

first

THE MAGAZINE
OF CARROLL UNIVERSITY
SPRING 2022

Honorary Captains

For These Faculty, it's All
About the Teamwork

The Power of One

Alumni Referral Program
Pays it Forward

GERT'S TEACHINGS

Carroll's Unofficial Grandma
Truly Exemplified Our Ethos





Below the surface

Kentarius Braxton of the Carroll men's swimming and diving team makes a turn during practice at the Van Male Natatorium. *Photo credit: Andrew Feller*



first

FIRST Magazine tells the stories of pioneers, of Wisconsin's first university and of the resolute, creative and fearless men and women who push it forward—the alumni, students, faculty and staff of Carroll University—through truly pioneering content and design.

Carroll University is Wisconsin's first four-year institution of higher learning. This independent, co-educational comprehensive university is grounded in the Presbyterian heritage and liberal arts tradition. The Office of Marketing and Communications publishes **FIRST** for alumni, faculty, staff, students and friends of the university. The opinions expressed do not necessarily represent the opinions of the editors or the official policies of Carroll University. We welcome your comments to editor@carrollu.edu



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Please recycle this magazine.

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On the cover

Gert Ullsperger left a legacy of love and service. See pages 10-11. Cover art by Lennis Mathews.



The Enduring Carroll Ethos

This past January, the Carroll community mourned the loss of our beloved Gert Ullsperger. The outpouring of grief was far and wide, befitting of a person who embodied everything Carroll stands for, our ethos: respect, integrity and stewardship.

When we speak about the Carroll ethos, there is no better person who represented that than Gert. She was the honorary grandmother of our university, who respected every person who walked through the doors of the dining hall named after her in 2018. Gert was a living example of integrity, and a person who offered her best self to everyone, every day. She lived an extraordinary life and left an indelible mark on all of our hearts. She was a steward of this university, and for 56 years we cherished her smile and hugs. Now, we will cherish her legacy.

The 2022 spring edition of FIRST is steeped in telling the stories of those who, like Gert, beautifully represent our ethos. We start with the stories of two current students, Anika King and Emily Suiter, who both sprang into action to help the victims of the Waukesha Holiday Parade tragedy. Their stories are not only inspirational, but also demonstrate how the ethos is visible in the actions of our students.

Respect, the first tenet of the ethos, is reciprocal and valued in the relationships between our faculty and students. It is evident in a program we recently launched, in which faculty serve as honorary captains for athletic teams to better integrate academics and sports. The program allows our faculty to further their support of students outside the classroom, and to engage with them on another level.

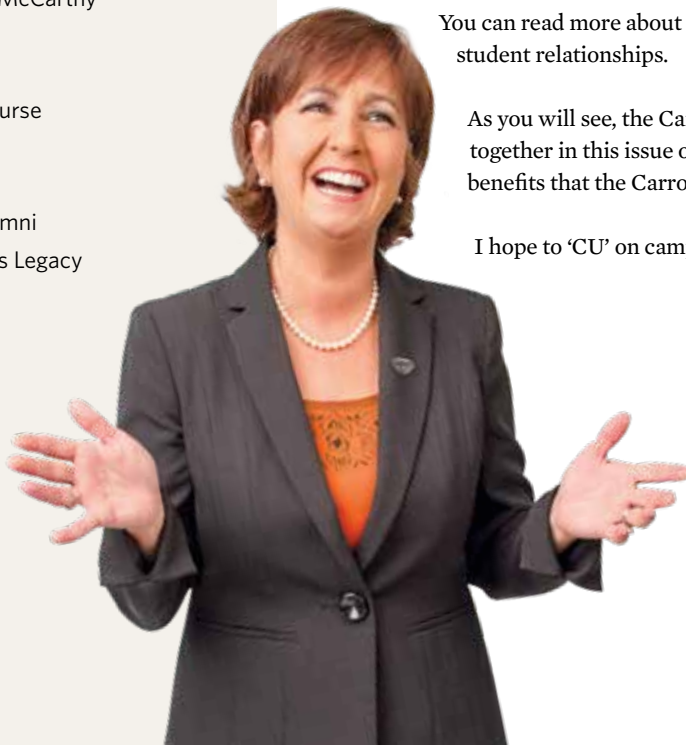
Integrity, the second tenet, is shown in one of our new professional development credential offerings: community-centered public safety. This offering is an opportunity for participants to learn how to work together to build safe neighborhoods through community partnerships, reestablishing trust in law enforcement, and helping other community members practice compassion, honesty and fairness.

The third tenet, stewardship, is ever present in our alumni, who have graciously become brand ambassadors for our Alumni Referral Program. We are grateful for their influence in the lives of students who have chosen Carroll to attain their degree.

You can read more about this program in a story dedicated to one of those alumni-student relationships.

As you will see, the Carroll ethos is the tapestry that weaves all these stories together in this issue of FIRST. Happy reading, and may you experience all the benefits that the Carroll ethos brings to our community this year.

I hope to 'CU' on campus soon.



Cindy Gnadinger

Cindy Gnadinger
President

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New Behavioral Health Psychology Program Prepares Practitioners to Meet Community Needs



Dr. Jessica Lahner

More than a decade ago, Dr. Jessica Lahner set out to create Carroll's first graduate program in Behavioral Health Psychology. She knew Carroll could be part of the solution to provide more skilled behavioral health practitioners in Wisconsin.

Now, the first cohort of 19 students in Carroll's Master of Science in Behavioral Health Psychology (BHP) is nearing the completion of its second semester. We caught up with Lahner, now the program director, to learn how the fall semester went.

So far, demand for the program is high, in part because Carroll has established an important clinical partnership with Rogers Behavioral Health, which allows students to gain applied experience with diverse clients at all levels of care.

Rogers Behavioral Health recruits students to staff facilities with qualified behavioral health specialists. The partnership offers a tuition discount that allows for access to education for students who wouldn't otherwise be able to afford opportunities in higher education.

Additionally, many Rogers Behavioral Health employees have foundational knowledge to share, like different approaches to client behavior change. As students learn, they expand their understanding and apply it to support clients.

Lahner says it was essential to offer a flexible program that meets the unique needs of adult learners who have already demonstrated a commitment to serving in the behavioral health field.

"Enthusiasm for the program is strong," said Lahner. "Students have told us they appreciate the supportive faculty, the relationships that they are developing with their peers, the ability to pursue their professional goals while working and raising families, and the flexible schedule and invigorating coursework."

In February, the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services officially approved the BHP program as meeting training requirement standards. The approval means that once they pass the licensing exam and accrue the required practice hours, Carroll's BHP graduates are automatically eligible for licensure as professional counselors in Wisconsin.

The BHP program will accept applications for the fall cohort on a rolling basis until all seats have been filled. For more information about the program, please visit: www.carrollu.edu/bhp.

FACULTY HONORS

A book co-written by Dr. Rebecca Imes, professor of communication, has been named a 2022 Prose Awards finalist by the Association of American Publishers. The book, "Communication and Care Coordination for the Palliative Care Team: A Handbook for Building and Maintaining Optimal Teams," is a finalist in the Nursing and Allied Health category.



Imes said the book is fundamentally a liberal arts-based project book and brings together social sciences and healthcare for the purpose of helping people learn how to work on interdisciplinary teams and avoid burnout. The book can be used by any team looking to work well across disciplinary lines.

◀ Dr. Rebecca Imes

B.J. Best had a productive sabbatical. Best, an associate professor of English and chair of the department of English, modern languages and philosophy, spent his 2021 spring semester writing two pieces of interactive fiction - both of which won awards in the 27th Annual Interactive Fiction Competition.



"And Then You Come to a House Not Unlike the Previous One," was awarded first place in the contest and "Off-Season at the Dream Factory" was awarded sixth place. The two pieces are available online at the Interactive Fiction Database on ifdb.org by searching for the titles.

◀ B.J. Best

Dr. David Spies, instructor of low brass in the music department, was a big winner in the 2021 Madison Area Music Awards. The musician was named "Instrumentalist of the Year" for brass-tuba. In addition, two groups to which he belongs were recognized. The Yid Vicious Klezmer Ensemble won "World Performer of the Year," and the Chromos Tuba Quartet won "Classic Performer of the Year."



Spies is principal tuba with the Racine Symphony Orchestra, and performs regularly with Capitol City Band, Madison Jazz Orchestra, an Al Hirt/Herb Alpert tribute band and Yid Vicious Klezmer Ensemble.

◀ Dr. David Spies

GAME ON

Esports Center Open to All

Mario Kart. Super Smash Brothers. League of Legends. Call of Duty. Minecraft.

The options are endless for thrill-seeking students as they enter the Carroll esports Center (CeC), sponsored by Automation Arts.

This one-of-a-kind space on campus is open to all students, and Kristian Pullam, the head coach of esports and assistant director of campus recreation, is making it his mission to partner with other community members and student groups to welcome students into the space. He recently spoke with Carroll's Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and the Office of Student Activities to get student organizations to consider hosting events in the CeC and to invite other students to visit for recreation.

"One misconception about the space is that it is solely a club," stated Pullam. Esports at Carroll is comprised of two sections – one intercollegiate team that competes and plays against other universities, and a recreational space that embodies community and brings students, faculty and staff members together for the love of gaming.

Earlier this year, the intercollegiate team hosted a Super Smash Bros. elimination

tournament and Pullam stated a lot of people said it was their first time in the gaming facility, located in the lower level of the Campus Center. Noting that students play at home all the time and may have gaming systems in their apartments or dorms, Pullam pointed to the potential of the center. "Our space is only scratching the surface for what it could be, including being a relaxing area for students to visit after class, during breaks, and on weekends," Pullam said.

Carroll's esports teams compete in the New England Collegiate Conference (NECC) and Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC). Pullam hopes that the next level includes focusing on scholarships with his student-athletes and potentially expanding the CeC. "Our facility now is great, but what we see from others is a separated, dedicated game space, where players can practice in one area and compete in another," said Pullam. "It would allow players to be in the same room and play on a local area network (LAN) and allow other teams to practice" and work on their craft.

