher education that is driven by the School’s Do Good Institute. The Do Good Campus builds on initial efforts, including an annual campus-wide Do Good Challenge which has produced a number of powerful and impactful social ventures and projects working to address issues such as hunger, poverty and health disparity.

Malala Yousafzai, the youngest Nobel Prize recipient and women’s education activist, was named American University’s Wonk of the Year (WOTY) for 2017. Yousafzai visited the AU campus September 25 to speak and engage in a question-and-answer session with AU President Sylvia Burwell. The event was hosted by the AU SG Kennedy Political Union, the university, the AUSG Women’s Initiative, and the Muslim Student Association. AU celebrates each WOTY for embodying four qualities: intelligence, passion, focus, and engagement. “You could not have an awardee who more perfectly represents the values of this award,” said President Burwell in her introduction. “She exhibits a boundless passion. A passion that reveals itself in her inability to be indifferent.”

**Campus News**

Howard University is moving forward with development plans:

- In November it selected a team to Master Plan the redevelopment of its 23.3-acre School of Divinity property in Brookland. DC-based FLGA LLC Real Estate Group and Orlando-based ZOM Living have begun envisioning a new purpose for 1400 Shepherd St., NE, a largely vacant parcel. “We look forward to advancing the transformation of the East Campus to a living and learning community,” said Howard President Wayne Fredericks. “Our plans will serve the mission of the Divinity School and also support the immediate and surrounding community;” and
- Two Howard University properties that were once envisioned as the Howard Town Center site are being reoffered up for development after the university prevailed in a lawsuit against the
The **University of Maryland** has shown up in a series of higher education rankings:

- It was ranked No. 50 among 1,250 universities in the world based on its academic research performance and global reputation. In addition to a high overall score, **UMD’s** Geosciences and Physics programs were ranked in the top 20 across the globe in their subjects. The newly devised Global Rankings were published in the *US News and World Reports* in October 2017;

- It has been recognized as a top university for producing high income graduates according to the new College Scorecard from the US Department of Education (DOE). **UMD** students graduate at a rate of 86 percent and earn over 80 percent more than the national average in salary, according to the Scorecard’s data. **UMD** also ranked high according to the Scorecard among institutions with more than 15,000 students, rating high marks for its overall value, with emphasis on a below average annual cost;

- It has been named a Top Minority Degree Producer by *Diverse: Issues in Higher Education*. Based on totals from the previous year, **UMD** ranked No. 34 overall for conferring the most degrees to minority students and No. 66 overall for graduate and professional degrees. **UMD** was in the top 20 for conferring bachelor’s degrees in agriculture and agriculture operations (9th); social science (12th); mathematics and statistics (13th); engineering (18th); and computer and information science (19th).

The **Catholic University of America** has risen in the *US News & World Report* 2018 listings for universities and graduate programs nationwide, earning the ranking of 120th out of 311 on the list of best universities across the country. The university was also ranked 75th among approximately 96 universities as a “best college for veterans,” thanks to its support and benefit programs for students who are veterans and active-duty service members.

In June, the **Georgetown University Board of Trustees** took the following actions:

- It approved a Socially Responsible Investing (SRI) policy to align the university’s investment strategy with its commitment to social justice, protection of human life and dignity, stewardship for the planet and promotion of the common good. Specifically, the Board voted to divest university assets from the private prison industry;

- It approved a design study for Kehoe Field, which sits atop Yates Field House, committing to invest $500,000 for an engineering design that will provide construction documents, schedules and corresponding cost estimates for the field’s temporary repair; and

- It welcomed five new members to the Board including:
  - Bonnie W. Gwin (SFS’82, G’83); Vice Chair and Co-Managing Partner of the Global CEO & Board Practice at Heidrick & Struggles;
  - Tyree P. Jones, Jr., (L’86), litigation partner in the Financial Industry Group of the Washington, DC law firm Reed Smith LLP;
  - Dikembe Mutombo (C’91), President and CEO of the Dikembe Mutombo Foundation, Inc.;
  - Michael Psaros, (B’89), Managing Partner at KPS Capital Partners, LP;
  - Rev. Antonino Spardaro, S.J., Editor in Chief of *La Civiltà Cattolica*; and
Marijn E. Dekkers, Chair of Unilever N.V. and PLC who will join the Board in February.

American University joined the Open Textbook Network, a growing collection of colleges and universities across the country taking actionable steps to promote and adopt open educational resources, or OERs—free materials and textbooks available for use in academic courses. By joining Open Textbook Network, faculty members at AU will have access to a greater supply of high-quality open resources. More than 600 colleges and universities participate in the network to share and peer-review academic course content over a wide variety of disciplines, academic levels, and formats.

In August, the University of Maryland held a ceremony upon completing the first phase of construction of the new Cole Field House which is home to the university’s indoor practice fields. The second phase of the project, which will include the Center for Sports Medicine, Health and Human Performance, a clinical treatment center, and space for UMD’s Academy for Innovation and Entrepreneurship broke ground shortly thereafter. The project, a partnership between the University of Maryland and the University of Maryland, Baltimore, is designed to put the state of Maryland at the forefront of training the next generation of researchers, doctors, athletes and entrepreneurs.

Construction crews are busy at Montgomery College’s (MC) Rockville Campus building a state-of-the-art Student Services Center that will consolidate all major MC student services into one building. The new 130,000-square-foot student services center is designed to streamline and improve services for students on the Rockville Campus.

GREEN CAMPUS

Expanding from last year’s tree planting event with Casey Trees which resulted in 30 trees planted by Gallaudet community members, the Gallaudet Sustainability Council hosted its first ever Campus Beautification Day on October 13th. The council, a diverse group of students, faculty, and staff, collaborated with Facilities, Campus Design and Planning, University Communications, Campus Activities, and the President’s Office in offering this event.

In October the University of Maryland issued an updated climate action plan outlining new strategies and priorities to help the university become carbon neutral by 2050. Climate Action Plan 2.0 defines strategies that will not only reduce the university’s carbon footprint but will fully integrate sustainability into educational and research efforts across the campus. The plan includes: the President’s Energy Initiative designed to reduce campus energy consumption and increase building efficiency and renewable energy purchasing; a Carbon Neutral Air Travel Initiative aimed at neutralizing greenhouse gas emissions through air travel through the purchase of carbon offsets; Commuter Programming offering incentives to encourage campus commuters to carpool or use public transportation; new Sustainability Educational programs, Research Efforts and Purchasing Initiatives.

MeteoViva, a German company that helps make buildings smarter, partnered with American University in piloting its energy-saving products in the US. As a result, AU saw tens of thousands of dollars-worth of return on its investment. AU teamed up with the DC Sustainable Energy Utility (DCSEU) and MeteoViva to implement new technology designed to reduce energy consumption and costs in AU’s historic McKinley Building. After a year of using the technology—a combination of software and hardware that uses weather
forecasts and building usage data to manage its heating, ventilation and air conditioning--the McKinley Building saw a 42 percent drop in CO2 emissions and 36 percent drop in energy costs.

**Georgetown University** and Origis Energy USA in September announced a power purchase agreement to develop a 32.5-megawatt offsite solar power system that will provide almost 50 percent of campus electricity needs and help the university fulfill its sustainability mission. The project reinforces **Georgetown University**’s June 2017 announcement with other leading American universities of its renewed support of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and the continued support of the transition to a clean energy economy. It also contributes to **Georgetown**’s ongoing effort to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from campus operations. Once the solar power system, developed, built and owned by Origis Energy, is constructed in La Plata, Maryland, it will provide for nearly half of **Georgetown**’s electricity load for campus operations.

Montgomery County Councilmember Craig Rice presented a proclamation recognizing the **Montgomery College** student who won the National Climate Change Gaming Competition this past spring. Students in Professor Deborah Solomon’s board game design class won first place among all college students nationally in the **Artic Climate Game Jam** contest.

On November 16th, **The Catholic University of America** hosted a conference entitled “Challenges of Climate Change” as part of the Challenges of Climate Change International Workshop 2017. The program was the first workshop of the **Engineering Center for Care of Earth (ECCE)** of the **School of Engineering** and focused on new and more effective technologies that enhance productivity and profit for private industries, decrease costs for citizens and public bodies, and have a lower impact in terms of carbon emissions. Ultimately, it is hoped that these techniques will achieve global clean energy technology performance breakthroughs and cost reductions.

In partnership with Cultivate The City, four **Gallaudet University** students completed a summer internship in which they planned, managed, and expanded the existing **Gallaudet** campus gardens. As part of the project, they established innovative growing techniques and created a viable self-sustaining enterprise, growing and harvesting fruit and vegetables.

The **University of Maryland**’s entry into a competition sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy that challenges collegiate teams from around the world to design and build energy-efficient, solar-powered houses took second place overall and was the top design from the United States. **UMD**’s entry, Resilient Adaptive Climate Technology (react), seeks to improve sustainability in four ways: the installation of a hydroponic garden; the construction of “living walls” within its courtyard; the use of modular living elements as part of the project including productive automation; and the inclusion of design elements that simplify future upgrades to the house. The house was designed by an interdisciplinary team of students and beat 10 college teams from around the globe. The win was worth $225,000 to the university.

