

# FISHER today



2017

WINTER/SPRING 2017 • VOL. 13, NO. 1



## Fondness and Friendship

PRESIDENT THOMAS MCGOVERN  
TO RETIRE—A LOOK AT  
HIS LEGACY .....PAGE 5

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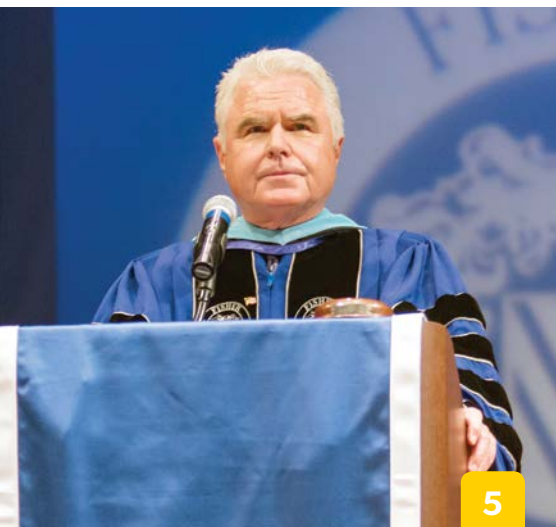
# MBA

STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP



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# From the President's Desk

**A**s we close out the 2016–2017 academic year, I want to take this opportunity to thank you for the support, trust, and, above all, the friendship you have shared with me over the years.

I've had the privilege of being your president for the past decade, and it has been a time of great growth and transformation for Fisher College. The accomplishments of the past 10 years are many, but none would have occurred without your continued engagement and support.

So much of Fisher's success can be seen in the numbers (as you'll read on the following page). Through thoughtful strategy and bold execution, we have increased enrollments and have developed new programs to meet the evolving demands of the 21st-century workforce. We have accomplished this by focusing on preparing our students to meet the challenges they will face as they become productive members of a democratic society.

From our undergraduate to our graduate-level programs, both in the classroom and online, Fisher College has been at the forefront of innovation. I am proud to have had the opportunity to lead and shape our institution at this critical time.

But the numbers don't tell the whole story. For a more complete picture, you have to spend time in the classroom, where our dedicated faculty members provide a strong culture for learning. You have to attend our sporting and clubs/organizations events where our students represent Fisher College with both pride and dignity. The dedication and sense of duty of our Fisher College community has inspired me each day and has made me a better leader.

I'm grateful for your active involvement with Fisher and the success you've shared with us. Your professional and personal achievements have set a foundation for all students to follow and will continue to help advance the mission of this amazing institution. I'm also blessed to have come to call many of you "friend." Your kindness and generosity have never been lost on Elaine and me.

Although I'm moving toward a new phase in my life, I'm confident Fisher's leadership will continue to thrive and this institution will reach new heights.

In the meantime, I wish you and yours all the very best.

Sincerely,



**Dr. Thomas M. McGovern**  
PRESIDENT



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For more information about Fisher College, or topics addressed in this issue, or to obtain additional copies of *Fisher Today*, please contact the Fisher College Office of Communications and Marketing at [communications@fisher.edu](mailto:communications@fisher.edu) or 617-236-8844.

## ON THE COVER

President McGovern presents at the 8th Annual Athletics Hall of Fame.

# President Thomas M. McGovern

## *A Legacy of Transformative Leadership*

BY CASEY SHERMAN

It has been a decade of remarkable growth for Fisher College, and spearheading that development has been the College's eighth esteemed president, Dr. Thomas M. McGovern.

President McGovern's presence is felt in every classroom, every office, and in every corner of the Back Bay campus. He and his wife, Elaine, are devoted supporters of Fisher, its community, and its future.

As Dr. McGovern's decadelong tenure as Fisher's president comes to a close, his enduring legacy will continue to cast a long shadow over the institution he helped transform from a two-year college to a four-year private baccalaureate institution with emerging graduate programs.

Such growth could be made possible only through strong leadership, a clear vision, and an unwavering belief in and support of academic professionals dedicated to the cause of improving the education of their students.

In 2007, when Dr. McGovern accepted the challenge and responsibility of becoming president, the nation and the world were headed toward the biggest economic crisis since the Great Depression. Small colleges across the United States were struggling to survive as operating costs increased while enrollment spiraled. Earning a two-year associate degree no longer had mass appeal for students looking to gain a competitive edge.