The team's student-athletes have a cumulative GPA of 3.02, receive various scholarships to assist with tuition, have



grown in numbers over the past two semesters and are expanding their teams to include more games like Call of Duty, Madden NFL, NBA2K and many more.

Pullam encourages interested alumni to reach out to him directly, as there is a need for more coaches to assist with the new teams they are developing.

To learn more about this program, visit carrollu.edu/esports.



ATHLETICS ROUND UP

BACK IN A BIG WAY

Football returned to Schneider Stadium in the fall of 2021, following a year in which Division III intercollegiate games were suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The revival of competitive play was only one of the highlights for the Pioneers.

When the men’s football team journeyed to Elmhurst College in mid-November for the final game of the season, during Carroll’s 175th anniversary, the contest carried extra significance. It was, in fact, the Pioneers’ one-thousandth game.

“We reflected as a team that entire week about all of the people, past and present, that allowed us to play that one-thousandth game,” said Budziszewski. “We played that game to honor those that came before us. It’s humbling. It makes you think about the thousands of Pioneers that came before us. And it was good to get a win!”

That special game was just one part of a memorable season for head coach Mike Budziszewski. He joined Carroll as head coach for the 2020 season but spent that first year under special constraints imposed by the pandemic, teaching and coaching small groups of players in isolated bubbles.

Coaches and players were eager to return to competition and the Pioneers enjoyed a successful year. The team finished with six wins against four losses, its first winning season since 2015 – and the first since rejoining the highly competitive College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin (CCIW). Three players, Austin Eichstaedt, Keon



Miller and Michael Johnson, were named to the CCIW all-conference list. Both Eichstaedt and Miller were also selected to the 2021 D3football.com All-Region Team.

“To finish the season on a high note was remarkable,” Budziszewski added. “But I tell our players every day we are just getting started. Our goals are set much higher than just a winning season. We’re building a legacy.”

PERFECT 100S

Both women’s soccer coach, Susie Foster, and men’s basketball coach, Paul Combs, recorded the 100th win of their Carroll coaching careers this past season. Foster has now passed 175 wins in her collegiate coaching career, while Combs has more than 300 wins on record.



Susie Foster



Paul Combs

FOOTBALL BY THE NUMBERS

- 3 In 1894, the first football team was organized at Carroll, playing its first three games.
- 1 First forward pass thrown by St. Louis University in a game against Carroll in 1905.
- 100 Pioneers win their 100th game in 1927.
- 71 Pioneers defeat Elmhurst 71-0 during the 1957 season, the team’s largest margin of victory.
- 6 Lamont Williams runs for six touchdowns in a 2012 game against Illinois College.
- 99 Receiver RJ Hoppe catches a 99-yard touchdown pass in 1995 and does it again in 1996.
- 500 Pioneers get 500th win in a game against North Park on Oct. 20, 2018.

HONOR FOR BASEBALL COACH

Head Baseball coach Stein Rear has been named the 2021 Wisconsin Baseball Coaches Association College Coach of the Year. Rear is the first coach in Carroll University history to receive the award that started in 1976.

“It is an honor to be recognized for our team’s efforts in 2021. The WBCA is a tremendous organization and my ties to them date back to when my father, Frank, was my high school coach, and I would attend their conventions as a child,” said Rear. “This award is a credit to all of our players and assistant coaches who sacrifice so much to make this program successful. Without them, we would not be able to have the success we experienced in 2021.”



Stein Rear

Rear’s 2021 season is marked as one of the best in Carroll’s baseball history. The Pioneers came into the season predicted to finish in ninth place in the CCIW, but turned the year around by finishing fourth in regular season standings and third in the CCIW tournament. The fourth-place finish in the conference regular season standings was the first since 1988. The Pioneers finished the season with a record of 22-22 and 14-18 in the CCIW. Carroll baseball knocked off ninth-ranked North Central two of three times in a weekend series against the Cardinals and posted another win over Augustana College (ranked no. 23) during the season.

STRIKING OUT

A Year of Growth for Women’s Bowling

This year’s season with the women’s bowling team at Carroll University has been dynamic, said coach Courtney Ermisch, who added that she is excited and sees growth with her student-athletes this year.

With five members total, the team is constantly growing and rising to the occasion regardless of which house – or bowling alley – they are playing in. As she watched the team members practicing spare pickups, Ermisch said she wanted the team to “be excited, not to dread spare shooting, and know that they can make it, no matter how hard it seems and pick up and make the spare.”

When asked about the team’s progress, she states that they are “growing, and continue to show signs of progress,” including their recent win over Marian University. The Pioneers upset reigning CCIW champion Marian and posted an average of 887 over their eight games in Baker scoring. Baker scoring is a match format that allows the team to throw alternating frames, where the leader bowls the first frame, the second bowler bowls the second frame, and so on until the anchor finishes off the last frame.

The most challenging competitors in the conference include Carthage College, Augustana College, Aurora University and Marian University.

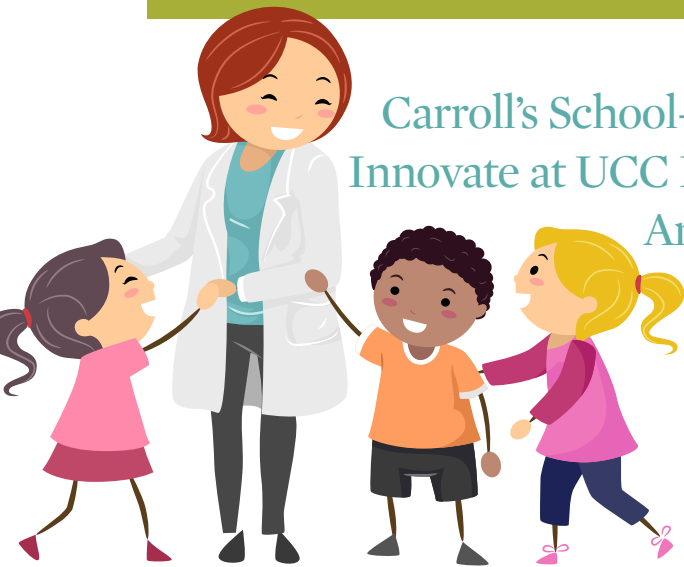
“Our vision is to grow the team, build it and obtain more good recruits for next year as well as become ranked” to take on more seasoned teams. “Each week, we are asking ourselves what can we learn, week in, week out, at tournaments and make those changes to better our game,” Ermisch stated.

One of the things that people underestimate about bowling is that it is both physically and mentally tough, and you must work on your game to play in any house on any pattern.

Happily, though, Ermisch says that she is excited to potentially “host a tournament near campus at Sunset Bowl” to welcome people in and show off the program’s progress.

To learn more about the Women’s Bowling team and their upcoming schedule, please visit gopios.com.





Carroll's School-Based Nurses Innovate at UCC Health Center Amid Pandemic

"It's not just Band-Aids and ice packs," says Pam Ziolkowski, RN (Registered Nurse), manager for the School-Based Health Center in

the United Community Center (UCC). "School nurses are much more than that."

Ziolkowski is a school-based nurse at the UCC, which hosts a collaborative partnership between Carroll University and Bruce Guadalupe Community Schools. Sonia Pacheco, RN, works alongside Ziolkowski to serve approximately 1,800 elementary and middle school students. "We want kids to be healthy, so they can be in school and learn," Pacheco said. "And we are here to help facilitate that, no matter what it looks like."

Although bandages and ice packs are certainly part of their work, Ziolkowski and Pacheco find themselves playing a critical role as liaisons between parents and healthcare providers. However, since the onset of COVID-19, both Ziolkowski and Pacheco felt their focus shift dramatically, leaving little room for providing typical levels of care. In just one week, they received 700 phone calls from concerned parents.

Like countless other healthcare professionals, the nurses needed to pivot their focus to COVID-19 and at the same time learn a new operating system so that they could create electronic health records to fit their community needs. Ziolkowski and Pacheco were also required to attend virtual contact tracing classes to become certified COVID-19 contact tracers for the UCC.

"Nurses are trained to respond to disasters and emergencies, but a pandemic – at the magnitude of COVID-19 – is unprecedented," Ziolkowski said.

According to Dr. Teri Kaul, chairperson for Carroll's nursing department, who oversees the School-Based Health Center, Ziolkowski and Pacheco are unsung heroes. "It's incredible what Pam and Sonia have been able to accomplish to keep this community safe throughout the pandemic," said Kaul. "It's important that we recognize and celebrate all their hard work and dedication to make a difference in the lives of the children in the community they serve."

The UCC School-Based Health Center also serves as a clinical placement site for Carroll nursing students where they can learn about the school-based RN role and skills needed in a school setting. It is also home to Carroll's new Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN) program, which helps underrepresented students become a RN in less than two years.

To learn more about Carroll's partnership with the UCC, visit www.carrollu.edu/nursing.

NURSING AN AMBITION

Master's Offers Pathway to Nursing Career

A new master's program at Carroll offers college graduates a unique pathway to the nursing profession. The Master of Science in Nursing – Direct Entry program is an accelerated degree track designed for non-nursing graduates, beginning in the fall of 2022.

The program is open to anyone with a bachelor's degree in an area other than nursing – once they have met the admission requirements and course prerequisites. The 72-credit program is offered in 20 months or over five full-time semesters. Eight-week hybrid courses mix online learning with labs and clinicals, designed around a consistent schedule for flexibility.

"Between our excellent track record of educating nurses and recent ranking as the number one undergraduate nursing program in the state of Wisconsin, we are well-equipped to offer this alternative pathway for those looking to change careers," said Dr. Teri Kaul, chairperson for Carroll's Department of Nursing.

The nursing program provides students with hands-on experiences in two modern nursing lab facilities on campus – the new Donald and Martha DeWees Nursing Simulation and Collaboration Hub and the newly renovated Henke Nursing Center.

"We are thrilled to offer this new program at a time when the need for future healthcare leaders is at its greatest," said Dr. Cindy Gnadinger, president of Carroll University. "There is no greater need for highly-qualified nurses, and we continue to respond to the needs of our community by establishing new programs such as this one."



