



# Academic Affairs Awards and Recognition

2022

COLLEGE OF  
Saint Benedict  Saint John's  
UNIVERSITY



## Message from the Provost, Academic Dean and Dean of the Faculty

For the past two years we celebrated the accomplishments and milestones of our faculty electronically because of the ongoing pandemic. This year we were able to come together in person to celebrate. As we continue to move toward more normal gatherings and celebrations, we remember the difficulties we had endured and the heroic efforts of so many in our community to enable us to continue to offer our students excellent educational experiences. We ended the academic year with in-person commencement ceremonies in our traditional venues: the Clemens Fieldhouse and the Abbey Church.

Faculty and staff have worked throughout the pandemic, making necessary adjustments and adaptations. The faculty has made significant pedagogical changes that enabled us to maintain educational standards and benefit our students. We thank you for your dedication and sacrifice!

This was the second year of the implementation of the new Integrations Curriculum. We continue to adapt the curriculum to best meet the educational needs of our students. We are grateful for your contributions to the curriculum and to making it better.

We acknowledge the stress for our community as we work to meet our enrollment challenges and to have the appropriate size and scope of program offerings. This is difficult, but necessary work and faculty and staff are rising to the challenges. Many faculty and staff are using innovation funds to develop and create new programs for our students. We continue to move forward as we added two new programs this year, one in global health and another in climate change.

We begin a new chapter in our history with Strong Integration. For the first time we will have two boards of trustees with common members, a single president for both institutions, and a more integrated organizational structure. We will welcome our new president, Dr. Brian Bruess in July and look forward to his leadership.

We thank you for your tireless effort, incredible support, and tremendous dedication to our students.

Thank you.

**Richard Ice, Barb May, and Pam Bacon**



# Department Chair / Program Director Term Completions

Thank you to the following faculty who have completed their appointed term and have dedicated the last three years as department chair or program director.

**Karyl Daughters**

**Kari-Shane Davis Zimmerman**

**Mark Hennigs**

**Mary Jepperson**

**Sam Johnson**

**Jeff Kamakahi**

**Shane Miller**

**Jason Schlude**

**Erica Stonestreet**

## JFS Chair Term Completion – Claire Haeg

Claire Haeg led the Joint Faculty Senate and Joint Faculty Assembly as Vice-Chair and Chair with integrity, energy, and the deepest desire to do what is best for the colleges and the community. Unlike any of her predecessors, she served her entire term under circumstances of extraordinary pressure. She worked tirelessly from May 2020 to May 2022, through summers, on weekends, on breaks. She committed to a partnership model of faculty leadership that encouraged openness, transparency, and adherence to and development of good process. With her predecessor, Claire engaged with faculty and administrative leadership to develop policies and procedures for continuous academic programming in the 2020-2021 academic year, the critical first year of the pandemic. Moreover, she worked to ensure the successful hire of a transitional president at SJU. As Chair, she supported efforts to better understand and appreciate the liberal arts at CSB and SJU, engaged substantively in efforts to ensure faculty voices were included in the difficult process of program prioritization, and maintained steady communications with multiple constituencies in the process of improvement and modification of the Integrations Curriculum. She worked with faculty leaders, administration, and board governance to ensure a successful transition to the new Common Boards structure that included continued channels of communication among faculty and boards and presidents. Finally, she ensured broad faculty participation in the successful search process of a new joint president for CSB and SJU. She has been an exemplary leader and has demonstrated deep commitment to faculty and the colleges through one of the most difficult periods of our institutional history. We thank Claire for her extraordinary service to the faculty.



## Years of Service

### 10 Years of Service

Jennifer Beste  
Robert Campbell  
Clark Cotton  
Amy Grinsteiner  
Jonathan Nash  
Emily Paup  
Alicia Peterson

### 15 Years of Service

Sophia Geng  
Elizabeth Johnson  
Jennifer Kramer  
Rachel Melis  
Anna Mercedes  
Shane Miller  
Sucharita Mukherjee  
Kristina Timmerman  
Sarah Yost

### 20 Years of Service

Kelly Berg  
Jim Crumley  
Nelsy Echavez-Solano  
Bernadette Elhard  
Claire Haeg  
Christina Hennessy  
Linda Shepherd

### 25 Years of Service

Mani Campos  
Louis Johnston  
Michael Reagan  
Chuck Wright

### 30 Years of Service

Jeff Anderson  
J. Scott Johnson  
Vincent Smiles

### 35 Years of Service

Dean Langley  
Kathy Ohman

### 40 Years of Service

Patricia Kent

### 45 Years of Service

Dan Finn  
John Merkle



## Tenure and Promotion to Associate Professor



**Robert Campbell**



**Chris Conway**



**Alexa Evenson**



**Emily Paup**



## Promotion to Professor



**Sophia Geng**



**Jean Lavigne**



**Anna Mercedes**



**Jennifer Schaefer**



**Christi Siver**



**Mary Stenson**



# Becoming Community Practitioners and Advanced Practitioners



Listed below are faculty members who have received their Becoming Community Practitioner Certificates. Faculty who have attended five or more Becoming Community Professional Development Workshops this past academic year have earned the Becoming Community Practitioner certificate. **Congratulations and thank you for your dedication and support of this initiative.**

## Practitioner Certificate Recipients

Amelia Cheever

Whitney Court

Kari-Shane Davis Zimmerman

Sophia Geng

Emily Heying

Jacob Jantzer

Jennifer Kramer

Peter Ohmann

Annette Raigoza

Mary Stenson

## Advanced Practitioner Certificate Recipients

Shannon Smith   Mary Stenson

## Special Acknowledgement

As our grant through the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation ends and we began Becoming Community, the work at the heart of this initiative is certainly still in progress. It continues through all of us and our ongoing individual, group and institutional efforts to create a more just, diverse, inclusive and equitable community here at CSB and SJU. Over the past 5 years Dr. Amanda Jantzer and Dr. Anna Mercedes, co-administrators of the grant, have worked diligently and creatively to engage our community in this initiative. The initiative created informative inclusion among faculty, staff, monastics, students, alumni, and community partners at the College of Saint Benedict (CSB) and Saint John's University (SJU). Thank you, Amanda and Anna for your work and commitment to Becoming Community and making us a more inclusive and equitable community.



