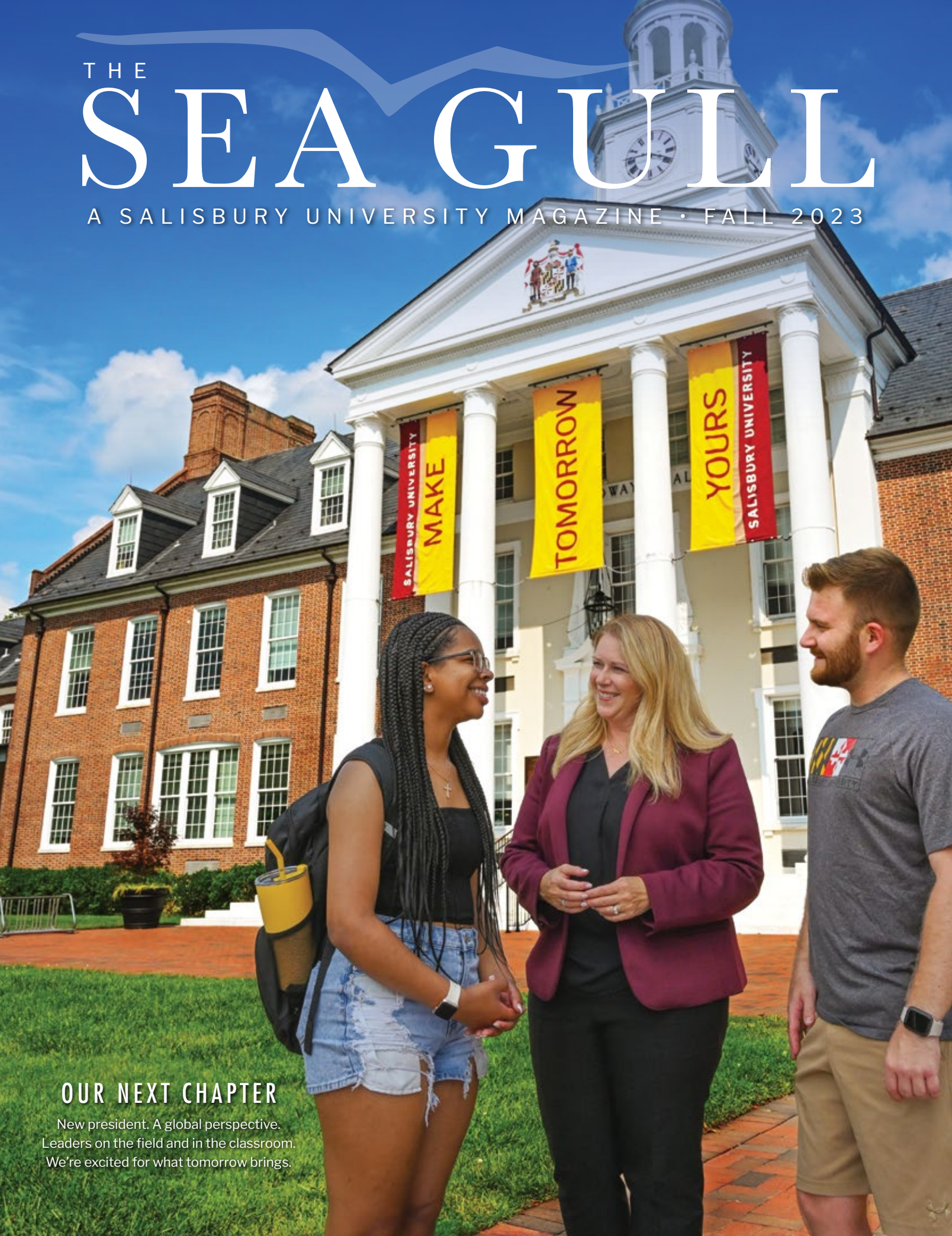


THE SEA GULL

A SALISBURY UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE • FALL 2023



OUR NEXT CHAPTER

New president. A global perspective.
Leaders on the field and in the classroom.
We're excited for what tomorrow brings.



VOLUME 54 • 2023

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Propelling Forward

Dr. Carolyn Ringer Lepre is just the 10th President in SU's almost 100-year history. Read about her inauguration ceremony and get to know a little about this forward-thinking leader.

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Here. There. Gulls Are Everywhere.

For over 70 years, SU students have made studying abroad and away an integral part of learning and living at SU. As the University prepares to enter its second century, read how Gulls are continuing to spread their wings.

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Above: At President Lepre's inaugural State of the University Address she shared her key initiatives – the Salisbury Seven – to meet her goal for SU: "Move forward with excellence."



Letter from the President



Dear Sea Gulls,

Looking back on my first year as President of Salisbury University, I am humbled and filled with gratitude to be able to call a place so special as this home. This community has welcomed me, and my family, like no other has before. We have lived in many places as a family – nearly every corner of this country – but we can truthfully say no place has been so kind, generous or welcoming as the Salisbury community has. It often takes time for somewhere new to feel like home, but Salisbury is the exception to that rule. My family and I have felt at home here since the very beginning.

Throughout the past year, I have had the incredible opportunity to learn and experience so much about what makes SU special. Much of my year was spent listening and learning from our faculty, staff, students, alumni and local community, and I am grateful to have been able to meet with so many people and hear their stories. I continue to be blown away by how deeply our community cares for and supports our University.

There were truly so many moments to celebrate this past year, and I hope you take time to learn about many of them highlighted in the pages that follow. Our alumni, faculty and students were behind some incredibly memorable moments.

Explore the success of our recent alumni who became part of SU history when they earned prestigious Fulbright Student Awards (pg. 12), as well as the numerous alumni from the Seidel School of Education who were named teachers of the year in their respective counties (pg. 18). Three of our exceptional faculty were honored with the University System of Maryland Board of Regents Faculty Award (pg. 20), and our year ended on a wonderful high note with the SU Men's Lacrosse Team winning the NCAA National Championship (pg. 41).

We have undoubtedly had quite the year at SU, and I am excited to see what incredible things are in store for us this year, and I invite you to continue to be a part of the journey!

Sincerely,

Dr. Carolyn R. Lepre
President, Salisbury University

@PresidentLepre

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““
I continue to be blown away by how deeply our community cares for and supports our University.

– Dr. Lepre

PROPELLING FORWARD

*Dr. Carolyn Ringer Lepre
officially becomes
SU's 10th President*

A

A PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION serves as a milestone event in the life of an academic institution, as it embarks upon the next chapter in its story," said Salisbury University President Carolyn Ringer Lepre to the hundreds of supporters gathered for her festive investiture.

"This is an opportunity to honor the University's heritage and bring our Sea Gull family together to celebrate and reaffirm our sense of pride in our students,

alumni, faculty, staff and our community."

Remarkably, this is only the 10th time in a nearly 100-year history that Salisbury has welcomed a new president.

It was a beautiful, blue sky morning in May when the SU community celebrated its new leader. In the red-brick Square in the heart of campus, a stage of maroon and gold flowers showcased the banners of each academic division. President Lepre herself joined staff in putting finishing touches on seats for the platform party.

Inside Blackwell Hall, the excitement was palpable. Visitors from colleges and universities across Maryland and the nation gathered in their regalia. SU deans and faculty chatted with colleagues in anticipation. The President greeted alumni and other special guests.

The ceremony began with a festive processional, led in with music from SU's Brass Ensemble. Over 50 SU graduates participated, proudly carrying flags representing some 45 class years, dating as

far back as the 1950s and up to this year's Class of 2023.

"I can say with great confidence that Salisbury University is in wonderful hands under Dr. Lepre's tutelage," said Dr. Lili Leonard '09, M'11, former SU Alumni Association Board president and one of a dozen speakers in the ceremony. "As one of nearly 60,000 proud SU alumni, I can't wait to see where she leads us."

Faculty Senate President Jennifer Martin called Lepre's "Salisbury Seven" priorities, articulated during her State of the University address, a "bold, aspirational and inspirational vision." Staff Senate President Joe Benyish called Lepre the "right person" for SU, adding: "In order for our university to grow, we must be willing to embrace the opportunities and challenges brought about by change."

Graduate Student Council President Nicholas Plummer noted the President's embrace of SU's tradition of shared governance, while Student Government



“The heart of this institution will propel us forward.”



“I believe, deep down in my soul, that higher education IS the path to helping solve the world’s biggest problems.”

Association President Wyatt Parks called Lepre a “president of the students.” Adjunct Faculty Caucus President Tim Robinson ’93 told her, “After seeing what was accomplished over the last century, I look forward to seeing how you position us for the next one.”

During her inaugural address, the President spoke about SU’s past, its present and a future that is just beginning. For almost 100 years, she said, SU has represented what great learning is: Challenge. Progress. Life-changing outcomes.

“Higher education has never been more important than it is right now,” she continued. “I believe, deep down in my soul, that higher education is the path to helping solve the world’s biggest problems, and that each of us is called on to do what we can to pave the way for the next generation of learners. Starting today, we turn our collective power, grit, dedication and energy to moving forward with excellence.”



Lepre was joined by SU’s most recent Presidents: Dr. Janet Dudley-Eshbach and Dr. Charles Wight.

During the ceremony, Lepre was officially charged as President by University System of Maryland Chancellor Jay Perman and was presented a ceremonial medallion by Board of Regents Chair Linda Gooden. There to support her were past SU Presidents Janet Dudley-Eshbach (2000-18) and Charles Wight (2018-22).

“When you’ve got two former presidents on stage as a new one is inaugurated, it says something pretty special about this university, this community, this family,” Perman said. “It says it’s hard to stay away from this place. Every time I visit, I understand why.”

Among the ceremony’s other speakers were Maryland Secretary of Housing and Community Development Jake Day, City of Salisbury Mayor Jack Heath and Board of Regents Member Robert Rauch, who led the search committee that selected Lepre.

A musical interlude featured a performance of a traditional spiritual “Keep Yo’ Hands on the Plow,” selected by SU music professor Dr. John Wesley Wright, in the spirit of moving forward.

“Get an SU education and you’ll be fine,” sang alumna Annabell Midley ’21, as the performers, including Wright, SU artist-in-residence Calista Day and fellow



MONDAY, MAY 1

- Meet & Greet with President Lepre
- International Fair & Multicultural Festivities



TUESDAY, MAY 2

- President’s Diversity & Inclusion Champion Awards
- Lunch & Learn



WEDNESDAY, MAY 3

- SU Symposium
- Celebration of Faculty Reception
- SU Alumni Reception

INAUGURATION WEEK FESTIVITIES



alumnus and *American Idol* finalist Jeremiah “Jay” Copeland ’20, adapted the lyrics for the SU occasion.

In quiet moments in The Square after the ceremony, Lepre took photos with her husband, Todd, their two daughters, Sarah and Ainsley, her father, and other family members who had traveled to campus to support her. Later, she answered questions from media, who wanted to hear her take firsthand on what “all this means” for SU.

As Lepre articulated in her remarks, her primary goals for SU are to “achieve excellence by investing in our people; strengthening our commitment to inclusion, diversity, equity and belonging; and delivering a rigorous, student-focused academic program taught by world-class educators, defining what distinction means

for a regional comprehensive institution.”

“We will continue to serve the needs of the Eastern Shore, Maryland and the nation, and most importantly, do so by remaining firmly committed to placing our students at the heart of everything we do,” she added.

SU already has been moving forward with perseverance: this fall, the University welcomes a new group of incoming students, which will be the most diverse in campus history, with 32% coming from underrepresented backgrounds.

“Our collective power and energy will boldly propel our institution forward with excellence,” Lepre said. “We will work to disrupt the status quo, build pride in place, embody what it means to care for one another and facilitate innovation so we can

leave SU a better place than ever before. The heart of this institution will propel us forward.”

Dr. Naeemah Clark, J. Earl Danieley Distinguished Professor at Elon University and a longtime colleague of the President’s, echoed the power in the collective “we” at SU.

“Your President has the wisdom, bravery and optimism to uphold the values of this campus,” she said. “Let us commit to being her team that believes in the power of higher education to inspire critical thinking, realize personal and professional goals, and cultivate active citizens.”



THURSDAY, MAY 4

- SU Service: Cancer Comfort Kits
- Student Celebration
- Jazz Ensemble Concert



FRIDAY, MAY 5

- Inauguration Breakfast
- Inauguration Processional
- Inauguration of SU President, Dr. Carolyn R. Lepre
- Lunch on the Lawn
- Campus Walking Tours
- Men’s Lacrosse Conference Tournament
- Inauguration Dinner



SATURDAY, MAY 6

- Grad Gala
- University & Salisbury Chorales Concert

10 Questions FOR OUR 10th President

Get To Know More About Dr. Carolyn Lepre!



4 Beyond President, what are some of your other favorite roles?

My proudest – and the role I am most grateful for – will always be as a mom. My twin daughters Sarah (left) and Ainsley (right), both current juniors in college, are incredible young women and I am so thankful to have them in my life. I love being a teacher and spent much of my life as a professor of communication. Happily, though I'm not in the classroom at the moment, I have so many former students who have stayed in touch, and I love learning about their successes post graduation. And, I suppose I would always consider myself a student. I'm curious about just about everything and am an eager learner.

1

You became SU's President in July 2022. What's on your highlight reel from year one?

It has been an amazing year, so it's hard to choose just a few! Some that immediately come to mind are the joy of meeting students, faculty, staff and alumni at various events across campus and the country, presiding over my first SU commencement ceremonies, the amazing inauguration week activities, and of course, watching our men's lacrosse team win the national championship!

2

On the flip side, what's been the biggest challenge during your first year?

Not having enough time to do all the things I would like to or to meet and get to know all the people I would like to! I'm also directionally challenged, so it's been a year of using the nav in my car to get from place to place!

3

Why is a strong relationship between SU and the City of Salisbury so important?

SU has a long history of partnership with the City of Salisbury that has benefited us both. We have so many wonderful activities, cultural events, athletic games and ways to engage the community that enhance people's lives. And, we have wonderful supporters and partners all across the city and region who work with our students and make this a safe, dynamic place to live and learn. I am so thankful to have that true college town feel.