All Bells and Whistles: Meet Carroll's New Marching Band Director

No single person can make marching band magic happen. It takes a lot of people – with a collaborative nature – to make it work. That's precisely what makes this college tradition so special to Carroll's new marching band director, Patrick Coughlin.

Coughlin, who started working with Carroll's marching band in August of 2021, is excited to amplify the band's already spirited sound. Coughlin's warm welcome after Carroll's 175th homecoming celebration left him touched. "We owe a lot to Cindy [Gnadinger] and others on campus for their commitment and support," Coughlin said. "They really see the value of the performers and are willing to bend over backward to make sure they have everything they need." As encouragement on campus continues to grow, so does the band's size. Student musicians include 35 people in the horn line, 10 performers in the drumline and a five-person color guard.

As the band continues to "find its DNA," Coughlin says the performers are experimenting with colorful music – from Stevie Wonder to Fall Out Boy. The band has also started to arrange music unique to the Carroll spirit, instead of just playing stock music on the field.

"When authentic energy and vibrance create real music in a space, it just resonates in a different way," said Coughlin. "An engaged marching band can be a strong ambassador for the university." The band continually takes feedback to determine its repertoire and strives to have its own sound. Coughlin is grateful for the passion, hard work and strong peer leadership within the band.

"There's a physical and technical demand, but you also have to look like you're having a ball," said Coughlin. "If they can look like they're having fun while they're doing it, that's a testament to their hard work."

Looking to the future, Coughlin is eager to expand the band's role on campus as he continues to grow the program. As for anyone new to marching band, Coughlin recommends loosening up and practicing in front of a mirror at home. "Don't be afraid to be a goofball," Coughlin said.

GRATITUDE IN A TIME OF HEALING

As we continue to heal from the Waukesha parade tragedy, President Cindy Gnadinger would like to acknowledge the marching band for its participation and extend gratitude to all CU students who helped support the community during that difficult time.

Emily Suito, Nursing '23, bravely provided medical assistance and delivered aid to victims during the parade. She helped stabilize those injured while medical professionals continued to help others.

"I was so proud to hear that several brave Carroll students stepped up to help during and following the Christmas parade tragedy," said President Cindy Gnadinger. "We are grateful for the respect, integrity and stewardship that these Pioneers illustrated for our community."

In the wake of the tragedy, student Anika King created a design for the Waukesha Strong apparel fundraiser to benefit victims of the Waukesha holiday parade incident. King's fundraiser raised more than \$54,000 for the 'United for Waukesha' community fund.

We could not be more proud of these students who are living the Carroll ethos.



THE REV. ELIZABETH McCORD
CHRISTO ET LITTERIS

For Christ and Learning is the English translation of "Christo et Litteris," Carroll University's motto

The Lessons Gert Left Us

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. Love is patient; love is kind. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things."

—1 Corinthians 13:1, 4, 7



**THE REV.
McCORD**

One of Carroll's greatest instructors has passed into glory. Though she never taught in a classroom or published academic research, the legacy of her lessons is grafted into the very marrow of countless Pioneers.

Gertrude Helen Ullsperger came to Carroll in 1964 and served our campus for more than five decades. During those years

Gert raised three children and welcomed grandchildren and great-grandchildren into the world. She danced and golfed with her husband Ron, and she conquered breast cancer. She knew more than half the people in Waukesha, and she cared for friends, served her church, and sang in the choir. She lived joyfully and loved extravagantly, and those of us who knew her were recipients of her generous spirit.

Gert was a great teacher. By example, she charted out her own Pioneer Core, a curriculum for life's most foundational learning objective: loving-kindness. She reminded us that if we speak in the tongues of angels but do not have love, we are just noisemakers; if we understand and have all knowledge but do not have love, our lives are nothing. Gert knew that love is what makes life meaningful, and her life was meaningful beyond measure.

The Gert method is best documented in our souls, but in feeble words, here are some of the most salient lessons I gleaned from her teaching.

Love hospitality. Gert embodied welcome. With just a smile, she conveyed belonging to every person who entered the MDR. Her hugs were legendary. She turned a greeting into a celebration, a cafeteria into a dining room, and a stranger into family. For any student feeling homesick, they needed go no further than Gert to find themselves embraced as kin.

Love authentically. Gert was the real deal. I have met many kind people who outwardly exemplify Midwestern nice. For Gert, however, kindness was never put on; cheer was never false. Gert was just as likely to tear up with compassion as to twinkle with laughter. She was fervent in her faith, fierce in her prayer life, and attuned to God's Presence in the simplest things.

Love dynamically. Gert was a giver, a leader, a trendsetter, and someone who modeled the Gospel message of putting others before yourself. A charter member of her Lutheran church, Gert was the first woman in the congregation to serve as a lay minister. She stepped into any role with her whole heart. And on those few occasions when we were able to say thank you to her—naming her Grand Marshall of the homecoming parade, or donning our Gert gear in buttons or t-shirts with her image—she humbly and cheerfully received our offerings.

Love purposefully. How many of us could remember names in our twenties as well as Gert remembered them in her nineties? Even to the end, she was sharp as a tack, and she used her intellect to make others feel seen and cared for. Students may hide in the back of a classroom or avoid being noticed in social settings, but they could not avoid Gert's softhearted gaze. She knew each by name, by face, and by story. She used her position at Carroll and her place in the world to let others know they mattered. It was her ministry.

Few of us love so well and so effortlessly as Gert. For Gert, I believe it was as simple as letting God's light shine through. We may forget much of what we learn along the way. Dates and details will blur and be forgotten. But we will not forget the lessons in love we learned from Gert. May we honor her memory by passing those lessons on, for love endures all things.

GERT ULLSPERGER

1926-2022

She was Carroll's substitute grandmother, a sweet and sunny presence in the lives of Carroll students for more than 50 years.

Gert Ullsperger, who passed away in January of this year, came to work in Carroll's dining room one day in 1964 to help out a neighbor and stayed on the job for the next 56 years. "I had such a good time doing it," she told an interviewer last year. "It's been a wonderful journey from that day right up to now."

In recent years, Gert dispensed smiles, hugs and comfort from her station at the dining room entrance, officially renamed the Gert Ullsperger Dining Room in 2018.

"Gert taught us how to be kind, to lead with love and to always laugh," recalled Carroll President Dr. Cindy Gnadinger. "Generations of Carroll students, faculty, staff and community members now carry the memories of her smiles, her whispered encouragements, her warmth and, yes, her wonderful hugs, with them. What a wonderful legacy!"





CU @ CARROLL

Five quick questions with Tim McCarthy, horticulturist and grounds crew member.

Interviewed by Arthur Jones

Q: What's your favorite plant/flower?

A: I don't have one favorite, but one tree that comes to mind, especially for landscaping, is the Cornelian cherry dogwood. I love the structure and look of this plant.

Q: What unique opportunities do people not know about our campus's green space?

A: Our goal now is to make our space four-seasons friendly, where we get areas where you get a good look all year round.

Q: Finish this sentence for me. "If people were more like plants/flowers, they would be..."

A: More adaptive/innovative and able to adjust to their surroundings/community.

Q: Do you have any good tips or suggestions for students taking care of plants on campus – in their dorm room and apartments as they develop their green thumb?

A: The best practice is to know your plant, its requirements and what makes it happy. Hold back on the water a little, as most indoor plants retain their water well. Proper sunlight. It is nice to see people become passionate about it, and it's a cool idea for people to have something to keep themselves occupied.

Q: What's your favorite season to see our space/campus's greenery?

A: I think my favorite season would be the transition from spring to summer, when you have more of your annual flowers blooming, a lot of colors and see how greenery can pop.

UPLIFTED

Campus Ministry Benefits from Residency Program



Jackie Rodriguez

From her perspective as a member of Carroll's ministry team, Jackie Rodriguez believes the university's students are in good hands. Rodriguez served this academic year in a new and unique chaplain residency program that Carroll's chaplain, the Rev. Elizabeth McCord, hopes to continue.

The initiative is a partnership between Carroll and the Presbytery of Milwaukee, and the two entities essentially shared Rodriguez this year. The divinity graduate from Princeton Theological Seminary spent half of her time at Carroll and the remainder serving at West Granville Presbyterian Church in Milwaukee.

Rodriguez, a candidate for full-time ordained ministry in the Presbyterian Church, said the residency program gave her the space to develop her leadership skills. "This program is unique," she said. "There just aren't many residency programs, and the ones that exist are mainly at very large congregations."

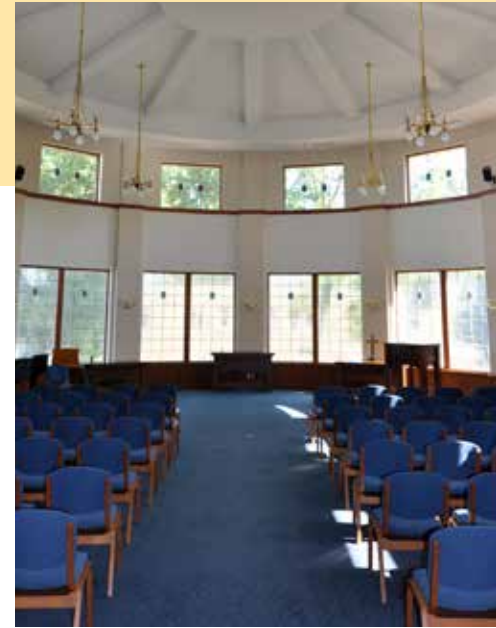
McCord championed the program. "From early on in my days at Carroll, I'd hoped to create a program where we could welcome recent seminary graduates to campus and offer them a chance to learn, grow and serve in this vibrant ministry environment," she said. "A university campus is the perfect place to stretch yourself, try new programs, learn different communication methods, and engage with people across religious and cultural backgrounds."