## Faculty Search Advocates

We have completed the fifth year of the search advocate program at CSB and SJU. A search advocate is a member of a search committee who helps colleagues to avoid unconscious, unintentional biases, and who assists committees with efforts to include diversity, inclusion, and equity in its hiring processes and decisions. All our search advocates have completed training to prepare them for this important service to the institutions.

Thank you to the following faculty search advocates who have served on one or more search committees during the 2021-2022 school year:

**Robert Campbell**

**Emily Esch**

**Lisa Gentile**

**Jessica Harkins**

**Jen Kramer**

**Ed McIntee**

**Shane Miller**

**Christi Siver**

**Linda Tennison**



## Special Appointments



**Dr. Ted Gordon**

### Joseph Farry Professorship

The Joseph Farry Professorship serves within the McCarthy Center and is named after a long serving and beloved faculty member, Joe Farry.

Ted Gordon began teaching at CSB and SJU in 2013 and is currently a visiting assistant professor. In his time here he has demonstrated himself to be a talented teacher and scholar. Of particular note is his work with students, monasteries, and tribal leaders concerning the presence of boarding schools at CSB and SJU. His work to bring together affected parties has led to our institutions creating land acknowledgements and beginning the healing process.

In his role in the Joseph Farry Professorship, Dr. Gordon will continue his work with native peoples and our engagement in these important issues. Congratulations Ted!



## Academic Advisor Award

The Academic Advisor of the Year Award was established in 1985. It is awarded to two faculty and/ or professional advisors who have distinctly contributed to the advising program, as well as to individual student development and growth throughout the academic year. Faculty and professional advisors at the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University are eligible for this award. **The 2022 Advising Award recipients are: Carie Braun and Robert Campbell.**



Carie Braun, a nursing professor, is characterized as organized, a clear communicator, friendly and knowledgeable. One nominator states, "She is also very encouraging with the ambitions that the students she advises and what they want to pursue. For example, my major is nursing, but I also have pre-med on my plate along with the 4+1 nursing program now too and possibly the global health minor, yet she is able to accommodate and keep up on not just my goals, but all the others she advises too." Congratulations Carie!

**Carie Braun**



## Academic Advisor Award



**Robert Campbell**

Robert is a true renaissance man, as a Math professor he is a continuous proponent of the liberal arts. A nominator states, "Robert makes himself available to students whenever and for however long they need him. He makes students feel at ease, makes them excited to learn in a variety of subject areas (including those outside of his division), and encourages them to explore everything that the college experience has to offer.... Robert's attitude toward advising and his dedication to our students that make him exceptional. Robert is excited to advise students and his excitement is contagious for his advisees." Congratulations Robert!



## The Sister Linda Kulzer Gender Educator Award

The Gender Education Development Award was established in 2008 and was later renamed in honor of Sister Linda Kulzer, OSB. This award recognizes a member of the CSB and SJU faculty who has contributed to students' gender education through curricular leadership, courses taught, scholarship, and/or mentoring students independent of normal classroom teaching. Sister Linda Kulzer, CSB's Vice President for Academic Affairs from 1977-85 and a Professor Emerita of Education, was a pioneer in the colleges' earliest efforts to integrate gender into the curriculum. **The 2022 Sister Linda Kulzer Gender Educator Award recipient is Dr. Corrie Grosse.**



**Corrie Grosse**

Intersectional gender understandings run seamlessly through Corrie's teaching, research, and service.

Her courses examine women's and queer leadership in contemporary social movements such as Black Lives Matter and environmental and reproductive justice. Students have zoomed into a women-led divest from Line 3 oil pipeline and address the gendered implications of climate change throughout her courses. Corrie made gendered environmental perspectives accessible to students across campus by bringing to campus Winona LaDuke and Paul Pulé.

Corrie's wide-ranging gender scholarship addresses topics related to climate justice/activism/pedagogy and gender/indigeneity/colonization/and carework. She has co-authored and co-presented multiple articles with CSB and SJU students on these topics and has a forthcoming book on this work with the University of California Press in 2022.

Corrie is a mentor and advocate for our students, serving on the board of the Institute for Women's Leadership, working with the Hynes Scholars, the Climate Justice Club, and more. She has been a tireless advocate on institutional IEJ topics through her work on the Joint Faculty Senate's IEJ Committee and the Presidents' DEIJ Coordinating Council. Among other important initiatives, these committees have made specific recommendations to make our campuses more gender inclusive, including revising our transgender policy and the use of gendered language.

Corrie's record clearly indicates that whatever courses she teaches, scholarship she undertakes, and whatever service she engages in, is informed by and supports an intersectional gender analysis. Congratulations Corrie!



