



From the Provost



For many years, a large sign planted on the southwest corner of our campus has welcomed visitors to our University. It reads “The Catholic University of America: In Service to Church and Nation.” That message resonates with those who work at the University for two reasons. First, it reminds us of what we know to be true from our own direct experiences of the life of our University. Second, it aligns with our mission statement, which guides our activities as an educational institution.

Two sentences from that mission statement elucidate the slogan on our sign:

The Catholic University of America is committed to being a comprehensive Catholic and American institution of higher learning, faithful to the teachings of Jesus Christ as handed on by the Church.

Dedicated to advancing the dialogue between faith and reason, The Catholic University of America seeks to discover and impart the truth through excellence in teaching and research, all in service to the Church, the nation, and the world.

The purpose of this publication is to demonstrate through concrete examples from our most recent academic year the many ways in which we truly are a “comprehensive Catholic and American institution of higher learning” that pursues the truth “through excellence in teaching and research” in service to the common good.

In the pages that follow, we have organized a series of vignettes chronologically, from the beginning of the academic year in fall 2017 through each of the four seasons of the year, concluding with summer 2018. You will see the richness and diversity of our academic life — from studying black holes and climate change to deliberating on papal encyclicals and engaging social issues tied to racial justice, religious liberty, economic opportunity, and migration — as our students, faculty, and staff experience it on a daily basis.

Our extensive research and scholarly contributions are not as well known as they deserve to be — and we are trying to change that. Several years ago, we inaugurated a University Research Day to celebrate these contributions. The experiment succeeded far beyond our expectations in attracting faculty and students (especially students) to share their research. Since then, University Research Day has become a most popular tradition at our University. It reveals to ourselves — our students, faculty, and staff — who and what we are. If you have time to look at only one vignette in this publication, I invite you to study the photo on page 46. Perhaps more than any other, it depicts the promise of our University in its commitment to discover and impart the truth through scholarship.

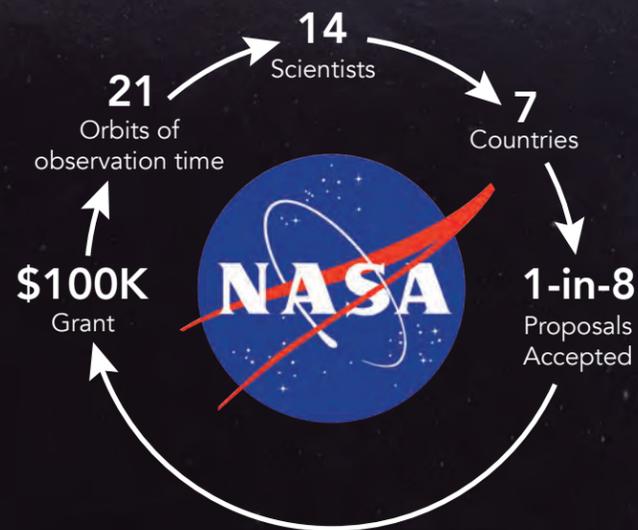
Andrew V. Abela, Ph.D.
Provost

Faculty Use Hubble to Study Black Holes

Steve Kraemer, director for the University's Institute of Astrophysics and Computational Sciences, is part of an international team of astrophysicists awarded 21 orbits of observing time on the Hubble Space Telescope to use the Advanced Camera for Surveys and the Space Telescope Imaging Spectrograph.

Data from Hubble will help the group better understand the outflow of gases, or winds, from regions surrounding supermassive black holes. "We're hoping these data will tell us whether black holes are really producing the energetic winds needed to explain interactions between black holes and their host galaxies," said Kraemer.

Physics professor **Tommy Wiklind** was also awarded Hubble observing time for a project with the Atacama Large Millimeter Array (ALMA) Observatory in the Atacama Desert of northern Chile. He will use three orbits of observing time to study the organic molecules in a galaxy seven billion light years away. With the unique ultraviolet wavelength range of the Hubble telescope, Wiklind and his team can observe and learn more about that galaxy and its origin.



Physics Researchers Collaborate with NASA

Michael Corcoran, a senior research scientist in physics, worked with data from NASA's NuSTAR space telescope to study Eta Carinae, the most massive and luminous star system within 10,000 light years of Earth. The system emits unusual cosmic rays due to the unique orbit of the complex stellar system.

Amy Rager, a doctoral student in physics, contributed to the discovery of a previously unknown magnetic event in Earth's atmosphere. She developed a new technique to interpret data from NASA's Magnetospheric Multiscale Spacecraft that made the discovery possible.

Ashley Greeley, a doctoral student in physics, is building a satellite to study the effects of solar radiation and space weather on Earth's magnetic fields. Her team's tiny satellite, called a "Compact Radiation Belt Explorer" or CeREs, launched from New Zealand in July 2018.



Ashley Greeley

Catholic University is New Home to Major Literary Association

Last year, **Ernest Suarez**, David M. O'Connell Professor and chair of the Department of English, served as president of the **Association of Literary Scholars, Critics and Writers** (ALSCW). The international association, which relocated from Boston University, has been headquartered at Catholic University since 2016 when the University hosted the association's annual conference.

The arrival of the ALSCW and the conference provided unique opportunities for students to interact with the association's members.

The association was formed in 1994 and publishes two academic journals, *Literary Imagination* and *Literary Matters*. Suarez serves on the editorial board of both publications.





University Opens Center for the Study of Statesmanship

With a mix of fanfare and gravitas, Catholic University formally launched the **Center for the Study of Statesmanship (CSS)** on Sept. 13 at the National Press Club in downtown Washington, D.C.

Specific areas of study for the center will include diplomacy, military affairs, intelligence, and constitutionalism, among others. The center will offer faculty research grants and graduate study opportunities, as well as conferences, seminars, lectures, and publications. Its 12-member council of advisors includes historians, current and former members of the U.S. Congress, and news media figures.