McCord labeled the first year a success. "We have also been so blessed to have a gifted and energetic leader in our first resident. In short order, Jackie has built meaningful relationships with our student ministry team, provided pastoral care in crisis, led worship, and facilitated various programs. It's been such a joy to have her as a colleague and see the great ministry she is doing at Carroll."

Rodriguez will finish her residency at the end of June. She leaves Carroll inspired by the care the university provides its students. "I've been really impressed by the amount of

collaboration from so many different departments here to support students' success," she said. "And they are always thinking of how to make that support better."

The residency program is made possible through the generosity of Carroll donors and the support of the Presbytery of Milwaukee.



Ways to support ministry at Carroll University

Supporting Our Students

The Carroll Cupboard is a campus-led initiative to provide healthy, non-perishable food items to students struggling with food insecurity.

The most effective way to support this ministry is through financial donations via www.carrollu.edu/give.

The Student Emergency Fund provides limited direct financial support to students experiencing financial emergencies above and beyond general educational costs, such as medical bills, emergency transportation, or unexpected living costs. Donations may be made at www.carrollu.edu/give.

Ways to make a gift

1. Make a donation online at www.carrollu.edu/give
2. Send via mail to Carroll University at 100 N. East Avenue, Waukesha, WI 53186 (Attention: Office of Institutional Advancement)
3. To discuss IRA giving or a stock transfer, please contact Jim Rychner, Assistant Vice President of Development, at 262-524-7240 or jrychner@carrollu.edu

THE POWER OF ONE

Scholarship Boosts Alumni Referral Program

The pay it forward movement has taken on a life of its own. The celebration of how one small act of kindness can significantly impact the world is ever so present, especially on college campuses like Carroll. The community of alumni here give back in many ways, but one method has proven to have an enormous impact on students: the Hilger Tradition Award. This award allows alumni to refer potential students to Carroll by filling out a short form. If that student moves forward with an application and acceptance to the university, they will receive a \$500 renewable annual scholarship, up to four years. Hundreds of students are referred to Carroll by hundreds of alumni through this method every academic year. Some alumni even refer multiple students, such as alumna Sarah Jensen '14, M.Ed. '18.

THE ULTIMATE REFERRER

Sarah Jensen knows firsthand the benefits of being a recipient of the Hilger Tradition Award. She was referred to the university by an alumna who was her high school biology teacher. Jensen knew she wanted to attend Carroll from the moment she stepped foot on campus at the age of 14. Here to perform a concert in Shattuck, she felt connected right away. "It was such a magical moment for me, and it simply felt right. This is where I knew I belonged," said Jensen. "It was a beautiful campus with a historic feel, but vibrant and bustling with energy. When I visited other campuses, I didn't get the same warmth and feeling." So, she made Carroll home and graduated from the university with a bachelor's degree in elementary education with a minor in math in 2014, and a master's degree in education and curriculum and instruction in 2018. Now teaching at a Milwaukee charter school as a math interventionist, Jensen comes in contact with many students ready for college. "Since graduating, I always rep my Carroll pride. All the students know which university I attended because I have the flag in my classroom, a pennant on my door, and I bring extra Carroll apparel for the students to wear during spirit week."

Jensen has been referring high school sophomores, juniors and seniors for the Hilger Tradition Award since 2018. To date, she has referred more than 50 students. Students frequently seek her out with questions about her college experience. The moment a student shows any interest in Carroll, Jensen fills out the referral form for them, even if they have not fully committed to attending the university yet. She has gone the extra mile and brought students to Waukesha for campus tours in the past. She says many of the students she refers are from diverse backgrounds

and have strong connections to their heritage. "They are students who can be a part of the change happening at Carroll to draw in more diverse students," said Jensen. "Hopefully with them being on campus, they can draw in more students with different backgrounds, too."

Another reason Jensen says she has a personal stake in promoting this award to as many students as possible is because of the financial aid benefit. It is the motivating factor that keeps her going and another easy way for her to give back. "The idea of service was instilled in me as a child and fostered during my time at Carroll. I owe Carroll for the well-rounded individual I am today, the many friendships I have made, and for preparing me for anything life throws my way. I want other students to have that same rich experience that Carroll offers, and I get to ensure they do by participating in this program." Jensen also states she is happy she can make college affordable for the next student by committing this small act that only takes a few minutes.

Her determination to enroll more students at Carroll via this award aligns with the commitment of the person whom the award was named after, Shirley Hilger.

THE INSPIRATION

Shirley Hilger '43, also an alumna of Carroll, was singlehandedly responsible for recruiting thousands of pioneers to the institution through her job in the office of admissions. She spent over three decades working at the university and actively recruiting minority and international students. "Hilger was the Gert (Ullsperger) of enrollment," said Dawn Scott '98, M.Ed. '17, interim vice president of enrollment at Carroll University. "She was a guru who had a massive impact on the university that stretched decades. Hilger was bold and progressive in her approach to recruitment and made a personal connection with each student that built immediate trust and a desire to attend a place she spoke so highly of." Her ability to attract countless students to Carroll via her evangelism for the university was the impetus for naming the award in her honor.

Hilger made sure she maintained relationships with students even after they had graduated from Carroll, much like Sarah, who checks up on the students she refers while they are at Carroll, and in their lives after Carroll. One of those students is Natalie Cardenas.



Alumna Sarah Jensen (left) with current Carroll student Natalie Cardenas. Jensen referred Cardenas to Carroll.

THE GOLDEN REFERRAL

Cardenas was born and raised in Milwaukee and initially considered colleges out of state. She wanted to leave home but switched gears when researching tuition costs for out-of-state schools. That is when Cardenas decided to stay in-state and began her research by talking with a teacher from her high school, Sarah Jensen. She reached out to Jensen following an email she sent to seniors about Carroll and the Hilger Tradition Award. The email piqued Cardenas' interest, and Jensen encouraged her to take a campus tour. "After speaking to Sarah and learning how much she enjoyed her experiences at Carroll, I decided to tour it and fell in love. It was quaint, convenient, and I left impressed with the faculty and staff," said Cardenas. "I was sold that this was the best school for me."

Now a student at Carroll majoring in exercise science with a minor in healthcare administration, Cardenas is still convinced

she made the right choice. "The things I love the most here are the variety of resources such as writing assistance and the Learning Commons. There is always somewhere you can go for help and support. Career Services and my academic advisors have helped me tremendously," she said. "I also enjoy all the extracurricular activities offered at Carroll. I belong to LASO (Latin American Student Organization), a fun group where I feel connected to students who I call my tribe. We all can relate because we have the same backgrounds. I truly feel like I belong here."

PAY IT FORWARD

Visit our website today to refer a new or transfer student for the Hilger Tradition Award. Filling out the short form is one easy way for our alumni to pay it forward.

TO SERVE AND PROTECT

New Compass Credential Inspires Creative, Community-Centered Approach to Public Safety

By Kelly Gehringer

The Office of Compass Credentials at Carroll University offers several different courses that support lifelong learning, all of which meet at the intersection of the liberal arts and rapidly changing workforce needs. Often shaped by social context, these credentials intentionally focus on equity, access and inclusion.

The call for action around police reform and racial justice has grown louder in America in recent years. As cities across the country continue to work together to build safe neighborhoods, new community-centered models are proving to impact public safety.

In January, Carroll's School of Education and Human Services partnered with Art Howell, former police chief for the Racine Police Department, to offer the first-ever Best Practices in Transformational Community-Centered Public Safety (CCPS) credential.

Community leaders from Chicago-based nonprofits to governmental organizations met to discuss the shifting paradigm of public safety at The Johnson Foundation at Wingspread educational center in Racine, Wisconsin. The goal was to bring people together in several different spaces for three days, under Wingspread's mission and "convene for impact."

The CCPS approach is a shared leadership model that raises the status of community leaders, reestablishing the fundamental premise that public safety officers are in place to serve and protect area residents - not occupy neighborhoods. Additionally, this new model emphasizes programming and services over enforcement whenever possible.

"This perspective gives people the opportunity to see the important role that residents can play in keeping their neighborhoods safe," said Kathy Kramer, dean for the School of Education and Human Services. "It reframes the 'us versus them' mentality."

For Kramer, this idea has been years in the making. About a decade ago, Kramer wondered what it would be like to approach community service as an immersive experience where Carroll students would live in a community for two weeks, engaging directly with schools, after-school programs, churches and neighborhoods. Kramer worked with stakeholders from school boards, pastors from churches and the local police department to facilitate the program.

"What we found was, if you don't engage in all aspects of the community, you'll never know anything about the kids in your classroom," Kramer said.

Last year, Kramer worked closely with Howell to develop the CCPS credential so that diverse voices could be involved in the process and, ultimately, establish solution-based action planning to take

back to their communities. Howell's 36-year career in policing provided helpful context for the law enforcement perspective.

The conference began with a historical overview of policing in America, presentations from panelists and break-out sessions. Topics spanned from school safety and conflict resolution in domestic violence situations to office wellness and post-incarceration community re-entry.

Fourteen participants convened for 8-hour conference sessions over three days, followed by fellowship after hours. Howell said this helped people get out of their silos and learn more about each other.

"People were astonished to learn about the work they were doing independent of each other," Howell said. "They learned that if they were strategically aligned with leadership that holds their organizations accountable, they could be more effective."

Participants from Chicago, including various executive-level leaders from nonprofits like the Chicago Neighborhood Initiative, the Greater Roseland Chamber of Commerce and Kids off the Block, made up most of the first cohort. A city alderman - and former U.S. Secretary of Education under the Obama administration - was also in attendance.

