MADONNA NOW
The Magazine of Madonna University

Cover Story

$250K GRANT FUNDS
FORENSIC SCIENCE RESEARCH

GRAD SCHOOL
CHANGES LIVES

Looking Ahead

MADONNA PRESIDENT
TO RETIRE IN 2015

A Legacy of Achievement
Friday, September 12, 2014
Western Golf & Country Club
Redford, Michigan

Golf with a scholar, i.e. student-athlete, dean, professor, administrator and raise funds for student scholarships!

madonna.edu/golf • 734-432-5589

Madonna University
Scholar-Am Classic
to benefit student scholarships
Presented by Urban and Maryane Hubert

Saturday, September 27
9:00 a.m.
Madonna University
36600 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia

Proceeds benefit:
Madonna University
Student Emergency Relief Fund

Register online:
madonna.edu/Crusader5K

LEXYAN BRICKS
PAVE THE PATH WITH MEMORIES

Leave your mark at Madonna with a personalized brick in the Path of the Madonna that meanders through a lovely garden in front of Kresge Hall.

8" x 8" $150
8x8 bricks include M logo at no additional cost.

8" x 8" $100 special price for new grads

4" x 8" $75

If you have questions, please call, email or stop by the Alumni Office
734-432-5811 • alumni@madonna.edu
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YOU CAN WIN PRIZES
STUDENT GROUPS CAN WIN PROCEEDS

1st prize: $1,000 cash
2nd prize: Xbox One
3rd prize: iPad
(Need not be present to win)

Proceeds benefit Crusader athletics and other student groups
Drawing: Saturday, December 13, 2014

RAFFLE TICKETS ON SALE NOW – $10 each available from student sellers, on MY Portal, at madonna.edu and in Room 1220

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WE CAN WIN!
Student Campaign for Madonna University

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The mission of Madonna University, a Catholic and Franciscan institution of higher learning, is to instill in its students Christian humanistic values, intellectual inquiry, a respect for diversity, and a commitment to serving others through a liberal arts education, integrated with career preparation and based on the truths and principles recognized within a Catholic tradition.

Madonna’s mission receives its spirit from these Franciscan Values:

- Respect for the dignity of each person
- Peace and justice
- Reverence for creation
- Education for truth and service
MADONNA University President Sister Rose Marie Kujawa, CSSF, announced at the April 23 meeting of the University’s Board of Trustees her intention to retire June 30, 2015, following her 14th year as president.

“The timing is right for me as we celebrate the completion of our $50 million comprehensive campaign and the accomplishment of several projects, including the Gold level, LEED-certified Franciscan Center for science and media. It is time for new leadership to implement several visionary plans that are in various stages of development, and to bring fresh ideas to the table,” Kujawa said.

Her plans for retirement include a sabbatical, writing an update to her book Madonna Milestones and supporting the work of the Felician Sisters in Kenya, and South America. Kujawa’s retirement announcement has set in motion the process to select and ensure a smooth transition for her successor, who will be only the seventh president of Madonna University, in its 78-year history.

The University will continue to celebrate Sr. Rose Marie’s accomplishments at various events throughout this academic year.

A Legacy of ACHIEVEMENT

Sister Rose Marie took a hands-on approach to her work as President, as is evidenced by her efforts to create distance learning degree programs and partnerships in China, Haiti and the United Arab Emirates. Last year she joined a group of nursing students and faculty members on a service-learning pilgrimage to Lourdes, France.

The following list highlights other accomplishments the University has realized under her steadfast leadership:

- Enrollment increased by ten percent
- Retention improved by eight percent
- Launch of the first doctoral program (Doctor of Nursing Practice)
- First independent university in Michigan to be awarded the Community Engagement Classification by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching
- Provided more scholarships
- First-Year Experience program was developed
- Increased opportunities for service-learning projects
- New academic programs offered
- Innovative programs delivered in Macomb and Southwest Detroit
- Expanded the study abroad program
- $40 million in capital improvements to the 97-acre campus including:
  - creation of an Athletic Complex
  - installation of “green” windows in the Residence Hall
  - classroom updates to include 21st century technology
  - new signage and landscaping
  - renovation of Graduate School suites
  - new labs: Nursing Simulation and Sign Language Studies
  - improvements and increase in science labs to facilitate more research
  - construction of Franciscan Center — LEED-certified at the Gold level — Madonna’s first stand-alone building in 40 years.
  - enhancements of media program with the latest high-definition, digital television and radio studios and editing suites
CRystal Madonna Gala
A SPARKLING SUCCESS!

Sharing the spotlight at the Crystal Madonna Gala were the presenting sponsor Ford Motor Company and bright Madonna scholars. Themed – Imagine changing someone’s life! – the event showcased how scholarships change the lives of Madonna students, as they in turn change the lives of others through their Madonna education. Held last April at the Dearborn Inn, the Gala attracted some 340 guests and raised nearly $110,000 for student scholarships.

Seven student stories were highlighted in the Gala invitations and the printed program. More than 20 student volunteers assisted with various aspects of the event and talked with donors about their Madonna experience. Sign language students interpreted the presentations, and guests were treated to a “We are the World” music video that featured students making a difference through service and education.

Adding even more sparkle to an already dazzling affair were JoAnne Purtan, Channel 7 news anchor, who enthusiastically served as emcee, and Joan Rosenhauer, executive vice president for Catholic Relief Services’ U.S. Operations, who shared powerful stories about how education and service is changing lives around the world.