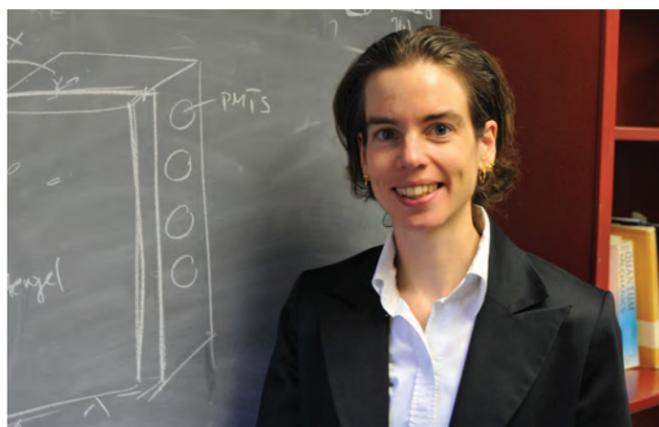
University **President John Garvey**, in his welcoming remarks, called the center “intellectually exciting and morally necessary,” both in the global context and as part of the University’s efforts to “form our students to become the next generation of virtuous leaders.”

The center falls under Catholic University’s **Institute for Human Ecology**, which itself was created in response to Pope Francis’s 2015 encyclical *Laudato Si’: On Care for Our Common Home*.



Commercialization and Innovation in Scientific Discovery

A technology transfer workshop provided valuable insights for researchers interested in capitalizing on their scientific discoveries. The workshop was planned by **Tanja Horn** and **Ian Pegg** of the physics department in conjunction with researchers from the Jefferson Lab in Newport News, Va., and the Institute of Nuclear Physics in Orsay, France. The workshop drew about 45 participants from the worlds of industry, national and international laboratories, academia, and funding agencies interested in new applications of detector technologies.



“

Technology transfer is all about taking this cool scientific research we're doing and putting it into a concept that is most useful to companies.”

— Prof. Tanja Horn



“

This is surely one of the most successful university-commercial partnerships in the industry.”

— Prof. Ian Pegg

Vitreous State Laboratory Secures Long-Term Funding Agreement

In September 2017, **Provost Andrew Abela** signed a new agreement to continue a long-standing partnership between the University's **Vitreous State Laboratory (VSL)** and the Atkins company, one of the world's most respected design, engineering, and project management consultancies. The new agreement has a projected value of \$80 million over its 10-year term.

“We look forward to working together over the next decade on a wide range of projects, many of which deal with some of the most pressing environmental challenges,” said Ian Pegg, VSL director and professor of physics, who negotiated the terms of the agreement.

Housed in Hannan Hall, VSL is a research and development facility for the study of glass. For decades, much of VSL's work has centered on nuclear waste management through a process called vitrification, in which radioactive waste is transformed into glass that, while remaining radioactive, no longer leaches into the surrounding environment. VSL partners with Atkins on many nuclear waste treatment projects for the U.S. Department of Energy, as well as countries such as the United Kingdom and Japan. The partnership also collaborates on research related to cements, geopolymers, and water decontamination.



“

Listen, Learn, Think,
Pray, and Act.”

— Bishop Edward Braxton

Bishop Braxton Urges Peace Amid Racial Challenges

What can Catholics and Christians do to build peace when faced with our country's great racial divide? According to **Bishop Edward Braxton**, of Belleville, Ill., it all comes down to five imperatives.

“Listen, learn, think, pray, and act,” he said, during one of two September 2017 addresses to hundreds of students at The Catholic University of America. During his lecture, he spoke about the deep roots of the racial divide in the United States, calling it a “flaw at the very foundation” of our country.

Bishop Braxton is a leading voice in the Catholic Church on the issue of race, a former member of the theology faculty at Catholic University, and the author of the 2015 pastoral letter, “The Racial Divide in the United States.”

While it is important for the Church to promote active listening where there is tension, the bishop said individuals need to take responsibility for their own actions. “Everybody can do something at home, in your neighborhood, in your parishes or in your relationships with other people around this room,” he told social work students. “The shape of the Church to come, the shape of the world to come, is in our hands.”

Metropolitan School of Professional Studies Collaborates with D.C. Initiatives

- MSPS joined the **Federal Academic Alliance**. This group of 15 elite colleges and universities supports the federal government's workforce-development needs by creating tailored educational programs and offering scholarships to federal workers.
- MSPS received an \$80,000 grant from the **D.C. Superintendent of Education** to provide coaching and support for workplace training throughout the District.
- MSPS received a grant from the **D.C. Superintendent of Education** to fund programs and scholarships for adult-age high school students taking classes that count for high school and college credit. This program, called "dual enrollment," helps students receive their high school diplomas and complete courses toward a college degree.



Busch School Launches Partnership to Support D.C. Small Businesses

Last fall, the **Busch School of Business and Economics** launched a unique partnership with D.C. small businesses and the Initiative for a Competitive Inner City (ICIC). It was the beginning of a four-year commitment on the part of Catholic University to ICIC's flagship program, **Inner City Capital Connections** (ICCC), and the first time ICCC has teamed with a college or business school.

At the September event, 125 D.C.-based small business owners came together to network and to learn from business experts in an executive education seminar, with additional workshops and coaching events continuing all academic year. Five senior business students also apprenticed with some of the D.C. businesses in the spring.

ICCC's alumni have created more than 12,000 jobs since its inception in 2005. The initial cohort of small businesses in Washington, D.C., is the largest in the program's history.

Referencing Pope Francis, who has called business a "noble vocation," University President John Garvey said, "It is my hope that The Catholic University of America, working with local small businesses, can have an impact in our community while continuing to educate our students to be the kinds of leaders who will do the same. Our partnership in these ventures helps everyone prosper."



“

Subsidiarity is the means to real solidarity. Solidarity can't come about from the top down, instead it has to come about from various associations at the ground level.”

— Prof. David Cloutier

Rep. Rooney Joins Faculty Symposium on Subsidiarity

How can the people preserve political power? According to **U.S. Rep. Francis Rooney (R-Fla.)**, who served as the U.S. ambassador to the Holy See from 2005 to 2008, the principle of subsidiarity, which he defined as “devolving the solution back to the closest unit at which it can be solved,” is key.