5

In the time you've spent exploring your new home, what has been your favorite Eastern Shore discovery?

Ugly Pie! I'm a pie person more than a cake person, so it was so much fun to find this amazing local shop. My family and I are also enjoying getting out for some day trips to the beach and local towns.



6

Which living person do you most admire?

My father. He's incredible and my inspiration for how to be a good human being.



7

What do you want Sea Gull alumni to know about the future of Salisbury and the role they can play?

We have so much momentum! I am excited about all I've learned and can't wait to work with everyone to continue moving this incredible institution forward. We will continue to strive to meet our students' needs, including assuring they have the resources and access to the help that they need. Alumni can help in so many ways by giving their expertise, time, energy, enthusiasm and financial support to projects they are excited about. And, definitely keep sharing your love for SU and your pride in being a Sea Gull in your communities!

8

What would people be surprised to learn about you?

My grandmother taught me to sew when I was a young girl, and I have been a quilter ever since! I've lost track of how many quilts I have completed in my life, and it's my favorite thing to give to people as gifts. I quilt as often as I can – and find it the perfect way to relax at the end of a long day. When we moved here, I made sure to find a spot for my quilt room, so I can have that getaway when I need it!

I made this quilt with Kaffe Fassett fabrics and pattern this year – it is called "Losing My Marbles." I love the way this one came together!



9

What's on your current ...

Reading list?

I always have a big stack of books and a healthy Audible playlist ready to go. I lean heavily toward mysteries, but often sprinkle in ones that just look good! My list right now includes *The Midnight Library* by Matt Haig, *The Golden Spoon* by Jessa Maxwell, *Troubled Blood* by Robert Galbraith, *The Island of Sea Women* by Lisa See, *The Appeal* by Janice Hallett, *The Lamplighters* by Emma Stonex, *Tomorrow and Tomorrow and Tomorrow* by Gabrielle Zevin, and *The Invisible Life of Addie LaRue* by V.E. Schwab.

Playlist?

Music is one of my favorite things, and right now, thanks to the influence of my Korean-major daughter Sarah, K-pop has become my go-to on Spotify. Right now, I've got "Turbulence" by ATEEZ, "S-Class" by Stray Kids, "OX1=LOVESONG (I Know I Love You)" by Tomorrow X Together, "Run" by BTS, "Future Perfect (Pass the MIC)" by ENHYPEN and "Life Is Beautiful" by ONEUS on repeat. If anyone is interested in checking out more of my current favorites, I have a playlist on Spotify called "Focus on ... K-pop" that is a great mix of some of my favorite songs.

Travel list?

I love to travel and there are so many places I'd love to go! To name a few: Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Switzerland, the Cotswolds in England and pretty much any tropical island where I can scuba dive.



10

What excites you about the next five years?

I'm looking forward to many things, and professionally at top of the list would be SU's upcoming centennial in 2025, which will be filled with many moments of celebration; seeing Blackwell Hall renovated and used by our students; and cheering on even more of our athletics teams as they strive for winning seasons and national championships! But in general, I'm just so excited to live each day in the moment, to be present with our SU family, and see our university grow and evolve. On a personal level, I'm excited to see my girls graduate from college, to explore more of our amazing Eastern Shore as we continue to make it our home and, of course, BTS coming back from hiatus! 😊

When the Class of 2023 stepped onto the field of Sea Gull Stadium for this photo upon arriving on campus in August 2019, little did they know that the world would change in a few short months because of a global pandemic. This group of students persevered and adapted as the face of education changed, and at Spring Commencement, 1,140 undergraduates received their hard-fought diploma.





Check out the Commencement
program online:
salisbury.edu/commencement



GULLS GO GLOBAL

Alumni Leave Their Mark Around the World Through the Fulbright

Last year, Salisbury University past and present made history when they earned prestigious U.S. Fulbright Student Awards. It was SU's best year ever for the award, and the University has since been named the nation's **No. 1 producer of Fulbright Students** in its classification by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

Since then, six SU alumni have traveled across the globe for a life-changing opportunity to connect with students through English Teaching Assistantships (ETA), and conduct research that could positively affect cancer diagnoses and wildlife conservation. From Brazil to Madagascar to Slovakia, these alumni are leaving their mark on the world.

OPENING DOORS IN POLAND

AS AN SU STUDENT, MELANIE STASZEWSKI '22 was involved not only in undergraduate research, but also was president of the Medical Careers Society and co-founded the Comedy Gulls improv club. She didn't realize at the time how her SU experiences would shape her as a person – but now, she sees how each opportunity opened doors for her future.

"I am so grateful I had a surplus of opportunities to get involved in at SU," Staszewski said. "They have directly translated to what I'm doing in Poland."

As part of her Fulbright, Staszewski is conducting research on how methylation changes may be associated with breast cancer development. Outside of research, her favorite part of the experience has been getting involved in the community. She has been actively engaged with elementary and high schools, talking to Polish students about opportunities to study in the U.S. and running events like a "Women in STEM" short essay contest.

After her Fulbright ends, Staszewski will take on a new challenge. She has a post-baccalaureate fellowship with the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), where she will conduct research on pediatric-onset neuropsychiatric disorders to help improve disease prediction and treatment.



Photo credit: Arno Limonowicz, Fulbright Poland

FINDING “HOME” IN SLOVAKIA

WHILE AT SU, NATHANIEL SANSOM '21 (below right) took advantage of every opportunity that came his way. That hasn't changed, even after he has graduated and embarked to Slovakia for his Fulbright.

Sansom's educational journey has taken him across the globe – from interning at United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in Paris as a sophomore to studying in Poland through a Boren Award as a junior.

“Returning to Central Europe has felt like coming back home,” Sansom said. “This part of the world will always hold a special place in my heart.”

Now, he is teaching English in the city of Rožňava in Eastern Slovakia. He has contributed to local efforts beyond the classroom, being actively engaged in a conversation club and tutoring a Ukrainian student whose family was displaced by the Russo-Ukrainian War.

Although he has mixed emotions about leaving the city he has come to think of as “home,” Sansom is looking forward to pursuing his Juris Doctor at George Washington University Law when he returns to the U.S. For now, whether he is teaching English to Slovakian students, hiking, visiting castles or cheering for the

regional hockey team, he wakes up every morning with one goal: to make the most of the opportunity.

EXPLORING LANGUAGES, CULTURES AND HERSELF IN PERU

KIMBERLY ARRIAGA-GONZALEZ '21 has come to understand the beauty of languages.

As an SU student, she was involved in a summer research project that helped her get in touch with her Mesoamerican heritage. Together with her research partner and their faculty mentor, she created six children's stories based on Mayan and Nahua lore.

“When I was younger, I remember not hearing the stories of my Nahua culture,” Arriaga-Gonzalez said. “There was a sense of shame growing up in not finding myself anywhere in the curriculum.”

She hoped the stories she created would serve as an empowering tool for children like her – but it was also an empowering tool for herself.

Now, she is using her Fulbright opportunity to share the beauty of languages and cultures with her students in Peru. She hopes that her experience as a Fulbright ETA will help her provide Peruvian communities with tools to support their English language acquisition, while

also learning to use their native language as one of expression and sincerity.

This cultural exchange has been important to her as she looks forward to pursuing a graduate degree in philosophy with a focus on indigenous studies. A storyteller at heart, she wants to further examine the impact not telling certain stories has on our understanding of culture.

“Over the past year, I have realized my strong adoration for words can be a sanctuary when life leads to unexpected places,” she said.

DISCOVERING NEW POSSIBILITIES IN CZECH REPUBLIC

KYLIE WEBB '22 hopes to one day have a career as a pediatric prosthetist – and with each new experience, she takes another step toward that goal.

While she may not have realized an opportunity like the Fulbright would further her career, she is creating new memories and connections every day that are shaping her future. Webb is teaching English in Czech Republic, which has been an incredible adventure and a learning opportunity for her. She says connecting with the Czech people is what makes the experience so special.

“The whole point of Fulbright is cultural



exchange,” Webb said. “That is something that has been so rewarding.”

The Fulbright allows Webb to share her American culture while learning more about her family’s national origins from her Czech students. She is learning how to connect with people of various backgrounds, which will give her new perspectives as she prepares to pursue her master’s degree in prosthetics and orthotics at the University of Pittsburgh.

GAINING CONFIDENCE FOR HER FUTURE

WHEN AIDA DODOO ’22 (below right) came to SU, she had no idea what she wanted to do with her future. Without something to aim for, her academics suffered. All that changed when she attended an information session from SU’s Nationally Competitive Fellowships Office and learned about opportunities like the Fulbright.

Finally, she had a goal to strive towards. She is living her life to the fullest in Madagascar, where she is studying Arabic, teaching English to her students and creating a community to help lift others up – just like her mentors at SU did for her.

“Fellowships like this completely turned around my academic career and helped guide me to the future I want,” Dodoo said. “The faculty and staff at SU put in so

much work, purely because they believed in me and saw my potential – and they did not stop until I realized it.”

For Dodoo, every day in Madagascar is a new opportunity. Her adventures have kept her busy, from helping her students apply to academic institutions in the U.S. to creating Blossom: A Malagasy Girls Club, which provides a safe space for girls to talk about societal issues and plan their futures.

She hopes the Fulbright will give her the skills and confidence to further her career, as she looks forward to applying for jobs and graduate schools.

“The Fulbright has given me a unique outlook and long-lasting connections for my future,” Dodoo said. “Opportunities like this give me hope and self-confidence in what I can achieve.”

HELPING MAKE A DIFFERENCE

SINCE HE GOT INVOLVED IN RESEARCH AT SU, CHRISTIAN CIATTEI ’22 (below left) has been the recipient of numerous prestigious awards, including the Barry Goldwater and DAAD-RISE scholarships, and now the Fulbright.

There is one thing that motivates him to keep seeking out new opportunities: More than anything, he wants to make a difference.

The research Ciattei started as an SU student focuses on bearded capuchin monkeys in Brazil, which face a new threat from an influx of tourism. The Fulbright has taken his research into the field at Brazil’s Carlos Botelho State Park and Una Biological Reserve, to determine how human activity has affected the primates.

“Christian’s research is urgent because primate species are threatened with extinction globally,” said Dr. Andrea Presotto, his faculty mentor. “He is among the young scholars who might be one of the last to see primates in the wild.”

Ciattei is hoping for a better future. He has continued his research with the hope to be part of conservation efforts.

“Through the opportunities I received at SU, I have set myself up to make a real difference,” Ciattei said. “I don’t think I would have had an opportunity like this without the mentorship and interdisciplinary education I got there.”





Left: Christian Ciattei studied capuchin monkeys in Brazil.



The Fulbright has given me a unique outlook and long-lasting connections for my future.”

– Aida Dodoo



Left: Kylie Webb (bottom row, right) with new friends in the Czech Republic.

Below: Aida Dodoo turned down a Boren Scholarship to study in Senegal, Africa, to pursue the Fulbright in Madagascar.



SU's Nationally Competitive Fellowships Office recruits, advises and prepares students to compete for national fellowships and awards – learn more: salisbury.edu/nationalfellowships

JIMMY JENKINS '13

From the SU Stage to the Big Screen

Jenkins Tells Stories the World Needs to See

When Jimmy Jenkins was considering possible careers for his future, he knew he wanted to do something that would impact people's lives. Then he thought: What better way to do that than through the big screen?

After graduating from Salisbury University, Jenkins started a sensational career in the film industry, working at Black Entertainment Television (BET) and Tyler Perry Studios. But after a few years working for major companies, he realized that he could do more – and he had already done it as a student at SU.

“It was a grander scale, but really, it was no different than what they taught me at SU,” Jenkins said. “I realized I could produce my own films, because I had done it when I was a student.”

Jenkins has been writing and producing plays ever since he was a sophomore in college. After putting on a play in his hometown of Glenarden, MD, he was approached to produce a play at SU for Black History Month. He said it was an opportunity he will never forget.

“If students had an idea or a vision, the University was really open to providing the opportunity to make it happen,” Jenkins said. “That was one of the first plays I ever did in my life, and it was right at SU.”

Jenkins has been running the show ever since, telling new stories the world needs to see. He has produced eight original stage plays and in 2017 produced his debut feature film, *Sinners Wanted*, which premiered on BET and TV One. His documentary, *Basketball Country: In the Water*, premiered on Showtime in 2020. He continues to work on more projects, including a documentary series on “Chocolate City D.C.,” set to begin filming in 2024.



While it was a risk and a lot of hard work, Jenkins knew he could succeed because of the foundation he was given.

“My professors at SU had such a big impact on my life. They really cared about educating us to be effective in our professions,” Jenkins said. “SU provided me with a great opportunity to be ahead of my peers by the time I came into the work force.”

Now, being his own entrepreneur allows Jenkins the freedom to see unmet needs in the world and be part of positive change. That’s what started one of his most recent ventures: a free streaming service called Playwatch Kids (www.playwatchkids.com), which aims to close the availability gap for diverse children’s content.

“I thought about the idea after my nephew told me that he didn’t want to be Black, because he wanted to look like his favorite superhero, who is white,” Jenkins said. “I decided then that I’m going to make more Black superheroes, so he isn’t upset to be in the skin he’s in.”

Jenkins explained that while major streaming services like Netflix may have some diverse content, it is a very small percentage. He often has to go looking for media for his kids to watch where they can see themselves as the hero.

“It’s so hard to find balanced representation in the media that’s out there for our kids,” Jenkins said. “So, I thought, ‘What if you had a streaming service that is completely diverse?’”


Jenkins hopes Playwatch Kids will provide a great benefit to children who can’t see themselves represented in the media right now. The platform is currently available in several school districts, and Jenkins is working on expanding content targeted toward Spanish-speaking children. By this time next year, he hopes to have a full platform with content to entertain and educate children of all backgrounds.