Madonna Foundation Board Member and retired Ford executive Derrick Kuzak joined Sr. Rose Marie in presenting the Crystal Madonna Award for Education for Truth and Service to Jim Vella, president of The Ford Motor Company Fund, in recognition for all that The Fund does to support education and provide service in the community.

1 Channel 7 News Anchor JoAnne Purtan delighted the audience as the event emcee. 2 Foundation Board Member Derrick Kuzak and Sister Rose Marie present the Crystal Madonna Award to Jim Vella, president of the Ford Motor Company Fund. 3 Susan Rokosz, (left) with her daughter Aleksandra, and guest Denise Macker, said “Every aspect of the event was wonderful. I am so delighted that my daughter is attending Madonna and we are part of the Madonna family.” 4 Andrea Nodge, Madonna’s vice president for advancement, with Jim Vella, Ford Motor Company Fund president, and Mike Schmids, the Fund’s director of education and community development. 5 Singing as guests entered the ballroom for dinner, music management major Taylor Walls wowed them with her beautiful voice.
Nearly 1,350 graduates, joined the alumni ranks during the sixty-seventh commencement ceremony, Sunday, May 4. Among this group were 11 graduates of Madonna’s Doctor of Nursing Practice program. Just over 1,000 students received a bachelor’s or associate degree, and 315 students earned master’s degrees.

Presiding over the commencement ceremony was Associate Vice President James O’Neill, and the mace bearer was Neal Haldane, journalism program director. The invocation was given by Deborah Dunn, dean of the Graduate School, after which Carrick Secorski, vocal performance graduate, sang the National Anthem.

A few days before receiving their diplomas, some 200 graduates attended Graduation Mass, celebrated by Bishop Donald F. Hanchon, at Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Chapel. After Mass, Sister Rose Marie Kujawa hosted a reception where students and their families celebrated with faculty and friends.

1 Sign Language Interpreting Studies graduates await their cue to interpret the National Anthem. L-R: Natalie Sanborn, Stephanie Mayack, Laurie Kuhlman and Iris Haynes.

2 Accepting the Distinguished Alumna Award is Eileen Ashley ’84, Michigan Regional Managing Director of Comerica’s Wealth and Institutional Management Division and a member of the Michigan Market Leadership Team and the Michigan Management Council.

3 An honorary Doctor of Humane Letters was conferred upon Sister Mary Christopher Moore, provincial minister of Our Lady of Hope Province of the Felician Sisters of North America.
First Students Graduate from Haiti Program

Graduates who travelled the farthest for commencement were seven students from Haiti, who received a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration with a certificate in community development. Launched in 2011, Madonna’s Haiti Educational Leadership Program (HELP), is a degree completion program delivered via distance learning technology. Graduates are encouraged to use their leadership and entrepreneurial skills to create jobs and promote volunteerism that will improve families and neighborhoods in Haiti. Prior to commencement the Haitian graduates had an opportunity to meet other international students at Madonna, to talk with alumni and members of the Madonna family, and to tour Detroit.
Deborah Dunn, dean of the graduate school, assumed her role in July 2013. With little more than a year under her belt, Dunn has big plans for the graduate school.

Unique academic programs and course offerings keep the Graduate School on the cutting edge and performing solidly. Enrollment in the nurse practitioner programs remains strong along with growing enrollments in the Doctor of Nursing Practice program. Keeping pace with changes in healthcare and creating innovative programs are hallmarks of the College of Nursing and Health (CONH). Recent innovations include, an updated curriculum that prepares students to be eligible to become board certified as Adult-Gerontology Acute Care and Adult Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioners. Additionally, the CONH is the only school in Michigan where nurse practitioner students can become prepared to qualify for dual certification as a nurse practitioner and as an advanced certified hospice and palliative nurse (ACHPN).

Dunn, her staff and the Graduate School faculty are collaborating and moving full-speed ahead to transform graduate programs and optimize the student experience. Building on its strong foundation, Dunn said everything comes back to understanding the mission of Madonna and its Franciscan values. Service, in particular, drives her passion for leading the graduate school forward.

To achieve its goals of an enhanced graduate experience and a student-centered learning community, the Graduate School team will improve and develop academic programs, implement outreach efforts and expand student support services.

Graduate students can look forward to the following exciting changes coming to the Graduate School:

**NEW PROGRAMS**

Building on Madonna’s rich tradition of exemplary teacher education, the Graduate School recently launched the Master of Arts in Higher Education and Student Affairs (HESA). The program is designed to prepare students to work as administrative professionals and leaders at colleges and universities, in areas such as student affairs, academic affairs and other functional service areas of an institution.

Since many of the HESA graduate students are working in higher education, they are finding that the program’s focus on real-time learning helps them to meet challenges they encounter on a daily basis and prepares them to be leaders that can make a difference in optimizing the educational experience of college students. “What graduate students learn today, they can apply at work tomorrow,”
said Dunn. “If you learn about a new advising technique, you’ll be able to go into the office the next day and improve upon your current practice.” The HESA program integrates theory and practice and provides students with a foundation in the literature, skills, and habits of scholarship related to:

- The development of contemporary college students
- How administration and leadership can create effective academic and student service environments
- How student learning can be enhanced both in and out of the classroom
- How all these understandings can be applied to the design of educational practice

Another new and innovative graduate program is the post-bachelor’s certificate in Effective Inclusionary Practices. This certificate prepares the certified general education teacher with evidence-based knowledge and skills necessary to meet the needs of students with disabilities in the general education classroom. Learn more about these programs and others at madonna.edu/grad

OUTREACH AND RESEARCH
To enhance outreach efforts of the Graduate School, a new app for mobile phones is under development with an anticipated launch in the upcoming academic year. “This app will make it easier for students to stay connected on a platform they have with them all the time — their cell phone. Instead of printing out or consulting paper schedules, students will be able to pull up their class schedule details on their phones,” Dunn said.