Students from **Gallaudet University**’s **Department of Science, Technology, and Mathematics (STM)** spent the summer collecting samples from the Anacostia River for their research internships. “We have to think about how to improve the rivers in our own backyards including the Anacostia,” said STM professor Dr. Caroline Solomon. “The types of data pulled from the collected samples include nutrients, which will help the class to determine the quality of the water and the impacts by land use over the years.”
**CLASS NOTES**

Beginning in academic year 2018-19, all incoming first-year students at American University will take American University Experience I (AUx1), American University Experience II (AUx2), and a Complex Problems seminar. These courses are components of the AU Core, a new four-year, inquiry-based general education program.

The Metropolitan School of Professional Studies at The Catholic University of America is offering scholarships to eligible federal employees from across the country. The goal of the program is to promote a highly trained federal workforce.

**ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA) students and members of the community with a shared interest in cybersecurity and information technology (IT), participated in a training seminar on money management and responsible home ownership. Offered by representatives from Freddie Mac, the workshop represented a partnership between Year Up and AllCyber and gave its participants additional technical skills as they trained to become workforce professionals. The training took place on September 16th at NOVA’s Woodbridge Campus.

American University rolled out a new African American and African Diaspora Studies major in September, which is part of the College of Arts and Science’s Critical Race, Gender, and Culture Studies Collaborative. Professor Keith Leonard wrote the proposal for the interdisciplinary program which Theresa Runstedtler, an Associate Professor of History, chairs. In an interview, Professor Runstedtler said, “We’re really excited about the launch of this. It’s been a long time coming. It’s a way to really have a sustained conversation on this campus.”

Gallaudet University faculty members have been enhancing their students’ class room experience through field trips including:

- Professor Johnston Grindstaff (Gallaudet ’87 and G’01) who teaches in the Art, Communication and Theater Department, and who took his Beginning Photography Art Class on a field trip to the Newseum in October. The class visited different photography exhibits to discuss the influence of the photographs and how it impacted society today; and

- Professor Arlene B. Kelly (Gallaudet, ’77 and G’92) who took her Deaf Women’s Studies class and guests to the Belmont-Paul Women’s Equality National Monument in September. The Belmont-Paul monument is the historic home of the National Women’s Party, where suffrage leader Alice Paul resided and is within the shadow of the US Capitol and the Supreme Court.

Georgetown University’s Terrance Johnson, Associate Professor of Theology and Government, and Jacques Berlinerblau, Professor in and Director of the university’s Center for Jewish Civilization (CJC) in the School of Foreign Service (SFS) are now in the second year of teaching a course titled “Blacks and Jews in America.” The course examines the confluence and divergence of ways in which African Americans and Jews have pursued their religious and cultural identity. The first class focused on current topic and was entitled “Charlottesville: Race and Terror.”
The Catholic University of America hosted a Master Class by Professor Xun Pan as part of the Washington International Piano Series.

On September 14th, Kingdom U. Nwanyanwu, a Mandela Washington fellow, presented to Gallaudet University class GOV791, International Relations and Development, an interdisciplinary course offered for the MA in International Development (IDMA) program. Nwanyanwu shared his experience with professional development for international relations.

Georgetown University is offering a series of new majors and minors:

- In Georgetown’s School of Continuing Studies new graduate degree offerings include:
  - The Executive Master of Professional Studies in Global Higher Education which will provide students with an immersive, collaborative, and dynamic learning experience. The goal of the program is to educate leaders to oversee initiatives across the cultural and international borders. The five-semester experience will blend online coursework with four on-site residencies—both within and outside the United States—where students will gain hands-on practice addressing complexities within different geographical and cultural education frameworks;
  - The Master’s in Higher Education Administration which will allow students to examine the scope of functions across the full range of higher education institutions—from the central role of operations to related responsibilities within key areas such as academic advising, admissions and alumni relations. The program will also offer two optional focus areas—student affairs and administration—to allow students to specialize; and
  - The Master’s in Design Management and Communications will provide students with the opportunity to explore a holistic approach to design management. Students completing the degree will be able to design a project from development to marketing and beyond.

All three programs have begun accepting applications for the Fall 2018 Semester

- The McCourt School of Public Policy and Georgetown’s Graduate Analytics Program are launching the Master in Data Science for Public Policy (MDSPP) degree. The new two-year program, which will welcome its first students in the fall of 2018, will combine the renowned strengths of McCourt’s public policy analysis curriculum with the cutting-edge computational, mathematical, statistical methods training of Georgetown’s Analytics program. The MDSPP will provide a unique curriculum at the intersection of data science and quantitative policy analysis, training students not only in the tools of data science and quantitative public policy analysis, but also in communications and leadership so they can be more effective in the policy world; and

- Georgetown University is the first Jesuit institution in the country to establish an academic minor in disability studies. Scholars in the field ask questions ranging from the fundamental such as how to define disability to the specific such as what are the ethical concerns surrounding medical intervention to prevent certain disabilities. The minor is an outgrowth from Georgetown’s Disability Studies Course Cluster

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Georgetown University’s continued commitment to welcoming and supporting its international community has led it to sign on to an amicus brief submitted to the US Supreme Court in September. The brief outlines the detrimental impact of President Trump’s executive order—frequently referred to as the
“travel ban” restricting US entry of nationals from six Muslim-majority countries. Georgetown was one of 30 leading colleges and universities to sign onto the brief.

American University’s School of International Service (SIS) announced a new joint undergraduate degree with Risumeikan University in Japan. The joint degree will be the first of its kind and will bring Japanese students to SIS for two years and send SIS students to RU in Kyoto for two years. The “Sakura Scholars” will graduate with a BA in global international relations jointly issued from both universities. Although the new joint degree will take advantage of the close ties established over 25 years of institutional partnership, it will differ from the existing dual undergraduate degree in several ways. The Global International Relations curriculum is more clearly defined and will seamlessly integrate SIS degree requirements, AU’s core undergraduate requirements, and distinctive elements of RU’s education. Students from both universities will be "cohorted" and will take a number of degree-specific courses together.

Gallaudet University has been selected by the U.S. Department of State and World Learning to be part of the Communities Connecting Heritage Program which engages underrepresented communities, empowers youth, and builds partnerships between communities in the U.S. and in key strategic world regions through exchange projects that explore cultural heritage topics. Gallaudet is collaborating with the Centre for Fine Arts (BOZAR), in Brussels, Belgium for a project entitled “Connecting Capitals” and will use art-making, education, and technology to connect and empower up to 20 deaf youth ages 18 to 27 from the U.S. and Belgium to be thoughtful and engaging citizens through a deeper understanding of their respective deaf heritages explored through the lens of civic engagement.

This past fall semester Georgetown University students Anna Feiner (NHS’19) and Elizabeth Schnolis (NHS’19), who are majoring in nursing at the School of Nursing & Health Studies, studied abroad at the Australian Catholic University in Sydney. While taking courses related to nursing, they are also refined their skills in laboratory and clinical settings. Both agreed that the Georgetown nursing program is meeting their expectations and the study abroad experience has added a wonderful extra touch.

**Research and Tech**

A spinout of George Mason University has been tapped by the federal government to assist in identifying the next possible viral threat. Ceres Nanosciences, in partnership with GMU and the Seattle-based biomedical engineering company Tasso Inc., have received $11.7 million from the Defense Threat Reduction Agency to develop a universal surveillance platform for infectious disease outbreaks. Ceres Nanosciences spun off from GMU in 2009 to develop a commercial-grade diagnostic test for Lyme disease. It hopes to market its Lyme disease product and build out an incubator and collaboration wet lab space for potential industry partners in Virginia.

Catholic University of America biology professors John Golin and Ann K. Corsi are recent recipients of highly competitive National Institutes of Health (NIH) awards totaling $470,000 and $442,000, respectively. The three-year awards will support graduate and undergraduate student projects in the professors’ research laboratories. Golin’s research relies on a combination of genetics and biochemistry to understand how defects in cells create broad resistance to antibiotics and cancer chemotherapeutic agents. Corsi uses the tiny nematode Caenorhabditis elegans as a model organism to understand the molecular basis of genetic disorders that disrupt embryonic development.
A $1 million grant from the Spencer Foundation to two Georgetown University psychology professors will seek to determine the unidentified “active ingredients” of successful public pre-kindergarten programs. Anna Johnson, an Assistant Professor of Psychology, will lead the research on children in the much-lauded free pre-K system in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Deborah Phillips, a professor of psychology and Johnson’s colleague in the department, is a co-investigator on the research. Johnson will use the grant to research contemporary pre-K programs in Tulsa and examine what processes and practices in these classrooms most contribute to providing young children with enduring skills.

Seven in ten Americans say the nation’s political divisions are at least as big now as they were during the Vietnam War, with nearly six in ten saying that Donald Trump’s presidency is making the US political system more dysfunctional. The Washington Post-University of Maryland poll—conducted during the first nine months of President Trump’s term in office—revealed a pessimistic view of US politics, a widespread distrust of the nation’s political leaders and their ability to compromise, and an erosion of pride in the way democracy works in America. The poll was conducted of 1,663 adults by landline and by cell phone using the AmeriSpeak Panel, a probability-based survey developed by NORC at the University of Chicago.

The Laser Interferometer Gravitational-wave Observatory (LIGO) project was awarded the 2017 Nobel Prize in physics. LIGO, for the first time, enabled scientists to observe ripples in the fabric of space-time called gravitational waves, arriving at the earth from a cataclysmic event in the distant universe. This confirms a major prediction of Albert Einstein’s 1915 general theory of relativity and opens an unprecedented new window onto the cosmos. American University is the sole university in the Washington, DC, area to participate in LIGO, an effort led by AU Professor of Physics Gregory Harry.