In recognition of the successful career Jenkins has built for himself since graduating from SU, he was recently given the Alumni Association’s Young Alumni Achievement Award.

“For being a public university and for the price I paid to go there, what I learned at SU was invaluable,” Jenkins said. “SU is a beautiful place, and I’m glad I went there.”

Left: Jenkins (center) on the set of one of his recent productions.

Right: Jenkins (left) directed *Basketball Country*, the story of the basketball players of Prince George’s County, MD.



**“If students had an idea
or a vision, the University
was really open to
providing the opportunity
to make it happen.”**

JIMMY JENKINS



BEST IN CLASS

SU Alumni Teachers
Earn Honors



In 1925, Salisbury University opened its doors with the primary mission of educating exemplary teachers. Now, a century later that mission is still being fulfilled as SU alumni routinely garner accolades from their schools, counties and the state.

When the 2023 Teacher of the Year awards were announced throughout Maryland, a clear maroon and gold color palette emerged among semifinalists and individual district honorees, especially on the Lower Eastern Shore. Of 46 semifinal selections in the tri-county area, 35 are former SU students. Numerous other Sea Gulls earned semifinalist honors across the state.

A number of Sea Gulls have earned Teacher of the Year accolades for their districts, making them eligible for consideration as Maryland's top teacher. SU alumna Tara Martens '11, M'17 is Wicomico County Teacher of the Year. Jaimie Ridgely '01, M'11, Ed.D.'19 was named Worcester County Teacher of the Year. Tania Cunningham-Raycrow M'16 was announced as Somerset County Teacher of the Year. Briana Beulah '15 was named Dorchester County Teacher of the Year, and Nicole Rhoades '03 was announced as Frederick County's Teacher of the Year.

In addition, Amanda Hammersla '19 was named the Rising Star Award winner in Montgomery County as the district's top second-year teacher. Malcolm Bratcher



35

of 46 semifinal selections in the tri-county area are former SU students



15

of the 24 teachers honored in Wicomico County are SU alumni



11

of 14 Worcester County honorees are SU alumni



6

of the 8 Somerset County Teacher of the Year semifinalists are SU alumni

'19, M'23 and John Wixted '17 garnered Outstanding Music Educator honors from the Maryland Music Educators Association.

“Our goal is to send the best educators out in the field to be leaders in their schools, wherever that may be,” said Dr. Laurie Henry, dean of the Seidel School of Education. “The fact that so many of our graduates feel a connection to the area and remain in public school systems on the Lower Shore demonstrates that the relationship between the Seidel School and the local schools creates a meaningful bond.”

SU students often are connected with these schools through the Seidel School's award-winning Professional Development Schools program, which allows teacher candidates to spend time in the classroom honing their craft. In all, the Seidel School partners with 44 schools in seven Maryland counties to provide preparation for prospective teachers.

In the past two decades, SU has been home to two Maryland Teachers of the Year at the state level: Aaron Deal (2003) and April Todd (2008). When the 2023 winner is named this fall, there just might be a Sea Gull in that position once again.



A complete list of those honored as Maryland Teacher of the Year semifinalists is available online.

“The fact that so many of our graduates feel a connection to the area and remain in public school systems on the Lower Shore demonstrates that the relationship between the Seidel School and the local schools creates a meaningful bond.”

Seidel School Dean Dr. Laurie Henry

Top Left: Jaimie Ridgely '01, M'11, Ed.D.'19, Worcester County Teacher of the Year.

Bottom Left: Tania Cunningham-Raycrow M'16, Somerset County Teacher of the Year.

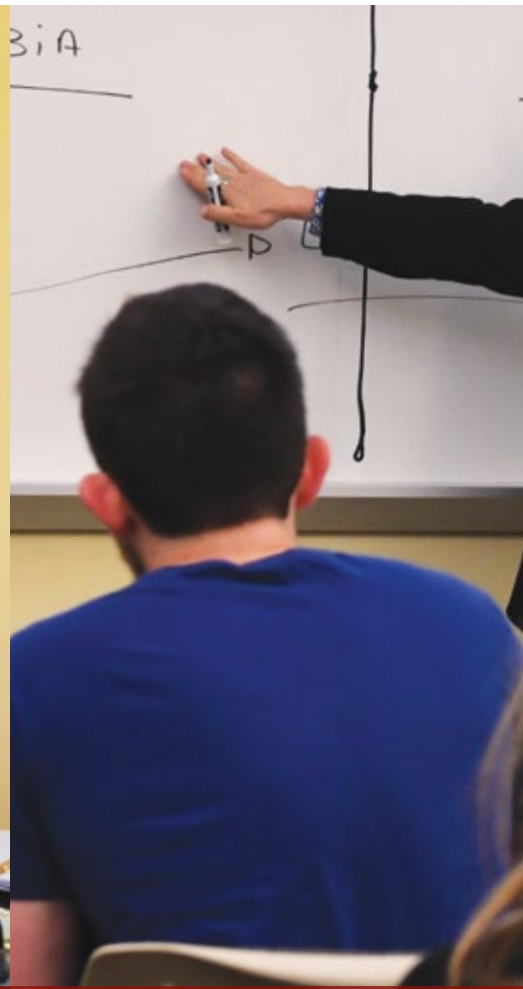
Bottom Right: Tara Martens '11, M'17, Wicomico County Teacher of the Year.



Faculty Excellence

EARNING HONORS IN THE CLASSROOM AND BEYOND

A classroom leader lauded for her work shaping the science teachers of tomorrow, a staunch advocate for limited-English communities and a professor who uses music to heal – all from Salisbury University – were among the recipients of this year's University System of Maryland (USM) Board of Regents' Faculty Award for Excellence.



DR. JENI DAVIS EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING

Davis, associate professor of early and elementary education, uses her expertise in curriculum development as a former elementary educator enables her to create experiences that help students make the necessary connections between SU's Teacher

Preparation Program and their clinical experiences. She also arranges for students to design elementary school science learning experiences and facilitate class discussions through which they are tasked with making sense of — and supporting — elementary students' scientific explanations.

DR. CORINNE PUBILL EXCELLENCE IN PUBLIC SERVICE

Pubill, chair of the Modern Languages and Intercultural Studies Department, served as a resource for Delmarva's growing Hispanic population during the COVID-19 pandemic, offering translation and interpretation services for those with limited English

“The USM Board of Regents has confirmed what we at SU already know: our faculty are among the best in Maryland. From preparing the teachers of tomorrow, to assisting the greater community in times of crisis, this year’s SU award winners have proven themselves not only worthy instructors for our students, but role models which they can – and should – follow. These honors are greatly deserved.”

SU President Carolyn Ringer Lepre



proficiency. On the front lines, she worked with vulnerable populations struggling with geographic, language, age, gender and socio-economic disparities, and encouraged her students to become involved in similarly impactful work.

**DR. JOHN WESLEY WRIGHT
EXCELLENCE IN CREATIVE ACTIVITY**

Wright, professor of music, uses his craft to help illuminate and untangle social issues. For example, he and his students offered a creative outlet for prisoners, joining choirs comprised of inmates in a showcase of scenes from *Les Misérables*. Closer to home, he has

used his art form to respond to local and national incidents of racial and political intolerance, with programs showcasing spirituals, gospel music and more as a reflection on history and modern challenges.

Gulls Give Back

GIVING DAY 2023 RAISES NEARLY \$400K



The first Tuesday in April has become an important day on the Sea Gull calendar – Giving Day – SU’s annual 24-hour giving challenge! Sea Gulls around the world – alumni, faculty, staff, students and friends – come together to support and celebrate the schools, programs and causes that are important to them.

Check out the results from this year’s Giving Day!
givingday.salisbury.edu



You can make any day Giving Day – any amount makes a difference:
giving.salisbury.edu



MOST SUPPORTED AREAS OF CAMPUS

Student Organizations

\$39,261.95

Club Sports

\$29,366.54

Scholarships & Awards

\$55,901.80

Student Support Services

\$18,299.10

Athletics & Athletic Support

\$156,723.70

Community Affiliates

\$7,498.96

Academic Departments & Programs

\$89,722.48



IN 24 HOURS

2,618

Supporters Gave \$258,950.66

\$71,460

In Challenge Gifts

\$66,333.57

Wayne '89 & Melissa '89 Judkins Matching Gift Commitment

\$396,744 RAISED!



DONORS BY AFFILIATION

1,121 • Alumni

158 • Faculty/Staff

448 • Friends

411 • Parents

480 • Students



253
CAMPUS AREAS SUPPORTED



DONORS FROM

42

STATES

and

6

COUNTRIES



GIVING DAY PROFILE: Squawkappella

Squawkappella, SU's *a cappella* group, has been harmonizing and captivating audiences since its inception in 2004. This talented group of students not only entertains the campus community but also represents the University in prestigious *a cappella* collegiate competitions.

Like any dynamic musical ensemble, Squawkappella faces numerous expenses. Travel costs to competitions, concert setups and the procurement of high-quality microphones are some of the essential investments that contribute to their success. Recognizing these financial requirements, the members of Squawkappella decided to seize the opportunity presented by SU's Giving Day to compound their fundraising efforts.

Squawkappella rallied their supporters and raised an impressive \$1,459.11 from 23 generous donors. This financial boost is a significant milestone for the organization,

enabling them to invest in new microphones, ensuring crystal-clear sound quality that will elevate their performances.

In addition to the microphone upgrade, gifts from SU's Giving Day are helping to fund the production of an eagerly anticipated EP recording. This recording will not only serve as a testament to the group's talent and hard work, but it also will provide them with a tangible representation of their musical journey at SU.

The impact of these donations on Squawkappella cannot be overstated. David Liburdi, a junior member of the group, expressed his gratitude, emphasizing the tight-knit friendships that have formed within Squawkappella: "Something I love about Squawk is that we are a friend group first, and I wouldn't trade the bonds I've made in this group for anything."



23

Giving Day Donors



\$800

Raised



\$659.11

From Judkins Matching Gift



\$1,459.11

Total

Top 25

BEST COLLEGE LIBRARIES
IN THE NATION

.....

250K

PRINT BOOKS
IN SU COLLECTION

MORE THAN A LIBRARY

Guerrieri Academic Commons Again Named Among Nation's Best Libraries

According to The Princeton Review, Salisbury University provides “everything a student needs to succeed” – and that includes one of the best college libraries in the nation.

Recognizing the stellar reputation of SU’s award-winning Patricia R. Guerrieri Academic Commons for setting students up for success, The Princeton Review for the second time named the GAC among the top 25 best college libraries in the U.S. The facility is highlighted in the publication’s new 2023 edition of *The Best 388 Colleges*.

Much more than just a library, the GAC is considered the hub of SU academic life. Completed in 2016, the GAC is an innovative center for learning, discovery and interaction. It is where students go to study, receive academic assistance and meet up with friends at the café. The opportunities for academic and cultural enrichment are endless, from the Edward H. Nabb Research Center for Delmarva History and Culture which contains museum-quality historical archives to art exhibition spaces displaying the works of SU students.

While SU has ranked among The Princeton Review’s best colleges for more than two decades, student surveys and ratings are what earned the GAC its recognition. Students have noted that the campus works hard to make different opportunities available through its library – so no matter what their needs, there are a variety of options to study and learn.

With community and connections at its core, the GAC unites entities previously from across campus into one building. The facility houses not only a traditional library but a museum, archival, study and presentation space; computer labs and a 3-D printing “MakerLab”; an art exhibition space; academic resources including the Center for Student Achievement, SU Writing Center and Math Emporium; an honors classroom, a faculty center for collaboration and graduate student commons; and a coffee shop and café.

Students have called the GAC one of their favorite spots on campus. Whether looking for a quiet place to focus, browsing exhibits or grabbing a cup of coffee, it’s the perfect place for the campus community to envision their tomorrow.





Here. There. Gulls Are Everywhere.

A GLOBAL EDUCATION IS AN SU EDUCATION

A New President and A New Commitment to International Education

When President Carolyn Ringer Lepre gave her inaugural State of the University address last fall, she announced key initiatives she aims to pursue during her tenure. While many of her goals enhanced our stellar campus, one important objective involved getting as far away from campus as possible: an increased focus on study abroad and study away programs.

These programs are an integral part of the Salisbury University experience, and the University has set the goal of becoming the Maryland higher education institution with the highest percentage of students with global experiences. To help set the University on the path to achieving this pursuit, Lepre traveled the globe this year, demonstrating her commitment to ensuring SU students have a “world” of learning opportunities.

EXPANDING PARTNERSHIPS

After a nearly 30-year relationship, SU has entered a new era with the renowned American Institute for Foreign Study (AIFS) to expand access to academic and pre-professional opportunities abroad.

SU President Carolyn Ringer Lepre joined AIFS Abroad Executive Director Emily Merson at the AIFS Abroad Global Education Center in Salzburg, Austria, to announce a multifaceted strategy to increase SU student enrollments around the world.

As one of the oldest and most respected study abroad organizations in North America, AIFS Abroad has hosted hundreds of SU students overseas since the partnership began in 1995. This year, a record number participated in AIFS programs, demonstrating a profound student interest in their program models and locations.

“AIFS Abroad helps us expand SU’s reach around the globe, offering diverse majors the opportunity to study on nearly every continent,” said Dr. Brian Stiegler, SU assistant provost for international education.

President Lepre, second from left, joined AIFS and SU officials in Salzburg, Austria.



President Lepre with CNU President Jung Sungteak.

SU will continue to grow study abroad enrollments with AIFS Abroad, including the launch of “SU In Austria,” a program featuring SU faculty teaching short-term courses at the AIFS Abroad Salzburg center.

The University also expects to grow its international internship enrollment in partnership with AIFS Abroad through the Salisbury Abroad Internship program. Approximately 100 SU students already have completed full-time internships abroad through AIFS Abroad’s Global Experiences internship program.

SU students will have expanded access to scholarships and support from the SU Foundation, Inc. and AIFS Abroad to pursue their international experiences. This is made possible through a new direct billing arrangement that will allow students to pay SU directly for study abroad on all AIFS Abroad programs.