In addition, there are plans to offer a free graduate student lecture series aimed at enhancing students’ skills for success in graduate school and their careers. The Graduate School and Center for Research also are collaborating on the development of an Institutional Symposium for Research, Scholarship and Creativity. The event will provide undergraduate, graduate students and faculty an opportunity to share their research, creative endeavors and professional learning experiences with the University and wider community. The free lecture series and annual conference are exciting steps toward building a well-connected, graduate student, learning community and enriched student experience at Madonna.

STUDENT SERVICES AND SUPPORT
Faculty members play a key role in supporting graduate students, not only in the classroom, but also outside the classroom; meeting with students and mentoring them to be successful in their chosen discipline. “Our faculty members really connect with their students; they know what it’s like to work full- or part-time and attend graduate school. Our professors are experts who have worked in the industry in which they teach, or in the case of our nurse practitioner faculty — maintain an active clinical practice while teaching. This is the Madonna difference students so appreciate — faculty who are credible, current, and experts in their field,” said Dunn.

Madonna University faculty participate in ongoing professional development programs that refresh and extend their teaching skills, learn the latest instructional practices, enhance their mentorship skills, and support their service work with students. “That is how we foster positive student and faculty relationships,” said Dunn, “Our students value the personal, professional interactions they have with faculty. And the faculty love working with students.”

Dunn also wants to establish, in the near future, a fully integrated orientation program for all incoming graduate students. With so many different programs, she feels networking across all disciplines is an added student benefit that builds a sense of community and prepares students with strong collaboration skills that are vital to excelling in the workplace.

Under Dean Dunn’s passionate leadership and philosophy of collaboration, Madonna’s Graduate School will continue to distinguish itself and appeal to prospective and current students alike. •

Opposite page: Donna Bryden, coordinator for the Graduate School & Research, and Dean Deborah Dunn review July student graduation audits.
Cleamon Moorer Jr., former associate professor of management at Dominican University in River Forest, IL, has been appointed dean of Madonna’s School of Business, effective June 16.

Moorer taught at Dominican from 2009 to 2013, while working on initiatives for the Center for Peace through Global Commerce, and helping the school achieve AACSB accreditation. During the 2013 – ’14 academic year, he returned to his alma mater, Kettering University in Flint, Mich., to teach courses in strategic management, managing organizations and international business.

Prior to his work at Dominican, Moorer spent five years as an adjunct and then an assistant professor at Saint Xavier University in Chicago, and a year as director of the Small Business Institute at Trinity Christian College in Palos Heights, Ill.

“Dr. Moorer brings a commitment to quality and academic entrepreneurship to his role as dean of the School of Business,” said Ernest Nolan, provost and vice president for academic administration. “He has a vision for addressing the needs of the southeastern Michigan business community through innovative academic programs, research and consultation services that will support economic development.”

The energetic new dean is enthusiastic about his new role. “Madonna is on the move, which is one of the reasons I was attracted to the school,” Moorer said. “I am impressed by its international programs and its student-centered focus.”

In 2004, Moorer earned a Doctorate of Business Administration from Argosy University in Schaumburg, Ill. He serves on the Board of Directors for GEI Global Energy Corp., a fuel cell electric power generation company, and is a member of the Christian Business Faculty Association, and a consultant with the Organizational Development Institute.

In addition to publishing several peer-reviewed journal articles, Moorer authored the best-selling memoir, *From Failure to Promise: An Uncommon Path to Professoriate*. His goal in writing about his trials and tribulations was to help students and educators to reach their full potential.

Moorer resides in Rochester Hills with his wife and four sons.
Kathleen M. Edelmayer, chair of Madonna University’s Department of Communication and Writing, has been appointed Dean of the College of Arts and Humanities, effective July 1.

In her new role, Edelmayer will be responsible for policy and academic program development and delivery, as well as for promoting faculty professional development and academic leadership among students.

“A passionate advocate for the relevance of liberal arts education in a world of high tech and unrelenting change, Dr. Kathleen Edelmayer is a seasoned leader who is well prepared to position the Madonna University College of Arts and Humanities for the next several decades of the twenty-first century,” said Nolan. “A doctoral specialty in rhetoric and communication provides her with special insight into the public discourse on the value of the foundational skills of critical thinking and interpersonal communication that are associated with the liberal arts. She articulates how these skills and habits of mind are essential for both the personal and career success of college graduates.”

Deborah Vargo has been hired as dean of Madonna University’s College of Nursing and Health, effective July 1, 2014.

Vargo comes to Madonna from Lourdes University in Sylvania, Ohio, where she was director of the Master of Science in Nursing program and associate professor. She began her career at Lourdes as an instructor in the nursing program in 1995, and continued to earn promotions to assistant professor, associate chairperson, associate professor and graduate program director. Vargo earned a Ph.D. in nursing at the University of Akron, a Master of Science in Nursing from the Medical College of Ohio at Toledo, and bachelor’s degree at the University of Toledo.

“Dr. Deborah Vargo brings an impressive background in higher education, nursing practice, and professional involvement to her role as Dean of the College of Nursing and Health,” said Nolan. “Identified by her colleagues as a leader with vision, Dr. Vargo is equipped to ensure that nursing education is sensitive to the changes that are on the horizon with the implementation of health reform and is responsive to the challenges faced by the health industry in a recovering economy.”