# Linda Mealey Faculty/Student Collaborative Research and Creativity Award

The Teacher/Scholar Award was established in 2000 and is given annually to a faculty member who exemplifies demonstrated excellence in scholarship as well as teaching, conducts student/faculty collaborative research or creative work, and excels in the mentoring of students. In 2004, following the untimely death of Dr. Linda Mealey, Professor of Psychology and 2002 recipient of the award, it was re-named the Linda Mealey Faculty/Student Collaborative Research and Creativity Award in her honor. Linda believed that “learning is fun” and that simple pleasure was the driving force behind her considerable efforts to involve students in research. **The 2022 Linda Mealey Faculty/Student Collaborative Research and Creativity Award recipient is Dr. Pedro dos Santos.**



Pedro dos Santos

During his time at CSB and SJU, Dr. dos Santos has mentored many students in research regarding issues of representation and empowerment of minorities in Brazilian politics. His nominator writes, “The depth and the breadth of Prof. dos Santos’s commitment to collaborative research is noteworthy in its own right. It also evokes Dr. Linda Mealey’s own multifaceted approach to exciting and engaging students in the pursuit of new and innovative research questions, thereby helping to create the next generation of scholars.” The diverse backgrounds of the students Dr. dos Santos has recruited and mentored is particularly noteworthy. From inviting students to collaborate on high-level research, to preparing them to present at international conferences alongside professionals in the field, Dr. dos Santos’ efforts reveal his thoughtful and intentional mentoring of his student collaborators and co-researchers. One student writes, “During this workshop [hosted by Uppsala University], we had the incredible opportunity to present and discuss our paper, ‘Populism, Masculinity, and Pandemic: An Analysis of Donald Trump’s Tweets’ with both domestic and international scholars. This research project was a truly transformative experience that equipped me with invaluable skills.” Dr. dos Santos’ mentorship and collaboration with students at CSB and SJU has provided a variety of beneficial and unique opportunities for students to expand their critical thinking skills through the research process making him so deserving of the 2022 Linda Mealey Faculty/Student Collaborative Research and Creativity Award. Congratulations Pedro!



## Catholic Benedictine Educator Award

The Catholic Benedictine Educator Award recognizes creative engagement between the Catholic Benedictine tradition and teaching throughout the curriculum. This award affirms a CSB and SJU faculty member whose exemplary teaching successfully integrates the Catholic Benedictine tradition with courses in their academic discipline and/or the Integrations Curriculum. **The recipient of the 2022 Catholic Benedictine Educator Award is Dr. Ana Fonseca Conboy.**



**Ana Fonseca  
Conboy**

In her classroom, and in life, Ana notes she is “committed to the *cura personalis*, and to Benedictine and Catholic intellectual traditions. I encourage students to reflect on our institutional values as I strive to provide an example to them.” Ana creatively and rigorously incorporates traditions and practices from the Catholic intellectual tradition into her French courses on our campuses and during study abroad. As one of her colleagues writes: “Dr. Conboy shows her skill as Catholic, Benedictine educator in her choice of readings, incorporating elements from the *Rule of Benedict*, Catholic theologians, and French authors whose work animates issues of importance to the Catholic intellectual tradition. She has developed RAVEN courses and we worked together to develop materials that all French professors can use in the future, thanks to Benedictine pedagogy grants in summer 2021.” Ana also inspires her to students to incorporate Benedictine practices of *statio* as well as *lectio, audio, and visio divinas* to enrich their capacity to experience all of reality with their senses, mind, heart, and spirits. As one of her students writes: “I have really enjoyed doing the *statio* before class. I find that it helps me become more centered and focused for the day’s class and, therefore, has helped me learn better.” We are delighted to present Dr. Ana Fonseca Conboy with the very first Catholic Benedictine Educator Award.



## Jennifer Galovich Service Award

The Jennifer Galovich Service Award recognizes outstanding faculty service to CSB and SJU. The Service Award was established in 2020 and is given annually to a faculty member who exemplifies demonstrated excellence in service to the institutions at both the departmental and institutional level. The award was named in honor of Dr. Jennifer Galovich, Professor Emerita of Mathematics, who demonstrated strong and exemplary service to the institutions during her 28-year career. In addition to her service to the mathematics department, she served as JFA chair and also served on numerous faculty governance committees. Her service as chair of the Faculty Handbook Committee is legendary. **The 2022 Jennifer Galovich Service Award recipient is Professor Gregory Schroeder.**



**Gregory Schroeder**

Professor Gregory Schroeder's career spans more than two decades of deep commitment to our institutions, shared governance, and his faculty colleagues. Greg's leadership over the course of his career included service as department chair for two terms, AAUP president, the HLC Reaccreditation Team, and vice chair and then chair of the faculty. He used each of these platforms to represent the interests of his colleagues, the jointness of the academic mission, and the importance of the liberal arts.

Greg's dedication to the essential and sometimes thankless tasks of faculty governance was evident throughout his career, in his active participation in both Faculty Assembly and Senate meetings, even when not a Senator. In his two terms on the Joint Faculty Senate, he spent three years of service on the Executive Committee. This past year, Greg led the ad hoc committee on committee on faculty representation to the common boards, using his extensive experience in faculty leadership and his understanding of the principles of shared governance to create a structure for effective faculty voice on the new Boards and the Board Committees. Over the past three years, Greg was involved in four separate presidential searches, either as a member of the search committee itself, or on the faculty interview team, working hard to ensure faculty input at several stages of the process.