“Together, our efforts will increase access to a variety of global opportunities and pave the way for future students to expand their SU careers,” said Merson.

CELEBRATING OUR KOREAN CONNECTIONS

For the past decade, dozens of students from SU and Chonnam National University (CNU) in Gwangju, South Korea, have experienced culture and education abroad thanks to a partnership between the two campuses. In March, it was President Lepre’s turn.

She visited Gwangju to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the agreement with CNU President Jung Sungteak. During the first decade of the partnership, more than 100 CNU students have studied at SU, either furthering their education as exchange students in the undergraduate academic program or improving their skills in English as a foreign language in SU’s English Language Institute. Over the same period, two dozen SU students have studied on exchange at CNU.

Joining Lepre on her visit was Dr. Arthur Lembo, SU professor of geography and geosciences, who is teaching and conducting research at CNU this fall as a Fulbright Scholar.

Lembo’s high-level engagement with CNU is only the latest highlight of the family’s connections to the university. His youngest daughter Katherine is the latest Salisbury exchange student to study at CNU this spring.

Lepre also visited with Lembo’s oldest daughter, Emily (Lembo) Moon ’14, who resides in Korea with her husband, Moon Cheonji, and their daughter, Joy. The couple met during Cheonji’s time as a CNU exchange student at SU, when Emily was a member of the SU Buddy Program, welcoming visiting international students to campus. As SU’s first senior Fulbright Student, Emily reconnected with Moon during her Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship in South Korea in 2014 (pictured above).

“The adventures in global learning that Dr. Lembo, Emily, Cheonji and Katie have lived as a result of the partnership between SU and CNU is the perfect example of how international education at SU can change students’ lives,” said Lepre.

Boldly Going Where No Gull Has Gone Before

At her spring inauguration ceremony, President Lepre reminded the audience that SU's commitment to international education stretches back nearly 75 years when the Student Government Association raised scholarship money to send the first study abroad student – J. Walter Potter – to the University of Zurich in 1949.

She marveled at how far we've come since Potter's trailblazing opportunity: "All our students now have the chance to see the world! We have hundreds of study abroad programs to choose from in just about any country in the world!"

Like Potter before them, SU students and faculty continue to pave the way for Sea Gulls of today and tomorrow to spread their wings and discover all the world has to offer.



WHEN THE WORLD RE-OPENED

Perdue School of Business alumna Julianna Mirezni '22 (left) was one of hundreds of SU students who put their study abroad aspirations on hold due to the global pandemic. Undeterred by this disappointment and in the face of uncertainty, she was one of the first to sign up for global travel in fall 2021, reopening SU's Exchange program with Grenoble Ecole de Management (GEM) in France.

"Even though it was intimidating and difficult to continue the application process during uncertain times, it was all worth it," Mirezni shared. "Studying abroad in France and at GEM was an indescribable experience!"

GEM is one of SU's oldest foreign university partners. Salisbury students began studying abroad on short-term faculty-led Global Seminars at GEM during winter term in the mid-1990s. When Mirezni traveled to France, SU and GEM renewed their exchange agreement for the fifth time, beginning a third decade of collaboration.

AWAY TO ALASKA

Senior Caitlin Munson (left) was one of the first SU students to experience "studying away" with the National Student Exchange. An interdisciplinary studies major, Munson spent fall 2022 studying at the University of Alaska, Anchorage.

While there, she was captivated by the



mountain views she experienced each day as she walked across campus and was able to take advantage of the unique beauty around her.

“One of my favorite off-campus excursions was a cruise to see the glaciers in Whittier Bay,” Munson shared. “The cruise lasted five hours and the sights were so beautiful.”

She was also impressed with how this “away” adventure enhanced her SU education: “My academic experience was very positive. I really think that the classes I took will help a lot in my future career goals.”


“Cultural competence will set our students apart and will advance our goals of inclusion and belonging.”

President Carolyn Ringer Lepre

CAREER-MAKING AND LIFE-CHANGING

More than 20 SU students, led by marketing faculty Drs. Patrick Fennell and Aaron Johnson, participated in the University’s first “SU In” global seminar at the University of Stirling in Scotland during summer 2022 (above).

They joined others from around the world in taking courses such as sports management and global marketing, earning upper-level business elective credits in the process. This cross-cultural seminar immersed students in a global business setting through field assignments and excursions to nearby cities including Glasgow and Edinburgh.

“We really want to introduce students to the global marketplace, which can be a very different environment from what is encountered in the U.S. Not only is this view of the international marketplace potentially beneficial for one’s career, but it also can also be incredibly life-changing on a personal level, as well,” said Fennell. 

A Travel Program FOR EVERY STUDENT

SU In

These strategic centers offer SU course work year-round – recent “SU In” sites include Spain, Scotland, Costa Rica, Austria and Italy.

SU Exchanges

These semester-long study abroad programs cost the same (and sometimes less) than a semester in Salisbury – recent exchanges include Ghana, France, South Korea, Sweden and Japan.

SU Global Seminars

SU faculty lead courses for two-four weeks during January and June. They are offered at the SU In sites as well as through other tours that vary year by year. Past seminars have included Portugal, Honduras, France, England, Kenya, India, Iceland, Italy and South Africa.

National Student Exchange (NSE)

SU students spend a semester on exchange at more than 180 universities in the U.S., U.S. territories and Canada. Popular destinations include New Orleans, Alaska, Colorado and Hawaii.



To learn more about SU’s study abroad and away opportunities, visit: studyabroad.salisbury.edu



ALY LLOYD '18

Living in a Barbie World

Communication Experience Lands Lloyd Her Dream Job

It all started when Aly Lloyd was sitting in her dorm room at Salisbury University watching *Tiny Shoulders: Rethinking Barbie*, a documentary about the evolution of Barbie. It was then that it hit her: This was what she wanted to do.

Now, that life is her creation.

In that moment, Lloyd had no idea that by age 25, she would be living her dream life working for Mattel, Inc. Today, she is the senior associate of global brand communications for Barbie, a brand with 99% brand recognition.

“Everyone has a Barbie story,” Lloyd said. “In the words of Barbie, you can be anything.”

Sitting in the residence halls at SU, Lloyd knew exactly what she wanted to do. She also knew that if she wanted to work for the top toy company in the world, she needed experience and a plan to get there.

She was in just the right place, with an environment that she described as welcoming, challenging and supportive. SU faculty and staff got to know her personally, and the community she formed gave her the guidance she needed to create the future of her dreams.

One of the most invaluable parts of her SU experience was the variety of internships that gave her real-world experience and helped her determine the kind of career she wanted.

“I cannot praise the Communication Department at SU highly enough,” Lloyd said. “All my professors were invested in my success and designed courses that truly prepared me for my career.”

After graduating from SU with a Bachelor of Arts in communication, she immediately took a job with Goliath Games, a board game company known for games like Rummikub and Mastermind.

She then worked for Brilliant PR and Marketing, a top agency in the toy industry, before a Mattel recruiter reached out to her about an open public relations position on the Barbie team.

It was a dream come true. Before long, Lloyd picked up and moved to California to settle into the job she had always envisioned for herself.

This has been a busy year for Barbie, with the new movie premiering over the summer, trending Barbiecore fashion and introducing My First Barbie, the first doll specifically designed for preschoolers. Lloyd touches on exciting projects when Barbie collaborates with celebrities and partners such as the new HGTV competition series, the *Barbie Dreamhouse Challenge*. She spends her days giving behind-the-scenes tours to top-tier outlets like *Vanity Fair*, showing them what goes into making Barbie’s TikTok – because of course, Barbie is also an influencer. She also gets to draft press releases to launch projects like Barbie Inspiring Women Series, which honor heroines such as Bessie Coleman, Tina Turner and Jane Goodall, who paved the way for generations of girls to dream bigger than ever before.

“Barbie is constantly evolving, and every day is something different,” Lloyd said. “That’s why I love communications!”

She said when a child picks up Barbie, they project their aspirations and play out their dreams, from Olympian medalist to U.S. president. Growing up, playing with Barbie showed her that she can be an empowered woman, without sacrificing her femininity. It was a message that stayed with her, propelling her to her current success.

Anything is possible. Just like her faculty at SU saw potential in her, she now gets to inspire young girls around the world.



“I am in love with the stories I help tell, with a goal to unlock the limitless potential in every girl. I went to SU knowing I wanted to land somewhere within the communications field and left with a career goal I have now achieved.”

ALY LLOYD



MATTHEW ANDERSON '14

Inspiring the Next Generation of Political Leaders

Anderson Understands the Importance of Bringing People Together

As a junior at Salisbury University, one of Matthew Anderson's faculty introduced him to Norman Conway '65, a member of the Maryland House of Delegates and an SU alumnus himself. Anderson was interested in pursuing an internship with the Maryland State Legislature and was to have a lunch interview with Conway to see if he would be a good fit for the position.

"I will never forget it," Anderson said. "We were having lunch together at the Commons, and I had dressed up in a suit and tie. I accidentally dipped my tie in my pasta and got sauce all over my shirt."

Despite being a state representative, Conway laughed with him about it – and at the end of the lunch, he offered Anderson the internship.

That was the start of a meaningful connection and an opportunity that propelled Anderson forward into his political career.

For four days a week, Anderson would get up at 5:30 a.m. and drive an hour and a half to Annapolis for the internship.

"It was the best 90 days of my working career," Anderson said.

Conway became Anderson's political mentor and took him

everywhere, even to his one-on-one meetings with then-Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley. But beyond the real-world experience Anderson was gaining, the most valuable part of the internship for him was the inspiring influence Conway had on his life.

"I was so lucky to have that experience," Anderson said. "Conway was not only a politician, but had been a school principal, president of the Salisbury City Council and firefighter. He stood by the things he believed in and wanted to make a difference. As a student, that was really inspiring to me. I understood then that there are politicians who do it for all the right reasons."

As a young and inexperienced 20-year-old, Anderson may not have realized then that someday, he would be that inspiring force for the next generation.

Years later, Anderson has made a name for himself in his home state of New Jersey. He is currently a lobbyist and has served as chief of staff in the New Jersey State Legislature. In 2019, he started the non-partisan political action committee Millennials for New Jersey, which raises up to \$50,000 each year to support millennial candidates. Since its inception, the group has helped elect dozens of candidates to office.



"I understood then that there are politicians who do it for all the right reasons."

MATTHEW ANDERSON

Anderson said that in politics, one of the hardest things to do is raise money – a challenge that is especially difficult for young people who have never been elected to office and don't have a network to rely on. He thought that since he had the experience and the connections, he could raise money to help young people get to the next level.

"It has been a great journey," Anderson said. "When I did my first fundraiser, our goal was \$10,000, but we got \$20,000. I was amazed by the support. People who donated truly believed in wanting to help the next generation, and that has been the most rewarding part."

In addition to grants, Millennials for New Jersey also helps young political candidates with job openings and building connections. The organization hosts networking dinners with political leaders from across the state, including congress members and city mayors. New Jersey is set to elect a new governor in 2025, and Anderson's organization has been hosting events to connect millennials and candidates running for governor.

"One of these people may be the future governor," Anderson said. "Bringing people together is important, so we host these networking dinners to help connect today's elected officials with our future state leaders."

For his contributions to his state and community, Anderson was recently honored with the SU Alumni Association's Young Alumni Achievement Award.

"I loved my time at SU and found it really helped me grow and become who I am today," Anderson said. "My mentors guided me along my way, so anything I can do to support and inspire the next generation means a lot to me."



Above: Recent Alumni Award honorees (from left) Sherrie Bauer, Frank Bowen, Will Lowery and Bill Harris, representing the SU Horticulture Department; and Jimmy Jenkins; Lee Anderson; Matt Anderson; and Andrew Fisher.



Gulls Celebrate Gulls

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AWARDS

Sea Gulls making major contributions to their communities – in areas including young leaders, children, the arts and more – were lauded during the SU Alumni Association's annual awards ceremony in March 2023:

- Young Alumni Achievement Award: **James Jenkins '13, Emily (Gubish) Bucheimer '14 & Matthew Anderson '14**
- Service to Society Award: **K. Lee Anderson '87 & Andrew Fisher '18**
- Alumni Leadership Award: **D. Bruce Rogers '78**

Alumni also honored SU's Horticulture and Grounds Department for its role in preserving the campus' beauty by maintaining its internationally accredited, 200-plus-acre arboretum, among staff honored were **Frank Bowen '89, Julie Golightly, William Lowery, Richard Shaw '94, Sherrie Bauer '94 & William "Bill" Harris '82.**

NOMINATE ALUMNI FOR 2024 AWARDS

Know an alum worthy of recognition, check out the award descriptions below and submit your nomination online: webapps.salisbury.edu/alumni/forms/AlumniAwards



Young Alumni Achievement Award

Honors alumni who have achieved high levels of success early within 10-15 years of earning their degrees, with a commitment to excellence in post-collegiate life and a significant or ongoing commitment to extraordinary work, research or volunteerism.

Service to Society Award

Presented to alumni demonstrating contributions of service made for the betterment of society in a professional or volunteer capacity.

Alumni Leadership Award

Recognizes alumni who participate in the life of SU through personal involvement on leadership committees, association with the student body and engaging with fellow alumni, augmented by their enhancement to the University's financial welfare.

SU: THE BEST DECISION

Bailey Honored for 50+ Years of Service to SU

WHEN DEBRA BAILEY began working at then-Salisbury State College in 1972, the campus had just opened its first co-ed residence hall, students got their news from a school paper called the *Informer* and the inaugural Sea Gull football team was drawing excitement from local sports fans.

More than a half-century later, she was celebrated among the longest-serving employees in University history during the institution's annual Service Awards ceremony.

The Physical Plant program management specialist, who has served under six SU presidents and three acting and interim presidents, starting with Dr. Norman Crawford, received a special plaque marking her 50 years at SU as of 2022.

"While it is difficult to name one specific memorable event during my 50 years at SU, the things I remember most are the friendships that have been cultivated over the years," she said. "There are many

dedicated, hardworking employees I have worked with who have made the University what it is today, and those who I have worked with the closest will always have a special place in my heart."