An award-winning faculty member, Vargo brings a wealth of experience in both undergraduate and graduate nursing program and curriculum development. She also has expertise in nurse education, leadership and anesthesia, as well as community outreach and infection control. A consultant on numerous nursing education projects, Vargo holds licenses and certifications in Ohio and Michigan, and she has published several articles, and delivered many presentations.

Vargo resides in Toledo, Ohio with her husband. When she is not working, Vargo enjoys gardening and traveling, especially to visit her daughter Sara, an attorney in the Washington D.C. area.
A Tale of Two Degrees
Sign Language Studies to Offer Dual Degree Program

At a special agreement signing the presidents of Madonna University and Schoolcraft College announced a unique dual degree program in Sign Language Studies.

Beginning Fall semester 2014, students majoring in Sign Language Studies will be able to attend both schools at the same time and use their financial aid at both institutions.

As the program’s name suggests, students will earn two degrees: an associate in applied science from Schoolcraft after two years of successful study, and a bachelor’s degree in either interpreting studies or deaf community studies from Madonna after two additional years of successful study.

Dan McDougall, director of Madonna’s Sign Language Studies program explained how this innovative partnership will save students time and money. “Our very specific Plan of Study outlines which classes students will take at each school: general education requirements will be taken at Schoolcraft and sign language courses will be taught at Madonna, which will save students thousands in tuition costs. Additionally, by meeting with their advisor on a regular basis, students can ensure they stay on track to complete their degree in four years, so they can start their careers in a timely fashion.”

According to McDougall, the demand for interpreters for the deaf and hard of hearing in Michigan, will continue to grow over the next 20 years, based on a 2006 study by the Division on Deaf and Hard of Hearing. He also noted that a bachelor’s degree is now required for new applicants to apply for national interpreting certification.

Madonna boasts Michigan’s first and longest-running bachelor’s degree program in sign language, and it is also the only Michigan school that offers more than one bachelor’s degree related to sign language. American Sign Language courses are taught by culturally-Deaf instructors, in a new, state-of-the-art visual language lab and classrooms.

Grant helps to launch program for teachers of deaf children

Madonna University has been awarded a $30,000 grant from the Community Foundation for Southeastern Michigan. The funds will be used to create a graduate-level endorsement and master’s degree program that will prepare teachers to educate deaf children. This is the first program in Michigan to offer this level of specialized instruction.

The Madonna University deaf education program will qualify students for teacher certification with an endorsement in teaching the hearing impaired. The distinctive feature of the program will be its foundation in a bilingual and bicultural approach based on fluency in American Sign Language. At the master’s level, in-service teachers also will have the opportunity to earn deaf education endorsement and to complete professional development.

For many years, Madonna University has been an educational leader in the deaf community. The University’s reputation for excellence in teacher preparation, combined with its history of supporting the deaf community, positions it well to develop a program that meets the requirements of the State of Michigan and the unique needs of this very special population.
PEOPLE PRAISES

Madonna Director Receives National Award

For his commitment to the Madonna University and Detroit communities, Bryant George was awarded a BMe Leadership Award, which included a check for $10,000. As director of Madonna’s Bridging Lost Gaps (BLG) program, George once again demonstrated his passion for his alma mater by donating the cash to support the program he has worked so hard to build.

George’s gift will go a long way toward recruiting more students to the BLG program, and providing much-needed resources to current participants.

“I am honored to serve both Madonna University and my hometown Detroit,” said George, “Madonna is a hidden gem. It’s a wonderful institution.”

The inspiration to create the BLG program came from George’s experiences while pursuing a four-year degree. He identifies himself as having been an at-risk, African American male student when he came to campus to begin his college experience. George credits the Real Life 101 mentorship as well as the academic services he received at Madonna for providing the motivation and support he needed to finish his degree requirements in four years.

Through the BLG experience, young African American men from Detroit are prepared for success in college and life after graduation. In addition to recruitment, the program offers participants academic and career development, mentoring, and community service opportunities while earning their degrees.

The BMe Community is a non-profit organization that helps build caring and prosperous communities inspired by black men. Each year, the BMe Community selects 10 black men from Baltimore, Detroit, and Philadelphia for the impact they have on their community. The BMe Community is comprised of a dynamic mix of people and organizations with over 6,000 members, local businesses, nonprofits, and government leaders.

Music Prof. in the Running for GRAMMY Award

A total of 222 music teachers from 208 cities across 41 states have been announced as quarterfinalists for the second annual Music Educator Award presented by The Recording Academy and the GRAMMY Foundation. Madonna University Music Professor Linette Popoff-Parks, of Plymouth, is one of nine Michigan educators named as quarterfinalists. In total, more than 7,000 nominations were submitted from across 50 states.

The Music Educator Award was established to recognize current educators (kindergarten through college, public and private schools) who have made a significant and lasting contribution to the field of music education and who demonstrate a commitment to the broader cause of maintaining music education in the schools.

Popoff-Parks, an accomplished pianist, has been teaching at Madonna University for 34 years. She has served as chairperson for the Music Department since 1995. She was instrumental in establishing a major in Film Scoring, the only one in the state, at Madonna. She is a tireless advocate for fellow music faculty members, and she goes above and beyond to support and showcase the talents of Madonna students majoring in the many different music programs offered at the University. She received two awards for teaching at Madonna University: The Faculty Excellence Award in 1992; and the Faculty Excellence Award for Teaching Effectiveness and Innovation in 2003.