At an October symposium on “Subsidiarity in Politics, Culture, and Economy,” Rep. Rooney joined professors **Joseph Capizzi**, executive director of the Institute for Human Ecology; **David Cloutier** of the School of Theology and Religious Studies; **Bradley Lewis** of the School of Philosophy; and **Andreas Widmer**, director of the Arthur and Carlyse Ciocca Center for Principled Entrepreneurship.

Lewis explained the theological background of subsidiarity from Pope Pius XI's encyclical *Quadragesimo Anno*. While determining who should be in charge of any given civic decision can be difficult, according to Lewis subsidiarity helps human beings flourish by allowing them to determine their own actions. Symposium panel members considered particular challenges facing humanity, including poverty relief, environmental regulations, and education policy.

“

The cry of the Earth and the cry of the poor go hand in hand. The way we treat the environment reflects the way we treat humanity, and vice versa.”

– Cardinal Peter Turkson

Conference Explores the Morality of Business

How can a profitable business be a force for good? That was the question at the heart of Good Profit, a three-day conference that drew more than 300 business leaders from across the country to Catholic University.

The October conference, organized by the **Busch School of Business and Economics** and the **Napa Institute**, was inspired by the 2015 book, *Good Profit: How Creating Value for Others Built One of the World's Most Successful Companies*, by Charles Koch, chairman and CEO of Koch Industries, Inc. The event featured high-profile keynote speakers including Koch, as well as Cardinal Peter Turkson, who serves as prefect for the Vatican's Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development.

Andreas Widmer, director of the Ciocca Center for Principled Entrepreneurship, kick-started the conference.

“God intends for our work to be fruitful and to create abundance — or in another word — profit in its fullest meaning,” Widmer said.

In order to make profit that can be considered good, **Cardinal Turkson** said, a company must be guided by ethical leaders who are producing worthwhile products or services, while also contributing to the common good. He noted that one important factor in that equation is caring for our natural environment and keeping it healthy for future generations.





Scholars Undertake Project to Help Middle East Christians

Through the **Christian Communities of the Middle East (CCME)** project, University scholars are working to record and preserve the memories and heritage of Catholics forced to flee the Middle East during years of conflict. Researchers (pictured at left in the University's Christian Oriental Research Library) from the School of Theology and Religious Studies, the University Library, and the Department of Semitics and Egyptian Languages and Literatures have helped members of the Chaldean Catholic community who have arrived in the United States preserve cherished memories and retain and document their neo-Aramaic language that has been spoken for millennia.

The project was expanded last year in cooperation with the College of New Jersey to include the West Syrians (of Syria, as distinguished from Iraq). The scholars are recording oral histories of the Syriac Orthodox in New Jersey. In 2019, the Catholic University team will return to the Chaldean Catholic communities in Detroit to record the stories of those recently arrived from Iraq.

Catholic University has a long history of not only studying and documenting Christian culture and heritage in the Middle East, but of encouraging Christian-Muslim dialogue as well. Christian and Muslim scholars from across America met at the University in October 2017 for a dialogue about recently published scholarship on Mary's role in **Islam and Christianity** and the legacy of Louis Massignon, a Catholic scholar of Islam whose work anticipated calls for interreligious dialogue at the Second Vatican Council.

"We want to find ways to better understand each other and motivate communities to work together for certain goals," said **Wilhelmus Valkenberg**, professor of culture and religion. He said the meeting was the first event in a greater initiative that will bring Muslim and Christian scholars together twice a year.

“

As a society we need to recapture the capacity for civility and even charity in our public life. Catholic universities can — and I hope, will — contribute to a solution.”

— Cardinal Seán Patrick O’Malley



Cardinal O’Malley

University Explores Mixed Legacy of Land O’Lakes Statement

How can Catholic colleges and universities pursue academic excellence while staying faithful to their mission? In 1967, a group of Catholic administrators meeting in Land O’Lakes, Wisc., issued a statement on the question, now well known as the “Land O’Lakes Statement.” In November 2017, the University hosted a conference on issues in Catholic higher education that marked the 50th anniversary of the statement. As **President John Garvey** noted in his opening remarks, “It has been described by admirers and critics alike as a watershed moment in American Catholic higher education.”

“According to its authors, a Catholic university is not, and cannot be, an institution accountable to any external authority — including the authority of the Church,” Garvey said. He went on to critique the statement, saying “it would be a mistake today, as it was a mistake 50 years ago, to dismiss the teaching of the magisterium.” He hoped that the conference might be an opportunity to study the statement’s mixed legacy and “ensure that moving forward as a Catholic university, we are free to use both faith and reason in our search for the Truth.”

The conference drew scholars and Church leaders from around the country including **Archbishop Christophe Pierre**, apostolic nuncio to the United States, and **Cardinal Seán Patrick O’Malley, O.F.M. Cap.**, archbishop of Boston, alumnus, and member of the Board of Trustees.



“

Climate change disproportionately affects the poor, which makes addressing it a matter of social justice.”

— President John Garvey



School of Engineering Hosts Climate Change Workshop

The Nov. 16 “Challenges of Climate Change” workshop was the first event marking the **School of Engineering’s** commitment to establish an Engineering Center for the Care of the Earth. The center is intended to foster greater understanding of the positive and negative effects technology has on our planet and our relationships to each other.

“The School of Engineering has a long history of research and education in areas that relate to the environment,” said Engineering **Dean John Judge**. “But after Pope Francis published his encyclical *Laudato Si’* in the summer of 2015, it was apparent that we needed a more organized response to the challenge of protecting our common home.”

Participating speakers for the workshop included renowned professors and scientists from around the world, including Ezio Mattiace, a specialist in renewable energy representing the Climate Reality Project.

“We are all part of the problem,” Mattiace said. “We all have to be part of the solution.”