From 2019 to 2021, Greg served as vice chair and then chair of the Joint Faculty Assembly. His term as vice chair was focused on the Boards' work on Joint Strategic Visioning and he and the chair, Kris Nairn, to encourage communication about that work to the faculty. As Greg began his term as chair of the faculty, the Covid pandemic required the campus to shut down and the move to remote instruction. Acting swiftly to ensure a coherent process Greg convened Joint Faculty Senate and Assembly meetings throughout the summer. His commitment to good process and coherent governance was evident in his leadership throughout the year. He worked on the Scenario Planning team through the summer of 2020 and the subsequent year, striving to ensure transparency and faculty input. Working tireless throughout his term as chair, Greg coherently presented the faculty perspective to the Boards and in the Leadership Team and was a consistent voice promoting the liberal arts and joint academic mission of the institutions.

Greg Schroeder's career reflects the true spirit of the Jennifer Galovich Service Award. Congratulations, Greg, and thank you.



## Sister Mary Grell / Robert Spaeth Teacher of Distinction Award

Sister Mary Grell served students on both campuses for more than 35 years with intelligence, skill, dedication, and genuine affection. She graduated from the College of Saint Benedict in 1933 with a baccalaureate degree in Botany and Chemistry. She did research in Germany on a Fulbright Grant in the 1950s and continued to do productive research on cells during the rest of her career here and at St. Anselm's College in New Hampshire. Following further study in biology and cytogenetics at St. Louis University and Fordham, she returned to our campus and began her remarkable teaching career. She served as president of the college from 1963 to 1968.

Bob Spaeth was many things to many people, but in all things he was a teacher, first at Saint John's College, Annapolis, where he taught the full range of the Great Books, and then, from 1979 until his death in 1994, here at Saint John's in Collegeville, in the departments of Philosophy and Mathematics. He also taught in the Christian Humanism program, as well as Senior Seminar and First Year Symposium, and was Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences from 1979 through 1988. Both as dean and through his own teaching, Bob sought to inspire our learning community and was dedicated to the quality of our teaching faculty.

We celebrate the difference Sister Mary Grell and Bob Spaeth made at CSB and SJU through our recognition each year of a member of our faculty who represents the best of teaching and learning here at our colleges. **The 2022 Sister Mary Grell/Robert Spaeth Teacher of Distinction Award recipient is Dr. Corrie Grosse.**



**Corrie Grosse**

Dr. Grosse has been teaching in the Environmental Studies department since 2018. Her understanding of teaching as a transformative act for both students and society is realized in her efforts to help students develop critical thinking skills, form community connections, and foster collaboration with these community partners. As she notes in her teaching philosophy, "My goal is to enable students to build social just solutions to the challenges we face through knowledge, skills, empathy, and passion."

All aspects of her teaching are grounded in a deep-rooted commitment to social and environmental justice. One student writes, "[Dr. Grosse] continually repeats throughout her courses how vital education is to make a difference. Through her educating students like myself and others, we move forward to create change." Another student writes, "(Dr. Grosse) helped transform my feelings of guilt and frustration into action by moving my understanding of climate change to a systems level. This class provided me with a pathway to enact positive change in the world." Ultimately, Dr. Grosse's passion and skill for guiding students to generate solutions about pressing issues in today's society is evident during her time as a faculty member here at CSB and SJU. Congratulations Corrie!



## Retirements



**Professor Alumna  
Jeanne Cofell**

Dr. Jeanne Cofell's contributions to the Education Department have profoundly impacted students and faculty since she began her impressive career as the Education Department advisor and Director of Partnerships in 1999. In this role, Dr. Cofell mentored and supported aspiring teachers as they explored career goals and the opportunities afforded by obtaining a liberal arts education. She also worked tirelessly to develop sustainable and mutually beneficial partnerships with area schools. Through her directorship and teaching, she has inspired and challenged generations of students to think deeply about complex ethical issues related to education. Her connections to our institutions date back to your youth when her father William, a Saint John's grad, became a faculty member here, making her one of just a handful of second-generation CSB and SJU faculty. Throughout her accomplished career, Dr. Cofell's work has been deeply grounded in and shaped by the principles of the Benedictine Values. Dr. Cofell is a true scholar. Her love of ideas, openness to diverse perspectives, and passion for equity have powerfully and positively impacted every member of the CSB and SJU Education Department. Our community will deeply miss her wisdom and grace. Jeanne, thank you for your dedication and service to the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University!



## Retirements



**Professor Emerita  
Karen Erickson**

Karen Erickson earned her BA in French at Gustavus Adolphus College, followed by a Ph.D. in French from Yale University. She also studied at Institut Américain d'Avignon in Avignon and École Normale Supérieure in Paris. Karen has offered unwavering and life-changing support to students, colleagues, and other community members for 35 years. Her innovative teaching has helped to maintain and strengthen the integrity of our liberal arts education for decades, teaching across the curriculum. She was awarded the Robert L. Spaeth Teacher of Distinction in 2013 and the Burlington Northern Award for Faculty Achievement in 1990. As a scholar and creator, Karen's work is expansive. An expert on the 19th-century French novelist Gustave Flaubert, she published "Irony and Prophetic Utterance in Flaubert's *Trois contes*" in the University of Delaware press volume on *Modernity and Revolution in Late Nineteenth-Century France*. Other publications and presentations addressed the character and value of the French curriculum, various approaches to teaching, and poetry. Along with Mara Faulkner and Julia Jensen, she published the poetry chapbook *Dwellings* with Finishing Line Press. As a musician and performing artist, she produced many recordings with the Collegeville Consort. Karen has contributed her vision and skills to the work of administration as well, serving multiple times as Chair of the Department of Languages and Cultures, directing study abroad in France and London, serving as Academic Dean from 2014-2017, and contributing in multiple committees and in faculty governance. Thank you, Karen, for your generous dedication and service to the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University!