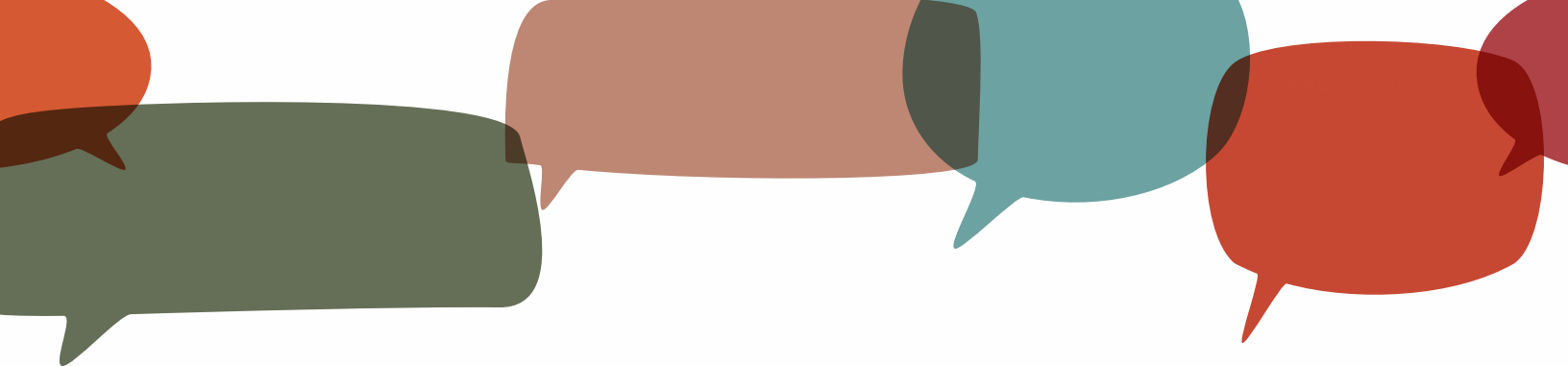


Art Howell

Howell says these community leaders realized that they all essentially wanted the same thing, but they had never worked together to achieve it before. Day by day, the meetings allowed participants to reflect on how they existed in this space together, putting ideas into a greater context they could take back with them to their communities.

The first day covered a historical perspective about the origin of policing - both its negative and positive connotations - to level set the conversation. Howell said this context is an essential part of reform. On the one hand, America's law enforcement has a dark history, with roots reaching back to slavery. On the other hand, there is a sense of order stemming from Sir Robert Peel's nine policing principles, developed in London in the 1800s. For community stakeholders to approach public safety earnestly, awareness of both elements is critical.

"Community-oriented policing services are often tied to topics like the war on drugs and incarceration," Howell said. "If we start with the historical context, there is a manner of progression, and we can begin to emphasize public safety over law enforcement."



Another organization in attendance, Creating Real Economic Destiny (CRED), works to give Chicago gang members and at-risk criminals access to trade professions. Its leader is a former convict who provided a powerful perspective to a room full of academics and community leaders.

On day two, participants began to settle into their shared space, brainstorming ideas that wouldn't necessarily arise during their typical workday. Kimberly Morris, a participant from Chicago Neighborhood Initiative (CNI), felt that this level of teambuilding would not have been possible without the collaborative atmosphere that Wingspread's spaces provided.

"The training provided an amazing opportunity for community organizations to coalesce and strategize around solving some of our neighborhood's toughest issues around violence, trauma and restoring public safety," said Kimberly Morris, director of real estate and community development for the Chicago Neighborhood Initiative (CNI). "Our group was able to walk away with a framework for our initiative that will transform the way our community remedies these issues."

The approach also happens to align with CNI's overall strategy for holistic community development and its long-term goal to rebuild and restore the fabric of the Roseland neighborhood.



CNI played a significant role in sponsoring participation for some community partners. In the end, every participant contributed to a survey that a CNI representative plans to synthesize into a report, which will dictate the next steps for community partners.

The conference also involved sessions dedicated to asset

mapping, a path for stakeholders to learn how to work with neighboring organizations to find resources. For example, organizations like the United Way have assets in Chicago, but if these leaders aren't connected or in a relationship with one another, other organizations in the community cannot access these assets. When it comes to asset mapping, intentional communication is critical.

"It's about preserving the work that has already been done," said Howell. "And finding a path forward. Words matter."

Finally, on day three, the group advanced into the action planning phase, examining gaps to fill. Participants took a survey to figure out the next steps for their collective asset mapping and individual action plans, which Wingspread will eventually distribute.

In a sense, community success looks exactly like the CCPS training itself - different people coming together from different perspectives and collaborating to solve complex problems in their neighborhoods. If community stakeholders can work together and agree on best practices for public safety, new action plans will set the stage for reform.

Carroll hopes to offer virtual options for future cohorts - and continue these kinds of conversations in communities near and far.

"I value that Carroll is part of something so positive," Kramer said. "The more we learn about each other, the more we learn that our differences are not so different after all."

To learn more about Carroll's Compass Credentials, visit our website. carrollu.edu

LEARN MORE ABOUT CARROLL'S PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OFFERINGS

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Learn about workshops and other non-degree seeking opportunities available at Carroll: www.carrollu.edu/professional-development.

MAKING THE TEAM



Dr. Julio Rivera (far left) with the starting lineup and student managers of the Carroll men's soccer team.

The Carroll men's soccer team was out on the practice field warming up one October day when one of the team's captains stepped forward. Instead of the typical practice uniform, he was outfitted, head to toe, in a full business suit.

"Guys, you have to beat Carthage!" he implored.

The captain was Dr. Julio Rivera, the William B. Yersin Professor of Applied Business Analytics in the School of Business. Years earlier, he taught at Carthage College, and he was eager to see his Pioneers beat his old employer.



Dr. Julio Rivera

Rivera is not an official member of the team. He does not suit up for the Pioneers. He is an honorary faculty captain and participates in a program in its second year that embeds volunteer faculty members with Carroll's athletic teams.

Alas, it was not to be, but not for lack of trying, nor lack of support from professor Rivera, who joined the team on the Kenosha road trip and paced the sidelines alongside coaches and players. "But you know what? Of course, they wanted to win, but they also wanted to win it for me, which was great," said Rivera.

Building a Connection

The program is the brainchild of Associate Athletic Director Mark Krzykowski, who served as football coach until two years ago. He recalled his staff endeavoring to build connections with faculty and gain their support when he coached. "Really, just about all the (athletic) programs were doing something like that to reach out. This was just a way to organize it a bit more." The program aims to build stronger connections between academics and athletics at the university by providing faculty with the opportunity to learn more about a student-athlete's life and allowing students to glimpse another side of their professors.



Dr. Barbara King '87

As an associate professor of communication, Dr. Barbara King gave careful thought when asked to address the women's tennis team huddle before a meet. She prepared a motivational speech worthy of her position. Once she finished, the coach asked the team captain to break the huddle with an address of her own. "Hers was a single sentence," King laughed. "I learned that day the power of brevity!"



Dr. Barbara King with the tennis team.

“What I have come to appreciate is the commitment of our student-athletes and coaches, just the time and effort they put into our sports – there is so much more that goes into athletic competition than people recognize,” said King. “I have enhanced respect and appreciation for the energy and commitment they demonstrate.”

As the serving faculty representative to athletics at Carroll and a lifelong sports fan, King was already a familiar sight in the stands at Pioneer contests. The program brought her right onto the sidelines, into practice sessions, and, occasionally, in the middle of a team huddle. It also brought her closer to the student-athletes.

The team includes her in their online chats, for instance. “I kind of feel like one of the cool kids,” she laughed. “And my tennis team has the only group of students I allow to call me by my first name.”

The Goal is Graduation

King also marveled at the strong emphasis on academics across the athletic programs. “The fact the student-athletes can excel at their sport and in the classroom as well is just amazing to me.” She pointed to the news that more than 100 Carroll student-athletes were named Academic All-Conference in the College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin (CCIW) for the fall 2021 semester. To be eligible, students must have an overall 3.5 or higher GPA.

Head football coach Mike Budziszewski is grateful that the program provides faculty with a greater understanding of the importance of academics among the athletic programs. “It is great to have that connection with faculty, so they understand what we do. It gives the faculty some insight into all we do to support student-athletes academically. Our guys are students

first. Our number one focus as coaches is to ensure our student-athletes get a successful education. Our super bowl is graduation day, watching our student-athletes walk across the stage.”

The football team’s honorary faculty captain was Dr. April



Dr. April Folgert

Folgert, in her first year as a clinical associate professor in the nursing program. A football fan, she eagerly volunteered for the program as soon as she heard about it. “I’m new to Carroll. I’ve never taught at a university that has a football team this large,” she said. “I’ve enjoyed being part of something outside of academics. It’s been fun to see students outside of the classroom and to see what else they are getting out of their university experience.”

It is a point Barb King emphasizes – “athletics are an important element of the Division III experience for students and participating in a sport can teach life lessons beyond those learned in the classroom.”

Connections Outside the Classroom

The bridges built between athletics and academics by participants in the program can carry a lot of traffic. Several faculty members mentioned using their platforms to remind students of important dates or tasks, such as sending reminders about class registration dates. Coach Derek Marie noted that Rivera has acted as an informal mentor for members of the soccer team.

“He’s facilitated some opportunities for guys on our team and acted as an advisor to them,” said Marie. He said his players have come to recognize Rivera as another resource available to them.

"We've really been lucky to get Julio (Rivera). Having one of the best at what he does in the country built into the team is great for the players. He literally and figuratively opened his door for the players."

This fall, Rivera quickly became a familiar sight at men's soccer matches, dressed in Carroll gear and cheering alongside the players. "I really like to be with students, especially in informal situations where they can be more themselves. When they forget I'm there and that I'm a professor, that's fun. You need to drop your faculty persona and enjoy the students for who they are. Celebrate how hard they're working at this."

In addition to the students seeing the faculty as whole people, the program allows the faculty to gain insights into the lives of Carroll's student-athletes. Coach Budziszewski said just having Folgert attend practice meant a lot. "It's great for the faculty to see the student-athletes in a different light. It was great for (Folgert) to see our players put forth that effort on the field."

Part of the Team

Dr. April Folgert (left) watches as quarterback Michael Johnson speaks with a referee during a men's football game.

Folgert considers the time she spent on the practice field and the sidelines during Pioneer games as time well spent. As someone who had never played organized sports, she was surprised to see the teammates' strong bonds. "I've learned that they are very dedicated and noticed the kinship they have with one another."