One recipient will be selected from 10 finalists and will be recognized for his/her remarkable impact on students’ lives. The winner will be flown to Los Angeles to accept the award, attend the GRAMMY Awards ceremony and receive a $10,000 honorarium. The nine finalists will each receive a $1,000 honorarium and the schools of all 10 finalists will receive matching grants. The honorariums and grants provided to the finalists and schools are made possible by the generosity and support of the GRAMMY Foundation’s Education Champions Converse, Disney Performing Arts, Ford Motor Company Fund, and Journeys.

This award will be presented at the Special Merit Awards Ceremony and Nominees Reception during GRAMMY Week 2015.
FORENSIC SCIENCE RESEARCH AT MADONNA GETS FEDERAL FUNDING

A bloody fingerprint found at the scene of a crime could be the evidence police detectives need to solve the case, but sometimes the process for lifting and enhancing the print can destroy the crucial and delicate evidence. This challenge is what led Jessica Zarate to research and develop a new way to lift, enhance, and preserve bloody impressions.
Typically, to collect latent fingerprints left at a scene, a forensic scientist or police officer dusts the impression with a powder then lifts it with a tape. But the process is not so simple when blood is introduced to the print, Zarate said.

“For blood-impression evidence, before I developed this lifting strip, there was no product to do that,” Zarate said. “So objects with bloody impressions had to be physically removed and brought back to the lab to be processed using chemical enhancement techniques.”

That can be very difficult when the print is attached to a large, bulky, or immovable object.

Zarate, a forensic science faculty member at Madonna University, pioneered and patented her technique, and the Zar-Pro lifting strips are now being used by law enforcement agencies in the United States and internationally.

In 2009, with funding from a Midwest Forensic Science Research Center Grant, Zarate researched and validated the lifting strip, in collaboration with the Michigan State Police Forensic Science Division, while she was a Madonna student.

Zarate, Forensic Science Director Jodi Lynn Barta and faculty member Wilson Muse recently received a $250,000 two-year grant from the National Institute of Justice to further forensic science research in this area.

With money from the grant, the researchers from Madonna University hope to develop a spray that offers a simple, timely, cost effective and nontoxic method to aid in the detection of bloody impression evidence while fluorogenically enhancing, and preserving bloody and other proteinaceous impressions, as well as vital DNA evidence. The methods developed during this project will enable forensic scientists to recover the fingerprint and the DNA from both the victim’s blood and any skin cells that may have been left behind by the perpetrator.

“This is the first major research grant for Madonna,” said Sister Rose Marie Kujawa, president. “I believe it is a testament to the depth of our faculty’s experience in forensic science, as well as our state-of-the-art science labs. The results of this research have the potential to significantly enhance how crime scene evidence is collected, and that’s exciting.”

Zarate received a bachelor of education and human services degree in criminal justice with a minor in forensic science from Ferris State University and a bachelor of science in biology with a minor in chemistry from Madonna University. She earned a master’s in forensic science from National University with a specialization in criminal investigations.

Learn more about Madonna University’s outstanding science programs, plus over 100 undergrad and 30 graduate programs at madonna.edu.

Jessica Zarate, a faculty member and researcher at Madonna University, uses a fluorescent light to look at an impression of a handprint that was lifted and enhanced using a method she developed.
Student dreams of international travel become reality through Madonna’s Center for Study Abroad. Opportunities abound for them to venture off common campus ground to new worlds.

Cathleen Andonian, the Center’s director, described the impact traveling has on a student’s life as ineffable. According to her, study abroad is a magical experience that offers students a view of the world from a unique perspective. “What an adventure,” said Andonian. “It’s life-changing.”

A common misconception is that study abroad trips are unaffordable. Not so, said Andonian. Each program is tailor-made to fit the students’ academic needs, fulfilling the goals of up to two general elective courses. Course tuition is one-third the cost for on-campus or online classes. This reduction leaves room for financial aid to help fund the cost of the trip.

Madonna students have an array of affordable programs from which to choose. Whether they’re studying biology while immersed in the waters of the Galapagos...
Islands, or learning business trade tips and enjoying city life in London, the Center for Study Abroad will find a way to accommodate students’ interests.

Study abroad trips vary in duration, including abbreviated programs during alternative Spring Break, and extensive trips that last a full semester or a year.

Nursing student Rocio Escutia traveled the Spanish quarters during her study abroad trip to Spain. She visited historical palaces and cathedrals while gaining intercultural growth. She said that visiting Spain made her a better-rounded person with a greater understanding of how diverse the world is.

“Experience is the whole point of study abroad,” said Escutia. “You meet new people, eat foods you normally would never eat, and actually live the way that these people live.”

Mariah Wiesner, pre-veterinary major, traveled abroad to Poland and Spain with Madonna University. She said the trips gave her the freedom to make her own decisions while in a foreign land — something you can’t learn in the classroom.

“Studying abroad is mysterious and rewarding at the same time,” said Wiesner. “You’re navigating these foreign countries by your own means, which results in independence. That’s something you can’t be taught.”

Wiesner, who plans to make the 2015 trip to the Galapagos Islands, said that study abroad changed her perspective on life, and she recommends that students who are contemplating a program should just go for it.

“You won’t regret it,” said Wiesner. “It’s a remarkable experience, and the friendships, memories, and knowledge gained are priceless.”