## Retirements



**Professor Alumna  
Marietta Franulic**

Marietta has been a valued member of the CSB and SJU community since 1997. She is a teacher at heart, having shared her passion for learning with countless beginning and intermediate Spanish language learners over the years. Students often commented on her kindness and devotion to their learning needs. Marietta was always eager to serve on departmental committees in support of language learning. She collaborated with the Admissions offices in support of incoming Intercultural Lead students and other scholarship candidates. As a native of Chile, Marietta was able to offer students a global perspective and contribute to learning that goes well beyond the basics of language development. She also extended the learning beyond campus, by directing programs abroad in both Chile and Spain. Outside the classroom, Marietta has been active over the years as a volunteer interpreter for Catholic Charities and Diocesan outreach activities in the local Spanish speaking community. She is a lover of music and regularly took piano lessons on campus. Thank you Marietta for your kindness and devotion to our students and many years of service and dedication to the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University!



## Retirements



**Professor Alumna  
Kate Graham**

Kate Graham has been an integral part of the Chemistry Department at CSB and SJU since 1994. She demonstrated excellence in teaching through her clear presentations of abstract material and was particularly skilled at managing small group work. She was also a teacher of teachers. Probably more than any other faculty member in the department, she mentored new faculty members and educated the department about the theory and practice of active learning strategies. She was instrumental in the development of the Chemistry Department curriculum and pedagogy. Her grant-writing activity was extraordinary. Her successful proposals have brought over \$1.5 M to our schools and the department for scholarships, instrumentation and research. In addition to mentoring over 80 research students in her area of organic chemistry, Kate's scholarship also included the development of our novel chemistry curriculum. Her contributions included designing new lab experiments and preparing four workbooks that lead the students through their study of chemistry in their first four semesters, including the use of examples from the primary chemical literature. Her professional activity resulted in over 100 presentations at state or national meetings or publications in refereed journals. Kate is passionate about chemistry and learning. She is equally passionate about encouraging women and minority students in the sciences and is always trying to find ways to support them in the classroom or as advisees. Thank you, Kate, for your many years of service and dedication to the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University!



## Retirements



**Professor Alumnus  
David Hartz**

Dr. David Hartz came to the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University in the fall of 1990. A teacher at heart, Dave taught at two top 100 liberal arts colleges before coming to CSB and SJU. Dave was always agreeable to teach whatever courses were assigned to him, and so he taught an unusually wide variety of mathematics courses at all levels as well as First-Year Seminar on a few occasions. Dave was also the faculty moderator for a number of ILP's on many different topics. For several years Dave was a faculty reader for the AP calculus exams. He also was a reviewer for the AP Calculus course syllabi and was involved in the discussions about making changes in the AP calculus curriculum. At department meetings Dave was a person of few words, but when he spoke it was typically impactful and his thoughts were often delivered with a wry sense of humor. David, thank you for your service to the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University!



## Retirements



**Professor Emeritus  
John Hasselberg**

John Hasselberg's retirement ends a long tenure in the Global Business Department that spans more than 30 years. John has occupied a variety of chairs: chair of the Joint Faculty Assembly, chair of the Management Department, Chair of the Social Sciences Division, and chair of myriad committees. John enjoyed having deep philosophical conversations with students and colleagues – and enjoyed the many ways that alums would reconnect back to campus. John brought his own unique style to his gifted teaching and his active scholarship life. The many students he taught and advised were enriched by his talents. And colleague pointed out, "John is an erudite educator who enthusiastically offers thought-provoking questions or ideas not merely for students, but also for colleagues and other community members. A creative and living soul." John believed faculty should be engaged in the world. He led several study abroad programs. He traveled to many countries with the E-Scholars and encouraged others to explore and create opportunities for engagement in various parts of the globe. Another colleague noted, "I am forever grateful for the influence that John Hasselberg has had on my career as an educator." When John traveled, his engagement was not as a tourist, but as a global citizen who would linger and engage – which contributed to many collegial and longtime friends all around the world. And now he will linger and engage in Denmark, where John starts the first phase of his retirement. Thank you, John, for your service and dedication to the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University!



## Retirements



### Professor Alumnus Nicholas Hayes

Nick Hayes '69, professor of history at the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University and the University Chair in Critical Thinking, is a renowned teacher, writer and media commentator whose expertise on Russia and global affairs have made him a trusted and popular news source. "Nick is a Minnesota treasure, the media's go-to-guy for history and current events," said Gary Eichten '69, Minnesota Public Radio's news editor-at-large and Hayes' SJU classmate. Nick lived in Moscow during the 1980s as a writer, professor and media commentator, and has subsequently visited Russia many times. His knowledge and perspective on issues ranging from Russian politics to political turmoil in post-communist Europe to the war in Iraq made him a popular commentator on MPR's daily public affairs program *Midday*, as well as on *NewsHour* with Jim Lehrer and other national programs. At Saint John's and Saint Ben's, he taught both Honors First Year Seminar and Ethics 390: War and Memory, classes that provided the foundation for a liberal arts education by enhancing the essential ability to read and think critically, write and discuss effectively, and deliver formal oral presentations. Nick Hayes is the author of two books: *Looking For Leningrad: My Russian Life*, published in 2018, along with *And One Fine Morning: Memories of My Father*, published in 2013. He was presented with Saint John's Alumni Achievement Award in 2014. He is a public intellectual and a great representative of CSB and SJU. Nick, thank you for your service to the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University!