That kinship resonated particularly during the season's final game, a road game at Elmhurst University. The contest had extra meaning for the Pioneers, as it was both the 1,000th football game in Carroll's long history, and the last game of their college careers for the team's seniors. In the fourth quarter, the Pioneers fell behind 28-24, only to rally with a long touchdown in the final minute, giving the team its first winning season since 2015. "There was so much emotion," said Folgert. "To see them be successful is really exciting!"

Sophomore defensive lineman Nicholas Mantas, a finance major minoring in data analytics, said Folgert's presence and support meant a lot to the team. "Being able to walk out onto the field



with a professor – that’s pretty cool,” he said. For Folgert to see how much work the student-athletes put into their sport and to understand how their hard work paid off this year was really gratifying,” he added. “Plus, I saw her a couple of times get really excited and into the game.”

The connections matter. The insights into each other’s lives matter. The opportunity to explore the significant role athletics can play in the university experience matters. But it’s also exciting.

Asked to reflect on highlights from his year with the soccer team, Rivera recounts the excitement of a non-conference tie game that was won by a penalty kick in overtime. “Being able to share that with them was great,” he noted, “but so was standing there with them in a tough loss.” Honorary captains King and Folgert shared that sentiment. Each has become an evangelist for the program. Like Rivera, they are already looking forward to next year.

*“Oh yeah,” said Folgert.
“I’m just getting warmed up.”*



SAVE THE DATE for Homecoming & Reunion Weekend!

Sept. 29-Oct. 2, 2022

Mark your calendars and plan to join us for an exciting Homecoming & Reunion Weekend! Milestone reunion committees for classes ending in the number 2 or 7 are meeting now to plan the alumni parties. More details to come this summer. Highlights include:

- 2 p.m. football game versus Augustana College.
- 50th Reunion Celebration and Golden Pioneer Pinning Ceremony for the Class of 1972.
- Decade gatherings for '70s, '80s, '90s, '00s, and '10s, highlighting milestone reunions ending in the number 2 or 7.
- Young Alumni Reunion for alumni who have graduated within the last 10 years.
- Pioneer Parties and more.



Questions? Please contact the Office of Alumni Engagement at alumni@carrollu.edu or 262.524.7237.



The Alumni Council invites you to campus for the **Inaugural PioPalooza** to close out our 175th Anniversary year!

Saturday, July 23
2-10 p.m.
Main Lawn



Don't miss this **FREE** fun, family-friendly summer opportunity to listen to **LIVE MUSIC**, bounce around on **INFLATABLES**, learn new skills with some **MINI COURSES**, test your athletic prowess with **YARD GAMES**, feast on yummy **FOOD** and more!

REGISTER at carrollu.edu/alumni/events

Office of Alumni Engagement
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#GIVINGTUESDAY
CARROLL 175
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THE POWER OF ONE DAY

- \$182,216.72** TOTAL DOLLARS RAISED
- 395** TOTAL NUMBER OF DONORS
- 226** TOTAL ALUMNI DONORS
- 87** FIRST TIME DONORS
- \$56,021** IN CHALLENGE GIFTS RECEIVED

Thanks to your generosity last #CUonGivingTuesday we set a **FIRST**-time record for dollars raised and Pioneer participation!

All around the world, #GivingTuesday serves as an incubator for empowering communities and radical acts of generosity and kindness.

Join us this year for **NEW** challenges, matching gift opportunities, giveaways and ways to be involved as a #CUonGivingTuesday ambassador!



SERVING ON THE SALISH SEA

The legacy of service runs strong throughout Carroll's alumni network. Each November, when Carroll marks its annual CU Month of Service, alumni let us know about the many different ways they volunteer their energy and heart in their communities.

Jack '80 and Diane Champaigne '80, of Stanwood, Washington, have been volunteering at The Center for Wooden Boats at Cama Beach State Park, where they help refurbish wooden rowboats and sailboats. The center is located on Camano Island in Washington state's Puget Sound, part of the Salish Sea. The center promotes northwest maritime heritage through education, interpretation and hands-on experience in building, maintaining and using historic small craft.

In addition to working on watercraft, they helped repair a small ship for the child's play area.



The child's play area ship being repaired at The Center for Wooden Boats in Washington state.

MONTH OF SERVICE

Last November, Carroll celebrated its annual CU Month of Service, where alumni demonstrated service through time, talent, and treasure in their communities in meaningful and impactful ways. Results included the following:

- 238 alumni reported giving back in some capacity
- 145 alumni reported sharing their time through 2,670 hours of service
- 69 alumni reported sharing their talent through 404 hours of service
- 41 alumni reported giving a total of \$122,163 to various organizations

BE THE ONE



The Susan Graaskamp Martin '60 Scholarship for Non-Traditional Students

"My grandfather may have been one of Carroll's earliest 'non-traditional' students! Perhaps my grandfather truly was the one responsible for planting the seeds of the Susan Graaskamp Martin Scholarship for non-traditional students. My nearly 40-year career in human resources reinforced in me the value of a college education. Creating a scholarship through my will reserved for Carroll non-traditional students was a logical and simple way to help."

Susan Graaskamp Martin '60

Sue's story: carrollu.giftplans.org/martin

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Chuck Demler Director of Gift Planning
cdemler@carrollu.edu

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SCAN TO LEARN MORE!

Register Now!

June 27, 2022



*The Legend at Merrill Hills
Waukesha, Wisconsin*

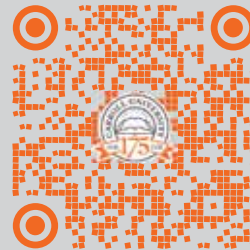
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To learn more or register for the 52nd Annual Pioneer Golf Classic, please visit carrollu.edu/alumni/golf



THE CARROLL FUND



For more information about Annual Giving, please contact Nicole Duncan at nmduncan@carrollu.edu or (262) 524-7245

SCAN TO GIVE TODAY!



Justin Jasniewski '13

It didn't take long for Justin Jasniewski, class of 2013, to start a tradition of giving that has now deepened his connection with Carroll and our students. In addition to his Carroll Fund support, Justin encouraged his employer to join the Analytics and Business Intelligence Consortium and partner with Carroll's School of Business to expand their internship program.

BE THE ONE

Your Gifts Make Stronger Connections Possible

For the last 175 years, the Pioneer experience has been about making connections. From the experiences in the classroom, to professional networking, to lifelong friendships. A gift to The Carroll Fund only exemplifies these experiences and goes to the place your support is needed most.

Your gift provides critical resources across the entire Carroll University community, from faculty support to state-of-the-art facilities, to ensuring students' success through hands-on and cross-cultural experiences that will transform them into caring leaders, creative thinkers, and Pioneers who change the world. When each of us gives what we can to The Carroll Fund, together we make stronger connections possible and move us **First and Foremost, Forward.**

Alumni Council Announces the 2022 Alumni Award Recipients

Congratulations to the recipients of the Carroll University 2022 Distinguished Alumni Awards and Graduate Of the Last Decade Award. The Alumni Council has selected the following alumni as recipients of this year's alumni awards. They will be honored during a ceremony on May 19.

Dr. Gary H. Quehl '60
2022 Recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award for Professional Achievement College of Education and Human Services



Dr. Gary H. Quehl '60 has played a major role in advancing the welfare and interests of independent colleges and universities nationwide and

is a pioneering example of an alumnus living out Carroll's mission of lifelong learning. Quehl's 26-year career in higher education has been characterized by high energy, visionary leadership and a gift for innovation.

Robert H. Lampereur '85
2022 Recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award for Professional Achievement College of Arts and Sciences



Early in his career, Robert Lampereur '85 realized he needed to work on projects that aimed for a higher purpose. While he prepared to graduate

from Carroll, he sought out work in the aerospace industry, inspired by the big

picture objectives of space exploration. To this day, he is motivated by issues he finds important, which range from addressing climate change and supporting science education, to maintaining healthy local communities and strong friendships.

Laura E. (Lopez) Gutiérrez '95
2022 Recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award for Professional Achievement College of Arts and Sciences



Serving children and families has been a top priority for Laura Gutiérrez '95. She believes education is the best inheritance we

can provide for a child. In her leadership roles as Secretary of the Department of Safety and Professional Services for the state of Wisconsin – and now as Executive Director for the United Community Center (UCC) in Milwaukee, Wisconsin – Gutiérrez works to empower others, not only to achieve their goals but make a difference in their community.

Dr. Michelle M. Braun '95
2022 Recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award for Professional Achievement College of Health Sciences



Dr. Michelle Braun '95 is a board-certified neuro-psychologist who is passionate about empowering individuals to boost brain

health and reduce the risk of Alzheimer's disease with science-backed strategies.

Her work has been featured on PBS, NPR, Fox Morning News, CBS, iHeart Radio and in other media outlets.

David J. Belman '98
2022 Recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award for Community Service



Community service is a strong part of David Belman's '98 identity, so much so that he has made helping others part of his company's mission. He

positioned Belman Homes as a company committed to helping the community, believing it is a person's duty to give whenever possible. He cares deeply about philanthropy and is best known for giving away mortgage-free homes to wounded war heroes in Wisconsin.

Ryan R. (Albrechtson) Rehak '16
2022 Recipient of the Graduate Of the Last Decade (GOLD) Award



Ryan (Albrechtson) Rehak '16 is known for his incredible leadership in the arts community, leading projects with passion, and an eye for

inclusivity and creativity. Always looking for new opportunities for emerging artists, Rehak founded Outskirts Theatre Company in 2014, while he was still in his undergraduate studies at Carroll.

Do you know a talented CU alumna/nus? Please nominate your fellow Pioneers for alumni awards here!

www.carrollu.edu/alumni/awards

CLASS NOTES

Please send news of weddings, births and deaths; new jobs and promotions; academic and professional degrees; church and community service activities; awards and achievements; and changes of address to the Office of Alumni Engagement at alumni@carrollu.edu. You may also send these updates via mail: Carroll University, 100 N. East Ave., Waukesha, WI 53186

These updates were received between Aug. 1, 2021, and Feb. 18, 2022.