For more information on upcoming study abroad programs, contact Cathleen Andonian at 734-432-5669 or visit madonna.edu.
1970s

Thomas Jankowski '76 (fire protection and safety) retired as assistant fire chief from the Wyandotte Fire Department. Jankowski also served as director of The Michigan Association of Fire Fighters (MAFF). He is actively involved in Kiwanis International, Wayne State University advisory panel for the Institute of Gerontology and BASF in Wyandotte. “Madonna just clicked for me, it made me a better student,” said Jankowski.

Phillip Ludos '76 (criminal justice) is the St. Clair Shores city manager. Ludos previously was responsible for overseeing public safety operations as the assistant city manager in Saginaw, Mich. Ludos has served in the public safety field for over 40 years.

1980s

Thomas Karnes ‘80 (criminal justice) is mayor of Lincoln Park, Mich. Karnes previously served as chief of police for Lincoln Park and had been with the department for over 31 years. Karnes is president-elect of the National Exchange Club, a member of the Sons of the American Legion, Robert Jones Knights of Columbus, and Fraternal Order of Eagles-Lincoln Park Aerie. Karnes’ daughter Sarah is a 2006 criminal justice alumna.

Carl Wilson ’85 (computer information systems) is information technology director of Dow Chemical Employees’ Credit Union (DCECU), Midland, Mich. Wilson is responsible for managing DCECU’s enterprise information services and security and for developing programs and strategies to address their evolving technology needs.

1990s

Liysa (Croll) Callsen ‘94 (legal assistant) is an inspirational comedic speaker and author of Tell ‘em, a memoir of a girl whose first language was not the spoken word. Callsen shares her journey of being a child of deaf parents with American Sign Language as her first language. Her speaking engagements use stories, improvisation, audience participation, and tips to give the audience a fresh perspective on life’s obstacles. “Madonna was a great place for me, many of the classes I look back on are still with me,” said Callsen.

Christina Struwe ‘95 (management) was named one of the Top Ten Business Women of the Year by the American Business Women’s Association (ABWA), a national program that honors 10 outstanding members for achieving excellence in their careers. Struwe was nominated by her peers in the Novi Oaks Chapter in Michigan for her professional accomplishments, education, community service, and her ABWA participation. Struwe is the assistant vice president, government banking relationship manager for Huntington Bank, where she is responsible for cultivating relationships and serving the banking needs of government entities.

Timothy MacArthur ’98 (psychology) an Army Reservist Judge Advocate General’s Corps attorney has joined Tully Rinckey PLLC military law practice group in Washington D.C. Previously MacArthur was the Deputy Staff Judge Advocate for Joint Task Force-Guantanamo at the U.S. Naval Station in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, where he oversaw legal aspects of detention operations and supervised daily operations of the largest deployed Joint Staff Judge Advocate Office in the United States Armed Forces. He currently holds the rank of major.

Kenneth Van Sparrentak ’98 (fire science) is fire chief of Lyon Township, Mich. Prior to his new position, Van Sparrentak served as fire chief for Walled Lake Fire Department. "Madonna's fire science faculty taught me the importance of critical thinking..."
and opened my eyes to the value of courses outside of my core learning,” said Van Sparrentak. In addition to his full-time position, Van Sparrentak is a faculty member for the firefighter technology and homeland security programs at Oakland Community College.

**2000s**

**Brenda Ozog ’01** (psychology) is a family service worker for Stottlemeyer Head Start in the Wayne-Westland school district where she helps families rebuild their lives by providing counseling, financial resources and educational activities. Ozog has spent over 10 years with Wayne County Human Services in the area or juvenile detention, child protective services, and served six years as department manager. “I wanted to be in a Catholic environment and Madonna was a very comfortable and rewarding place,” said Ozog.

**Charlie Henry ’09** (journalism and public relations) is named director of player development for Iowa State University (ISU) men’s basketball. Previously, Henry was ISU’s graduate assistant in charge of video editing. Prior to ISU, Henry was a graduate manager for University of Utah and a staff member for the Indiana Pacers.

**Sara Simnitch ’11** (broadcast and cinema arts) is co-anchor of “Michigan this Morning” on Northern Michigan’s WFOX-TV FOX 32 & WWTV/WWUP-TV 9&10 News. Previously she held the position of evening news anchor and general assignment reporter. Simnitch has been awarded two Michigan Associated Press Awards for Best Continuing Coverage, and Best Hard News. At Madonna, Simnitch played on the woman’s golf team. “Madonna’s Broadcast and Cinema Arts program is amazing, the state-of-the-art equipment was so helpful, truly I would be lost without all the resources and tools I learned to use in the program,” said Simnitch.

**Brittany (Edgerton) Adams ’11** (sign language studies) teaches American Sign Language (ASL) 1 & 2 at Lapeer East High School. Adams is working on a certification for an ASL endorsement. She received local news recognition for putting together a flash mob with her ASL students; the song “Cups”, by Anna Kendrick was interpreted using ASL. Adams said, “The professors in the Sign Language Studies program at Madonna were amazing and they still impact how I teach today.”

**Colleen Barnes ’12** (nursing) is the nurse manager at Care Response Home Care, Ann Arbor, Mich., specializing in private duty home health care. Barnes manages client care plans, supervises home health aides and certified nursing assistants, trains new employees, and collaborates with physicians and other healthcare professionals. She decided to go into private duty care after making one of the first Madonna pilgrimages to Lourdes, France. She recalls her trip to Lourdes as “an incredible spiritual, physical and emotional experience, it made me interested in caring for the elderly and getting to truly know my patients!”