## Retirements



**Professor Emeritus  
Ken Jones**

Since his arrival at CSB and SJU in 1976, Ken has been a model teacher, colleague, and member of the community, whether on or off campus. As a teacher of US history, Ken has recruited students, taught them while they were with us on campus, and occupied a place of admiration in their hearts after they graduated. In departmental events with alumnae and alumni, former History students often speak gratefully and fondly about Ken and the ways he shaped their lives. Ken's devotion to teaching is apparent not only in his classroom but also in his commitment to pedagogy and pedagogical training for faculty. His work with the Learning Enhancement Services and leadership of the Common Curriculum strengthened the teaching of many colleagues at CSB and SJU. His service as external evaluator and presenter at many conferences has enriched colleagues beyond our campuses. If you want to figure out a pedagogical challenge, Ken should be on your short list of collegial advisors. In presentations on campus and in the community, Ken has brought the historian's perspective and insights to many topics, ranging from Vietnam to US presidents to 9/11 to race in America. When the History Department launched its Tegeder-Berg Society in October 2019, Ken was, fittingly, the speaker. At that inaugural event in Minneapolis, he gave a talk entitled "Removing a President: Some Examples from History" and thereby brought together alumnae, alumni, students, and faculty in a celebration of historical thinking and CSB and SJU community. Beyond all this, Ken has been a truly valued and invaluable colleague and mentor. He has provided leadership for our institutions serving on numerous committees and as the chair of the Faculty Assembly. Thank you Ken for your service to the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University!



## Retirements



**Professor Emeritus  
Jeff Kamakahi**

Since 1996, Dr. Jeff Kamakahi has served the Sociology Department with his characteristic mix of dedication and dry humor. As a native Hawaiian surviving the Minnesota winters, this length of service is a testament to his commitment to his students and his colleagues and cannot be understated. He has received many distinctions throughout his career, including a Fulbright Scholarship to Japan. His varied research and teaching interests have enriched the CSB and SJU community for years. Most notably, he contributed significantly to research on the right to die movement in the United States and he has dedicated his last decade of work to research on Native Hawaiian Folk music. The luckiest among us have even seen him perform Hawaiian folk music on campus (if you haven't had the pleasure, you can find some videos on YouTube). Most recently, he was co-writer and dramaturg for a stage production based on Queen Lili'uokalani after the overthrow of the Hawaiian Kingdom called *The Lili'u Project*. He is a brilliant sociological thinker with particular aptitude in quantitative analysis and medical sociology. Most of all, he is an outstanding colleague – always ready with a sage piece of advice and never too busy to sit down for a chat. Thank you, Jeff, for your service and dedication to the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University!



## Retirements



**Professor Alumna  
Patricia Kent**

Dr. Patricia Kent, a CSB Alumna in Vocal Performance, returned to CSB and SJU to serve 38 years on the music faculty teaching applied voice, diction class, voice class for the non-major and several courses for liturgical music students in the SOT graduate program. Patricia has an extensive career as a full lyric soprano singing classical vocal styles including art song, oratorio, opera, and chorus. She also programs musical theater, pop, gospel, R & B and other Contemporary Commercial Music styles on her faculty recitals and Pastiche performances. She has performed throughout the Midwest with orchestras such as the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, the Minnesota Orchestra, the Rochester and Duluth-Superior Orchestras, and is regularly featured on the Schubert Club Series, Thursday Musical, on MPR and other performing groups in the Twin Cities. Numerous Minnesota Composers have commissioned her to premiere their new works at various venues. She has recorded four CDs of art song. Her international travels include Festival performances in Panama City, Wales, London, Sicily, and Barcelona. She served as *Pastiche* coordinator for many years and organized the annual alumni gathering known as *Mingling and Music* in conjunction with the Minnesota Music Educators Association conference in Minneapolis. For her entire career she has performed at various occasions for our institutions. Her students love and respect her for her guidance and investment in their growth and happiness as they find their niche in the arts. Pat, thank you for your dedication and service to the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University!



## Retirements



**Professor Alumna  
Maureen McCarter**

Maureen McCarter earned her B.A. in French from CSB and served as Instructor from 1972-1978, earning her M.A. in French from Middlebury College, VT, in 1977. She taught French and German at St. Cloud State University from 1978-1993 before returning to CSB and SJU. She has taught French, FYS and Gender Studies nearly every semester from 1994 to the present. Maureen provides service and mentorship to students, graciously and generously making a difference in their lives and contributing her passion and commitment to our community. Her impact on the CSB and SJU includes curriculum development in French, Gender Studies and FYS courses. She has served as Club advisor to the College Democrats and as mentor to French Teaching Assistants. Maureen has served on the boards of St. Cloud Symphony, Chamber Music Society, Central Minnesota Music School (now the Wirth Center for the Arts), St. Cloud NAACP and has been an active member of the DFL, Citizens Climate Lobby, Natural Parks and Trails Commission, and other organizations. Her lively intelligence, positive spirit, exquisite interpersonal and leadership skills are manifestations of her care for the artistic, natural, political and cultural environment in which we live. Thank you, Maureen, for your generous service to the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University!