George Mason University’s Professor Stephen Fuller reported that the greater Washington region is adding jobs at a reasonable clip but the jobs pay less and contribute less to the economy than before the recession. Specifically, the region lost 180,000 jobs during the recession and has since added 411,000. But, the economic value of jobs lost was $160,000 per worker while the average value of each job gained was $110,000.

The University of Maryland is ready to lead the immersive media revolution with the launch of the Mixed Augmented/Virtual Reality Innovation Center, called MAVRIC, which has been awarded a $500,000 grant from the US Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration (EDA). Co-funded by the university and the EDA’s Regional Innovation Strategies program 16 Challenge Grant award, MAVRIC will build on university assets such as the new Brendan Iribe Center for Computer Science and Innovation, as well as other relevant assets across the region. Supporting MAVRIC will be the Mid-Atlantic Crossroads (MAX), which provides high-speed access and cutting-edge network capabilities; the Augmentarium, an interactive computer visualization lab; the Virtual Reality Cave, which is used to advance the integration of wearables and sensors, and study human performance and human error within high-stress situations; and the forthcoming Brendan Iribe Center for Computer Science and Innovation, which will feature six floors of specialized labs to support groundbreaking research in virtual and augmented reality; 360-degree video, artificial intelligence, robotics, computer vision, algorithms, programming languages and systems.

Georgetown University Associate Professor of African American Studies Samantha Pinto has received a National Endowment of the Humanities (NEH) grant to research the rise of black women celebrities such as...
Saartjie Bartman, who was put on display as an “exotic” specimen, as well as African American women’s political legacies in the Atlantic World during the 18th and 19th century. Her work is expected to culminate in a book titled *Infamous Bodies: Early Black Women’s Celebrity and the Cultures of Rights* that she anticipates being released in 2019. In addition to Bartman, Pinto is researching the legacies of other black women of the time, including Phillis Wheatley and Sally Hemmings.

The **University of Maryland** received several research grants this fall including:

- A $3 million grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) in September to explore the ethics of how big data are captured and used. Led by UMD’s **College of Information Studies**, the four-year research project, titled PERVADE (Pervasive Data Ethics for Computational Research), will study issues surrounding user content, risk assessment and regulations. The project aims to provide guidance to policymakers, regulators and tech developers to help drive the development of a new, more ethical norm in big data collection and usage. Specifically, the team’s research will examine how people experience the reuse of their personal data; what social factors influence people’s willingness to share their data; how and when content should be given; and how consumers’ concerns can be shared with data system designers and big data researchers; and

- An $8 million grant from the National Institute on Aging to develop an innovative approach for addressing hearing loss and communication challenges that affect millions of older Americans. The five-year, multidisciplinary research project will combine expertise from the **College of Behavioral and Social Sciences**, the A. James Clark School of Engineering; the **College of Computer, Mathematical and Natural Sciences**; and the **Center for Advanced Study of Language**. The overarching goal of the research will be to examine the processes at the neural level that cause auditory and speech perception difficulties with aging, and to determine whether the brain can be effectively “rewired” through auditory and cognitive training to overcome those hearing and speech obstacles.

The District of Columbia is not doing enough to prepare African Americans for newly created jobs through 2020, according to a **Georgetown University** report released at the Wilson Building (City Hall) in October. The report, “African American Employment, Population & Housing Trends in Washington, DC” shows that while more than half of all new jobs in DC between 2010 and 2020 require or will require at least a bachelor’s degree, only 12.3 percent of African American population in 2014 were college graduates. “We need more than a stop-gap or Band-Aid approach to solve this problem,” says report editor Maurice Jackson, a **Georgetown** history professor and the inaugural chair of the city’s Commission on African American Affairs. “The city needs to enact policies and better support programs that will ensure that African American residents, who provide invaluable contributions to life in the nation’s capital, have equal economic and educational opportunities and incentives to stay in the District.

On August 17th, scientists made the first direct observation of a merger between two neutron stars—the dense collapsed cores that remain after large stars die in a supernova explosion. The merger is the first cosmological event observed in both gravitational waves—ripples in the fabric of space-time—and the entire spectrum of light, from gamma rays to radio waves. **University of Maryland** researchers from the **Department of Physics** and the **Department of Astronomy** played key roles in detecting both the gravitational and light signals of the historic event, and co-authored several research papers on the phenomena published on October 16th.
Richard Schlegel, MD, PhD, Chair of Georgetown University School of Medicine’s Pathology Department, who co-invented Georgetown-owned technology that led to a human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine, is now working on a new project—a new method of treating women with cervical dysplasia (abnormal, precancerous cells that precede cervical cancer) without a health clinic visit. Schlegel’s method would revolutionize the treatment by preventing women from developing cervical cancer without compromising their fertility. Specifically, Dr. Schlegel, in collaboration with fellow Georgetown scientist Dan Paul Hartmann, PhD, discovered that a derivative of the anti-malarial drug artesunate may be an effective new treatment for cervical dysplasia. The procedure, if proven effective, will allow women to treat their condition in the safety of their own homes.

Researchers at the University of Maryland have partnered with the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory (APL) and the Army Research Lab to develop an enhanced Lithium-ion (Li-on) battery that is able to maintain its mechanical integrity under adverse conditions including bending, cutting and liquid submersion. The work is a follow-up to past UMD/APL collaborations focusing on salt-water based battery chemistry. Li-on batteries power the lives of millions of people every day via mobile phones, laptop computers, iPods and hybrid automobiles.

A new two-year academic inquiry at Georgetown University, funded by the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, is documenting and analyzing hundreds of incidents around the country in which free speech has been challenged. The Free Speech Project, directed by Sanford J. Ungar, a veteran journalist and former college president, will study the condition of free speech in America today, both in higher education and in civil society. The project’s Free Speech Tracker, perhaps the first of its kind, documents incidents across the country over the past two years and going forward, will monitor activity in state legislatures seeking to curb or calm public protest.

Four of Maryland’s leading universities are developing a plan that applies cutting-edge technologies—such as free public internet, smart street lights, and innovative transportation hubs—to improve the lives of residents in West Baltimore. Led by the University of Maryland College Park, and supported by a grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF), the “Smart Cities” initiative will pair smart technology with the latest research in equity, health and urban planning to outline a roadmap for city policy makers as they work to increase the quality of life in Baltimore. Other universities involved include the Center for Government Excellence (GovEx) at Johns Hopkins University; Morgan State University and the University of Baltimore.

The triple threat of low grades, gender composition of a major and gender stereotypes are what compel undergraduate women to switch from a STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) major to another field, according to a new Georgetown University study. Two Georgetown professors and a consultant found that women are not deterred by any of these threats individually—it takes all three to effect the change. The study’s authors are McCourt School of Public Policy professor Adriana D. Kugler; the Raffini Family Professor of Management at the McDonough School of Business and Academic Director of the Georgetown University Women’s Leadership Institute Catherin Tinsley; and Navigant Managing Consultant Olga Ukhanevea. Recently published as a National Bureau of Economic Research working paper titled “Choice of Majors: Are Women Really Different from Men?”, the study provides a more complex view than previous research suggesting women are more likely than men to be deterred by poor grades or the lack of female STEM faculty to provide mentorship.
Johns Hopkins University and the University of Maryland are among 55 major research universities across the US selected to participate in the launch of Contrary Capital, a venture capital firm. Contrary Capital is run by a network of about 100 student investors that search for campus-based startups to invest in. It officially launched in September. The firm’s list of partners includes Tesla co-founder Martin Eberhard and several other billion-dollar tech company founders. Colvin King, a student investor at UMD, said his experience of failing at starting his own business while a freshmen led him to invest. “Basically, you can be studying here at Maryland and we bring Silicon Valley to you,” he said.

On the Road

Eileen Dombo, Professor of Social Work at The Catholic University of America, was named to a panel to oversee clergy sex abuse allegations in the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown.

Professors in the Department of Linguistics at Gallaudet University presented their research at the sixth Sign and Spoken Language Linguistics Conference (SSLL6) in Osaka, Japan on September 23rd and 24th. Gallaudet professor (and alumnus) Paul G. Dudis, (G’98) gave the closing presentation on the first day’s session while Gallaudet professor Deborah Pichler gave the closing presentation on the second day’s session.

As the face-off between the United States and North Korea escalates, two political faculty members and three students from The Catholic University of America participated in an international symposium on nuclear disarmament on November 10th and 11th at the Vatican.

The Written Word

Millions of young American children from low-income households experiencing food insecurity face potentially lifelong learning disadvantages that begin in kindergarten, according to a study led by Georgetown University Assistant Professor in Psychology Anna Johnson and Georgetown alumna Ana Markowitz (G’16), a postdoctoral research associate at the University of Virginia. The study is the first to research the early educational disadvantages that result from growing up in households with food insecurity in the United States. The peer-reviewed journal Child Development published the study, “Associations Between Household Food Insecurity in Early Childhood and Children’s Kindergarten Skills,” in the spring of 2016.

Mary Leary, Professor of Law at The Catholic University of America, published a commentary in The Hill on the Communications Decency Act (CDA) and trafficking victims. Leary was also quoted in an Ars Technica story on the CDA, and in Bloomberg News. She also co-wrote an op-ed about trafficking victims in the Huffington Post with CUA alumnus Kevin Ryan.