**Samantha Lewis ’12** (merchandising management) is designer and owner of the jewelry line Samantha Originals. Lewis recently participated in the Grand Rapids ArtPrize. At the Civic Theater in Grand Rapids, Lewis showcased her collection created to match the theme of the movie The Giver. “Madonna University has such a well-rounded program in merchandising and I felt it touched so much more than just fashion,” said Lewis. Her jewelry line is available online and at Merri-Craft Florist in Livonia.

**Rachelle Butts ’10** (MBA) is named director of admissions for the DeVos Graduate School of Management at Northwood University, Midland, Mich. Butts works with the admissions staff on recruitment across all three campuses in Florida, Michigan, and Texas. She has experience in both for-profit and nonprofit university systems. Her most recent assignment was campus director with Wright Career College in Overland Park, Kansas, with oversight of academics, financial aid, admissions, corporate sales, operations and career services placement.

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**Sandy (Prebenda) O’Shaughnessy ’13** (master’s pastoral ministry) is co-founder of Good Mourning Ministry (GMM) with her husband John. GMM is a Catholic bereavement apostolate in Plymouth, Mich. The O’Shaughnessys developed five-week & weekend workshops called Grieving with Great Hope. They equip others with the tools for prayerful, practical and personal grief support. Sandy is the religious education coordinator at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church, Plymouth, Mich. “I had such a wonderful experience at Madonna, my professors were amazing, and the program helped me feel closer to my faith,” said O’Shaughnessy.
Shannon Serrico '13 (master’s business administration) is Symphony project coordinator at St. John Health System, Madison Heights, Mich.

Symphony is the development of new business processes in finance, work life services, and supply chain management, that will go live in September of 2014. “I found that the best experiences I had at Madonna were through group projects and discussions. I enjoyed the challenging courses which gave me the opportunity to think outside the box in developing project plans,” said Serrico.

Anthony Szuminski '13 (hospitality management) is the front desk/guest service agent at Beaver Creek Ski Resort, Avon Colorado. Szuminski is responsible for a variety of guest services including reservations, transportation, rental opportunities and customer relations. In his free time, Szuminski enjoys snowboarding.

Fr. Jefferson Mark Thompson ’13 (master’s Catholic leadership studies) is president of St. Michael’s College School (SMCS) in Toronto, Canada. SMCS was founded in 1852 by the Basilian Fathers, and is Ontario’s only independent Catholic school for young men. Prior to SMCS, Fr. Thompson was the President of Detroit Catholic Central High School in Novi, Mich. “The program at Madonna helped me develop leadership qualities and skills that were very helpful in what I am doing today,” said Fr. Thompson.

Correction: Joanne Mathias ’71 (history) retired from State of Georgia Public Schools. Mathias taught middle and high school in both Michigan and Georgia for 40 years.

After graduating from Lourdes High School in River Rouge, Patricia Gerstner wanted very much to further her education and earn a college degree. Unfortunately, her parents were not in a financial position to help her pursue her goal. Gerstner, therefore, went to work at Michigan Bell in Detroit. Her determination to go to college never waned and, at age 25, having put money aside, she enrolled part-time at Wayne State University while continuing at Bell. A few years later, she left the telephone company and became a full-time student and completed her bachelor’s degree in business education and social studies. Gerstner went on to obtain a masters’ degree from Eastern Michigan in secondary education. Her efforts paid off. She was hired at Ecorse High School where she taught business courses for 23 years.

Teaching brought a great deal of satisfaction to Gerstner. Her experience of 14 years at the phone company, along with her college education meant she had knowledge she could share. For several years, she also taught adult education courses at Ecorse High School. Gerstner recalled visiting her cousins in Scotland in the 80s. When they introduced her to some friends, they said with great pride in their voices, “This is our cousin, Pat. She is from America and she is a teacher.” She was honored.

Thanks to an endowed scholarship Gerstner established at Madonna University, her generosity will continue to help future students for many years to come.

“It directed the scholarship to be awarded to women above the age of 25 who are attending Madonna either full- or part-time,” Gerstner said. “I did not designate a particular major for the scholarship recipient. I think that a student at that age knows what she wants to do and will be successful in completing her degree as long as she has the funds. I hope to continue to donate to my scholarship each year.”

When asked how she had chosen Madonna University to establish this scholarship, Gerstner said that an acquaintance Paul Bodrie, a professor at Madonna, suggested she visit Madonna and become aware of what it had to offer. Also, having attended Catholic schools and been actively involved in her church, which to her dismay closed, she wanted her investment to support a Catholic institution.

LEAVE A LEGACY

In addition to her scholarship, Gerstner has chosen to entrust her legacy to Madonna University by setting up a trust. It is a gift that provides opportunity and will build a successful academic future for students and for Madonna. Make plans now to leave your legacy and watch the good your gift can do. For planned giving information, contact Dean Adkins at 734-432-5856 or dadkins@madonna.edu
2013 Outstanding Young Alumni Award
Darrel P. Quinn, business administration ’08
A financial advisor with Edward Jones Investments, Quinn owns and operates a brokerage office in Livonia. He has received numerous awards for entrepreneurship. He manages $30 million of assets, and achieves a client satisfaction level in the top five percent of the firm. As captain of Madonna’s men’s soccer team (’04-’07), Quinn led the team to the first NAIA National Tournament for a Madonna men’s team. He still plays as a forward with the Detroit Waza Flo in the Professional Arena Soccer League. An active Madonna alumnus, he serves on the Alumni Council, event committees, and as sponsor of University events.