It was a challenging time to assume a leadership role at Fisher College, but Dr. McGovern had a vision. He would turn a nonprofit institution of approximately 590 full-time students and nearly 600 continuing education students into a thriving institution that is a



President Thomas McGovern and Former President Scott Fisher at the 7th Annual Athletics Hall of Fame in October 2011.

destination college for students around the world. In 2016, Fisher's day school enrollment was almost 800 students, and the number of continuing education students nearly hit the 1,000 mark.

When Dr. Nicholas W. Bankson, former chair of the Fisher College Board of Trustees, announced Dr. McGovern's appointment a decade ago, he said the trustees were unanimous in their belief he could be an effective leader. "[McGovern] is bound to make a significant contribution to the College," Bankson said. That significant contribution was felt immediately, as President McGovern wasted no time in laying down the building blocks for growth.

"We saw a significant change under President McGovern's leadership," said Dr. Janet Kuser, vice president of academic affairs at Fisher. "He brought fiscal responsibility to the institution and ran it like a business. Yet he empowered all those around him because he was focused. He listened intently to new ideas and was always considerate of different opinions and options. Still, he knew where he wanted to take the College and how he wanted to compete with other schools in our space."

President McGovern instituted community-wide meetings to share information and discuss strategic planning for Fisher College. He proved to be a hands-on leader who did not believe in the idea that the College simply would run itself. He focused



on metrics and data to gauge and determine where Fisher College was and where it needed to be, and to drive the challenging decisions he had to make to achieve success.

President McGovern's experience as a longtime faculty member and division chair earned him instant respect in this demanding new role. He had a sense of what worked, what did not work, and what needed to be changed for the College to survive, sustain itself, and grow. That decisiveness came from years spent serving in the United States Army during the Vietnam era, and from real-world experience as a successful thought leader in the field of transportation management.

"He came in with a clear vision about where he wanted to take the College," said Fisher College Dean of Students Shiela Lally. "I had already been here for years, and I witnessed an immediate and systematic change when Dr. McGovern became president. People were finally held accountable, but in a good way. President McGovern set his goals, and those who attained them stayed and flourished here."

Before becoming president, Dr. McGovern was one of the leading advocates and drivers behind the College's push to add additional baccalaureate programs to its offerings. Students were

transferring out, and many cited the lack of baccalaureate offerings as the main reason for their departure.

The first baccalaureate offering in management was in place when he took office. President McGovern then added two more degrees (human services and media and communications) in 2008. Seven more would follow, including criminal justice, psychology, and nursing. In 2015, Fisher College announced its first-ever graduate degree program, a Master of Business Administration in Strategic Leadership.

The speed of this growth caught many at Fisher College by surprise, and President McGovern's leadership created a positive shift in the culture of the institution.

"I had been at Fisher College for four years before President McGovern assumed leadership," said Neil Trotta, associate professor and dean of Fisher College's Graduate Studies Program. "President McGovern walks the walk and talks the talk. He was here for decades and understood the inner workings of the College better than anyone. He built a great team around him, let people do their jobs and rolled up his own sleeves to make sure the mission was fully realized."

There was a new sense of confidence in the community's ability to raise the level of instruction, and the College's

reputation continued to grow throughout New England, across the nation, and around the world.

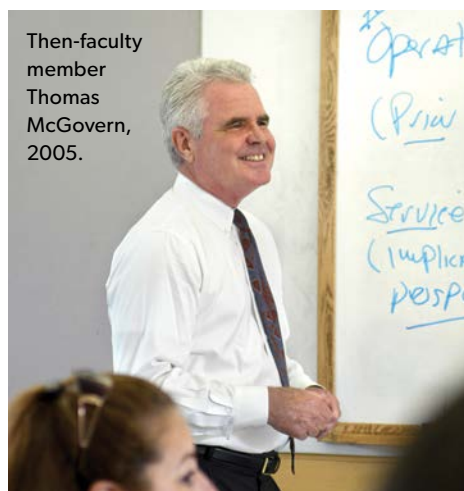
"The reputation of Fisher College has evolved greatly across the globe," said Robert Melaragni, vice president of enrollment management at Fisher College. "We have doubled our international student population during President McGovern's tenure. As our economy continued to go global, McGovern recognized that our education needed to go global also. By partnering with different international organizations, Fisher was able to attract strong students from around the world, which has enhanced the overall experience for our domestic students as well."