For the 50th anniversary of the landmark 1967 Supreme Court decision Loving vs. Virginia Georgetown University Law Professor Sheryll Cashin has published a new book entitled “Loving: Interracial Intimacy in America and the Threat to White Supremacy.” The Loving case had other Georgetown connections. Mildred and Richard Loving were represented in the Supreme Court by Georgetown Law alums Philip J. Hirschkop (L’64) and Bernard Cohen (L’61), both ACLU lawyers. In addition, Nick Kroll (C’01) played
Hirschkop in the 2016 Oscar-nominated film about the case and Elisabeth Haviland James (F’99) produced the Peabody Award winning documentary “The Loving Story.”

Jeff Urbach and Daniel Blair, professors in the Georgetown College Department of Physics and the Institute for Soft Matter Synthesis and Metrology, published a groundbreaking paper on shear thickening fluids, also known as non-Newtonian fluids, in the journal Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. The paper titled “Localized Stress Fluctuations Drive Shear Thickening in Dense Suspensions,” examined the ways that shear thickening fluids react to applied stress. The research has surprising relevancy since “Oobleck,” the mixture of corn starch and water frequently present at elementary school science fairs is an example of a shear thickening fluid—a fluid that becomes more viscous or “thicker” as it is exposed to more stress. The study specifically focused on how the shear thickening fluid behaves on a microscopic level.

The SAGE Encyclopedia of Political Behavior (SAGE Publishing, 2017), a new encyclopedia edited by Georgetown University professor Fathali Moghaddam, is a two-volume reference that takes a close look at the psychology of political decision-making by leaders of democracies as well as dictators around the world. Moghaddam says the new book paints a comprehensive picture of how human behavior affects politics across the world. Moghaddam hopes examining politics through the lens of human behavior will help dispel some common misconceptions—starting with the idea that an individual can be “apolitical” and that all political decisions are rational. Georgetown students helped edit the book.

**Extra Credit**

Georgetown University Law School’s Institute for Constitutional Advocacy and Protection (ICAP) filed a complaint in October asking a Virginia state court to prohibit key “Unite the Right” organizers, some of the heavily armed private militias and alt-right groups that converged on Charlottesville in August, from returning to Virginia to conduct illegal paramilitary activities. The complaint argued that the “Unite the Right” rally was designed to promote unlawful and coordinated paramilitary activity transforming the peaceable city of Charlottesville into a virtual crime zone. The Charlottesville City Council voted to join the suit alongside local businesses and community associations.

**Campus Support**

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) recently announced 49 grants totaling more than $10 million to institutions through the FY2017 second cycle of the National Leadership Grants for Libraries Program and the Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program. Northern Virginia Community College’s Annandale Campus, six partner community colleges, and the not-for-profit research services Ithaka S+R were awarded one of those grants totaling $449,388 to develop and assess a series of concepts for innovative services with the goal of improving library support of community college student success. Annandale’s Dean of Learning, Technology and Resources, Dr. Braddlee, submitted a proposal for the grant in June 2017.

The Columbus School of Law at The Catholic University of America has recently received gifts and commitments totaling $1.4 million that will provide initial funding for three new initiatives supporting research and educational opportunities for faculty and students. Among the new initiatives is an enhanced
program in compliance, investigations, and corporate responsibility that was conceived by Professor Sarah Duggin. The second initiative will be the creation of a center for religious liberty led by Professor Mark Rienzi. The final initiative to be funded is a criminal justice pilot program.

In early October the University of Maryland announced a gift to the University of $219,486,000 from the A. James and Alice B. Clark Foundation. The Building Together: An Investment for Maryland is designed to increase college access and affordability and to inspire the next generation of engineering leaders and spark innovations that can table today’s most daunting problems. The investment—the largest in UMD’s history as well as the largest to a public research institution—will likely propel UMD and the A. James Clark School of Engineering to the forefront of education and research through funding an array of need-based scholarships, graduate fellowships, distinguished faculty chairs and operational and capital projects.

The Catholic University of America’s School of Theology and Religious Studies has received a gift of $5 million from the Carmelite Province of the Most Pure Heart of Mary. CUA plans to use the gift to establish an academic center to conduct research and support the development of courses on the Carmelite charism of prayer and contemplation.

**Campus Movers and Shakers**

American University announced 31 new tenure-line faculty hires at the beginning of the fall semester adding expertise across the campus including:

- In the School of Public Affairs:
  - Kareem Jordan, a new Associate Professor, who has never been content to stay behind his desk. Jordan values engaging with his community, mentoring young inmates inside jails and working with programs such as Big Brothers Big Sisters of America. He will be researching criminology issues having written extensively on the consequences of moving juvenile offenders into the adult criminal justice system;
  - David Barker, Professor of Government, who is the new Director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies;
  - Jeff Gill, who is a Distinguished Professor of Government with a joint appointment in College of Arts and Science's Mathematics and Statistics Department. An alum, he earned his PhD in public administration from AU;

- In the School of International Service:
  - Stefanie Onder, who joins AU as an Assistant Professor after working for the World Bank for the past seven years. While at the bank, she conducted field work in East and South Asia, and has seen firsthand the complexity of implementing development and environmental projects. She has worked on deforestation in Fiji, cleaning up sewerage in
Manila, and will focus on finding the balance between sustainability and economic progress;

- **Assistant Professor Marcelo Bohrt**, who will research his interests in race and ethnicity, international development, and Latin America;
  - Assistant Professor C. Austin Davis, who will explore and teach on the topics of development, labor, and environmental economics;
  - Assistant Professor Anthony Fontes, who was a Guggenheim Research Fellow and a post-doc fellow at University of Wisconsin-Madison**;
  - Associate Professor Joshua Rovner, who earned a PhD from MIT and has focused on intelligence and security strategy;
  - Assistant Professor Megan Stewart, who had been a pre-doc research fellow at the Brookings Institution;*
  - Assistant Professor Joseph Torigian, who has a PhD from MIT, and has studied Chinese, Russian, and North Korean politics;**

- **In the School of Communications:**
  - Sherri Williams, who has been named an Assistant Professor in Race, Media, and Communication. She will continue with work she addressed in her dissertation, evaluating social media reactions to television, particularly Black Twitter responses to reality TV. She comes to AU after a successful career in journalism, working for the Associated Press, The Clarion-Ledger (Miss.), and The Columbus Dispatch. She is also a part-time singer, previously performing in both a blues band and a Brazilian jazz band—experiences she plans to reference occasionally in class;

- **In the College of Arts and Sciences:**
  - Assistant Professor of Economics Jessica Leight, who plans to focus on the economy and export practices of China, the world’s most populous nation. Her knowledge of China stems from her Rhodes Scholarship which she used to earn her Oxford MPhil in Economics, also traveling to other parts of Europe and Sub-Saharan Africa before getting a
PhD in Economics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. She comes to AU from Williams College seeking to teach in the nation’s capital;
- Ibram Kendi, who has a joint appointment with the School of International Service;
- Assistant Professor Brian Anderson, who had been a Joint Quantum Institute Post-Doc fellow at the University of Maryland;
- Assistant Professor of Environmental Science Valentina Aquila, who was an Associate Research Scientist at Johns Hopkins University with a joint appointment at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center;
- Assistant Professor of Physics Silvina Guidoni, who also worked for NASA’s Goddard Space Flight Center;
- Assistant Professor of Anthropology Orisanmi Burton, who has a PhD in Sociocultural Anthropology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill;
- Assistant Professor of Art Nika Elder, who is focused on American art, including African-American art and the history of photography, from the Colonial Period to the present;
- Assistant Professor of Philosophy and Religion Asia Ferrin, who plans to focus on feminist philosophy and moral psychology;
- Assistant Professor Ignacio Gonzalez Garcia, who has worked on inequality and financial macroeconomics and is now assigned to the Economics Department;*
- Sociology Professor Deanna Kerrigan will be the newly appointed Director of the Center on Health, Risk, and Society. Kerrigan has been Co-Director of the Prevention Core of the Johns Hopkins Center for AIDS Research;
- Manissa Maharawal, who is now an Assistant Professor in the Anthropology Department will continue her studies of social movements such as Occupy Wall Street and Black Lives Matter;
- Assistant Professor of Literature Patricia Park, who published her debut novel Re Jane in 2015;
- Assistant Professor of Literature Dolen Perkins-Valdez who was previously a Visiting Professor at AU. She has written the novels Wench and Balm;
- Assistant Professor of Chemistry Alexander Zestos who earned his PhD from the University of Virginia;
- Assistant Professor of Philosophy and Religion Perry Zurn, who has explored applied ethics, feminism, and political philosophy;*

*In the Kogod School of Business:
- Assistant Professor of Finance and Real Estate Ioannis Spyridopoulos, who is examining the right mix of rule-making and flexibility in relationship to government regulation, similar to how a parent treats their child or a professor mentors a student. Professor Spyridopoulos says these kinds of relationships affect the entire economy, noting his observations were formed through his observations of his home country of Greece which suffered through a financial crisis. The AU appointment is his first tenure-track position;
- Assistant Professor of Finance and Real Estate Kimberly Luchtenberg, who has joined AU from East Carolina University;**

**In the School of Education:
- Newly appointed Assistant Professor Emily Peterson who plans to focus her research on how adolescents learn, with an eye towards creating the next generation of teachers. She accumulated her academics in the Mid-Atlantic, earning degrees from Towson State University, the University of Maryland and worked on post-doc research at
Georgetown University in collaboration with James Madison University. Professor Peterson has also explored spatial learning and gender inequity noting that boys tend to outperform girls on spatial-activity games such as Tetris. She hopes to advance gender equality in education while at AU;

- At the University Library:
  - Amanda Click, who has been named an Assistant Librarian. She is interested in the globalization of higher education, academic integrity, information literacy, and international librarianship; and

- At the Washington College of Law:
  - Khelani Clay has been named an Assistant Law Librarian. Clay earned a JD from AU.