Cardinal Parolin Discusses Vatican II, Receives Honorary Degree

Cardinal Pietro Parolin, the Vatican's secretary of state, spoke about the ongoing legacy of the Second Vatican Council during an address Nov. 14 on campus. The cardinal delivered his address, "The Council: A Prophecy that Continues with Pope Francis," in Italian, with simultaneous English translation before a crowd of clergy and members of the University community.

Following his remarks, the University bestowed on Cardinal Parolin an honorary Doctor of Theology degree.

Though Vatican II took place more than 50 years ago, Cardinal Parolin said it remains "a prophetic character" continuing to shape the life and behavior of the Church to this day.

"The Council has introduced in the life of the Church and its relationship with the world a new style and new seeds, drawn from the source of the tradition, especially from biblical and patristic sources," he said.

Cardinal Parolin said many ideas emphasized by Vatican II remain relevant to the Church today, including the notion of the Church as people of God and the importance of empowering the lay faithful while avoiding clericalism.



300+ Honorary Degrees

Since 1896, the University has conferred more than 300 honorary degrees on people who have made significant contributions to the Church and/or society.



Catholic University's Program in Intelligence Studies:

- Launched in 2017
- Interdisciplinary certificate
- Three required courses in American Intelligence, Contemporary Issues, and Homeland Security
- Three elective courses, two outside of the politics department

Symposium Explores the Ethics of Intelligence Work

What are the ethical considerations for intelligence workers who act covertly to protect national security? This was a core question at a November symposium “Double Lives and Moral Lives: An Exploration into the Ethics of Intelligence.” Former CIA director Michael Hayden was the main speaker at the event, which was co-sponsored by the **Intelligence Studies Program** and the **Institute for Human Ecology**.

Nicholas Dujmovic, director of the Intelligence Studies Program, began the symposium by describing intelligence as a “vital function of the government which seeks to understand the world as it is — not what we wish it to be.” Dujmovic added that the intelligence community must hold itself to the same ethical standards held by the American people.

That idea was repeated by Hayden, who said intelligence officers are often faced with tough ethical decisions about which actions to take, keeping in mind the safety of sources and innocent bystanders. “If you do not have a healthy moral compass, this work will destroy you,” Hayden said. “Ethical behavior is at the core of success inside this vocation.” When faced with life-and-death decisions, Hayden said intelligence officers rely on principles taken from Catholic Just War Theory.

Panelists discussed many issues facing the intelligence community, including controversial interrogation techniques like waterboarding and information leaks like those from former CIA employee Edward Snowden.

“

Ethical behavior is at the core of success inside this vocation.”

— Michael Hayden, former CIA director

New Classical Architecture Program Invites Expert Jury

At the end of each semester, students in studio architecture courses show their designs before a jury of professional architects and scholars. In the fall, the **School of Architecture and Planning's** new Classical Concentration put together a jury of national architecture superstars to review the work of students in this area of study.

The jury included architects from the local area and from New York City and architecture deans from the University of Maryland, Howard University, University of Notre Dame, and University of Miami schools of architecture.

"The School of Architecture and Planning's new Classical program invites students to use the study of the past to enrich and enliven conversations with the present — drawing upon thousands of years of architectural design concepts and applying that knowledge to the challenges of contemporary society," said James McCreery, assistant professor and head of the concentration.



In March, the School of Architecture and Planning celebrated former trustee and alumnus Leo A. Daly III, FAIA, B.Arch. 1967, at a reception at the John Paul II center in Washington, D.C. Daly, an accomplished architect and friend to the University, received the Joseph Miller Award, which is named for a much-beloved alumnus and professor.



Grand Challenge Scholars Program

The hackathons tie in with the School of Engineering's participation in the National Academy of Engineering's Grand Challenge Scholars Program, which prepares students to come up with innovative solutions for 14 major challenges facing the world in the 21st century. Catholic University has one of only a few engineering programs at Catholic colleges and universities nationwide to participate in this program.

Students Bring Innovation to Vatican Hackathon

Catholic University students competed to develop high-tech solutions for helping Washington, D.C.'s homeless population. Hacking Homelessness, the University's first hackathon, was hosted by the **School of Engineering** in collaboration with the D.C. Department of Human Services.

As part of the competition, 40 students were split into teams and challenged to develop a program or system that would use data science and engineering to improve the lives of people who are homeless. The winning team developed an app that uses mapping technology similar to that used by Uber, the ridesharing app, to potentially help social workers locate people in need.

Five students from the University hackathon went on to compete in "VHacks," the first-ever Vatican hackathon. They were assigned to compete in the interfaith dialogue category, with a goal of creating open communication between members of differing faith backgrounds to foster deeper understanding and cooperation, and ultimately were awarded second place.

They developed Faithstrings, an application using virtual reality that would allow users to immerse themselves in different faith communities. When describing the inspiration behind the app, the team said, "By striving to understand one another, more empathy will occur between cultures."

Music Students Perform at Bernstein Celebration

Students from Catholic University's Benjamin T. Rome School of Music brought their talents to Washington, D.C.'s Arena Stage during a three-night engagement honoring the life and work of renowned composer, conductor, and musician Leonard Bernstein.

"Bernstein at 100: The Theater Songs of Leonard Bernstein," was a musical showcase highlighting Bernstein's most beloved theatrical music, as well as some of his lesser-known works. The show was held as part of a year-long celebration of Bernstein's life in collaboration with Arena Stage and the Kennedy Center's Millennium Stage.

The night included performances from students in the Musical Theatre Division and the Catholic University Symphony Orchestra, as well as professional musicians from the Washington, D.C., region. The special guest artist for the evening was Kurt Boehm, who earned his bachelor of music from Catholic University in 2005.

Pieces performed included songs from *West Side Story*, *A Party with Comden and Green*, *Wonderful Town*, *Peter Pan*, *The Lark*, and *1600 Pennsylvania Avenue*.

The Arts in D.C.

Music, drama, and art students and faculty are actively engaged in D.C.'s thriving arts scene — from an art history course taught at the National Gallery of Art, to a Friday-night concert by the University singers at the midtown Church of The Epiphany, to playwriting students presenting their original work on the Kennedy Center's Millennium Stage. Last fall, the University Chamber Symphony, led by music director Simeone Tartaglione, performed the music of Spain at the Former Residence of the Ambassadors of Spain. The performance was a partnership between the University and the Cultural Office of the Embassy of Spain.