2013 Alumni Professional Achievement Award
Susan Floyd Voyles, English and journalism ’86
Voyles’ career in communications spans more than 25 years, during which she has served non-profits, human services organizations, colleges and universities. She founded a full-service public relations and marketing firm, Logos Communications, in 1991, and her clients represent such diverse industries as hospitality, law and education. Voyles has earned many honors for her professional achievements, including five national Clarion Awards from the Association for Women in Communications. Her company provides pro bono work to the St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Center in Detroit. She is a member of the Society for Human Resource Management and serves on the Madonna University Foundation Board.

2013 Exemplary Alumni Franciscan Values Award
Daniel P. Centers, elementary education ’07
An Eagle Scout who has combined his education, passion, and commitment to community to reflect the Franciscan values, Centers serves as a local executive for the Boy Scouts of America. He developed a long-term strategic vision and plan for the district, created a targeted marketing membership campaign, and co-manages approximately 2,000 volunteers, who serve more than 5,000 youth. He strives daily to make a positive impact on the lives of young people by facilitating experiences that foster life-long development. He also is an advocate for literacy and a member of the West Oaks Civitan Club, which provides service to individuals with developmental disabilities.

For a 2014-2015 award application, contact the Alumni Office at 734-432-5811 or alumni@madonna.edu
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ANDREA NODGE ’84
Alumna | Vice President for Advancement

When Andrea Nodge and her family moved to Livonia in 1983 for her husband’s job, she wanted to find a college to complete her bachelor’s degree. “When I walked into Madonna College, it was a perfect match. While completing her degree in journalism and public relations, she worked as a co-op student in the Advancement Office; the beginning of a long-lasting relationship.

Nodge came to Madonna because of its convenient location, but she stayed because of its wonderful people. “A major influence, Sister Jacqueline Anderson taught several of my journalism courses and always encouraged me. Sr. M. Lauriana hired me after graduation and was my boss for 18 years. She nurtured my desire to work in fundraising and showed me how to go about it.”

Privileged to have worked for two dynamic presidents — Sister Francilene and Sister Rose Marie — Nodge expressed great respect for their vision and dedication. “And although I didn’t work for Sr. Danatha when she was president, I worked with her later and marveled at her planned-giving prowess.”

“One my supportive academic advisor, Ernest Nolan eventually became a trusted colleague, who I appreciate and admire.”

Nodge loves her work and the many benefactors “who support Madonna because, like her, they believe in the Felician Sisters and the University’s future.

She wants other students to enjoy the same opportunities she did. “That is why my husband and I established the Nodge Family Endowed Scholarship and we continue to support Madonna in other ways.

ERNEST NOLAN
Provost | Vice President for Academic Administration

In 1976, after teaching in Iran for a year, Ernest Nolan came to Madonna most interested in fulfilling his dream of working at a small private college. As a young academic, he was almost immediately impressed and inspired by the Felician Sisters’ commitment to social justice and their generosity of spirit, in terms of giving back to society the fruits of their talent and dedication. “It tapped into my own values orientation. My work at Madonna had more meaning because it was conducted in the context of a mission of service and a values-based educational model.”

Nolan has enjoyed a long career at Madonna because he is passionate about the important social function of the University — that of giving educational access to individuals who were, for the most part, the first generation of their families to pursue higher education. “Madonna’s character has been deeply influenced by the fact that it was founded to provide the opportunity to earn a college degree to the daughters of immigrant families drawn to Detroit’s auto industry.”

A dedicated academic leader, Nolan has continued to work at Madonna for 38 years, “because the mission and values proposition haven’t changed over time,” he said. “In fact, each of my administrative positions has given me more opportunities to contribute to the good work of the University.”

Looking back on his professional career, he reflected on his legacy of service. “I feel confident I made a difference in the experience of our students and their subsequent lives.”

This feature page will appear at the end of each edition of the Madonna Now magazine. Why Madonna highlights students, faculty, staff members, alumni and benefactors, and the reasons they attend, work for, give to, volunteer at, and love Madonna University. If you know of someone who should appear on this page, please provide their contact information to Karen Sanborn at 734-432-5843 or ksanborn@madonna.edu.
Dylan’s grandparents raised him while his single dad worked days and battled alcoholism nights. During his senior year in high school, Dylan’s world was turned upside down as the three most influential people in his life passed away in the course of six weeks. With the support of teachers and friends, Dylan turned tragedy into triumph by excelling at Madonna, while working two jobs. A Madonna student ambassador, he mentors eighth graders about college as a way to thank those who provided his scholarship. “You changed my life.”

Dylan C. – business major

Between the ages of 12 and 14 Desmond got involved with gangs, but turned his life around when his mom sent him to Cass Tech High School. He earned a scholarship to Madonna, where he continues to grow intellectually and spiritually. A grateful student and preacher, Desmond uses God’s word to help change the lives of others, and to fight against poverty, crime and racism. “Thank you for investing in a hometown Detroit student people considered to be at risk. My scholarship takes away the stress and worry about how I am going to pay for school.”

Desmond T. – sociology major and political science minor

The first in her family to attend college, Brittany hopes to set an example and to inspire her younger siblings. The proud mom, of a one-year-old, dreams of performing with the New York Metropolitan Opera. She juggles family, performing, work and school. “The exciting opportunities I have had at Madonna, were available only because of my scholarship. I want to teach my daughter the importance of an education and that anything is possible. Earning my degree will help provide a better life for her and my family.”

Brittany D. – vocal performance and music education major