## Retirements



**Professor Alumnus  
O. Nicholas Raths**

Dr. O. Nicholas Raths, or “Nick” as he is affectionately known by friends, colleagues, and students, has a long tradition of association with our two institutions. In 1961, Nick sang in a choir for the dedication of the St. John’s Abbey Church. He studied with classical guitarist Pepe Romero and jazz guitarists Jimmy Wyble and Howard Roberts. He received his Bachelor of Music, Master of Music, and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees in guitar performance from the University of Minnesota where he studied with classical guitarist Jeffrey Van. Nick also has three decades of experience as a busy studio guitarist where he is heard on three Janet Jackson albums. In 1986 Nick co-founded the Minneapolis Guitar Quartet (MGQ), which toured throughout North America, Canada and Mexico City for 27 years. For the Music Department, Nick has taught Applied Guitar, Beginning Class Guitar, Comprehensive Musicianship Skills, and the Songwriter’s Workshop - Anthems of Justice in the 1960’s, which carries a Justice Theme and Artistic Expression designation in the Integrations Curriculum. During the pandemic, one student from the class, music education major, Maria Schneider, composed a song, *Fact or Fiction - A Melodic Commentary on Being Quarantined*, which was broadcast on the MPR Morning show. Nick’s philosophy of teaching is based on fostering the imagination of the mind’s ear; nurturing the art of coaxing the guitar to sing and promoting learning from mistakes with openness and joy. Thank you, Nicholas, for your service and dedication to the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John’s University!



## Retirements



**Professor Emeritus  
Scott Richardson**

Scott Richardson earned his BA in Classics from Harvard University, followed by an MA and PHD in Comparative Literature from Stanford University. Scott has been enriching the lives of students and colleagues for 38 years. For so many students, Scott became and remains the embodiment of an excellent liberal arts education at CSB and SJU. He has taught widely in the university, including beginning through advanced Greek and Latin (only two of many languages that he knows) and numerous cultural courses, commanding a global literature written across more than 3000 years. These have included courses on Homer (his greatest love), Aristophanes, Plato, Ovid, Vergil, Horace, James Joyce, Dostoevsky, Henrik Ibsen, and John Fowles, among others. Looming perhaps above all others, however, are the Great Books courses he has taught, in which he has shared the absolute joy of reading with students—and how it expands one as a human being, genuinely changing us and the world for the better. He directed the London program five times and received the Robert L. Spaeth Award for Excellence in Teaching in 2016. His books have included *The Homeric Narrator* (published with Vanderbilt University Press) and *Dorothy Dunnett's Lymond Chronicles: The Enigma of Francis Crawford* (published with the University of Missouri). A new book on Manipulation is currently under review. His articles and presentations have been numerous. He has chaired the Departments of Modern and Classical Languages and Languages and Cultures on multiple occasions and has served on Rank and Tenure, Faculty Development and Research and many other committees. Scott, thank you for your dedication and service to the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University!



## Retirements



**Professor Emerita  
Elena Sanchez Mora**

Dr. Sanchez Mora has served the CSB and SJU community for over thirty years with grace and generosity. She taught a full range of courses in the Hispanic Studies curriculum with a special talent for supporting students in the development of their writing and speaking skills at an advanced level. Always responsive to student interest and need, she developed a course for heritage speakers of Spanish and served as mentor for numerous individual learning projects related to Spanish for the health professions. She shared a social-justice orientation throughout her teaching, most notably perhaps, in a course where students studied protest songs from Latin America and then created and performed their own! In addition to service on numerous departmental, standing, and ad hoc committees, Elena served as chair of Hispanic Studies from 2011-2018. During this important time in the evolution of the department, she led with grace and skill. Outside the department, she contributed to the Latino Latin America Studies program and to Gender Studies. Much of her scholarship over the years was aimed at teasing out the perceived tensions between feminisms and spirituality. Her most recent work, published separately in both Spanish and English reconciles that tension, by centering religious faith as a source of women's empowerment. Having originally come to Minnesota from Mexico on a graduate fellowship, one might say that her own professional trajectory began as an extended study abroad experience. She has always shared an international perspective in the classroom, as well as directing programs in Spain, Chile and Guatemala where she contributed to the shaping of transformative student experiences. Thank you, Elena, for your service and dedication to the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University!



## Retirements



**Professor Emeritus  
Steve Saupe**

Steve Saupe joined the CSB and SJU biology department in 1981 and has taught a variety of courses. Steve served as department chair for several terms and played a key role in curriculum development. He is an accomplished and inspiring teacher who has drawn many students into the world of botany and plant and environmental science. Steve realized the importance of student engagement in the classroom throughout his teaching career, and his instincts led him to pioneer active learning methods well before they became accepted as a high impact pedagogy. In his tenure at CSB and SJU, Steve received the Sister Mary Grell Teacher of Distinction Award, Linda Mealy Faculty/Student Collaborative Research and Creativity Award, Tom Creed Award for Electronic Pedagogy, and the Advisor of the Year Award. Steve's other major contributions have been curating, maintaining, and adding to the Bailey Herbarium collection, maintaining the SJU greenhouse (at times singlehandedly), and directing the maple syrup harvesting and production operation at the Abbey Arboretum for the last ten years. Steve's service to the institutions and community is unmatched. He serves as botanical consultant for a number of local government agencies, was Avon township clerk, exhibit judge at the MN State Fair, director of many study abroad programs, and a long standing member of the Saint John's Outdoor University Council. Steve is a prolific writer who has a unique talent of presenting reasonably complex scientific ideas and concepts in a manner that is inspiring and exciting for the general public. His work has appeared in the *St. Cloud Times*, *The Record*, *Sagatagan Seasons*, *MN Maple News*, and the *American Biology Teacher*, among other publications. Steve, thank you for your many years of dedication and service to the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University!