President McGovern encouraged faculty and staff members to elevate themselves for the greater good of the Fisher community and supported them in their pursuit of advanced degrees. In 2008, only a third of Fisher's staff had achieved doctorate or "terminal" degrees. Six years later, that number rose to more than 60 percent, with an additional increase in master's-level education. Dr. McGovern's own pursuits earned him a Bachelor of Science from Northeastern University, a Master of Public Administration from Suffolk University, and a Doctorate of Education in Educational Leadership from Johnson & Wales University.

As a proud veteran of the United States Army, President McGovern also cultivated the proud tradition of Fisher College as a leading center of higher education for veterans, allowing these students to transition successfully from military service to the professional workforce. McGovern also made it his mission to hire qualified veterans. More than 20 percent of Fisher's current staff members are veterans. The College has been recognized since 2011 as a military-friendly college, according to the website, GI Jobs.



Dr. McGovern with the Fisher Falcon and Rusty Christesson '17 at Athletics Spirit Day in October.



Then-faculty member Thomas McGovern, 2005.

Along with supporting veterans with educational opportunities, McGovern works tirelessly to create greater awareness for the sacrifices made by servicemen and -women with Fisher College's annual Honor Your Veterans celebration, which recognizes the service and dedication of U.S. veterans connected to the Fisher community. President McGovern also hosted a symposium to discuss ways to better support returning veterans. Among the panelists who participated in the program were Boston Marathon bombing hero Carlos Arredondo and his wife Melida, Gold Star parents who lost one son to the war in Iraq and another to suicide.

"President McGovern allowed us the opportunity to discuss mental health issues among military veterans and their families," said Arredondo, founder of the Arredondo Family Foundation. "Many people don't want to hear about this epidemic, but Fisher College put the topic front and center for its students and for the community."

President McGovern's friendship with Arredondo did not end there. In an effort to enhance Fisher College's Commencement exercises, McGovern chose Arredondo and Jeff Bauman, the man he saved during the Boston Marathon bombing, as dual graduation speakers in 2014. The announcement and subsequent event made headlines around the world. President McGovern continued to honor "everyday heroes" at Fisher College commencements and attracted other prominent speakers like New England Patriots captain and Super Bowl champion Matthew Slater, and Paris subway hero Alek Skarlatos. Each speaker had a unique and inspirational message for the Fisher College community.

Under President McGovern's stewardship, Fisher College established the



As part of the 8th Annual Honor Your Veterans event, a WWII Military Half Track was parked in front of 118 Beacon Street. From left to right: Thaddeus Baxter, U.S. Army; Mike Cintolo, U.S. Marine Corps; Richard Gay, U.S. Army; Bill Brown, U.S. Army; Sly Egidio, U.S. Army; Thomas McGovern, U.S. Army; Rich Duval, U.S. Air Force; Neil Trotta, U.S. Air Force. November 2014.

Photo: Christina Martin

College 101 program, which gives Boston-area public high school students the opportunity to earn up to nine college credits while still in high school, at no cost to the student or the school system.

Kevin McGonigle, a teacher at West Roxbury Academy, was one of the first educators to participate in the program, and he saw firsthand how College 101 changed the lives of local students.

"Many of our students come from rough backgrounds and rough neighborhoods," McGonigle said. "The College 101 program serves as an educational lifeline for these kids. I remember one female student who had it particularly rough. She could have been another statistic. Instead, she used the program as a platform to a four-year college degree and future success."

A personal approach to getting the job done has always been a hallmark of President McGovern's leadership and success. The door to his office was always open to faculty, staff, and students alike.

Upon hearing the news of President McGovern's retirement from Fisher College, several students reached out personally to offer their sincere thanks.

"You've done great. I come to school ready like never before. I challenge class material like never before. I socialize like never before, and I feel comfortable learning like never before. That's what truly

matters," wrote Nicholas Morales '19, a criminal justice major at Fisher. "Thank you for interacting with me personally (saying I looked like some rock star because of my hair) and truly presenting genuine care for all your students."

President McGovern always showed genuine care for Fisher students and the many activities around campus and at Fisher's Accelerated and Professional Studies sites in Brockton, New Bedford, and North Attleboro.