1960s

Jane Lee Hamman '63 has been appointed to the Montana State Board of Education by Governor Greg Gianforte. She retired in 2004 as assistant director of the Governor's Office of Budget and Program Planning. She resides in Clancy, Montana.

Dale Ann Morgan '67 has had her memoir, "String Too Short to Tie," published by Austin Macauley. It is widely available through Amazon, Barnes and Noble and other booksellers. Morgan was raised in the Texas Panhandle but has made Waukesha her home since 1965. She has written all her life, but this is her first published work. More information is available through her website: www.dalemorganwriter.com.



1970s



Kent Tess-Mattner '75 has been installed as moderator of the Presbytery of Milwaukee. The Presbytery of Milwaukee is comprised of over 40 Presbyterian Church (USA) congregations and serves more than 7,000

members living in 11 counties in southeastern Wisconsin. The Presbytery is also home to Presbyterian-related Carroll University in

Waukesha, and several senior adult-living communities of Presbyterian Homes of Wisconsin.

1980s

Dennis Slater '80 retired at the end of 2021, after serving for 23 years as president of the Association of Equipment Manufacturers. Slater joined AEM's predecessor, the Construction Industry Manufacturers Association (CIMA), in 1982 and became its president in 1998, remaining president of the newly formed AEM in 2002.

Jeffrey Ulrich '88 received the 2021 Patriot Award from the Southern Texas PGA Section Awards.

1990s

Guy Russ '95 has been promoted to vice president – innovation and data at Church Mutual. He was promoted to senior information technology executive manager – architecture and administration in 2014 and assistant vice president – information technology in 2016. Russ assumed the role of assistant vice president – risk control in 2018.

Adam Jacobi '99 has been named the 2021 Citation honoree as Outstanding Speech, Debate and Theatre Educator by the National Federation of State High School Associations. Jacobi is the executive director of the Wisconsin High School Forensic Association in LaCrosse, Wisconsin.



Matt Koehler '99 Received the "School Counselor of the Year" award from the Wisconsin Association of College Admission Counseling. Koehler is the director of college counseling at the Madison Country Day School in Waunakee, Wisconsin.

2000s

Abby Jensen '02 was recognized as a teacher of excellence by her school district, Fridley Public Schools in Minnesota.



Elisa Neckar '04 has written the libretto for "Full of Grace: A Marian Musical," a show that focuses on the role of Mary and other women who are often overlooked, ignored or forgotten. The show debuted in March 2022

at Holy Apostles in New Berlin, Wisconsin.

Val Spangler '05 was selected to the 2021 TechPoint Tech 25 Class. The annual award honors 25 individuals who contribute to the growth of the tech industry in the Indianapolis business community. Spangler is a senior manager of BI operations at hcl.

Laura Conklin '06 has been named the national director of community health initiatives for the American Academy of Pediatrics. She previously worked as a health officer for the City of Wauwatosa.



Melaniece (Foreman) Petersen '07 and her husband, John, welcomed Kentlee Phin to the world on Dec. 1, 2020. Melanie is the daughter of Fred '70 and Stephanie (Lancaster) '70 Foreman. The Petersens live in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin.

James-Etta Goodloe Reed '08 has published her first book, "All This is Good: The Journey to Overcoming and Achieving." The book is framed around her personal journal entries, and she credits her time as a graduate student at Carroll University under the guidance of Dr. Wilma Robinson, professor emeritus, as the catalyst to turn her journal entries into qualitative research. Reed is based in Kentucky. Her educational consulting firm, Dr. James-Etta Consulting, develops curriculums and plans programs that use reflection to examine bias to design solutions for diversity, equity and inclusion.



Jackie (Messler) Barber '09 and Dan Barber '13 welcomed a baby girl, Emilia Jean Barber, in September 2021. She joins an older brother, Finn.



2010s



Josh Wolf '11, assistant professor of cognitive and brain sciences and his wife, Gina, welcomed a baby girl, Lucy Louise Wolf, on Dec. 3, 2021. She joins sisters Josei and Elsie.

Dave Paczkowski '12, '14 and Lindsey (Weissensel) Paczkowski '14, '16 welcomed a baby girl, Elise Belle Paczkowski, on Aug. 31, 2021.



Benjamin Keigley '14 has completed his Doctor of Nursing Practice at Rush University in Chicago, Illinois. He specializes in adult/gerontology primary care.

Casey (McMahon) Mathews '14 and her husband, Logan Mathews '15, welcomed a baby boy, Callum Mathews, on May 4, 2021.

Amanda (Reimer) Meyer '14 wed Joe Meyer in January 2021. She also published two books. The first, "the phoenix," is a volume of poetry while the second, "Ruby Wren's Mindful Morning," is a children's book. Her writings can be followed on Facebook by searching for Amanda Meyer, writer.



Alyssa (Weissman) Grese '15 is the new office and foundation coordinator for Hermann Companies, an investment firm based in St. Louis, Missouri.

Malerie (Kurt) James '15, D.Pt. '17 married Christopher James '15, D.Pt. '17 on Oct. 10, 2021, in Stoughton, Wisconsin. The couple live in Prairie du Sac, Wisconsin and are working professionally as physical therapists.



Julie L. Jolitz '15, became the administrator of Ascension Sacred Heart Rehabilitation Hospital in August 2021. The hospital, part of Ascension Columbia St. Mary's, specializes in the treatment of traumatic brain injury and stroke patients.

Shaun Carroll '16 has accepted a position as an environmental and safety consultant with REI Engineering in Wausau, Wisconsin.

David Archer '19 has been named director of sports medicine in the Dominican Republic for the Kansas City Royals baseball team.

2020s

Samantha Gonzalez '20 was named the 2021 Ambassador for Milwaukee's Mexican Fiesta. Gonzalez, a practicing nurse, has said her goal as ambassador will be to promote Mexican culture and encourage people to consider healthcare careers.

Kristen Brzenski '21, wellness coordinator at Carroll, and her husband, Austin, welcomed a baby boy, Mason James Brzenski, on Nov. 1, 2021.



Faculty and staff

Dayna Lentz, assistant athletic trainer, and her husband, Brian, welcomed a baby girl, Charlee Ann, on Oct. 16, 2012. She joins older sister Rowan.

Kelly Pearse, director of human resources, and her husband, Richard, welcomed a baby boy, Brayton Asher Pearse, on Sept. 3, 2021. He joins brother Nashton.



Jessica Schach, assistant cross country and track and field coach, and her husband, Travis, welcomed a baby boy, Jason Arnold Schach, on Sept. 6, 2021.

Amanda Ruppenthal Stein, adjunct lecturer in music, and her husband, Jeremy, welcomed a baby boy, Yishai Bear, on Sept. 19, 2021. He joins older sisters Mirit and Hadas.



Class of '83 Minnesota Meetup

Several members of the Class of 1983 gathered for a birthday celebration in Minnesota last summer. Among those gathered were Mary (Boettcher) Kohrell, Cathy (Coulter) Kropp, Carrie (Pfister) Leftwich, Janette (Hayes) Sands, Lori (Brull) Walsh and Diane (Lodl) Elliot.



IN MEMORIAM

1940s

Virginia Harnett '41 passed away May 12, 2021, at the age of 102 in Elmhurst, Illinois.

Armand Riopelle '41 passed away Oct. 5, 2021, at the age of 101 in Viera, Florida. He is survived by family including his nephew, Jeffrey Riopelle '91 and was preceded in death by his sister, Beatrice (Riopelle) Youker '43, and brother, Wilfred Riopelle '45.

Wencel Bohr '49 passed away June 15, 2019, at the age of 93 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He had been a resident of Eagan, Minnesota.

Robert Spaight '49 passed away June 27, 2021, at the age of 97 in East Troy, Wisconsin.

1950s

Dr. Barbara (Atkenson) Smith '50 passed away in summer, 2021, in West Virginia. She was preceded in death by her sister, Annette (Atkenson) Simonson '47.

Bob Winchell '50 passed away Jan. 14, 2022, at the age of 95 in Waukesha, Wisconsin.

Robert A. Stephan '51 passed away Aug. 22, 2021, at the age of 92 in Pebble Beach, California.

Doris (Warring) Eichelberger '53 passed away Oct. 21, 2021, at the age of 90 in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin.

John R. Wiese '53 passed away Feb. 1, 2022, at the age of 90. Among his many volunteer years of civic service, Wiese served on the Board of Trustees for Carroll University for 15 years. He is survived by his wife, Nancy (Walsh) Wiese '55.



John R. Wiese

Douglas Paff '54 passed away Nov. 25, 2021, at the age of 89 in Vacaville, California.

Ronald Hanseter '55 passed away Aug. 6, 2021, at the age of 89 in Neenah, Wisconsin. Ronald is survived by his wife, Karen (Hill) Hanseter '57.

Joyce (Borchers) Lueder '56 passed away Dec. 29, 2020, at the age of 87 in Montello, Wisconsin. She was preceded in death by her husband, Bill Lueder '56.

Harold F. Fendius '57 passed away Jan. 27, 2022, at the age of 87 in Arlington Heights, Illinois.

Richard Buran '58 passed away Dec. 14, 2020, at the age of 84 in Appleton, Wisconsin. He is survived by family members including his wife, Helen (Thiele) Buran '58, and was preceded in death by his brother-in-law, Arthur Thiele '63.

Barbara Ann (Hoppe) Duwe '58 passed away Oct. 22, 2021, at the age of 84 in Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

Patricia (Kay) Weimer '59 passed away Jan. 21, 2022, at the age of 85 in Peoria, Illinois.

1960s

Susanne "Sukie" (Spence) McNutt '60 passed away March 19, 2021. She was preceded in death by her brother, Morton Spence, Jr. '59.

Judith (Zitelman) Combs '61 passed away Jan. 30, 2020, at the age of 82 in Aiken, South Carolina.

David Janczak '61 passed away Nov. 30, 2020, at the age of 77 in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

Thomas Rutenber '61 passed away in 2021 at the age of 83 in Arlington Heights, Illinois.