*These professors were hired last year but started this year.

**Professors who will start in fall 2018.

The National Academy of Medicine announced the election of Mark Dybul, MD, Professor of Medicine at Georgetown University School of Medicine, as one of its newest members. Dybul is faculty Co-Director of the Center for Global Health and Quality at Georgetown University Medical Center. Election to the Academy is considered one of the highest honors in the fields of health and medicine and recognizes individuals who have demonstrated outstanding professional achievement and commitment to service. Dybul is one of 70 new members elected this year.

Gallaudet University has appointed new members to its Board of Trustees. They are:

- Dr. Philip P. Kerstetter (Ph.D. ’85), the fourth and current president of the University of Mount Olive in North Carolina; and

- Dr. Gina A. Oliva (G, ’77), who has served in different roles at the university for the past 36 years, including work in Student Affairs, Outreach, the Office of the President, and the Department of Physical Education. In all of these units, she provided leadership with innovative ventures.

The University of Maryland has announced several high-level appointments:

- President Wallace Loh and University Senate Chair Daniel Falvey have appointed 18 members of the university community to the newly formed Joint President/Senate Inclusion & Respect Task Force. The task force is comprised of faculty, staff, undergraduate and graduate students and alumni and will be co-chaired by Warren Kelley, Assistant Vice President, Division of Student Affairs; Lucy Dalglish, Dean, Philip Merrill College of Journalism; and Ja’Nya Banks, Student Government Association Diversity and Inclusion Director. The Task Force will examine how best to combat hate and create a safer campus environment; and

- Professor Roger L. Worthington, Ph.D., a national leader in diversity education, has been named Chief Diversity Officer and Interim Association Provost and a member of President Loh’s cabinet. In that role, Dr. Worthington will work closely with senior leaders, faculty, staff, students and external constituencies to advance diversity, equity, inclusion and respect as core institutional values.

Georgetown University announced a series of faculty appointments:

- Jason Moran, the internationally acclaimed pianist who wrote music for the film Selma and who serves as artistic director for jazz at the John F. Kennedy Center for Performing Arts, has joined Georgetown as a Distinguished Artist in Residence. Moran, who won the MacArthur Foundation
“Genius” award in 2010, will explore and share his interests, insights and perspectives at the university on the intersection of art, culture and society through events and collaborations;

- Sally Yates, former Acting US Attorney General, has joined Georgetown Law School as a Distinguished Lecturer from Government. Ms. Yates, an Acting Attorney General of the US Department of Justice, is participating in a Georgetown program that brings former officials who have recently left public service to campus. As part of the program, on November 1st, Ms. Yates delivered the law school’s annual Philip A. Hart Lecture named for the distinguished US Senator and Georgetown alumnus;
- Kaya Henderson, (Georgetown SFS’92, G’07), former Chancellor of DC Public Schools, has joined Georgetown as a Distinguished Scholar in Residence. She is working with President John J. DeGioia and Provost Robert Groves to conduct research and advise on a variety of issues that include affordable higher education models, racial justice, college access and success; and
- Georgetown’s African American Studies Department added two new faculty members in September:
  - Rosemary Ndubuizu, who has been researching how housing policies are shaped by race, gender, political economy and ideology. She will lend her expertise to round out the department’s academic analysis of Washington, DC. This semester (spring) she is teaching a course on Race and Radical Feminisms; and
  - Marcus Board who taught a course on Contested Political Representations and Black Interpretations of Contemporary Unrest. Beyond his research, Board hopes to make an impact on students at Georgetown.

Board and Ndubuizu are also supporting the work of the university’s Working Group on Racial Justice, examining ways to create a home for researching slavery and its legacies as well as elevate and accelerate efforts to address the enduring legacy of racism and segregation in the American experience.

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

Former FBI Director James Comey returned to Howard University in October to deliver a lecture on race and law enforcement. While Comey’s previous visit to campus when he spoke at Howard’s Opening Day Convocation in August drew some push back from students, the October event proceeded peacefully. Director Comey answered questions about race and policing from audience members after his speech. Comey called on both sides of the community and law enforcement divide to open their hearts and minds to each other.

US Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg addressed the Georgetown University Law School incoming class of 2020 in remarks on September 22nd on campus. Georgetown Law School Dean William Treanor conducted an onstage conversation with Justice Ginsburg in front of an auditorium of students. The Justice reminisced about being one of nine women in a class of 500 at Harvard Law School when she matriculated many years ago. (By contrast, Georgetown Law’s entering class of 2020 contains more women than men.) She also mused about her career noting that in the 1950’s, there were no antidiscrimination laws to assist the employment of women. She added that unconscious bias rather than overt barriers as the greatest hurdle to women in the workplace today.
Nobel Prize-winning pharmacologist Louis J. Ignarro addressed students and faculty of The Catholic University of America in September, chronicling his research work studying nitric oxide as a unique signaling molecules in the cardiovascular system.

World Bank President Dr. Jim Yong Kim visited Georgetown University in October as part of the university’s inaugural Asian Diversity Dialogue. Dr. Kim urged students to use their lives advocating for the poor. He pointed to his own career—President of Dartmouth College; founder of Partners in Health, a nonprofit organization that provides healthcare to the poor in developing countries; and an outspoken opponent of the World Bank as an example of how careers can evolve. He said that he learned he could still follow the guiding principles that led him into nonprofit work to enact positive change through his position heading the Bank.

The National Defense University hosted a series of high profile speakers this past fall including:

- General Joseph L. Votel, Commander, United States Central Command, as part of the NDU President’s Lecture on September 13th;
- General Michael Hayden (USAF, Ret.), former Director of the Central Intelligence Agency and former Director of National Security Agency, who addressed the National War College on September 19th;
- Former Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld as part of the Commandant’s Lecture Series on September 21st;
- General Tom Middendorp, Chief of Defense of the Netherlands as part of the NDU President’s Lecture Series on September 26th;
- Ori Brafman, author of The Starfish and the Spider: The Unstoppable Power of Leaderless Organizations, as part of the Eisenhower School’s Commandant’s Lecture Series on October 2nd; and
- Denis McDonough, former White House Chief of Staff under President Barack Obama, as part of the also at the Eisenhower School’s Commandant Lecture Series.

In November, former President (and Georgetown alumnus) William J. Clinton (SFS ’68) gave the keynote address at the “Clinton 25: Georgetown reflects On the Vision of Bill Clinton,” hosted by the McCourt School of Public Policy and its Institute of Politics and Public Service (GU Politics). Former President Clinton warned “America won’t be America anymore” if the “Us vs. Them” mentality continues. The focus of the three-day symposium, held 25 years after he was elected and nearly 50 years after he graduated from Georgetown University, was on the vision that drove the President’s campaign and his presidency. Additional events attached to the forum included movie screenings, original videos, and exhibitions on the 42nd President of the United States.

As part of a year of campus-wide actions, dialogues and healing for the University of Maryland community, U.S. Rep. Anthony Brown (MD-04) gave remarks on August 24th during the first week of classes. His talk was entitled “Race, Politics and Reconciliation: A Conversation with Congressman Anthony G. Brown.” Congressman Brown talked about the emerging national discourse on race, hate/bias incidents, campus climate and the path forward. UMD student Ja’Nya Banks, the Student Government Association Director of Diversity and Inclusion, introduced the congressman.

Colin Powell, former US Secretary of State and former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, visited Georgetown University’s McDonough School of Business in September to discuss his experience with leadership in his former military and government roles. Secretary Powell holds an MBA from George
Washington University. In his remarks, he emphasized the importance of weaving together leadership and humanity.

Students from the Catholic University of America Department of Drama had a rare opportunity on September 20th to learn from an accomplished film and television actor as CUA alumnus John Carroll Lynch returned to Harke Theater on campus to share his expertise and experiences. Lynch has performed numerous roles on both television and in the movies, possibly best known for portraying Twisty the Clown and John Wayne Gacy in “American Horror Story” and James Rivington in “Turn: Washington’s Spies.” His movie roles include parts in Shutter Island, Crazy Stupid Love and Gran Torino. The Washington Post published an interview with Lynch in its Style Section.

US Librarian of Congress Carla Hayden traveled to Georgetown University to talk about libraries in the digital age. While acknowledging that search engines and ever-changing technology have changed the shape of the traditional library, Ms. Hayden urged students to consider the empowerment of people through information connecting as the true value of a library. Hayden is the first African American and first woman to lead the Library of Congress. She was appointed by former president Barack Obama in September 2017. Her remarks were prefaced by comments from President DeGioia.

Bishop Edward Braxton of Belleville, Illinois, spoke on September 21st at Catholic University as part of a daylong teach-in for social work students, and in the evening to undergraduates. The talks by the bishop were covered by Crux and the Catholic News Service.

The Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies (NESA) at the National Defense University hosted U.S. Congressman John Delaney (D-MD) and his legislative staff for a roundtable discussion on critical issues and strategic affairs within the Near East South Asia region. Representative Delaney (D-MD) sits on the House Committee on Financial Services and is a member of the Joint Economic Committee. The roundtable focused on the US-Afghan strategy, the effectiveness of the Afghan National Defense and Security Forces as well as the development of good governance in Afghanistan.