Both he and his wife, Elaine, also showed strong support for Fisher College athletics. This enthusiasm earned President McGovern a spot in the Fisher College Athletics Hall of Fame in 2010.

As an illustrious and historic chapter comes to a close for both Fisher College and Dr. Thomas McGovern, the outgoing president will dedicate his life to making a difference — a significant contribution to his community — through his work for numerous civic organizations and causes. Given a moment to reflect on his own legacy, President McGovern deflected attention from himself, saying, "I am proud of our college's accomplishments and the progress we have achieved. I would like to acknowledge the dedication and hard work of our faculty, alumni, and staff, and especially our students. They have made Fisher College what we are today."

# Fisher's First Lady

BY CASEY SHERMAN

**T**he decade of transformation and growth at Fisher College under President Thomas M. McGovern's leadership was also made possible by Elaine McGovern, the president's wife and "First Lady" of Fisher.

The president, faculty, staff, and students elevated the College to a new and exciting level partly because of the environment in which they worked and learned.

Through her keen ability to understand the importance of social interaction and on-campus support, Mrs. McGovern cultivated a positive family-like environment at Fisher.

"It has been an honor and a privilege to be the 'First Lady' of Fisher College for the past 10 years," said Mrs. McGovern. "Tom had to do all the difficult work, and I was able to do all the fun things. Getting to work with the staff, faculty, and students has been a wonderful experience. I have met so many interesting people over the past 10 years. Fisher College has been my second home and family."

Fisher College has also been a learning experience for the longtime educator. Mrs. McGovern was an elementary school teacher and a school librarian in the couple's hometown of Belmont, Massachusetts. She retired from teaching shortly before her husband was named president of Fisher College.

"I had not worked with young adults before I came to Fisher College," Mrs. McGovern added. "It was a new experience. I quickly adjusted to being part of their world. We loved going to the co-curricular events, from plays to Bingo to sporting events, whenever we could. We were always

proud of our clubs and teams and the staff that support them."

Elaine McGovern carried that Fisher pride over to her emerging role as planner and organizer of many schoolwide events. President and Mrs. McGovern hosted several memorable events over the past decade for students, faculty, and staff as well as alumni. The goal was always the same — to create a warm environment and a positive experience for all.

"For our students, I always aimed to bring the campus community closer, and for our alums, I always strived to give them a reason to come back and remain engaged with Fisher College," she said. "And, of course, I could not have done this without the help and support of the Fisher community."

Mrs. McGovern cherished her time playing host and chaperone to a group of Fisher students visiting Europe for the first time. "Visiting historic cities like Paris, Rome, Florence, and London with our students allowed us all to broaden our own horizons, learn about different cultures, and understand how small the world has become and all the exciting opportunities there are in this new global economy," she said.

Making connections and building relationships has been a most rewarding experience for Elaine McGovern. Whether learning more about the school's rich and diverse history from a graduate of the class of 1948, or catching up with a recent alumnus to discuss his transition into a professional career, she has applied a personal touch to her unofficial duties and has helped forge a bond with those who have passed through the halls of Fisher College.

Members of the Fisher community have



First Lady Elaine McGovern with granddaughter Natalia in October 2010.

marveled at Elaine McGovern's natural ability to connect with people.

"Elaine is unbelievable," said Neil Trotta, associate professor and dean of Fisher College's Graduate Studies Program. "Everyone on campus knows who she is. Mrs. McGovern is well-liked and she has spearheaded many of our signature events."

"To a certain degree, the College has adopted much of Elaine's personality in recent years," said Dr. Janet Kuser, vice president for academic affairs at Fisher College. "There's a real sense of warmth and camaraderie here, reflective of the way that Mrs. McGovern treats all those around her."

President McGovern echoes these sentiments. "My wife Elaine's commitment to Fisher College has been so vital to our success," he said. "I cannot thank her enough for her incredible support of the College and the entire Fisher community over these memorable years."

Dr. McGovern's retirement from Fisher College has been bittersweet for the First Lady.

"I will miss being part of this wonderful community," she said. "Our last graduation day will be very emotional. I am so proud of Tom for what he has accomplished... to help the College grow and become current for our students to be successful in life. Thank you to everyone at Fisher College. You are the best!"