Bailey said it is hard to believe that 50 years have passed since she first accepted a job offer at the University – but it has turned out to be one of the best decisions she has ever made.

Previously, Bailey has been honored as Employee of the Month in June 2013. She was nominated by her supervisor Kevin Mann, former director of Physical Plant.

"Debra's value to Physical Plant operations and to the University is hard to put into words," Mann said. "But, life without her can be summarized in one word: difficult."

During the most recent Service Awards ceremony, in addition to Bailey, SU recognized some 199 faculty and staff with more than 2,500 years of service to the University and the State of Maryland. Also honored, for the first time, were 40 adjunct faculty, who have served SU for more than 600 semesters combined.



The things I remember most are the friendships that have been cultivated over the years."

– Debra Bailey

MAKING AN IMPRESSION

Faculty Appreciation Award Winners

The Salisbury University Alumni Association honored five SU classroom leaders with its 2022 Faculty Appreciation Awards during SU's annual Fall Commencement.

"These faculty have made a lasting impression on students, have provided dynamic classroom instruction, exhibit attributes graduates can take with them into their careers, and have made a difference in the lives of their students," said Lili Leonard, immediate past Alumni Association president.

Read what their former students had to say.)



Dr. Larence Becker
Psychology

Fulton School of Liberal Arts



"Dr. Becker is the reason I work in psychology and neuroscience today. In his research methods class, we had a project to develop 10 steps to achieve our future goals in the field of psychology. Through this project, I realized I wanted to pursue a Ph.D."



Dr. Jennifer Bergner
Mathematical Sciences

Henson School of Science and Technology



"Dr. Bergner is also one of the few math professors who has the special skill of breaking concepts down to the most basic levels, making learning and retaining information that much more possible for students. She did whatever possible to help us succeed."



Dr. Thomas Calo
Management

Perdue School of Business



"Dr. Calo invested in his students who truly wanted to learn and become better. He left a lasting impression on me through his professionalism, kindness and dedication to teaching."



Dr. Chin-Hsiu Chen
Early and Elementary Education

Seidel School of Education



"Dr. Chen was, by far, the best professor I had during my time at Salisbury. She was understanding and caring, and taught with enthusiasm. She made class fun, and the projects she assigned were hard, but achievable."



Dr. Deborah Mathews
Social Work

College of Health and Human Services



"Dr. Mathews was instrumental in launching the M.S.W. program at SU. As a graduate of the very first M.S.W. class, I can't begin to tell you how important she was to my years as a graduate student. Dr. Mathews was always there to give us whatever we needed and help us become the best we could be."



Alumni interested in recommending faculty for the 2023 award may submit nominations online:

salisbury.edu/alumni/facultyawards



Maryland Officials Engage with SU Students

Maryland Governor Wes Moore had some inspiring words for Salisbury University students when he visited campus on his 100th day in office. Talking to political science majors and students in SU's Multicultural Alliance, he shared the importance of community engagement and encouraged them to shape the future of the state.

SU students were excited to have the opportunity to talk one-on-one with the state's highest ranking official. Ithemanna Ugo-Akwada said that as a Black political science major, it was amazing to hear the perspective of a current, Black political figure.

"During my recent political science course, we looked at American policies with an intersectional lens and how legislation and aspects of government impact different social groups," Ugo-Akwada said. "So, to talk to a governor who is actively striving for equity and challenging those barriers that groups face made my time in my class come full circle."

SU Director of Multicultural Affairs Vanice Antrum said there was an audible cheer when Gov. Moore came around the corner of SU's Wight Center for Equity, Justice and Inclusion because the students were so excited.

"It meant a lot that he took time to shake hands, take pictures and have conversations with the students," she said. "He also spent a time talking with them about how much they are needed and valued in our state. It meant a lot because we know that the Governor and his administration value diversity and we hope this will lead to further opportunities for our students."

Students taking courses on state and local government, American public policy, public administration, and civil rights/liberties all got a chance to meet the Governor. Dr. Adam Hoffman, professor of political science, said his students explored the Governor's priorities for the legislative session in the week preceding his visit.



Dr. Michelle Fletcher, assistant professor of political science, added: "My students enjoyed hearing him discuss his policy agenda. The topics discussed during the meeting overlap with my course instruction in public policy, constitutional law and policy implementation."

Ugo-Akwada echoed how much the visit meant to students.

"I am very interested in improving opportunities for people of color," she said, "and seeing someone who looks like me in the office and talking about issues that I am also passionate about emboldens me as a student."

Earlier in the semester the Governor spoke with students presenting at SU's Posters on the Bay event in Annapolis. They shared their research with him, as well as SU alumni and others.

Gov. Moore wasn't the only Maryland official to visit campus recently: Newly elected Comptroller Brooke Lierman also toured SU, meeting with SU President Carolyn Ringer Lepre and talking with students, faculty and staff.

Top: Governor Wes Moore spoke at SU's Nonprofit Leaders Summit in April.

Middle: Moore also stopped in to SU's annual Posters on the Bay research showcase in Annapolis.

Bottom: Maryland Comptroller Brooke Lierman talked with students, faculty and staff when she toured SU in the spring.

family weekend 2023



Every fall, Salisbury University puts on a party for families – welcoming them to campus and showing them the best parts of our nest. From a family breakfast to photo ops to family-friendly games and a Flock Party carnival before the big Homecoming football game, there is lots to discover and enjoy.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!
Alumni Homecoming & Family Weekend
October 27-29

Exceptional Virtual Learning

ONLINE GRADUATE PROGRAMS AMONG THE NATION'S BEST

Two of Salisbury University's online graduate degrees are again ranked among the nation's best by *U.S. News & World Report*: the online Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.) program (for the sixth year) and the online Master of Science in Nursing (M.S.N.) program.

Both were selected based on criteria including student engagement and excellence, faculty credentials and training, technology, and peer assessment.

"For more than two decades, *U.S. News* and other guides have ranked Salisbury University among the nation's best higher education institutions," said SU President Carolyn Ringer Lepre. "As technology and degree paths evolve, SU is upholding the highest standards in every program regardless of delivery format."

BUSINESS EDUCATION FOR ALL

"We started the online M.B.A. program in 2015 and within just two years, it was ranked one of the top programs in the nation," said Dr. Christy Weer, Perdue School of Business dean. "The program's continued success is due in no small part to our impressive students, faculty and staff, who take every opportunity to grow as professionals."

SU's M.B.A. offers flexible options for students with a 100% online option or a hybrid option with classroom and online components. Students also may choose a one-year accelerated track or, for those with full-time careers, a two-year or longer part-time track.

"One thing I love about the program is that it accommodated my busy working schedule," said alumnus Matthias Lennemann '21. "I might learn something in class on Monday night that I could apply in the office Tuesday morning. Right away, it made me a better employee, a better leader, and helped me succeed in my work environment."

ADVANCING THE NURSING PROFESSION

SU's online M.S.N. also was rated one of the nation's Best Online Nursing School Master's Programs by The Princeton Review. School of Nursing Director Debra Webster said she is "incredibly proud of students and faculty for ensuring SU remains a top choice for nursing students."

"I really enjoyed the flexibility of the online program which allowed me to work and complete my graduate studies," said alumna Katie Sabater '23. "The online M.S.N. program produced new professional opportunities and helped me identify my goals." Student Josee Ritter Wiedel added: "The professors are positively challenging and have expanded my knowledge exponentially."



We want to meet our graduate students where they are in their lives and careers. We have a program for you here at SU."

– Dr. Clifton Griffin

Dean of Graduate Studies and Research

CHOOSE SU FOR YOUR GRADUATE DEGREE

SU offers 15 master's degrees and two doctoral programs: the online Doctor of Nursing Practice and the Doctor of Education in Literacy Studies, which moved fully online this fall. Other online master's programs include the M.S. in GIS Management and Master of Social Work. In addition, several versions of the Master of Education program offer hybrid options, and the M.S.W. and M.S. in Health and Human Performance are offered at satellite locations across Maryland.



For more information on all of SU's graduate programs, visit: salisbury.edu/graduatestudies





\$200K

Money collected by student-led sustainability fee goes toward Green Fund initiatives

SALISBURY UNIVERSITY is proud to be a leader in sustainability. It is something the entire campus enthusiastically embraces, from its LEED-certified buildings to its student-led recycling projects.

For the 13th consecutive year, The Princeton Review, in partnership with the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), has named SU one of the nation's most environmentally responsible colleges. The University is featured in the publication's 2023 Guide to Green Colleges, ranking among the top 50 "Green Colleges" in the U.S.

"We are honored to be recognized as an environmental and sustainability leader for institutions across the nation," said SU President Carolyn Ringer Lepre. "Sustainability is a core part of who we are at SU, and this distinction speaks to our commitment to promoting sustainability-focused initiatives across our campus."

SU's recycling program began in 1990, and since then, campus efforts have remained on the cutting edge of sustainable practices, including the Eastern Shore's first U.S. Green Building Council Leadership

.....

Maroon

AND

Gold

AND

Green

.....

in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certified new construction project, 10 additional LEED-certified buildings, the region's first publicly available electric vehicle charging stations, Bird and Bee Campus USA designations, a trayless dining hall, a solar parking canopy producing enough electricity annually to power three campus buildings and the "green roof" atop the Patricia R. Guerrieri Academic Commons.

SU students themselves are also campus leaders of sustainability. Proposed by the Student Government Association and passed by student votes, the Green Fund is a unique program designed to improve environmental sustainability at SU by giving students a say in how their sustainability fees are spent. The Green Fund has supported nearly 70 projects since its establishment in 2015, including a native plant species restoration project, solar benches, bird nest installations, solvent recycling in chemistry labs and more.

"The Green Fund is an opportunity for students to leave their mark on SU," said Chris Homeister, director of SU's campus sustainability program. "One idea can change the campus and make SU even better for many years to come."



Tee-ing Up for the Future

GOLF JOINS SEA GULL ROSTER

SU announces the addition of men's and women's golf to its offering of Division III varsity sports. Teams are set to begin competition in the 2024-25 academic year.

The two golf programs will bring the number of intercollegiate varsity sports at SU to 23, representing the first completely new additions to SU's program since women's soccer was added in 1994.

"I'm thrilled to introduce men's and women's golf as our newest varsity sports," said SU President Carolyn Ringer Lepre. "We know that one of the things that makes our SU campus community so unique is our strong history of Division III athletics. The addition of these two sports will provide new opportunities for student-athletes from across our country to contribute to the growth of our campus and be a part of a nationally renowned athletics program."

A nationwide search for a coach and recruitment for student-athletes for the inaugural season are underway.



Stadium Naming Honors Coach Knight



Following former Softball Head Coach Margie Knight's passing, her lasting impact on the lives of those around to raise her spurred alumni, family, friends, former players and coaches to rally support and collect sponsorship funds to put her name on the stadium where her teams saw so many years of success.

During one of the team's final games of 2023, SU officials announced that the softball stadium officially will be renamed Margie Knight Sea Gull Softball Stadium. Look for details on a ribbon-cutting ceremony before the start of next season.

In 25 seasons as the head coach of the softball program, Knight, SU Class of 1979, led the Sea Gulls to an 846-209-2 record. Her .801 winning percentage is 13th among all NCAA softball coaches and sixth in Division III. She led her teams to 18 Capital Athletic Conference championships and 21 NCAA tournament appearances, including nine NCAA World Series appearances. She was named Regional Coach of the Year 10 times and inducted into the National Fastpitch Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 2018.

"Coach Knight was more than just a coach to me," said current SU Softball Head Coach Lacey Lord, who played under Knight from 2003-06. "She was a friend and a mentor who showed me what it meant to succeed both on the field and in life."

13
MEN'S
LACROSSE
NATIONAL TITLES

71
HOME GAME
SOFTBALL
WIN STREAK

7
NCAA
TOURNAMENT
TEAMS

3rd
CONSECUTIVE
BASEBALL
WORLD SERIES

23 for '23 Men's Lacrosse Title Caps Banner Year for SU Athletics

In the first weeks of the January term, the Maggs Physical Activities Center underwent a slew of cosmetic upgrades. The most eye-catching of these was a revamp of the endless rows of banners along the walls of the gym, including conference triumphs, individual glories and the crown jewels of Salisbury University Athletics: 22 maroon-and-gold banners for the Sea Gulls' 22 team national championships.

Over the summer, that collection grew thanks to a year that saw Sea Gull Nation capture seven league championships and make waves in nine national competitions, capped by the addition of a 23rd maroon-and-gold banner to the walls of Maggs.

Salisbury men's lacrosse can boast over half the contributions to Banner Alley, but with six years lapsed since their latest triumph in 2017 and several near misses over the past few seasons, the Sea Gulls were eager to quench their drought. And quench they did, steamrolling their way to the inaugural Coastal Lacrosse Conference (CLC) title and slugging through one of the more brutal paths to the NCAA Tournament final in recent memory.

Backed by legions of Sea Gull faithful among the 15,000-plus on hand at Philadelphia's Lincoln Financial Field, Salisbury raced out to a 6-0 first-quarter lead over top-ranked Tufts and fended off a Jumbo rally to win 17-12. For legendary Head Coach Jim Berkman, the victory meant a 13th national title and even footing with Hobart for the most in Division III history. For the much-decorated future pro Cross Ferrara and the rest of a 19-member senior class, it meant the fulfillment of a lifelong dream, a trip to the White House (they were invited to attend College Athlete Day on the South Lawn) and the privilege to go out on top.

While men's lacrosse served as the crescendo to a banner year, it was far from the only notable storyline for one of the nation's top

all-around athletics programs in 2022-23. Playing in memory of longtime Head Coach Margie Knight, SU softball won a team-record 49 games on a magical run to the NCAA finals. Field hockey ascended to the top of the national polls and made the NCAA quarterfinals as the nation's last undefeated side. Faced with sky-high expectations, baseball met them and then some, reaching the Division III World Series for the third consecutive season.