Dean A. Swaer '61 passed away Jan. 19, 2020, at the age of 82 in Green Bay, Wisconsin. He is survived by his wife, Judith (Tucker) Swaer '60, whom he met at Carroll.

The Rev. Thomas Wright '62 passed away Oct. 16, 2021, at the age of 81 in Joy, Illinois.

Nancy (Shaw) With '63 passed away Nov. 27, 2021, at the age of 83 in Overland Park, Kansas.

Thomas LaFountain '64 passed away Aug. 15, 2021, in Appleton, Wisconsin.

Charles A. Kalmbach '64 passed away Aug. 25, 2021, at the age of 79, in Glendale, Wisconsin.

Roger B. Mason '64 passed away Nov. 14, 2021, at the age of 79 in Madison, Wisconsin.

Delmar Dobberpuhl '65 passed away Sept. 16, 2021, at the age of 78 in Prescott, Arizona. He is survived by his wife, Jane Marie (Burgardt) Dobberpuhl '66.

Sharon (Hajek) McKinley '65 passed away Nov. 14, 2020, at the age of 77 in Cape Coral, Florida.

Gary Benson '66 passed away Oct. 31, 2021, at the age of 77 in Beaver Dam, Wisconsin. Memorials in his honor should go to the Carroll University Scholarship Fund (in memory of Gary), Carroll University, 100 N. East Ave., Waukesha, Wisconsin, 53186, or to Living Hope Food Pantry, P.O. Box #519, Fox Lake, Wisconsin, 53933.

Russell Duris '66 passed away Aug. 7, 2021, at the age of 77 in Waukesha, Wisconsin. He is survived by his wife, Virginia (Howard) Duris '86.

Ronald DeGolier '67 passed away Aug. 9, 2021, at the age of 78 in Kenosha, Wisconsin. He was preceded in death by his mother, Myerla (Accola) DeGolier '39.

Kenneth Black '68 passed away Nov. 27, 2021, at the age of 75 in Racine, Wisconsin.

Shirley K. Jensen '69 passed away Sept. 21, 2021, at the age of 74 in Mequon, Wisconsin.

1970s

Donald Straka '70 passed away Jan. 9, 2021, at the age of 72 in Goodyear, Arizona.

Warren Carroll Van Male Jr. '70 passed away Jan. 7, 2021, at the age of 78 in Pinetops, North Carolina.

Sharon Peters '71 passed away Feb. 23, 2019, at the age of 69.

Jeffrey L. Kohn '72 passed away Oct. 6, 2021, at the age of 71 in Minerva Park, Ohio. He is survived by his wife, Janet (Dicke) Kohn '72.

Jean (Stanfield) Walters '72 passed away Sept. 18, 2021. She was preceded in death by her father, Robert Stanfield '36.

Norma Jean Peters '74 passed away Nov. 18, 2021, at the age of 69 in Reedsburg, Wisconsin.

Carroll University professor emerita of political science, and former vice president of Academic Affairs, **Lynne Bernier '76**, passed away Oct. 7, 2021. She is survived by her husband, Dr. Lelan McLemore, professor emeritus of political science and librarian emeritus. Bernier was beloved by her students.

Amy (Leighty) Clark '76 passed away Dec. 2, 2021, at the age of 67 in Jacksonville, Florida.

Genell (Gialdini) Cardona '78 passed away Sept. 22, 2021, at the age of 65. She had been a resident of Waukesha, Wisconsin. She is survived by her husband, Pablo Cardona '77.

Nancy (Thomas) Braun '79 passed away Dec. 21, 2021, at the age of 93 in Fairfield, Connecticut.

1980s

John Klecker '82 passed away Nov. 19, 2021, at the age of 64 in Waukesha, Wisconsin.

Dana DuQuaine '87 passed away Aug. 20, 2021, at the age of 56 in Appleton, Wisconsin.

1990s

Michelle Wintlend '91 passed away Nov. 17, 2021, at the age of 51 in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Elizabeth (Schradie) Smith '94 passed away Sept. 23, 2021, at the age of 49. She is survived by her husband, Joel Smith '92.

2010s

Chrys W. Racinowski '16 passed away Dec. 13, 2020, at the age of 51.

Nicole Strasser '16 passed away July 28, 2021, at the age of 27 in Waupaca, Wisconsin.

Carroll Faculty

Professor Emeritus of English **Sidney “Sid” Jones** passed away Oct. 1, 2021, at the age of 87. Jones taught in the English department at Carroll for 37 years and served in many leadership positions, including faculty president in 1976-77. In retirement, he was one of the founding members of the Bibliophiles, a book group for Carroll’s emeriti professors and spouses, and the Poetry Group for lovers of poetry.



Sidney Jones

Professor Emeritus of Business **Dr. Gary Olsen** passed away Sept. 10, 2021. Olsen taught at Carroll for 43 years, teaching accounting and financial management to more than 7,000 undergraduate and graduate students. During his tenure, he served in numerous leadership positions, including department chair and faculty chair, and helped develop what is now known as Carroll’s Cross-Cultural Experiences (CCE) program. Travel was a longstanding interest of his, and Olsen made trips with Carroll students, for the Rotary and for his own enjoyment, tallying 49 foreign countries visited and all 50 states.



Gary Olsen

Professor Emeritus of English **Manfred Wuerslin** passed away Dec. 16, 2021, at the age of 98. Wuerslin taught at Carroll from 1958-1989. He was a strong advocate for the liberal arts and benefits of international travel experiences for students. At Carroll, Wuerslin helped develop an exchange program with the University of Nottingham in Great Britain. Among his many survivors are his wife, Geraldine, and sons Ted and Erich Wuerslin ’86.



Manfred Wuerslin

Carroll Trustee

Honorary Life Trustee **Richard H. Miller** passed away Sept. 18, 2021, at the age of 88 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Miller served on the Carroll board of trustees from 1973-1990.



Richard Miller

A Legacy of Service

By Linda Spice ’89, M.Ed. ’19



Armand Riopelle ’41 strived for the betterment of others with contributions to his community, a commitment to military service, and care for his alma mater, Carroll, during a lifetime that spanned more than a century.

He attributed daily humor as his key to longevity and had the distinction of being among Carroll’s oldest living alumni before he passed away in October of 2021 at the age of 101. He arrived at Carroll in the late 1930s to study business administration and participated in men’s basketball, football and the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity.

Armand grew up in Beaver Dam, Wisconsin, and graduated from high school in 1937 before enrolling at Carroll. He was followed here by siblings Beatrice (Riopelle) Youker ’43 and Wilfred Riopelle ’45 – both Carroll graduates.

After school, he headed to Michigan, where he worked for Chevrolet in Detroit. Within six months, he left his job to join the U.S. Air Force, working as a civil engineer involved in building several Air Force bases worldwide. He attained the designation of lieutenant colonel and retired from military service in 1970.

His mission of service would not end there. He went to work for the Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority (WHEDA), where he contributed to the successful development and management of 14,000 rental housing units for low-income and elderly residents. He retired from the agency in 1985.

During his lifetime, Armand stayed connected to Carroll. He enjoyed following Pioneer athletics and was a member of the university donor circles, including the Old Main Society and the John Adam Savage Legacy Society.

Carroll President Cindy Gnadinger said she considers herself fortunate to have known Armand and said he embodied “what we mean when we talk about alumni having a life-long relationship with Carroll.”

“No matter where his life and career took him, he never allowed himself to be far from Carroll, and he never forgot the impact his education and college years had on his life,” President Gnadinger said. “That drove him to remember Carroll with support both during his lifetime and through his estate plans, and that generosity will benefit generations of Carroll students into the future.”

Armand supported Carroll scholarships annually and faithfully, a donor commitment that is key to students like Meghan Gamradt ’21, an actuarial science and computer science major considering a career in data analytics. She said that donor support “feels very personal and meaningful knowing someone who gave so much to me and for me.”

Armand paid his college tuition while a student by taping athletic events in the Ganfield Gymnasium. As the depth of his philanthropic efforts grew at Carroll, he became interested in the number of students relying on financial assistance to attend school. When he learned that figure is 98%, he said, “That’s where I want to put my money.”

He was able while still alive to witness the power of his philanthropy for students, but he also sought to make an impact beyond his life. Armand worked to include the university in his will by creating a named scholarship fund. Adding Carroll to his will allowed him to have an impact larger than his annual gifts with a scholarship that will be permanent and live on forever.

He will be remembered through the Armand Riopelle ’41 Endowed Scholarship Fund, which will provide scholarship support and encouragement to any full-time student enrolled at Carroll who has demonstrated financial need and good academic standing.

Said President Gnadinger: “We are deeply indebted to this amazing Carroll Pioneer.”

DON'T MISS A MOMENT

Stay connected
with Carroll
University.



April 1-30

Pioneers Feed America:
National Service Project

Wednesday, April 13

Cheers to Our Years - Celebrating
Graduating Students and Alumni
5:30 - 8 p.m.
IDEA Lab, Frontier Hall

Friday, May 6

Senior Toast and Class Photo
4 p.m.
Van Male Plaza

Graduate Commencement Ceremony
6 p.m.
Main Lawn

Saturday, May 7

Undergraduate Commencement
Ceremony
10 a.m.
Main Lawn

Thursday, May 19

Distinguished Alumni Awards Ceremony
5 p.m.
Stackner Ballroom, Campus Center

Monday, June 27

52nd Pioneer Golf Classic
7:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Shotgun start times
The Legend at Merrill Hills, Waukesha

Saturday, July 23

CU PioPalooza
Live Music, Inflatables, Mini Courses,
Yard Games, Food and more!
2-10 p.m.
Main Lawn

Sept. 29-Oct. 2

Homecoming & Reunion Weekend

If you appreciate hearing from Carroll through the mail, make sure to confirm your email address with us at alumni@carrollu.edu to ensure you are receiving event information, electronic news, stories and updates from the university. Have other employment, name change or contact information updates? We'd also love to hear from you!

Please recycle.