# Parting is Such Sweet Sorrow

*Dr. Dean Walton prepares to retire after nearly four decades at Fisher College*

**ADMIRATION SHARED BY COLLEAGUE AND FRIEND  
JANET KUSER, VICE PRESIDENT, ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

Supportive, encouraging, kind, funny—these are the words most often used to describe Dr. Dean Walton, professor of English and assistant dean, School of Liberal Arts and Sciences. With deep gratitude, I am writing today about this dear colleague, educator, and friend as he prepares for retirement.

Dr. Walton joined the faculty at Fisher College in 1981, and for 36 years he has been changing lives. Over the course of his esteemed career, thousands of students were privileged to have him as a professor. His skill as an educator and love of teaching have always been evident. He engaged students in intellectual discussions about literature and film and taught them to think deeply and discuss respectfully.

As a colleague, he has been equally supportive. His kindness and encouragement have helped launch the careers of many educators. He has been a wonderful colleague, between his humor, puns, positive demeanor, and easy ability to laugh; every email message begins with a compliment or word of thanks. I have never seen him have a bad day.

Not only has Dr. Walton had great influence on students and colleagues, but he also will leave a lasting legacy on Fisher College. He has been at the helm of many curriculum and policy developments, not the least of which has been his stewardship of the liberal arts and the subsequent development of the Bachelor of Arts in liberal arts. One of his lasting legacies will be his leadership in developing the College-wide learning outcomes



Dr. Walton often took his classes to Boston's Public Garden for a change in scenery. He taught this class in front of the George Robert White Memorial Fountain in September 2014.

Photo: Christina Martin

and the detailed research, thought, and guidance used to establish these general education requirements. Despite the regular cycle of review by a full committee of educators, his work has withstood the test of time and will continue to do so.

Personally, I will miss his unwavering support and guidance along with his long lists of handwritten notes, always written in pencil on yellow lined paper. His advice and wisdom have helped me navigate through difficult times and major decisions. He is empathic, honorable, encouraging, and always supportive.

Lives have been forever enhanced through his generosity of spirit, caring, and encouragement; mine is just one. Many have been enriched through the love of reading and intellectual pursuits that he introduced them to. What a great gift and legacy this is. In conclusion, and in honor of his love of Shakespeare, I would like to offer this quote:



"All the world's a stage,  
And all the men and women merely players:  
They have their exits and their entrances;  
And one man in his time plays many parts."  
—Shakespeare, "As You Like It"

On behalf of all those who have had the good fortune to have Dr. Walton play a part in their lives, I offer our gratitude and best wishes for a wonderful retirement filled with joy, love, and literature.

Above: Dean Walton's Fisher College faculty yearbook photo from 1982.

# Fisher College Among 5 Institutions to Establish the Northeast Intercollegiate Athletic Conference

*Unique, dual-association athletic conference is slated to compete beginning in the 2017–2018 season*

BY CHRIS LEBLANC

**F**isher College is pleased to announce the formation of the Northeast Intercollegiate Athletics Conference. Fisher is among five Northeast-area institutions that will make up the NIAC, a change that evolved over two years of discussions with more than a dozen institutions.

Fisher, like its conference counterparts, found itself without a conference in which student-athletes were able to compete. This was the result of a changing college athletics landscape, which impacted conference and association affiliations, especially among smaller institutions. In addition to Fisher, other NIAC charter members include the University of Maine-Fort Kent; State University of New York, Delhi; Villa Maria College of Buffalo, New York; and College of St. Joseph in Rutland, Vermont.

“As a result, we are going to be facing teams more evenly matched to us,” explained Robert Melaragni, vice president of enrollment management and interim athletic director for Fisher College.

In the past, Fisher was among teams composing both the Sunrise and the American Mideast conferences. Both eventually disbanded, however, and forced Fisher to make alternative arrangements. Many of the teams the College has faced in recent years are located in Southern states. According to Melaragni, it made the competition more challenging for Fisher’s athletes, not only on account of the travel, but because they were facing opponents who had the luxury of playing and practicing year-round. Additionally, the ability to make it to postseason play was not merely based on wins and losses, but on the strength of the competition. So Fisher wasn’t always assured a playoff berth, because of the weighted schedule.

Although the other teams included in the conference, located in northern New England and throughout New York state, are not necessarily “local,” Melaragni said they are “more local” than facing opponents from Georgia and Texas, just to name a couple of states.