Three other programs added to their collections of conference titles, as women's lacrosse captured its 21st league championship since the turn of the century, football claimed a fourth straight conference crown, and men's track and field brought home its first outdoor team gold in eight years. Finally, two teams reintroduced themselves into their respective national conversations, with volleyball returning to the NCAA Tournament after a nine-year absence and swimming rising up as the most-improved men's and women's program in all of Division III.

When students return to SU this fall, their eyes will be drawn to a 23rd national championship banner in Maggs Gym, lingering only briefly before turning their attention to the pursuit of number 24.

Below: The national champion men's lacrosse team represented SU at the White House for College Athlete Day in June.



IT'S BEEN A GREAT RUN

Gerry DiBartolo Retires from SU Athletics

THERE HAS BEEN PLENTY OF CHANGE in our world in 44 years. But there has been one constant at Salisbury University for over four decades and that was Gerry DiBartolo being on campus. At the end of June, the campus celebrated the end of an era as DiBartolo retired from the University.

Growing up around Baltimore, playing soccer and graduating from Frostburg State University, DiBartolo became a business professor for a year at MacMurray College in Illinois before returning closer to home to take a teaching position at the business school here at SU. It wasn't until a conversation with then SU President Dr. Norm Crawford that DiBartolo became involved with the men's soccer program.

DiBartolo took over as head coach of the men's soccer team in 1982. Under his direction, Sea Gull men's soccer reached new heights. With DiBartolo at the helm, the team went from having not won double-digit games in its nearly 50 years of existence to a perennial conference and NCAA contender. In his 34 years as head coach, DiBartolo amassed a career record of 412-180-60, which ranks in the top-50 all-time in career wins across all divisions and top-20 within Division III men's soccer. He was named Regional Coach of the Year six times, Capital Athletic Conference (CAC) Coach of the Year seven times, won eight CAC Championships and made 13 NCAA Tournament appearances during his tenure as head coach, including a trip to the NCAA semifinals in 2004.

DiBartolo put the men's soccer team on

the map while maintaining a full course-load as a faculty member in the Franklin P. Perdue School of Business. He taught marketing strategy and international marketing and served as the school's associate dean from 1998-2003.

"It was fairly easy to juggle both coaching and teaching. When I was in the classroom, I put all my attention on the students and made sure they reached their full potential. When I was on the soccer field coaching, I devoted all my attention to the student-athletes and was committed that they worked hard and practiced well. It's all about priorities and planning ahead to make sure I wasn't short-changing both roles."

DiBartolo became an assistant athletic director in 2008 then took over as the interim director of athletics and campus recreation in 2015 and subsequently



Above: DiBartolo with Elmer Lord in 1985 – superfan Lord never missed a home soccer game; the kick-off tournament of the season is named in his memory.

Left: President Lepre presented DiBartolo with a token of appreciation at the campus-wide celebration held in his honor this spring.

full-time director in 2017. Since 2015, Salisbury Athletics has had a tradition of success that put the Sea Gulls among the top Division III programs in the country. The Sea Gulls have won five team national



My favorite part of the job as director of athletics and campus recreation was seeing the growth of our student-athletes and success in their careers. "

– Gerry DiBartolo

championships, 10 individual national championships and 36 team conference championships. Off the field, SU student-athletes excel in the classroom with over 1,500 students honored on the Conference All-Academic Teams and 19 garnering individual Academic All-Americans.

“Of course, people notice the Hall of Fame staff members or national championships and All-Americans that we’ve earned here at Salisbury. For me, my favorite part of the job as director of athletics and campus recreation was seeing the growth of our student-athletes and success in their careers. Our coaches and staff provide the support needed to have successful programs,” reflected DiBartolo. “I’ve had a great run with plenty of memories and moments, including meeting my wife (Dr. Mary DiBartolo, School of Nursing). I’m very thankful for all the people who took a chance on me to get to where I am.”



Win. Repeat. Win.

CHEERLEADING EARNS FIRST NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

“Same thing, different day.”

That was the mantra for the SU cheerleading squad in its final weeks of the 2022-23 season, leading to the National Cheerleaders Association Collegiate Cheer Championship.

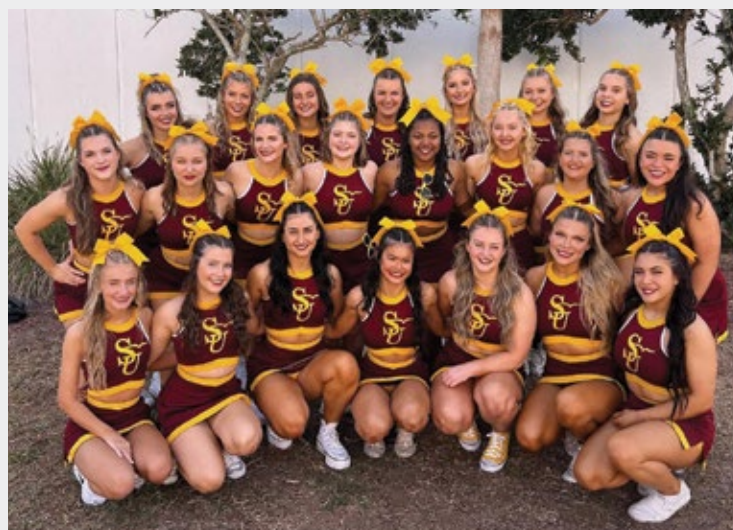
That “thing” was perfection. Team members practiced their routine time and time again until it was virtually flawless.

On day one of the competition, SU earned a perfect score. On the second and final day, it received just one deduction, making the team’s two-day performance the strongest among the 12 in its division. The result: SU’s first cheerleading national championship.

“We felt good heading to Florida, but we didn’t truly feel prepared until after day one, when they hit the routine with no deductions,” said the team’s coach, Kristin Morris ’16.

SU was the final team to perform on day two, allowing Morris to watch the other teams’ performances first. While she saw some small mistakes, she knew Salisbury might take a repeat from day one to secure the title.

“We have to have a strong performance; there’s no in between,” said Morris of her thoughts heading into the final performance. “I told them, ‘Same thing, different day. If you come out and do the same thing as yesterday, you’ll be perfectly fine.’”



HEAD OF THE CLASS

SU Welcomes New Provost Laurie Couch

AS AN ACADEMIC LEADER with nearly three decades of classroom and administrative success, Laurie Couch was a natural choice as SU's new provost and senior vice president of academic affairs.

Coming to Salisbury from Morehead State University, KY, following a national search, she will oversee faculty, research, study abroad/away and other components of SU's academic mission, including academic policy and budgeting, curriculum, faculty development, student advising and support, enrollment and retention, assessment, instructional technology and accreditation. She also will play a leading role in guiding University outreach initiatives such as Delmarva Public Media.

"I am committed to the ideals of Salisbury University and the forward-looking, transparent approach SU is taking



I am eager and ready to take the next step with Salisbury."

- Dr. Laurie Couch

toward its vision of planning for student success in all aspects of University work," said Couch. "I am eager and ready to take the next step with Salisbury."

With a relational, strategic and data-oriented leadership style, Couch values shared governance, accountability, continuous improvement, and the significance of a well-designed, high-quality educational experience.

"Dr. Couch has a demonstrated record of working closely with faculty, staff and students to ensure the best academic experience possible," said SU President Carolyn Ringer Lepre. "Her background in teaching, research, enrollment, retention, strategic planning, course design and grant writing, along with her commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion, undergraduate research and student success, make her an ideal addition to Salisbury.

"I look forward to working with her as we continue to move SU forward with excellence."



give today

Your gift – no matter the size – makes a difference to the University. Give today to whatever area of campus you choose.

GIVING.SALISBURY.EDU



New Alumni Association Board Members

- **Dr. Karen Archambault '96** of Runnemede, NJ, graduated from SU with a Bachelor of Arts in history. She is the vice president of enrollment management and student success at Rowan College at Burlington County.
- **Jamar Leland Arvin '93**, of Baltimore, MD, graduated from SU with a Bachelor of Arts in political science. He is currently employed by the State of Maryland Department of Juvenile Services.
- **April Briddell '02, M'03** of Delmar, MD, earned both her Bachelor of Arts in Social Work and Master of Social Work from SU. She is director of operations at Phirst Physical Therapy, Inc.
- **Joseph Buckley '14, M'16** of Delmar, DE, earned both his Bachelor of Science in finance and Master of Business Administration from SU. He played football as an undergraduate at SU and was a graduate assistant for the football team. He is currently the development manager of Green Street Housing.
- **Jami Crist '08** of Baltimore, MD, graduated from SU with a Bachelor of Science in marketing. She is the owner of Radical Female Consulting, based in Baltimore and teaches fitness classes on the side.
- **Ashley Fletcher '14** of Oxon Hill, MD, graduated from SU with a Bachelor of Arts in art. She is a graphic designer and is a founding member and on the Executive Board of the Black Alumni Association of SU.
- **Karen (Donaldson) Hughes '77** of Salisbury, MD, graduated from SU with a Bachelor of Science in exercise science. She is the owner of Peninsula Pilates & Wellness, LLC.
- **Dallas Jordan '16** of Baltimore, MD, graduated from SU with Bachelor of Arts in communication. He is a client manager with onboarding at Flywheel Digital in Baltimore.
- **Lindsay McCoy '14** of Chapel Hill, NC, graduated from SU with a Bachelor of Arts in political Science. She works as a marketing strategies and operations analyst for Salesforce, Inc., a company based out of San Francisco, CA.
- **Devin Neil '20** of Annapolis, MD, graduated from SU with a Bachelor of Arts in political science and environmental studies. He currently works as a legislative liaison for the Maryland Department of General Services in Baltimore, MD.
- **Dr. K. Holly Shiflett '92** of Richmond, VA, graduated from SU with a Bachelor of Arts in communication. She is the dean of online education and professional learning at University of Leeds. She is the only international board member, currently residing in York, England.
- **Joann Wood '91** of Leonardtown, MD, graduated from SU with a Bachelor of Arts in communication. She works as a lawyer in her own practice, The Law Office of Joann M. Wood, LLC, in the California, MD, area.

The Alumni Association also bid farewell to several board members as they retire this year: **Patrick Donahue '74, Erin Dudley '06 and Sara Lewis '98**. Thank you for your service!

Alumni Association President Greetings



Dear Fellow Alumni,

It is with great pleasure that I introduce myself as your new SU Alumni Association president. I graduated with my undergraduate degree in 2014 in accounting and went on to earn a Master of Business Administration in 2015. As a lifelong resident of the Eastern Shore, I know the importance that Salisbury University has both socially and economically in the region.

I would be remiss if I didn't thank my predecessor Dr. Lili Leonard for her service to the SU Alumni Association and Salisbury University. Lili set the bar extremely high with her accomplishments during her two terms. Her passion, leadership and philanthropy have supported SU's mission of being a student-centered campus, which is a tremendous example for all of us to follow.

As President Carolyn Lepre starts her second year in office, I look forward to our board working with her to engage our alumni base in new and exciting ways. She is continuing to travel across the country to connect with our alumni and hear your stories of the past so we can make SU's future one that we can be proud of together. I encourage you to visit the SU Alumni Association website to see where SU on the Road will make its next stop so you can gather with other alums and meet President Lepre (see page 55).

It is crucially important to the life of Salisbury University that you stay engaged with your Alma Mater. The relationships we formed as students with our fellow students, faculty, staff and coaches are what make SU a special place. Thank you to all who participated in another record-setting Giving Day (see page 22). Giving back to the area of campus that means the most to you is a great way to help the next generation of Sea Gulls and enhance the value of your own degree. The alumni giving percentage is a part of the *U.S. News & World Report* score, adding to the prestige of the institution. Maintaining a strong ranking enables SU to attract the best and brightest faculty in their fields and engaged students from across the country and around the world.

Salisbury University is a special place where Sea Gull pride is contagious, and I urge you to come back to campus. If you have a class reunion coming up or if you were involved with a sport or club that has an anniversary, make the time to reconnect. Time is our most precious resource, so don't waste another year away from your Sea Gull family. I look forward to meeting you at our Flock Party during Alumni Homecoming & Family Weekend on Saturday, October 28.

Once a Sea Gull, Always a Sea Gull!

AUSTIN WHITEHEAD '14, M'15



Salisbury University
is a special place
where Sea Gull pride
is contagious."

– Austin Whitehead

Class Notes

Information received prior to approx. May 1, 2023
M = Master's Degree; D = Doctorate

1970s

Al “Hondo” Handy ’75 released his first book in September 2022, *Defying Expectations: Family, Sports and Recreation*, a memoir sharing his personal and professional experiences.

David Cottle ’78 was inducted into the Class of 2022 Maryland State Athletic Hall of Fame for lacrosse, leading the nation in scoring and becoming just the second player to surpass 100 points in a season in 1975.

Mary (Oross) Houck ’78 retired from “my wonderful career in laboratory medicine” after 48 years of service.

Eugene “Gene” Malone Jr. ’78 was elected as a board member representing District 2 for the Wicomico County Board of Education, Salisbury, MD.

Mark Romagnoli ’78 & M’85 retired after 43 years of service as a medical technologist (40 of those years as a clinical microbiologist) at Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, MD.

1980s

Michael Kelly ’81 and his business, Kelly Benefits, Inc. of Annapolis, MD, were honored with the 2023 Family-Owned Businesses Award by the *Baltimore Business Journal*, which honors multi-generational, family-owned businesses.

Jacqueline Banks ’82 recently launched the Black Mermaid League Initiative to increase the self-esteem of black girls by creating and hosting the Black Mermaid Cheer Clinic for the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association and Visit Baltimore. Dr. Banks is a consultant for Royalty Is Black, LLC, which has started an interactive platform using the arts and the pedagogy of teaching to build self-esteem. The first in a series of books and children songs are also being produced.

Stephen Bisciotti ’82 was named to *The Daily Record’s* 2022-23 Power 100 list, which focuses on those who largely influence the culture, lifestyle, civic and/or economic facets of Maryland.