Cardinal Donald Wuerl, Archbishop of Washington, DC, opened the semester’s Dahlgren Sacred Lecture Series at Georgetown University with reflections of Pope Francis’ collegial approach and use of the 50-year tradition of synodality to reshape pastoral care with the Catholic Church. The Office of Mission and Ministry sponsored the lecture, which was held in Dahlgren Chapel. Georgetown began the sacred lecture series in the fall of 2014.

Congressman John Lewis and Andrew Aydin, co-authors of the University of Maryland’s 2017-18 First Year Book, March: Book Three spoke at the university on October 12th. The lecture entitled “Good Trouble” was hosted by the Office of Undergraduate Studies, the William L. Thomas ODK Lecture Series and the Office of Diversity and Inclusion. Each year the university selects one book to create a shared reading and intellectual experience for first-year students, faculty and staff. The First Year Book is then integrated into curriculum across disciplines and used as a centerpiece of events and discussions throughout the academic year.

Actress and activist Jane Fonda told a Georgetown University audience in October that customers should not be expected to make up for extremely low wages earned by restaurant workers, many of whom are women who are sexually harassed in the process. Ms. Fonda was on campus as part of the event “37 Years Since 9 to 5: Jane Fonda on Women Workers,” an event sponsored by the Kalmanovitz Initiative.
for Labor and the Working Poor. Ms. Fonda was the co-lead of the film 9-5, one of the first about barriers women experience in the workplace. She was joined on stage by Lane Windham, Kalmanovitz’ Associate Director and WILL Empower Co-Director; Saru Jayarman, a workers right advocate and co-founder of the Restaurant Opportunities Centers (ROC); US Representative Eleanor Holmes Norton and DC Councilmember Elissa Silverman (I-At Large).

On November 6th, Archbishop Christophe Pierre, the Apostolic Nuncio to the United States, gave an address entitled “Synodality and Pope Francis: The Church That Walks Together” at The Catholic University of America during the School of Canon Law’s 11th annual Frederick R. McManus Memorial Lecture.

In October, US Poet Laureate and Pulitzer Prize winner Tracy K. Smith shared with a Georgetown Audience the ways in which poetry can teach Americans humility and empathy. Smith, who became Poet Laureate last September, spoke at the university on October 26th as part of the “Faith and Culture Lecture Series” initiative at the Office of the President, which co-sponsored this event with the Berkley Center for Religion, Peace and World Affairs. The ongoing program, moderated by Berkley Center Senior Fellow Paul Elie, asks writers to reflect on their work in the context of faith’s engagement with culture. Smith said she hopes to use her position to encourage deeper civic dialogue in America.

Also on campus a Georgetown was alumnus Mick Mulvany (SFS ’89), Director of the Office of Management and Budget and more recently, also the Director of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. Alumna Cathy Koch (FRD ’94), America’s tax policy leader at Ernst and Young, moderated the discussion which was hosted by Georgetown’s Institute of Politics and Public Service. Director Mulvane used his speech to tout the then developing republican tax bill noting it would not substantially increase the national debt.

**SPOTLIGHT: STUDENTS**

Gallaudet University students Malik Amann and Paige Watson were filmed at the National Archives Museum as part of the creation of an introduction video for deaf and hard of hearing visitors.

A University of Maryland doctoral candidate in the Department of Entomology, Samuel Ramsey, has been named both the Judge’s First Place and the People’s Choice award winners in the annual Three Minute Thesis (3MT) contest, sponsored by Universitas 21 (U21), a global network of leading research universities. The contest challenges graduate students to communicate the significance of their research to a non-specialist audience in three minutes. Ramsey competed against 16 other finalists from U21 member institutions across the world with his research on a tiny parasitic mite, *Varroa destructor*, which is the single biggest contributor in the decline in health of honey populations worldwide.

Gallaudet University summer interns Jaquelyn Lalescu and Jonathan Gutierrez presented their summer research on nontechnology projects during the Center for Integrated Quantum Materials (CIQM) annual meeting poster session at Harvard University in Boston, Massachusetts on October 12, 2017.

A team of seven University of Maryland James A. Clark School of Engineering undergraduates won first place and earned the top prize of $20,000 in this year’s National Institutes of Health (NIH) Design by Biomedical Undergraduate Teams (DEBUT) challenge for their efforts to develop low-cost tools to
diagnose Alzheimer’s disease before patients show symptoms. The cross-disciplinary UMD team known as “Synapto” will use the $20,000 in their development of a portable electroencephalogram (EEG) that uses a specially designed headset and a new software analysis tool to detect Alzheimer’s disease before a patient displays clinical symptoms.

A George Washington University business school graduate student is working on a NASA project that could help the next generation of weather forecasters more accurately predict hurricanes, blizzards and other extreme weather. Robert Estes, a student in the Master’s Program for Science and Project Management, is spearheading a NASA effort to launch a new weather satellite into orbit for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The launch, which took place on November 10, placed a satellite into orbit that will enable NASA to better understand the long term changes and long term effects of weather. Estes, a project manager for NASA is in his second semester at GW.

Gallaudet University Department of Linguistics Assistant Professor Julie Hochgesang (G’07) (PhD ’14) along with doctoral student Wink and other graduate and faculty members collaborated with Mental Floss, an online magazine that curates interesting tidbits. Arika Okrent, a graduate of the Linguistics MA program, created a short video called “Sign Languages have accents, just like vocal languages,” talking about accents in sign language. It was posted on the Mental Floss Facebook page on September 7th and by late November had reached over two million views.

Over the summer, two Georgetown University MBA students were selected to work in the DC Department of Public Works (DPW) as part of a trial internship program between the Department and Georgetown University’s McDonough School of Business. Paul LeCorte (MBA ’18) and Leo Dzidziguri (MBA ’18) spent three months in the Office of Organizational Effectiveness and Change Management where they worked on a series of high-profile performance indicator studies. The office supports DPW’s operational Solid Waste Management, Parking Enforcement, and Fleet Management Administrations through performance management, data analysis, process improvement, strategic planning, and project management. The students said the experience was rewarding and enabled them to utilize skills learned in the classroom.

Gallaudet University’s MA in International Development (IDMA) Program graduate, Sandra Lopez (G’17), became the first deaf intern at the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and completed an internship from February to June 2017 at UNDP headquarters in New York City. Lopez’s role was policy oriented, helping guide UNDP’s policy development on deaf people and persons with disabilities, as well as extending the circle of professional guidance toward influencing policy to challenge the work environment at UNDP and their 170+ country offices, and to shape policy for the whole UN system.

On February 23 and March 2 the DC Bar is hosting the Fifth Annual DC Cup Moot Court Competition. The competition features participants from the District’s six law schools—American University Washington College of Law; Columbus School of Law at Catholic University; George Washington University Law School; Georgetown Law School; Howard University School of Law; and the David A. Clarke School of Law at the University of the District of Columbia. A topic for the competition is generally focused on law specific to Washington, DC.

CAMPUS LIFE
Campuses around the country are adjusting to responding to student concerns regarding sexual assault and harassment. At American University, this has taken to form of Empower AU, a student-run, student-staffed organization that helps educate peers about consent, boundaries and available resources. At George Mason University, the work to combat sexual assault begins before students arrive in the classroom. At this year’s freshmen convocation, students heard GMU President Ángel Cabrera talk about the importance of taking care of themselves and one another. The also learned about student rights and responsibilities and how to intervene in a troubling situation if necessary.

Northern Virginia Community College’s (NOVA) MAN UP program has strengthened in membership and popularity for male students. A total of 39 new inductees from three of NOVA’s campuses pledged an oath to academic excellence and personal growth on October 5th at MAN UP’s annual Induction Ceremony at the NOVA-Woodbridge Lakeside Theatre. MAN UP is a minority male mentoring and leadership development program designed to promote the personal and social development and academic improvement of NOVA students.

In response to a survey of American University students regarding food insecurity, AU opened The Market, a food pantry with the goal of preventing any student from having to skip meals and go hungry because they cannot afford to buy food. The Market opened on Sept. 5, launched by Tony Hollinger, Director of Student Engagement & Diversity Initiatives for the Office of Campus Life. Hollinger will oversee the pantry and will be engaging student staff and volunteers to make it a truly student-focused effort.

The Washington Post reported on campus libraries at Georgetown and George Washington University as a necessary refuge during finals week. The article described the libraries as “home away from home” where a seat can come at a premium. Some students bring personalized props such as blankets and a video of a fireplace on their laptops. The point of the library is for everyone to hunker down alone—together. One student observed that each library has different stress relievers ranging from Play-Doh, to coloring sheets, to jigsaw puzzles to snacks.

**Campus and Community**

Students at George Washington University have partnered with the Foggy Bottom Association (FBA), a neighborhood group, to address homelessness in the community. Marina Streznewski, president of the FBA, issued a call for assistance and students answered the call. Jacob Smith, the Vice President for Community Affairs at the Student Association has served as the point-person on campus, helping to develop models for short-term and long-term goals to increase community involvement by providing direct services to those experiencing homelessness, lobbying the City Council for help, raising money and holding rallies. The students plan to participate in the Taskforce throughout the academic year.