Lima Library Re-Opens, Showcasing Rare Collection

“I cannot help buying books,” confessed **Manoel de Oliveira Lima**, a Brazilian diplomat and writer. In 1916, he donated his library, containing thousands of rare and valuable items, to Catholic University.

The Oliveira Lima Library re-opened in February amid fundraising efforts to refurbish the collection containing materials on topics ranging from slavery and diplomacy to religion and literature, especially as they relate to the history of Portugal and Brazil. The collection includes not only many rare books but also paintings and other art objects, including landscapes by Nicolas-Antoine Taunay and Frans Post (the latter’s *Brazilian Landscape, Probably Pernambuco*, c. 1660, is on loan to the National Gallery of Art), as well as works by the Brazilian master Antônio Parreiras.

There are photographs and postcards as well as numerous maps, drawings, prints, manuscripts, and sculptures. Thousands of pamphlets, some dating back to the late 18th century, are especially rich on matters surrounding Brazilian independence. Letters from more than 1,400 correspondents round out the collection, along with scrapbooks, medals, and other items.

University Trustee **Enrique Segura and his wife, Alejandra**, recently donated funds to fill a curatorial position and to provide seed money for a marketing effort to heighten awareness of the collection.

“

The Cathedral must set forth the faith of the Church for all to see, to know, and to love.”

— Prof. James McCrery

Architecture Professor Designs Knoxville's New Cathedral

In March, **Bishop Richard F. Stika** of Knoxville dedicated the diocese's new Sacred Heart Cathedral. The beautiful new church was designed by **James McCrery**, assistant professor of architecture and director of the Classical Architecture Concentration.

Bishop Stika sought out McCrery to build a timeless cathedral for the Church of Knoxville. "It was to be a beautiful, American, Catholic cathedral, designed for the people of East Tennessee," McCrery said. "The cathedral's design and decoration were to be a new example of excellence while participating in the long tradition of Catholic church architecture stretching back two millennia."



The Dome is

- 140 feet tall
- 45 feet wide at the base
- only **slightly smaller** than the Florentine Duomo



“Standing right at the border dividing El Paso from Ciudad Juarez was a humbling moment.”

—Nicole Pope, student

Students Visit Border to Experience the Realities of Immigration

Sixteen students traveled to El Paso, Texas, and Las Cruces, N.M., during spring recess to experience firsthand the realities faced by migrants, and to learn about the efforts made by Catholic organizations in these dioceses to respond to their needs. The trip and related class, sponsored by the Office of Campus Ministry for the third consecutive year, were led by Sister Ruth Harkins, associate campus minister for graduate and professional students, and William Rainford, dean of the **National Catholic School of Social Service**. The group was also joined by Jeanne Garvey, wife of University President John Garvey, and Deacon Steve Kaneb, who serves on the University's Board of Trustees.

As part of the trip, students participated in service work by preparing meals and working in onion fields with migrants. They also spent time listening and learning — speaking with U.S. Border Patrol agents, immigration lawyers, farmers, students, religious sisters, and undocumented immigrants facing deportation.



A day of panel discussions, “On the Margins: At the Intersection of Catholic Social Thought and Migration,” was co-sponsored by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Migration and Refugee Services and Catholic University's Institute for Human Ecology. The event took place in January as part of National Migration Week.

Neuhaus Papers Find a Home at University Archives

Rev. Richard John Neuhaus, founder of the Institute for Religion and Public Life and its magazine, *First Things*, was the subject of a half-day symposium at The Catholic University of America in March.

"Catholic Witness in the Public Square: Celebrating the Life and Letters of Father Richard John Neuhaus" offered an opportunity to reflect on the gift of the Neuhaus papers — a collection of correspondence, publications, and photos — to the **American Catholic History Research Center and University Archives** at Catholic University.

The cataloging of the nearly 100 boxes of items in the collection was recently completed.

Father Neuhaus, who marched with Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. at Selma, also became an anti-war activist in the '60s. By the 1980s, he found his place in the intellectual right, and in 1984 founded the Center for Religion and Society. In 1990, the center published its inaugural issue of *First Things*. That same year, Father Neuhaus was received into the Catholic Church by Cardinal John O'Connor. He served as editor of *First Things* until his death in 2009 at age 72.





“The Church that Walks Together”

Archbishop Christophe Pierre, the apostolic nuncio to the United States, gave an address entitled “Synodality and Pope Francis: The Church that Walks Together” as the School of Canon Law’s 11th annual Frederick R. McManus Memorial Lecture in November. He defined synodality as “a way of living the faith” that involves speaking honestly and listening with humility. “Synodality is a dynamic, living process and an experience of joining together,” he said. “Synodality captures the idea of working together for the fulfillment of the faith. It advises individuals to share in responsibility for the Church and her mission. Both the Church’s contribution to the individual and each person’s contribution helps the whole body of Christ to preserve the good and help them be the Church Christ calls them to be.”

“
The theory of canon law
becomes practical.”
— Prof. Kurt Martens

Canon Law Students Granted Papal Audience

Canon law students visited Rome as part of a study abroad trip led by **Professor Kurt Martens** in March. On their visit they were granted a rare audience with **Pope Francis**. “We were visiting the various congregations of the Church,” Martens said. “By visiting the offices, the theory of canon law becomes practical, they can see faces, and learn how to present cases there.”

They met with **Cardinal Pietro Parolin**, Vatican secretary of state, to discuss the Church in America and Vatican diplomacy; he also arranged an audience with the pope. During their brief meeting, Pope Francis advised the students to study hard and to always look at the roots of Church laws to fully understand their underlying reason and purpose.