Vice President of Enrollment Management and Interim Athletic Director Robert Melaragni

“We’ll be working to plan team schedules that make sense for travel,” he said. “For instance, two of the schools in the conference are located in Vermont and northern Maine, so scheduling during the same time would make a lot more sense.”

Conference play will begin in fall 2017 and will bring together colleges with various athletic affiliations. The most immediate goal for the fledgling conference is to grow its membership to at least eight institutions within the next two years.





Julia Schojan '18



Paige Ciavarró '18



Amanda Santiago '18



Victoria Park '17

Photos: Ashley Laramie

## 4 Falcons Named to NAIA Women's Soccer Scholar-Athletes

**Four members of the Fisher Falcons women's soccer team have been named 2016 Daktronics-NAIA Scholar-Athletes.**

Juniors Julia Schojan, Paige Ciavarró, and Amanda Santiago were selected along with senior Victoria Park, who is a triathlete and who was also named to the list in the fall 2016. The four are among 578 student-athletes in the NAIA who received the honor.

To qualify for this honor, student-athletes must be nominated by their head coach, have a minimum grade point average of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale, and must be in their junior year.

### CONFERENCE TOURNAMENT DATES AND LOCATIONS:

#### SUNY DELHI WILL HOST:

NIAC Championships for Men's and Women's Golf (October 1–3, 2017)

Volleyball (October 28–29, 2017)

#### UMFK WILL HOST:

Conference Championships for Men's and Women's Soccer (October 28–29, 2017)

#### COLLEGE OF ST. JOSEPH WILL HOST:

Conference Championships for Men's and Women's Basketball (February 17–18, 2018)

#### FISHER COLLEGE WILL HOST:

Conference Championships for Baseball and Softball (April 28–29, 2018)

## 2 Falcons Named to the All-Tournament Team

**Two members of the men's soccer team were named to the Association of Independent Institutions All-Tournament team.**

Senior midfielder Jordan Markovich and sophomore defenseman Andrew Leveillee were lauded for their performance during the fall season.



Jordan Markovich '17



Andrew Leveillee '19

## Fisher to Add to Athletics Line-up in 2017

**The Fisher Falcon family will be expanding in the 2017–2018 academic year.** Varsity golf will be added to the men's offerings, and the women's varsity teams will include volleyball and cheerleading in the upcoming season.



# Men's Hoops Reaches Postseason, Women Post Best Record in Program History

**The Fisher College men's basketball team was among those named** by the Association of Independent Institutions for the 2017 AII Division II Men's Basketball Conference Championships. The six-team tournament was held February 24–26 on the campus of College of the Ozarks in Point Lookout, Missouri. The Falcons were eliminated in the quarter-final round of play.

The Falcons brought an impressive 20–8 record following a strenuous schedule this season with three NCAA Division I schools including Harvard, Cornell, and University of Massachusetts-Lowell.

Joining Fisher and host College of the Ozarks were Rochester College (Rochester Hills, Michigan), Washington Adventist University (Takoma Park, Maryland), Central Christian College (McPherson, Kansas), and Indiana University Northwest (Gary, Indiana).

The women's basketball team closed out its season with a 12–14 record under the direction of first-year coach Ido Singer. The final represents the best record attained by the team in its history at Fisher.



Senior guard Kyle Holmes takes on Harvard University's Matt Fraschilla at Lavietes Pavilion in November 2016.

Photos: Christina Martin



Fisher College's 2016-2017 women's basketball team, with Assistant Coach Isaac Fowler (far left) and Head Coach Ido Singer (far right).



# After 12 Seasons, Fisher's Head Men's Basketball Coach Retires

BY CHRIS LEBLANC

Men's Basketball Head Coach Dave Lindberg from the sidelines of the Fisher–Harvard game in November 2016.

Photo: Christina Martin

## With Coach Lindberg leading the team, Fisher has been proud to have:

Eight First Team Sunrise Conference Players

Three Sunrise Conference  
Most Valuable Players

Three All Second Team Players

Three NABC Honors Court Recipients

Two NAIA Academic All-Americans

One All First Team All-Conference Player

One Second Team Sunrise Conference Player

One American Midwest Second Team Player

One Sunrise Conference Rookie of the Year

## For more than a decade, he stood on the sidelines and helped build the Fisher College men's basketball program

from a team still in its infancy to one that can boast repeated returns to postseason play. But after leading his team for 12 seasons, Head Coach Dave Lindberg announced the 2016–2017 season will be his last.