To address the 30 percent of adults who have not had a dental visit in the past year and the 20 percent of low-income Marylanders who say their mouth and teeth are in poor condition, the University of Maryland’s School of Public Health Center for Health Equity in partnership with Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington and the Maryland State Dental Association and Foundation, organized the Mid-Maryland Mission of Mercy and Health Equity Festival on September 8th and 10th. Low-income Marylanders were invited to receive free, emergency dental and health care at one of the 120 comprehensive dental stations set up and staffed by hundreds of volunteer dental professionals.
In an effort to further develop positive relationships among citizens and local law enforcement, Northern Virginia Community College's (NOVA) Police Department and the Prince William County Police Department partnered to host a free community-relations training session, “Safe Passage Home: Simulations and Discussion of Citizen Police Interactions.” The event was held on September 9 at the NOVA-Woodbridge Campus Lakeside Theatre.

On a beautiful Sunday in Washington DC, a group of Gallaudet University students joined hundreds of people representing many faiths, as well as those who identify themselves as non-religious, for an interfaith walk to celebrate solidarity and inclusion.

The Place to Be

Gallaudet University’s (and Gallaudet alumnus) Dr. Patrick Boudreault (Gallaudet E-’93) Associate Professor in the Department of Interpretation and Translation (DOIT), gave the first lecture in the 2017-18 DOIT Colloquium Lecture Series, held September 8th. During his lecture, Boudreault summarized his work on a ten-year project—the Deaf Genetic Project. This was a collaborative effort to develop culturally and linguistically appropriate educational materials for ASL users in the deaf community.


On September 14, Georgetown University and the National Geospatial Agency (NGA) hosted the fourth annual Kalaris Intelligence Conference on campus. The event featured leading scholars and practitioners representing the breadth of the intelligence field who offered their thoughts on notable paradigm shifts defining the future of intelligence. Among the shifts discussed was the advent of “Big Data;” the potential of multilateral public-private partnerships; and the demands of counterterrorism. Panels and keynote conversations took place throughout the day. Among the speakers—NGA Director Robert Cardillo, who was interviewed by New York Times senior writer Eric Schmidt; Bruce Riedel, Senior Fellow and Director of the Brookings Intelligence Project; Dr. Michael O’Hanlon, Senior Fellow in Foreign Policy at the Brookings Institution; and Dr. Suzanne Fry, Director of the National Intelligence Council’s Strategic Futures Group.

A group of Georgetown University academics and religious leaders participated in a panel discussion in late September to reassess the role religious communities and universities may play in the wake of violence that erupted in Charlottesville. The Berkley Center for Religion, Peace and World Affairs sponsored the event entitled “Charlottesville and Beyond: Bending Toward Justice” as part of a university effort to focus on issues of racism, anti-Semitism and Islamophobia. Among the participants in the program were Rev. Matthew Carnes, S.J., who moderated the panel; Berkley Center Director Shaun Casey; history professor Marcia Chatelain; Rabbi Rachel Gartner; and theology professor Terrence Johnson.

September 14th marked the beginning of a two-day conference at Georgetown University. Lutheran and Catholic scholars from around the world gathered to commemorate the 500th anniversary of the Lutheran
Reformation and explore its lasting and global impact on history, theology, philosophy, and culture. Rev. John O’Malley, S.J., University Professor of Theology at Georgetown and Kenneth Appold, Professor of Reformation History at Princeton University, delivered keynote addresses during the two-day conference.

A year ago, the Supreme Court kicked off the October Term 2016 with just eight justices and a noticeable absence of blockbuster cases. But, the October 2017 term is shaping up to be a different story, with a full Court and a deep lineup of significant cases to be heard just within the first month. On September 19, a powerhouse group of experts including two former Solicitors General gathered at Georgetown University Law School to explain to the nation’s media the intricacies of it all. On the panel was Irv Gornstein, Executive Director of Georgetown Law’s Supreme Court Institute; Georgetown Law professor Martin S. Lederman; Georgetown Law professor Neal Katyal; Former Solicitor General Donald B. Verrilli; Former U.S. Solicitor General (and Georgetown alumnus) Paul Clement (F’88); and Williams and Connolly partner Kannon Shanmugam. They discussed the Trump travel ban, first amendment free speech, gerrymandering, warrantless searches and more.

Northern Virginia Community College’s Annandale Campus celebrated 50 years with a Heritage Celebration on September 22. NOVA faculty, staff, students, community members and a number of elected officials attended the event to recognize the anniversary as NOVA President Scott Ralls dedicated an interpretive sign at the historic site on campus where the original farmhouse once stood.

Georgetown University and the Pellegrino Center for Clinical Bioethics at Georgetown University Medical Center (GUMC) held an event on campus on October 2 entitled “Lives Worthy of Respect,” to reaffirm the Catholic community’s reverence for all stages of life. Among the event’s participants were Cardinal Donald Wuerl, Archbishop of Washington; Dr. Kevin Donavan, a GUMC Professor of Pediatrics and Director of the Pellegrino Center; Catherine Szeltner, host of Pro-Life Weekly on ETWN global Catholic network; Helen Alvare, Professor of Law, George Mason University’s Antonin Scalia Law School; Georgetown alumnus Tony Lauinger, (C’67), Vice President of the National Right to Life organization; Sister Mary Louise Wessell, founder and program manager, Tenants Empowerment Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington; and Congressman Brad Wenstrup (R-OH).

From October 4th to 6th, Catholic University of America hosted a conference entitled Good Profit. At its heart, the conference asked the question, “How can a profitable business be a force for good?” More than 300 business leaders from across the country attended.

Clinicians, nonprofit leaders, academics and national experts gathered at Georgetown University for a conference on October 10 exploring the heartbreaking mental health status of Syrian refugee children. Syria has been in a state of war and political turbulence since 2011, displacing millions and forcing many to seek asylum outside their homeland. An estimated 5.1 million Syrians, including 2.4 million children, have become refugees in Egypt, Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan and other countries. Sponsored by the Georgetown University Center for Child and Human Development, the Walsh School of Foreign Service, and the Global Health Initiative, the conference explored the state of the crisis as well as potential solutions to the mental health problems faced by the children.

On October 11th, the Gallaudet University LGBTQA Resource Center hosted Coming Out Day events on campus, including a group photo showing LGBTQA members and allies. Students, staff, and faculty showed up to share their pride and support throughout the day.
The risks and benefits of pregnant women’s participation in clinical trials and intimate partner violence were only two of the subjects explored at Georgetown University’s Gender Justice Initiative (GJI) Second Annual Faculty Research Colloquium on October 13. Now an annual event, the colloquium brings together faculty and other scholars working on gender justice from across the Main Campus, the Medical Center, and Georgetown Law Center. Founded in 2015, GJI seeks to make Georgetown a hub of knowledge production, community engagement, and policy development on issues of gender, racial and economic justice. One presentation looked at the ethical relationship between pregnant women and clinical trials such as the Zika virus vaccine. Another looked at “intersectionality” and a third looked at the politics of discriminatory public housing and literary social and legal representations of people of color.

Former Congressmen David Jolly (R-FL) and Patrick Murphy (D-FL) gathered at Georgetown University on October 16 to discuss bipartisanship in an event hosted by the Georgetown Institute of Politics and Public Service. Murphy, a current GU Politics Fellow, said that President Donald Trump lost the opportunity to work with Democrats by starting his term with ideas they opposed including the repeal of the Affordable Care Act and the rescission of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) rather than more attractive proposals such as infrastructure upgrades. Congressman Jolly agreed noting that President Trump frequently exacerbated divisions with inflammatory rhetoric and his regular Twitter use. Murphy and Jolly identified the root causes of today’s political gridlock as the primary election system which forces candidates to take ideologically pure positions to get on the ballot; gerrymandering and the constant demands of campaign financing which requires candidates to please wealthy, hardline donors with partisan promises.

On October 18, Georgetown University alumni that had made careers in journalism and professional writing shared advice for aspiring journalists and their views on the current media landscape at an event hosted by Georgetown Writes, the Georgetown University Media Alliance, and Hoyas in Letters. On the panel was Russell Adams (COL ’98), an editor with the Wall Street Journal; Mark Bulik (SFS ’80), a Senior Editor at The New York Times; and Sarah Mimms (COL ’10), a Deputy Editor at Buzzfeed News. The panel was moderated by Georgetown professor Sanford Ungar. The panel focused on truth in media with panelists agreeing that journalism has never been under greater threat, particularly from the nation’s elected leaders. The panel also discussed the challenges of covering President Donald J. Trump, who uses media in ways that have not been used by previous American presidents.

On November 8th, The Catholic University of America hosted the symposium “Double Lives and Moral Lives: An Exploration Into the Ethics of Intelligence.”


On November 13, the men who ran Virginia’s gubernatorial campaigns gathered at George Mason University’s Arlington Campus for an election post-mortem. Chris Leavitt, Campaign Manager for Republican Ed Gillespie, observed that the campaign had seen signs of a possible Democratic wave based on polling that showed highly engaged voters. Brad Komar, who ran Ralph Northam’s campaign, said he didn’t expect the outcome, getting an inkling only three days before the election. The non-partisan Virginia Public Access Project ran the event with Mark Rozell, Dean of the Schar School of Policy and
Government at GMU, moderating the discussion. Among the issues discussed—the “nationalization” of the campaign; the candidates’ position on Confederate monuments; the campaign ads; and most important—lessons for 2018.

On November 20th, The Catholic University of America hosted “Women in Science: Mindfulness for Self-Care,” a talk featuring Rezvan Ameli, Ph.D. The program was presented by the School of Arts and Sciences at Alice’s Jazz and Cultural Society.