Canon law student **Sister Rose Marie Timmer** said the encounter was “delightful” and that the Holy Father was “humorous, joyful, and pastoral.” She was particularly moved when he explained the significance of an image hanging in the room of Our Lady, Undoer of Knots. “He told us to be mindful of bringing the knots of our lives — our anxieties, the burden of our sins, and our cares — to this Mother of Fair Love,” Sister Rose Marie said. “The Holy Father encouraged us to turn to her often so that she may, through her intercession, liberate each one of us from the knots that seek to bind us and keep us from her Son.”

Students Study Nursing Thanks to Conway Program

A \$13 million gift by Board of Trustees member Bill Conway and his wife, Joanne, in March to the **School of Nursing** provided funding for a new cohort of academically talented students to achieve their goals of becoming nurses. The Conways have generously funded the **William and Joanne Conway Scholars Program** through their Bedford Falls Foundation Charitable Trust since 2013. The first cohort of 19 students in the program graduated in 2017 and achieved 100% job placement.

"Many Conway Scholars would be unable to afford to enroll at Catholic University to pursue their dream of becoming a nurse without the full or partial scholarship support the Conways have provided," said **Patricia McMullen**, dean of the School of Nursing. "And, as graduates, they will change the lives of those they serve in health-care settings in Washington, D.C., around the country, and throughout the world."

School of Nursing

#9

The School of Nursing's spot on the *U.S. News & World Report's* Rankings of Best Online Graduate Nursing Programs.

\$1,282,000

The amount of grant funding awarded to School of Nursing faculty during the 2017-2018 academic year.





Research Day Celebrates Scholarship

Delivering the keynote address at the annual University Research Day in April, **Law Professor Cara Drinan** shared real-life examples of how research can save lives and protect children. Drinan, who researches mass incarceration and juvenile justice, presented her latest findings published in her new book, *The War on Kids: How American Juvenile Justice Lost Its Way*.

University Research Day is an opportunity for students, faculty, and staff members to present their academic findings to the University community.

As part of her lecture, Drinan cited the specific laws that have resulted in a troubling number of juveniles being imprisoned in the United States. She explained how our country is an anomaly when it comes to cruel and unusual sentencing for children.

“How did this happen? How is it possible that thousands of individuals across the country were sentenced to die in prison before they were old enough to vote?” asked Drinan.

Though she admits that the criminal justice reform community has a tough challenge ahead, Drinan expressed confidence that the powerful research coming from the worlds of neuroscience, social science, economics, and law will help change the lives of young people in danger of mistreatment by the justice system.



Professor Cara Drinan

250 presentations were given during University Research Day, covering a wide range of subjects, including gentrification, biomedical devices, American history, and particle physics. The presentations represented all 12 of the University's schools.

Humanae Vitae at 50: Scholars Reflect on Encyclical

Hundreds of clergy, religious, and lay ministers from around the country gathered at Catholic University in April for a symposium exploring Blessed Paul VI's writings on sexuality and family life, as laid out in the landmark encyclical *Humanae Vitae*.

The symposium, "Embracing God's Vision for Marriage, Love, and Life," commemorated the 50th anniversary of *Humanae Vitae*. The event was sponsored by the **School of Theology and Religious Studies**, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Laity, Marriage, and Family, the Witherspoon Institute, and numerous individual donors.

In his keynote address, **Archbishop Charles J. Chaput** explained how the release of Pope Paul VI's encyclical "revealed deep wounds in the Church about our understanding of the human person, the nature of sexuality, and marriage as God created it."

"We still seek the cure for those wounds," he said.

The archbishop's keynote was followed by two days of in-depth discussion of *Humanae Vitae*, including doctrinal, philosophical, and scientific support for the teachings. Additional speakers talked about how Paul VI's teachings can support families, including those experiencing infertility, and ways in which the Church can heal after decades of discord surrounding sexuality and marriage.

Joint Bioethics Program

The School of Theology and Religious Studies (STRS) will launch a joint academic program in clinical bioethics with Georgetown University Medical Center.

\$5 Million

The Carmelite Province of the Most Pure Heart of Mary has given STRS \$5 million to establish an academic center that will conduct research and support courses on the Carmelite charism of prayer and contemplation.





Drama Department Honors Veterans with Special Performance

Veterans and active members of the military enjoyed an evening of theatre in April, as the **Department of Drama** partnered with the Gary Sinise Foundation to host Vets Night. As part of the evening, military members enjoyed dinner and a preview performance of the University production of *Our Town*.

Written by Thornton Wilder in 1938, *Our Town* chronicles the story of a small American town through the lives of its residents. The University production featured an all-student cast and was directed by Matt Ripa, M.F.A. 2008.

Service members in attendance came from various bases and institutions in the Washington, D.C., area, including the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, Armed Forces Retirement Home, Fort Belvoir, the U.S.O, and the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA.

In an introductory video at the event, actor Gary Sinise (recipient of the University's 2017 James Cardinal Gibbons Medal) welcomed the guests. "Vets Night is a simple way of showing appreciation for your service, sacrifice, and bravery," said Sinise.

"It's a great experience being able to give back to the people who paved the way for people like me," said Christina Rimbey, an international business student and member of Army ROTC, who volunteered at the event.

Ambassador Brownback Lecture Kicks Off Center for Religious Liberty

“The Catholic Church teaches that human beings have a fundamental right to religious liberty, and the Church believes this human right belongs to all people,” **Mark Rienzi**, law professor and director of the Center for Religious Liberty, said at the opening of the new center in April.

U.S. Ambassador-At-Large for Religious Freedom **Samuel Brownback** gave the inaugural lecture at the event. Brownback, who formerly served as U.S. senator, U.S. representative, and governor of Kansas, is continuing a long career of advocacy on issues of religious liberty.

He discussed genocides and violence around the world due to religious persecution. He maintained that America should take a “whole of government approach” to pursuing religious freedom by seeking partnerships with the defense, security, and foreign aid communities.

The **Center for Religious Liberty** is a part of the Path Forward Initiative, seeking to attract top legal scholars and provide public commentary on important discussions about religious liberty in a diverse democracy.



“

I want to see religious liberty embedded in our understanding of national security, economic strategies, and aid strategies.”