## Retirements



**Professor Emeritus  
Bruce Thornton**

For so many of his colleagues it has been a great honor and a sincere pleasure to serve the CSB and SJU Music Department with Dr. Bruce Thornton. Bruce is amazingly adept in a wide variety of instruments in a wide variety of styles from Klezmer Music, to Big Band, to whatever was written last week for a soprano saxophone concerto. Bruce plays it all and plays it beautifully. He has shown by example what it means to be a musician and an educator. He has served as a clinician and adjudicator countless times. He has performed in every venue in Minnesota and even soloed in Carnegie Hall. He has recorded a variety of CDs of his own music as well as that of others. Bruce is equally at home in classical repertoire as he is in jazz. He is a soloist and a chamber musician. He is a leader, a conductor, an improvisor, and there is nothing of which he is incapable of playing. The musical depth and variety that Bruce alone is capable of performing is unmatched. Bruce, thank you for your many years of dedication and service to the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University!



## Retirements



**Professor Emeritus  
Richard Wielkiewicz**

Richard began his career at CSB and SJU in the fall of 1988. Research and scholarly activity were important aspects of his career goals. Richard has published 11 books, 6 book chapters and supplements, 26 peer-reviewed articles, and 15 posters. He is a mentor to students, having eleven CSB and SJU students as co-authors of published articles. Two more papers are currently undergoing peer review and several more writing projects are in progress. He moderated 19 Distinguished Theses and a senior capstone research project. His specific research interests include critical thinking, leadership, evolutionary psychology, and lifelong learning. He developed a measure of the construct of lifelong learning (Wielkiewicz & Meuwissen, 2014), which has been used in academic assessment. Richard also published a revolutionary new theory of the evolution of human vision, published in the *Review of General Psychology*. Richard has served faculty governance in many ways, including chairing both the Academic Assessment Committee (AAC), and the Institutional Review Board (IRB), while serving as Assessment Coordinator for the CSB and SJU Psychology Department. In 1991, he was faculty tennis champion. In recognition of his mentoring of student research, he received the Linda Mealey Teacher/Scholar award in 2011, and in 2016–2017 moderated the Outstanding All-College Thesis by Timothy Immelman. Richard has always been known as a very demanding teacher who expects students to put their best efforts into learning. Richard, thank you for your many years of dedication and service to the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University!



## Registrar Emerita



**Registrar Emerita**  
**Julie Gruska**

Julie Gruska began working in the Registrar's Office in 1981. After 41 years of service to these institutions will retire this summer. Julie Gruska has worked tirelessly and meticulously as our Registrar since 1981, making her the longest serving Registrar in our history. Dave Lyndgaard recalls joining the Registrar's Office with Julie in 1981, both working for the Registrar at the time, Bill Van Cleave. He noted that Julie was always a calm problem-solver. Barb Novak, one of Julie's colleagues in the Registrar's Office notes, "Julie is one of the hardest working, calmest and most compassionate leaders I have ever worked with." Julie is described by her colleagues with these descriptions: consummate professional, intelligent, creative, compassionate, encyclopedia of institutional knowledge and history, caring, memory like a steel trap, a friend, the hardest working individual I have ever encountered, humble, exceedingly competent and someone who possesses the uncanny ability to juggle a concurrent series of complex, difficult and often unrelated issues in a flawless and unflappable manner.

Richard Ice acknowledged "Julie has been a valuable advisor to me personally. She has been my go-to person for any information, advice, or trusted counsel. There is an important piece of history that I want to acknowledge. Eleven years ago, when I was in his first year as dean, Julie advised me to end the six-day schedule. I want to set the record straight that Julie was the catalyst and inspiration for that."

It is altogether fitting that Julie Gruska is named the first ever Registrar Emerita of the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University.

Congratulations and best wishes, Julie!



## Special Acknowledgment



**Academic Dean  
Barb May**

Barb May will become the next provost at Saint Mary's College in Notre Dame, Indiana effective July 1, 2022.

We all know the incredible leadership that Barb has provided for our community as Academic Dean. She has been a leader in reforming the general education curriculum, developing and implementing the institutional learning goals, and innovating academic programs, bringing multiple offices together to form the Experience Hub for student engagement and high-impact practices and leading work to develop transfer pathways and transfer-friendly processes.

Barb is an innovator, who skillfully works across institutional boundaries, through her collaborative leadership and transformative vision. In all things, she is student-centered, always thinking about how to innovate and integrate, to help students have the best possible educational experience.

Barb is also a leader nationally, having been selected to participate in the selective Senior Leadership Academy through the Council of Independent Colleges, and regularly presenting at national associations such as AACU, CIC, HLC and ACAD.

Last year, Barb decided to have a reading group on leadership and hoped to get 10 faculty and staff to participate in weekly discussions. 40 signed up so she gave up her lunches and early mornings this year. This is an indication that she is a recognized and valued leader among our community.

Richard Ice stated “Personally, I would not have been able to accomplish what we have accomplished without Barb. I count her as a friend, trusted colleague, and, yes, as my mentor and inspiration.”

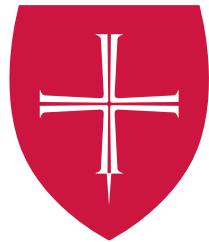
When we walk into the provost’s office next year, we will all miss Barb’s warmth, advice, her vision, drive, her boundless energy, bright smile and laugh. Congratulations Barb and best wishes!



# Academic Affairs Awards and Recognition

2022

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