1



2



3

1 Paul Yoder ’85 authored a photodocumentary book titled *Maryland’s Eastern Shore Historic Churches*.

Shari Foster-Hennighan ’87 earned her Doctorate of Education from the University of Central Florida and continues to work as a science instructor at Cypress Creek High School, Orlando, FL.

Christopher Snyder ’88 was named Healthcare Hero by *Coastal Style* magazine in their “Best Of” competition, becoming the resident expert on COVID-19 for TidalHealth Hospital, Salisbury, MD, by communicating via podcasts and television interviews.

Mary (Peters) DiBartolo M’89 received the 2022 Alumni Award from the Parkinson’s Foundation Edmond J. Safra Visiting Nurse Faculty Program, recognizing efforts to improve nursing education in relation to Parkinson’s disease and patient care.

James Kellam ’89 earned his Doctor of Education in professional leadership from Converse University, Spartanburg, SC. In addition, he was elected to the office of president-elect for the board of the South Carolina Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators.

1990s

2 Joseph Kunkel ’09, executive director of Neighbor to Neighbor, and **Kim Carpenter-Stuber ’90**, COO of SOS Care, recently connected at the 2023 South Carolina non-profit summit. Joe’s organization strives to promote independence, relieve isolation and connect homebound adults with access to the community, and Kim’s organization provides programs and services to individuals with

autism and intellectual disabilities to promote independence and inclusion throughout all stages of life. They are working together to make a difference in South Carolina!

John Aukward Jr. ’90 was voted best personal banker in the “Best People on the Eastern Shore” contest from *Metropolitan Magazine*, Salisbury, MD.

James Perdue M’90 was named to *The Daily Record’s* 2022-23 Power 100 list, which focuses on those who largely influence the culture, lifestyle, civic and/or economic facets of Maryland.

Russell Springmann ’90 & M’92 took over as head coach for the men’s basketball team for Oral Roberts University in Tulsa, OK. Previously, he served as the assistant coach since 2018.

Lawrence Cuppy ’91 joined the U.S. Foreign Service as a foreign service specialist, financial management officer and is a member of the 165th/211th U.S. State Department Foreign Service class. He will serve tours abroad as the CFO of the U.S. Diplomatic Missions.

Michael Hall ’92 had the privileged honor of being nominated for Teacher of the Year for Anne Arundel County Public Schools, Annapolis, MD. (Read about other Teacher of the Year honorees on page 18.)

Dawn (Sheetz) Lister ’92 earned her Doctor of Education from Liberty University, Lynchburg, VA.

Eric McLaughlin ’92 joined the firm of Pessin Katz Law, PA of Cambridge, MD, as a member of the corporate and real estate group. He was named a 2023 Leadership in Law honoree by *The Daily Record* of Baltimore, MD.



4

Monica (Moody) Moore '92 began a new position as managing director of FranklinCovey County of Salt Lake City, UT.

Holly Stofa '93 recently retired from the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) after 24 years of service as a senior operations officer and leadership coach.

Allison Thomas '93 received her master's in education in literacy from Judson University, Elgin, IL.

Patricia Crankshaw-Quimby '94 earned her certified Animal Welfare Administrator credential through the Association for Animal Welfare Advancement.

Simon Drew '94 & M'96 earned his Doctor of Education from Maryville University in St. Louis, MO, with his thesis focusing on teacher isolation and collegiality.

Erica (Cramer) Messer '95 rejoins the team for the *Criminal Minds* revival series as showrunner, writer and executive producer for season 16.

Karen Archambault '96 is one of 31 leaders selected for the 2022-23 class of Aspen Rising Presidents Fellowship in collaboration with the Stanford Educational Leadership initiative preparing the next generation of community college presidents.

Michele (Bleech) Napoliello '96 earned her Doctor in Health Administration from the Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC.

Karen (Calvert) Molinar '97 was named interim superintendent for the Fort Worth (TX) Independent School District.

Angela (Serra) van Hassel '97 started a new job as a business analyst at Mad Mobile, Tampa FL.



5

Micah Stauffer M'98 was appointed superintendent of schools for Wicomico County (MD) Public Schools, Salisbury, MD.

3 Kimberly (Kohlhepp) Winterbottom '98, '01 & M'02 was a finalist for the 2022 Anne Arundel County Public Schools Principal of the Year and was a 2022 Maryland Association of Secondary School Principals Principal of the Year nominee. She presented this year at the National Association of Secondary School Principals Ignite conference in Denver, CO, highlighting her influence and achievements at her school, Marley Middle School in Glen Burnie, MD.

2000s

4 Alumni gathered for a joint 40th birthday celebration in Clearwater Beach, FL. Pictured are **Sarah (Sheets) Callahan '07, Caitlin (Harman) Jones '05 M'10, Kelly (Hejduk) Peyton '05 M'06, Lauren (Hammen) Essary '05, Lauren (Norris) Teal '05, Jessica (Abbott) Fratarcangelo '05 M'06, Stacie (Doan) McArdle '05, Erin (Coady) Jenkins '05 and Melissa (Shepard) Salamanca '05.**

5 Field Hockey Reunion, October 2022: Pictured are **Ashley (Twigg) Bubeck '08, Kimberly McCleod '07, Brittany (Elliott) Mitchell '06 M'08, Erin (Budd) DeHaven '05 M'07, Tracey (Lloyd) Bostwick '08, Heather (Berntsen) Healy '09, Abby Rowe '07, Megan (Powell) Speranza '08, Ashley (Spencer) Mitchell '08, Lauren (Dietz) Pashkevich '08 and Lynette (Sgrignoli) Love '07.**

John "Sam" Atkinson '00 was awarded the 2023 Warren Berg Award by the College

In Memoriam Faculty & Staff

- **Dr. Keith H. Brower**, Chair/ Professor of Spanish & Associate Dean of Fulton School – March 16, 2023
- **Dr. Bernard A. Fusaro**, Chair/ Professor of Mathematics – July 25, 2022
- **Dr. Jeffrey Kottemann**, Chair/ Professor of Information and Decision Sciences – May 4, 2023
- **Dr. Liddell L. Madden**, Professor of Social Work – February 27, 2023
- **Greig W. Mitchell**, Vice President of Business & Finance – February 9, 2023
- **Margaret (Davis) (McBriety) Onley**, English Department – November 9, 2022
- **Dean A. Peterson**, Associate Professor of Art – January 24, 2023
- **Amy N. Stevenson**, Dining Services – January 9, 2023
- **Dr. Ray H. Zeigler**, Professor of Music – October 3, 2022

Sports Information Communicators. Sam is the associate athletic director for communications at Gallaudet University, Washington, DC.

Roy Brewington '00 was appointed as the new director of the Wicomico County (MD) Department of Social Services.

Byron Hughes '00 is the new dean of students and assistant vice chancellor for student life at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN.

Jennifer (Swingle) Dixon '01 earned her Ph.D. in counseling and supervision from Kean University, Union, NJ.

Patrick Brannan '02 & M'04 was appointed to the role of chief financial officer for 14 West, of Agora Companies of Baltimore, MD.

Keith Burney '02 was named the administrator of St. Catherine of Alexandria Church in McConchie, MD, and St. Ignatius of Loyola Church in Hilltop, MD. He is a



priest of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Washington, DC.

Wesley Cox '02 was named the best commercial realtor in the “Best People on the Eastern Shore” contest from *Metropolitan Magazine*, Salisbury, MD. He won a 2021 Sales Volume award from SVN/Miller Commercial Real Estate, Salisbury, MD, as a member of the Hanna Team, and at the SVN National Conference, he received a Partner’s Circle award as part of the Hanna Team. SU’s Franklin P. Perdue School of Business appointed Wesley to its executive advisory board.

Tara (Nibert) Strain '02 was appointed as principal of Glen Haven Elementary School, Silver Spring, MD, which is part of the Montgomery County Public Schools system.

Nicole (Lenihan) Rhoades '03 was named 2023-24 Teacher of the Year for Frederick County Public Schools. She is a science teacher at Windsor Knolls Middle School, Ijamsville, MD.

R. Matthew Meekins '07 is the new senior director of strategic partnerships at Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) of Portland, OR.

Andrew Hartstein '08 & M'09 was voted the best insurance market, best insurance agent and best insurance agency by *Coastal Style* magazine’s “Best Of” for Sussex County, DE. Andy also caught the first World Series homerun ball from the bat of Phillies outfielder Bryce Harper.

Aaron Sebach '08, M'10 & D'15 was named a fellow of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners and distinguished practitioner and fellow of the National Academies of Practice for his significant and enduring contributions to advance the nursing profession.

Ashley Stern '08 & M'09 was named Best Accountant on the Eastern Shore by the readers of *Metropolitan Magazine* in their “Best Of” contest and voted best accountant in Wicomico County, MD, by *Coastal Style* magazine’s “Best Of” competition.

2010s

6 Rugby Reunion for the 10th Anniversary of the 2013

Championship: Pictured are (back from left) **Derrell Kittrell '13, Dillon Barnett '14, Joel Henry '15, Brock Brooks '15, Ethan Reese '13, John Capobianco '14, Michael Pohler '12, Michael Cheese '09, Emery Pressman '12, David Burnett '14, Tim Lum '12, Leland Thomas '13, Alec Chaves '15,** (front from left) **Pat Peroutka '12, Jeremy Smith '13, Jake Fields '13, Ben Snyder '13, Nick Capobianco '14, Nick Kuhl '14 and Matt Bodt '13.** The reunion was held at Oak Farm Brewing Co. in Olney, MD, which is owned by **Charlie Miller '11,** who was also an SU rugby player.

7 Singleton Reunion, July 2022:

Pictured (are from left, first row in the pool) **Rachel Murphy '20, Kalyn Fitz-Henry '18, Denise Pearch '18, Jenna Murphy '19,** (middle row) **Daniel Bower '17, Eric Johnson, Collin Dunnam '18, Drew LaCouture '19, Mason Casanova '18, C. Trevor Clauss '18,** (standing) **Thomas Boggs, Dakota Duncan '18 and Kirsi Singleton '18.**

Julia Glanz '11 & M'13 was appointed assistant secretary for the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development and honored among the Leading Women Under 40 by Maryland’s *The Daily Record.*

Vanice Antrum '12 & M'14 is the new director of multicultural affairs at Salisbury University’s Office of Diversity and Inclusion.

Matthew Oberly '12 is the recipient of the Annie Sullivan Award for Special Education Teachers in Lancaster County, PA by the Lancaster-Lebanon Intermediate Unit 13 for his exemplary care of students with disabilities and helping those in the community as well.

8 T. Mitchell Northam '15 published his first book titled *High School Basketball on Maryland’s Eastern Shore: A Shore Hoops History.*

Lauren Rosiak '16 started a new job as a senior media relations coordinator with Fox Rothschild of Philadelphia, PA.

Justin Ayers '18 started a new position as a digital content specialist for The George Washington University in Washington, DC.

Keaton Burke '19 was awarded the 2023 Jean Freeman scholarship by the College Swimming and Diving Coaches Association of America (CSCAA). He is the assistant swim coach at Fairfield University, Fairfield, CT.

W. Jesse Drew Jr. '19 received his Master of Public Administration in business/government from Liberty University.

Nicole Weber '19 opened her own design company, Nicole Weber Design in Alexandria, VA, along with fellow alumna **Martha Hutzell '19.** They work together creating logos for businesses around the world and are open to recruiting more SU alum.

2020s

Nathan Canada '22 is now a financial advisor with Key Financial Services in Berlin, MD.

Births

1 Bryan Siegert '01 and Katelin (Rowley) Siegert '07 –

Daughter: Madison Joy Siegert

2 Winfred Wills '03 and Jessica Wills – Son: Zion Elias Wills

3 Matthew Vecchiolla '04 and Ashley (Martin) Vecchiolla '06 & M'10 – Son: Nicholas

John Anello '06 & M'15 and Sara Anello – Son: Caleb Matteo Anello

4 Timothy Reagin '11 & M'13 and Savanna Reagin – Daughter: Heidi Evelyn Reagin

Joseph Buckley '14 & M'16 and Mallory (Elliott) Buckley '15 & M'17 – Son: Baker Buckley

5 Nicholas Yount '14 and Rebecca (McDaniel) Yount '14 – Daughter: Mackenzie Yount

6 Niya (Browne) Brown '15 & M'18 and Jerome Brown – Son: Jerome Andrew Brown, Jr.

7 Robert Fox '15 and Sarah (Sheats) Fox '15 – Son: Theodore Riley Fox

8 Eric Moss '15 and Anna (Breon) Moss '15 – Son: Kenneth Donald Jackson Moss

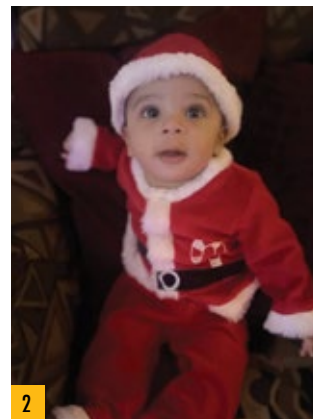
Sarah Seipp '15 and Teresa (Rogers) Seipp '15 – Son: Charlie Seipp

9 Emily (Shelton) Dopp '16 and Andrew Dopp – Son: Wayne Wesley Dopp

10 Christopher Cusic '17 and Rachel (Stadler) Cusic '17 – Son: Maddox Abell Cusic



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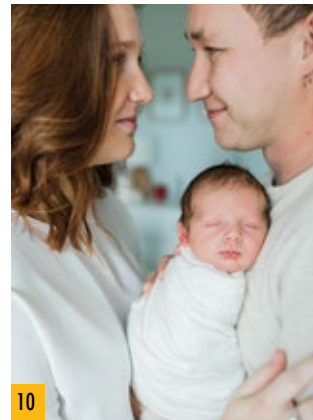
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JENNIFER MERCER SHIPE '05

Life's Unexpected Turns

Loss Leads Alumna to Found Wyatt's Warriors

As a student, Jennifer Mercer Shipe had her life all planned out.