— Ambassador Samuel Brownback

Columbus School of Law

Receives **\$1.4 Million** for Three New Initiatives:

- Program in Compliance, Investigations, and Corporate Responsibility conceived and led by Prof. Sarah Duggin
- Center for Religious Liberty led by Prof. Mark Rienzi
- Criminal Justice Pilot Program led by Prof. Cara Drinan



I can't emphasize enough how important Maestro Dudamel is in the world of music. This is like our students sharing the stage with Bernstein, or Toscanini, or Mahler."

— Timothy McDonnell, Director of the Institute of Sacred Music



Choir Members Perform with Los Angeles Philharmonic

Catholic University choir members had the rare opportunity in April to perform with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, which has been hailed by *The New York Times* as "the most important orchestra in America." The concert, held at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, featured a performance of Beethoven's *Ninth Symphony* conducted by the renowned Gustavo Dudamel.

Catholic University was the only university invited to participate. The chorus drew from several prestigious groups, including the Washington Chorus, the Choral Arts Society of Washington, and members of the Washington Performing Arts Men and Women of the Gospel Choir. School of Music alumnus Kevin McCarthy, B.M. 1977, his wife Debbie, B.A. 1978, and their McCarthy Family Foundation underwrote a reception prior to the concert for alumni, parents, and friends of the University.

Performing with a conductor as well regarded as Dudamel was "the experience of a lifetime for students," said **Timothy McDonnell**, Catholic University's director of choral activities and the Institute of Sacred Music.

Among the student singers was Stephanie Kocka, a double major in math and musical performance. "Not many people get to do these kinds of things and yet our school has found these amazing opportunities for its students," she said.

Society of Catholic Scientists Explores Human Nature

In June the international Society of Catholic Scientists held their annual meeting, "The Human Mind and Physicalism," on the campus of Catholic University. Experts in physics, neuroscience, computer science, mathematical logic, philosophy, and theology examined the philosophical view that all of reality, including the human mind, is reducible to what is physical.

Society president Stephen Barr, a professor of physics and astronomy at the University of Delaware, spoke about the common misconception that science and faith are entirely opposed to each other. "Reality cannot be neatly divided in that way," Barr said, "and one reality that certainly cannot be divided up is the human person."

"It's an incomplete worldview that leads to brokenness," remarked **Arts and Sciences Dean Aaron Dominguez**, who played an integral role in organizing the conference. "Here, we are a bunch of scientists who have been created by God to explore the natural world and ourselves, and we are discussing how we can put these two ideas together. These are some of the world's smartest scientists and we can come together and discuss these things from a foundation of our own faith."

After the conference was completed, participants were invited to attend a planning session for a new center for Catholic engagement with science and technology to be housed at The Catholic University of America.



The Sciences at Catholic University

"The sciences are thriving at Catholic University," says Aaron Dominguez, dean of the School of Arts and Sciences. "Our faculty are accomplished scientists with major research funding from NIH, NSF, and NASA, among others. Our undergrads have opportunities to participate in research with graduate students and faculty. Catholic University is the perfect place to nurture a love of science in students because here we understand that faith and scientific discovery go hand in hand." Dominguez is widely known for his work in experimental high-energy physics. He says his faith is part of what inspires him to study the origins of the universe. Above, Greg Miller, associate professor of chemistry, works with undergraduate students.



The Catholic Arts Council was formed in 2017 as an advisory group relating to the arts at The Catholic University of America. The Council fosters, supports, and champions the visual and performing arts at Catholic University, guiding emerging artists in their vocation and search for “new epiphanies of beauty.”

“

It refocuses the arts in a new way here at the University.”

— Dean Jacqueline Leary-Warsaw

University Establishes New School of Music, Drama, and Art

This summer marked the beginning of the newly established **Benjamin T. Rome School of Music, Drama, and Art**. The new school was established in June, as a part of the University’s Academic Renewal project. It unites the departments of Drama and Art and the Benjamin T. Rome School of Music to foster cross-disciplinary efforts and anchor the University’s commitment to the arts.

Music school alumna **Jacqueline Leary-Warsaw**, dean of the school, said the formation of the new school is “historic” for the University. “When we combine these three areas, it gives us not only a rebirth, but also a reenergizing of what we can do,” she said.

Patrick Tuite, associate dean of graduate studies and head of productions, formerly served as chair of the Department of Drama. He believes that closer collaboration between students and faculty in music, drama, and art will result in higher-quality musical and dramatic productions.

“We have a special relationship with the public — we invite people from the Washington, D.C., area and beyond to see our work,” Tuite said. “We take that responsibility really seriously and we want our work to be very sharp.”