**Arts and Culture**

The Catholic University of America hosted a series of cultural events this fall including:

- On September 20th, it hosted a concert featuring some of the greatest examples of Renaissance music. The Sistine Chapel Choir, also known as the Pope’s Choir, brought the music to life during a rare performance at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. The performance was described as a “stunning gift;”
- The Chamber Orchestra, led by music director Simeone Tartaglione, gave a special performance on October 2nd showcasing the music of Spain at the former residence of the Ambassadors of Spain;
- CUA hosted the Fall Operas “The Old Maid and The Thief” and “Doctor Miracle on November 16 through 19;”
- The CUA Symphony Orchestra, also under Dr. Tartaglione, performed the music of two Romantic masters, Johannes Brahms and Max Bruch on November 20;
- As part of the Washington International Piano Series, Dr. Jarred Tafaro and friends performed on campus On November 30;
- The university hosted “Concerts Spirituals: Midday Music and Devotion—The Jesse Tree: Music for Advent featuring Eya, a highly acclaimed ensemble specializing in medieval music for women’s voices. The On December 1 concert explored the fascinating and thoughtful interpretations of Isaiah’s prophecy of the Messiah’s birth, the visionary songs of St. Hildegard von Bingen, music from the monasteries of 13th century England and the repertoire of Notre Dame Cathedral; and
- The CUA Wind Ensemble, under the direction of Richard Roberts, musical director, presented a winter concert featuring the music of Gustav Holst, Paul Dukas, Eric Whitacre, Steven Bryant, Francis McBeth, and John Philip Sousa on December 3.

For the 2017-2018 season, the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center at the University of Maryland is presenting a series of artists whose beliefs in social justice and the power of the human spirit inform the art they make. The artists will speak about their work through a series of panel discussions, public interviews and audience roundtables in the Do Good Dialogues. Designed to complement UMD’s Do Good campus initiative to create a hub of activity for philanthropy, nonprofit management, public policy, social change and leadership. The events will educate, inspire and reinforce the importance of taking action to make a positive change in our society and in the world. For a schedule see coming attractions.

To mark another academic year at the Northern Virginia Community College, chainsaw artist Andrew Mallon of AM Sculptures carved a realistic likeness of Ace the NOVA Nighthawk at NOVA-
Manassas. Wielding two large chainsaws and other power tools, Mallon started by creating an outline of NOVA’s mascot in a block of poplar. Over the course of an hour Mallon carved details of Ace’s face along with the words “NOVA” and “Nighthawks.” The program was part of a series of Back-to-School events that were sponsored by the Office of Student Life.

**SPORTS**

In October, the *Washington Post* profiled George Mason University defender Niomi Serrano, who plays for the Patriots Women’s soccer team. After returning to the team after a major knee injury, Serrano realized that she could no longer hear her teammates. Specialists determined that she was partially deaf and they didn’t know why. Serrano has adjusted with hearing aids and periodic use of American Sign Language. “I’m not upset about it,” she said. “There’s nothing I can do about it. I don’t take [the hearing loss] as an embarrassment. I’m not ashamed of it. I have accepted it. It’s just who I am.”

**LIFE AFTER COLLEGE**

Among the 2017 *Women Who Mean Business* honorees named by *Washingtonian Magazine* were several Consortium member alumnae including:

- Donella Brockington, Vice President Public Sector Transportation, Conduent Inc, who received a Masters of Education, Guidance and Counseling as well as a Masters in Urban Systems Engineering from Howard University;
- Kelley Sweeney McShane, President, Community of Hope, who received an MBA from Georgetown University;
- Jessica Moseley, CEO, TCS Interpreting, Inc., who received a Master’s in Human Resources from Marymount University;
- Karen Dale, Director, AmeriHealth Caritas, DC, who received a Bachelors in Nursing from George Mason University and a Masters in Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing from the Catholic University of America;
- Phyllis Caldwell, Founder and Managing Director, Wroxton Civic Ventures, LLC, who received a Bachelors in Sociology and an MBA from the University of Maryland; and
- Stasia Kelly, Co-Managing Partner, DL Piper (Americas), who received a Bachelors in English from Trinity Washington University and a Juris Doctor from George Washington University Law School.

Gallaudet University alumnus Evon Black, (’87) Associate Director of Recruitment in the Office of Undergraduate Admissions and Outreach at Gallaudet, was elected president of the National Black Deaf Advocates (NBDA) during the organization’s 28th biennial conference held on August 1-6 in Baltimore, MD. Black assumed office on October 1st for a two-year term.

Georgetown University alumna Cristina Ibarra’s (C’17) original play, drawing on her family’s immigration history from the Philippines and the philosophical questions she’s explored in Georgetown classrooms, was given a reading in September at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. Ibarra’s original play, *Landas*, was read as part of the Kennedy Center’s annual Page-to-Stage New Play Festival which is open to theaters from around the country. Ibera, a philosophy major, works at a global
investment firm but stayed involved in theater working with **Georgetown’s Laboratory for Global Performance & Politics**. This was her first play.

The **National Defense University** hosted its 5th Quadrennial International Fellows Security Seminar and Reunion at Fort McNair from September 18 to 22nd. Attendees included 194 alumni from 77 countries, as well as family members, former NDU staff members, and guests. Among the attendees were six current Chiefs of Service, one current Chief of Defense, and several former Chiefs of Defense and Service. The group was addressed by Admiral William F. Fallon, USN (Retired), Lieutenant General Terry Wolff, USA (Retired) and Dr. Richard Hooker, Senior Director for NATO. **NDU** also inducted five alumni into the NDU International Hall of Fame including:

- Lieutenant General Franz Reissner, Commander of the Austrian Land Forces, NWC class of 2004;
- Lieutenant General Alkiviadis Stefanis, Chief of the Hellenic Army General Staff, NWC class of 2009;
- Major General (Ret) Mahamane Toure, Chief of the General Staff and Services, Mali Armed Forces, NWC class of 2011;
- Lieutenant General Cheikh Gueye, Chief of Staff of the Senegalese Armed Forces, CISA class of 2013; and
- Lieutenant General Carlo Magrassi, Italian Secretary General of Defense and National Armaments Director, NWC class of 2001.

**Georgetown University** alumna Kirstjen Nielsen (SFS ’94) was confirmed by the US Senate as the Secretary of Homeland Security in December. She previously served as an official in the department, and worked for White House Chief of Staff John Kelly before being nominated for the DHS position. She is the first former employee to be confirmed as the head of the agency since it was formed in 2002. Anthony Clark Arend, **School of Foreign Studies (SFS)** Senior Associate Dean of Faculty and Graduate Affairs expressed congratulations on behalf of the university to see an alumna lead the Department.

Steven Fine of Pullin Electric recently spoke to a business class at the **Manassas Campus** of **Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA)**. As a 2008 NOVA graduate, Fine easily related to the students who were interested to hear his real-world advice about the topics they are studying in their “Introduction to Business” course. Fine talked about managing the business, training good employees, keeping customers happy, and other aspects of running a successful company.

**Gallaudet University** alumnus Samuel Holden (’97) was elected Vice President and **Gallaudet** alumna Anquinette Kimble (’08) was elected Secretary of the National Black Deaf Advocates (NBDA). NBDA, founded in 1982, is the official advocacy organization for thousands of black deaf and hard of hearing people in the United States. Its mission is to promote leadership development, economic and educational opportunities, and social equity, as well as safeguarding the general health and welfare of black deaf and hard of hearing people.

**Georgetown University** alumnae Mary Esselman (C’84, G’87) and Elizabeth Velez (G’83) have written a new book of poems entitled *How Did This Happen? Poems for the Not So Young Anymore*. The book is designed for readers at every stage and experiencing every aspect of aging. It juxtaposes the authors’ own commentary against everyone else from Horace to Gwendolyn Brooks. This is their fourth book together.
Gallaudet University student Jeffery Willoughby, ('15) gave a presentation to a Risk Management and Insurance (RMI) class at Gallaudet University in October, describing his experience as a full-time underwriter for Philadelphia Insurance Companies, which began as an internship in 2015. Philadelphia Insurance Companies was rated “A++” by A.M. Best Company, and “A+” by Standard & Poors.

In its November 10th edition, the Washington Business Journal charted the top 30 institutions by the number of alumni in the region. On the list ranked by number of alumni—the University of Maryland (1); George Mason University (2); George Washington University (3); Georgetown University (4); American University (5); Howard University (6); and the University of the District of Columbia (12)

**WHAT’S NEXT?**

**CAMPUS CALENDAR**

- **March 2-11**  Spring Break at Georgetown University
- **March 5-9**  Spring Break at Catholic University of America
- **March 5-10**  Spring Break at Trinity Washington University
- **March 10-18**  Spring Break at Howard University
- **March 11-18**  Spring Break at American University
- **March 12-16**  Spring Break at University of the District of Columbia and Gallaudet University
- **March 12-17**  Spring Break at George Washington University
- **March 12-18**  Spring Break at George Mason University, Marymount University, Montgomery County Community College, Northern Virginia Community College and Prince Georges Community College
- **March 18-25**  Spring Break at the University of Maryland
- **March 26-30**  Spring Break at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences
- **March 28- April 2**  Easter Break at Georgetown University
- **March 28- April 2**  Easter Break at Marymount University
- **March 28 - April 3**  Easter Break at Catholic University of America
March 30-
April 1  Easter Break at Trinity Washington University