She knew exactly what she wanted to do: go to Salisbury University, become a teacher, marry her boyfriend and have a family.

At first, everything went according to plan. After graduating from SU with her degrees in early childhood and elementary education, she became a teacher at Snow Hill Middle School. She and her husband Brian, together since they were 15 years old, had two wonderful children and were expecting a third.

His name was Wyatt.

"Wyatt completely changed our world," Shipe said.

Shipe went to TidalHealth for a planned C-section on July 8, 2015. All of her prenatal care suggested she would be giving birth to a healthy baby boy. However, not everything went according to plan.

Wyatt was diagnosed with transposition of the greater arteries and was sent to Children's National Hospital in Washington, DC. It was an experience Shipe was completely unprepared for.

"You see all the happy stories on Facebook of people having healthy babies and think, 'It's not fair. Everyone else gets to take

their baby home,'" Shipe said.

At the time, one of Shipe's friends and a fellow SU alum sent her a care package to help with the unexpected hospital stays. It was then she thought that other families in her situation could also use care packages to help ease a burden during a difficult and unexpected time.

Wyatt underwent open heart surgery, but there were complications. While his heart was fixed, those complications caused an infection, and he passed away on August 21, 2015.

The loss was indescribable, and to this day, Shipe still can't understand why it had to happen. But Wyatt's presence in her life opened her eyes to a need in the world she didn't even realize was there before.

"Unfortunately, easy births simply don't happen for a lot of families," Shipe said. "There's a whole community of children and families who need support, comfort and encouragement."

After losing her son, Shipe put all of her time and energy into creating the Wyatt's Warriors Foundation, to honor his memory and to help area families who may be going through similar circumstances. What started as a goal to provide care packages to



"There's a whole community of children and families who need support, comfort and encouragement."

JENNIFER MERCER SHIPE

local families who must leave the Eastern Shore for infant care at larger, specialized hospitals has since grown into something much bigger. The nonprofit also raises funds to support research and education for congenital heart defects and provides funds and support to local families who may need money for hospital bills, travel and other expenses.

“We don’t want them to have to worry about the little things, when they should be worrying about much bigger things,” Shipe said. “It’s amazing that we can provide that need. It’s a great feeling to be able to do that.”

Although she never anticipated being the president of a nonprofit foundation, her life experiences have prepared her for this calling. Throughout it all, Shipe has been grateful for the support of the greater Salisbury community. The foundation’s board is comprised of many SU alumni, area businesses often support the foundation’s events, and the annual fundraiser hosted on Wyatt’s birthday always surpasses its goal.

The foundation is able to further give back to the community, too. Wyatt’s Warriors regularly partners with area schools, including Bennett Middle School’s Act of Kindness Program – something Shipe finds very rewarding, with her own background in education. Whatever the need in the community, her goal for the foundation is to step in wherever they can.

In recognition of her contributions to the community through the Wyatt’s Warriors Foundation, Shipe was awarded with the SU Alumni Association’s 2022 Service to Society Alumni Award.

“If you had told me as an SU student that I was going to run a nonprofit, that I would have a child born with a congenital heart defect and lose him, I would never have guessed it,” Shipe said. “A lot of things in life are out of our control, but since starting Wyatt’s Warriors, I can say I am truly blessed with the path my life has taken.”



Top: Wyatt’s Warriors gives back to the community through programs like Bennett Middle School’s Act of Kindness Program.

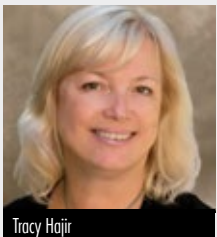
Bottom: Shipe received the Service to Society Alumni Award from then President Charles Wight.

Left: Wyatt’s Warriors Foundation Board of Directors.

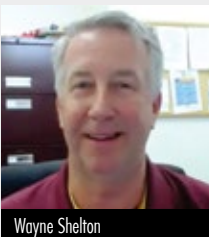
Faculty & Staff Retirement

Date of hire in parentheses

- **Mary Avara**, Music, Theatre and Dance Department (2014)
- **Michael Boolukos**, Information Technology Office (1994)
- **Dr. William Campbell**, School of Nursing (1998)
- **Donna Carey**, Fulton School of Liberal Arts Dean's Office (1999)
- **Dr. Gerry DiBartolo**, Athletics (1979)
- **Crystal Dickerson**, Career Services Office (1991)
- **Sue Eagle**, Marketing and Communications (2001)
- **Sydney Geesaman**, Henson Medical Simulation Center (1987)
- **Karen Greer**, Academic Affairs Office (2007)
- **Tracy Hajir**, President's Office (1999)
- **Gloria Horner**, Career Services Office (1990)
- **William Humphreys**, University Dining Services (1994)
- **Lisa Hutson**, University Advancement (1993)
- **Dr. Deborah Mathews**, School of Social Work (1995)
- **Dr. Darrell Mullins**, Communication Department (1996)
- **Mary Paugh**, Residency Office (2004)
- **Linda Purnell**, Physical Plant (2017)
- **Safaa Said**, Instructional Design and Delivery Office (2012)
- **Fatollah Salimian**, Information and Decision Sciences Department (1982)
- **Wayne Shelton**, Physical Plant (1987)
- **Tony Stancil**, Information Technology Office (1998)
- **Beth Walsh**, Grants and Sponsored Research Office (1998)
- **Dr. Jeanne Whitney**, History Department (1992)
- **Leslie Yarmo**, Music, Theatre and Dance Department (2010)



Tracy Hajir



Wayne Shelton

Marriages

Kamita (Marbury) Draughn '92 and Theodore Draughn – June 16, 2022

Lisa (Romani) Kurywczak '95 and Victor Kurywczak – September 16, 2022

1 Austin Brown '10 and Chelsea Wilson – February 11, 2023

Amanda Abbott '12 and Ayaz L. Rahemanji – October 22, 2022

Brittany Foutz '13 and Scott Dustin – October 31, 2022

2 Hallie Kroll-McGrath '14 and Conor P. McGrath – November 10, 2022

3 Nicholas Kuhl '14 and Sarah (Hepler) Kuhl '14 – October 16, 2021
Pictured (from left) are **Nick Capobianco '14**, **Ethan Reese '13**, groom **Nick Kuhl '14**, bride **Sarah (Hepler) Kuhl '14**, **Emilee (Hessler) Capobianco '14**, **Rebecca (Nolan) Smith '14**, **Jeremy Smith '13** and **Brooke (Peterson) Snyder '12**.

4 Jamie Lowe '15 and Megan Burak-Lowe '15 – September 23, 2022

5 Knute Kraus '15, M'18 and Julie Dannenberg '16 – June 17, 2023

6 T. Mitchell Northam '15 and Rachel Taylor-Northam '16 – April 10, 2022
Pictured (from left) are **Taylor Rogers '15**, **Brooke Reese '17**, bride **Rachel Taylor-Northam '16**, groom **Mitchell Northam '15** and Dr. Jennifer Cox, SU associate professor of communication.

7 Kylie (Seymour) Warholic '16 and Kyle Warholic – October 1, 2022
Pictured (from left) are **Blake Haegele**, **Mary (Jenkins) Sims '15**, **Colleen Smith**, **Cece Pyles '17 & M'20**, **Brianna Scott '17**, **Alec Knowlton '16** and **Courtney (Jantzen) Knowlton '17**.

8 Cole Ahalt '17 and **Amanda (Golden) Ahalt '17** – September 17, 2022

9 Owen Kilcullen '17 and **Julia (Morrison) Kilcullen '16** – October 15, 2022
Pictured (back from left) are **Tyler Enwright '17**, **Michael Bean '19**, **Ashley Cox '20 M'21**, **David Rueda '19**, **Freddie Raab '17**, **Alexa Ray '17**, **Yasmine Darrehmane '18**, **Joseph Hart '18**, (front from left) **Jesse Evans '14**, **Emily Montanye '23**, **Lindsay Montanye '16**, **Shannon Stephens '17**, **Mikaela Bordali '17**, **Robert L'Altrelly '17** and **Lin Dinh '17**.

10 Lucas Roy '17 and **Hannah Jacques '16** – October 29, 2022
Pictured are **Forrest Southern '17**, **Samuel Sacharczuk '17**, **Nikki Tarricone '18**, **Bradley Coon '17**, **Cory Jacques '11**, **Daniel Dall '17**, **Margaret Haigley '18**, **Kyle Leary '17**, **Chelsea Miller '17**, **Rachelann Jaffee '17** and **Courtney Sunderland '18**.

11 Taylor Beddow '18 and **Allyson (Lewis) Beddow '17** – September 10, 2022
Pictured are **Katie (Benner) Noel**, **Kellie (Benner) McGiffin '17**, **Hannah (Clarke) Morris '19**, **Grace Ruble '17**, **Ellen Ayala '17**, **Brittany (Murphy) Snell '18**, **Brittney Whitley '19**, **Fred Ondris, Jr. '18 M'19**, **Kollin Boog '20**, **Robert "Bobbie" Noonan '18**, **Kyle MacIvor '17**, **Scott Caravaggio**, **Claudia (Guay) Wilks '17**, **Rachel Lisk '17**, **Jacob Martin '17**, **Samuel Willingham '20**, **Chris Carbonetti**, **Zachary Brown '18**, **Paige Baxter '18** and **Jessica Beddow '22**.

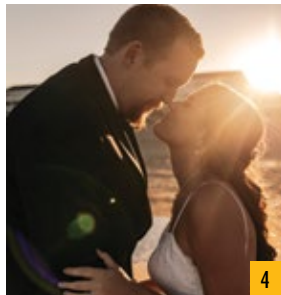
12 Jared Johnson '19 and **Haley (Weisgerber) Johnson '19** – June 4, 2022



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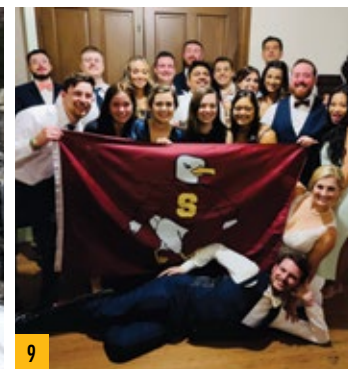
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Class Notes Submissions

SHARE YOUR LIFE EVENTS WITH US!

Share your marriage and birth announcements. Let us know about exciting new chapters in your career. Tell us about your latest gathering with other alumni.

When providing your information, please include your class year(s), maiden name (if applicable), dates and any additional information.

If providing an image, please provide a high-resolution photo (.jpg or .tif) for consideration for inclusion.

YOU CAN SUBMIT YOUR ANNOUNCEMENT ...

Via email: alumni@salisbury.edu • Online: salisbury.edu/classnotes



Check out the full Class Notes on the web:
salisbury.edu/classnotes



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alumni homecoming 2022

Gulls flew home and Sea Gull Spirit ran rampant during the 2022 Alumni Homecoming and Family Weekend

Make plans to return for Alumni Homecoming and Family Weekend October 27-29, 2023



Stay Connected

-  facebook.com/SUAlumni
-  @SUalumni
-  @SUalumni
-  linkedin.com/school/salisbury-university

SU Social:
salisbury.socialtoaster.com

Alumni Book Club:
www.pbc.guru/salisbury



SU on the Road

SU'S PRESIDENT BELIEVES IN MEETING ALUMNI WHERE THEY ARE

Through "SU on the Road," a new alumni engagement initiative announced during SU President Carolyn Ringer Lepre's inaugural State of the University address, she'll make visiting alumni around the country a priority.

"I am joining our Advancement team visiting alumni groups across the region as we continue to strengthen our alumni network, create a strong culture of philanthropy and encourage more alumni to meaningfully engage with their Alma Mater," she said. "I cannot wait to meet these members of the SU family."

SU Alumni Association events and other activities will provide her with plenty of opportunities to do so from local venues on the Eastern Shore, to regional cities like Baltimore and Philadelphia, to states including Texas and Arizona.

Recent "On The Road" stops included:

- The Front Porch
Leonardtown, MD
- Texas Live!
Arlington, TX
- Hudson Coastal Raw Bar & Grille
Fulton, MD
- Forward Brewing
Annapolis, MD
- Orioles Game at Camden Yards
Baltimore, MD
- Friends of Sea Gull Football
Annual Golf Tournament, Berlin, MD
- Phillies Game at Citizens Bank Park
Philadelphia, PA



Student Activities, Family Fun & Class Reunions

Among the weekend of reunions and gatherings, members of the Class of 1972 joined together to celebrate their 50th reunion.



Flock Party and Football Game

Alumni and families enjoyed fun games and food before settling in to watch the Sea Gulls football team defeat Rowan University.



Find out what's happening near you under the "Alumni Events" tab at: salisbury.edu/alumni



FAMILY MEMBERS OF ALUMNI: If this issue is addressed to a relative who no longer maintains an address at your home, please send the correct address to the Office of Alumni Engagement and Annual Giving at alumni@salisbury.edu.

Salisbury University has a strong institutional commitment to diversity and equal educational opportunities. To that end, the University prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex, gender, marital status, pregnancy, race, color, ethnicity, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, veteran status, or other legally protected characteristics. Direct all inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policy to the Office of Institutional Equity/Title IX Coordinator, Holloway Hall 100, 410-543-6426. Qualified students with disabilities should contact the Office of Student Disability Support Services at 410-677-6536.



Moving forward with excellence

Offering over 60 majors and graduate programs, SU ranks among the nation's top colleges and best values in *U.S. News & World Report*, Princeton Review and others. Professors are deeply invested in their students, nurturing graduate school and career possibilities. The Sea Gulls have won 23 NCAA Division III team national championships. Our 200-acre beautiful campus is located between the Atlantic Ocean and Chesapeake Bay – the perfect place to start your future.

Make Tomorrow Yours
Go to salisbury.edu/visit



95%
of new students
received some form
of financial aid



23
national team
championships



13:1
our student-to-faculty
ratio – just the right size!