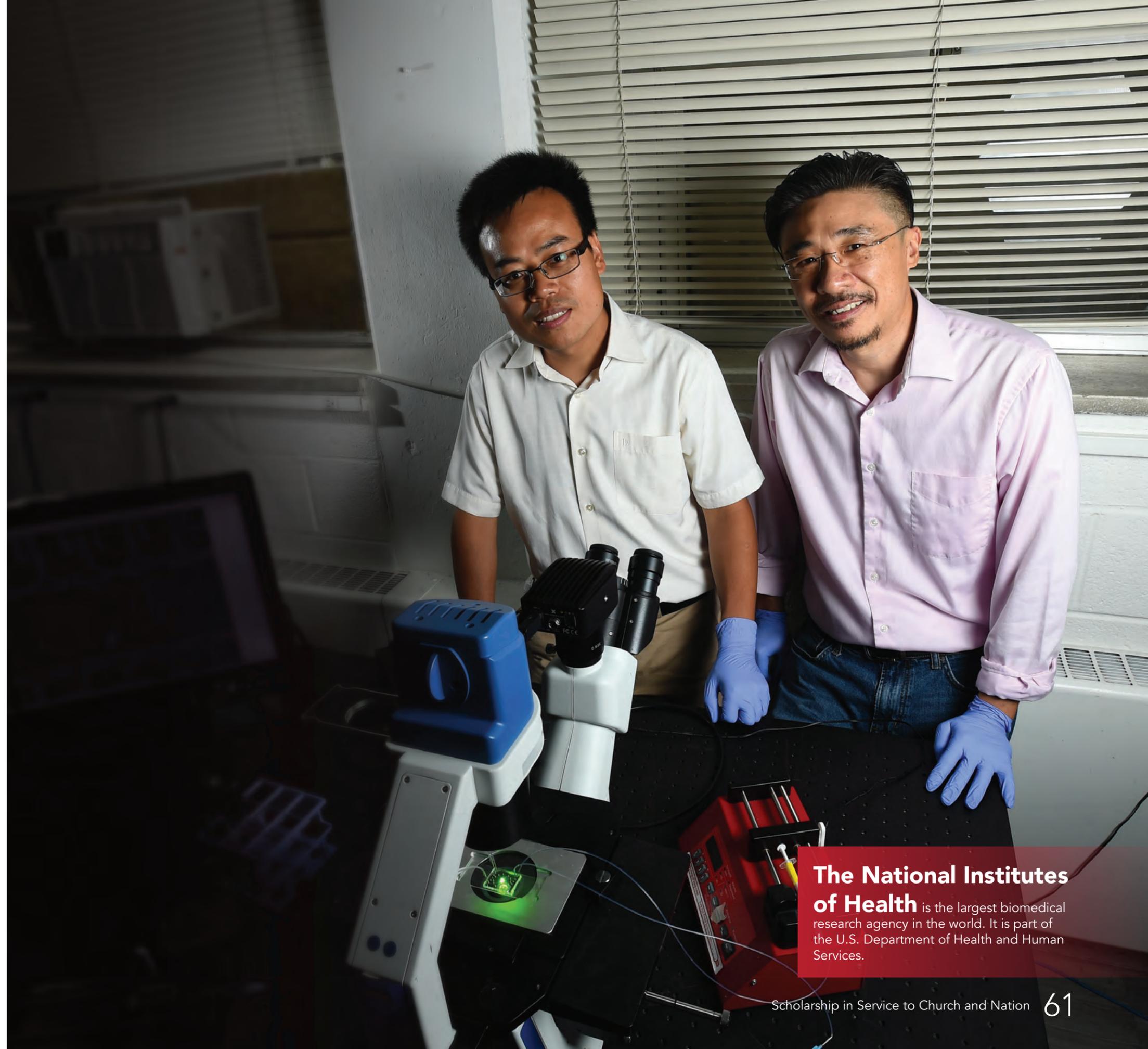
Another important outcome of Academic Renewal was the reestablishment of the Department of Economics in the School of Arts and Sciences. It had previously been part of the Busch School of Business.

Professors Achieve Rare and Prestigious Level of NIH Funding

A biology professor and an engineering-biology team were awarded research grants from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) for innovative projects pertaining to cancer research, biofluidics, and the microbiome. These new grants highlight interdisciplinary collaborations and mark a rare accomplishment for the Department of Biology. Now every tenure-track and tenured biology professor has received funding from the NIH.

Byung Min (Justin) Chung, an assistant professor in biology, received an NIH grant for his research studying the role of keratin 19 (K19) in cancer cells. Chung's research will take a closer look at these novel functions in the hope of developing a better understanding of what causes cancer and how the disease progresses.

An interdisciplinary team (pictured right) including **Xiaolong Luo**, an associate professor of mechanical engineering, and **John Choy**, an assistant professor in biology, also received a joint NIH grant. They aim to create a biological platform that will enable researchers to learn how groups of various bacterial species interact.



The National Institutes of Health is the largest biomedical research agency in the world. It is part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Business School Launches Education Programs for Clergy

New Master's Degree in Church Management

In July, the first class of priests from across the country graduated with master's degrees in Ecclesial Administration and Management (M.E.A.M.), a new degree program aimed at the skills priests need to serve more effectively in their home parishes and dioceses. The curriculum was designed in collaboration with the schools of Theology and Religious Studies, Canon Law, and Architecture and Planning to maximize the student-priests' access to University experts across disciplines.

New Summer Program for Bishops

Later in July, nearly 30 bishops participated in the week-long Bishops' Executive Program, a first-of-its-kind program providing business training for bishops. They attended a wide variety of accelerated classes similar in content to those of the M.E.A.M. program. **Mario Enzler**, the founder and director of the two programs, said they offer training and tools "to support our shepherds in their very specific administrative capacities, introducing them to new approaches and methodologies."

"Our goal is to help the bishops be successful in their ministries. We're taking best practices from the secular business environment to help them maximize their efforts to become effective diocesan leaders who are more available to their priests," Enzler said.



“
We're taking best practices from the secular business environment to help them maximize their efforts to become effective diocesan leaders.”

— Prof. Mario Enzler



Norman V. White Gift of \$365,000 for Philosophy Fellowships

In November, the School of Philosophy received a gift from the estate of Mr. Norman V. White and the Rock Creek Council of the Knights of Columbus. The gift was used to create The Norman V. White Endowed Fellowship to fund doctoral students in philosophy. The school hosted a special event to honor the establishment of this fellowship in April.

Philosophy Instructors Showcase First-Year Curriculum at International Conference

In July, philosophy instructors in the University's **First-Year Experience** program addressed the biennial meeting of the American Association of Philosophy Teachers. They highlighted how the first-year curriculum is integrated at Catholic University, including several extra-curricular elements such as visiting the Smithsonian museums or serving at a local homeless shelter. They also discussed how the distinctive two-course introduction to philosophy affords rare opportunities in the classroom. Presenters included Jonathan Buttaci, assistant professor of philosophy, graduate student instructors Aaron Halper, Elisabeth Parish, George Walter, and Sister Anna Wray, O.P.

Sister Anna said that her experience at the conference "confirmed and bolstered" her appreciation of the place of liberal education at Catholic University, in particular the philosophy requirement and the First-Year Experience. "In both informal conversations with conference attendees and in the conference sessions, I witnessed a widespread longing for the culture of freedom and human excellence which Catholic University has guarded and seeks to foster."



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