Coach Lindberg's decision comes following another successful season for the Falcons, who went 20–9. The team was among those to compete in the AII conference championships and was eliminated in the quarterfinal round of play, as mentioned on the previous page.

As a coach, Lindberg worked to establish an up-tempo system built around well-rounded players. But Lindberg taught them more than just the game, said Darrell Grady '17, a senior guard. Grady said Lindberg prepared them for life after basketball. "He always valued us as more than just basketball players," Grady said. "He taught us to always prepare for the future because you never know who will be watching."

Since arriving at Fisher College, Lindberg has guided the Falcons to four Sunrise Conference Championships as well as back-to-back trips to the NAIA National Tournament. Lindberg began

his college coaching career as an assistant coach at Fisher College before taking over the program halfway through the 2005–2006 campaign.

"I know it was a very difficult decision for Coach Lindberg to step down," Fisher College Interim Athletic Director Robert Melaragni said. "He has been an integral part of our athletic department and will be greatly missed on the court. Whoever steps into the head coaching role will certainly have some big shoes to fill."

During more than a decade at the helm, Coach Lindberg has led the Falcons to an overall record of 186–162 (.535). He led the Falcons to back-to-back 20-win seasons (22 in 2008–2009 and 25 in 2009–2010). During the 2009–2010 campaign, the Falcons strung together a national-best 20-game winning streak. The team also surpassed the 20-win mark in 2014–2015 and 2016–2017. In 2011–2012, Fisher College had the nation's leader in rebounding. Coach Lindberg also has coached an impressive eight 1,000-point scorers in his time on the bench.

In the offseasons, Coach Lindberg has spoken at basketball clinics throughout the Northeast, and his players have participated as on-the-floor demonstrators in the Nike Championship Basketball Clinics.



Dave Lindberg in March 2009 in a game versus Oklahoma Wesleyan University.

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*July 2015 – December 2016*

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Beverly Cleathero '62  
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James Bayles  
Jacqueline Bevins '61  
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Shiela M. Lally

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tion/Walter Dillingham

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Shana Riffley Lambert '67

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Debra Kamm-Pelles

Ellen Lyons

Christina Martin

Sarah McSweeney

Chamberlain

Milhench Inc. John Moran

Charlotte Nason '56

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Steven J. Pelles

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The Print House

Dean F. Walton

Carol J. Wilcox

## Centennial Club

**(\$100- \$249)**

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Lynne I. Bertram '62

Marcia Bigney '52

Robert Boomhower

Austin Brodie '10

Mary Ellen Brueckner '69

Barbara F. Burke '54

Carolyn Carlson '64

Amy Ye Cho '10

Amber J. Connolly '11

Deb Crafts

Rosemarie A. Danner '79

Nancy Di Benedetto '60

Barbara A. Downs '64

M. Jane Eaton '47

JoAnn Evans '80

Gail Flaherty '74

June Freemanzon '52

Nancy M. Gale '59

Helen M. Geogorian '61

Meryl Givner

Shawn Hartman

Janice Jurash '60

Pamela Laramie

Judith Lawler '59

Rob Lipson

Vivian Lipson

Ethel Manahan '48

Amanda Matarese

Janet L. Mattozzi '60

Michael Meadows

Kathy Mills '90

Whitney N. Napoli '06

Phyllis Nappi '67

Margaret E. Neil '93

Lindy Newton

Mike Novia

Mary-Ellen Oberhauser '64

Cara Parkoff

Nancy E. Pithis

Elizabeth Podolski

Richard D. Potter

Jennifer Reed

Dan Robinson

Laura Rogers '85

Pat Salvi

Carolyn Schlegel '57

Jacqueline Shamberger '57

Susan E. Smith '60

Anna W. Spellissy '43

Mary Testa '46

Karen Thomson

Kandace Van Gorder '73

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Sandra L. Wallace

Donna Woods

Eini Woods

Seth M. Woods

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**(Up to \$99)**

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Joanne Bates '57

Kristin M. Bello

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Robert Blouin

Linda Borghi

Allison Braswell

Danielle Bulger

Neil Calabro

Anne Cardente

Peter Cassino

Herbert L. Chisholm '12

Marcia Clark '59

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Matthew Connolly

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Charles S. Crayton

Mackenzie Cushman

Nancy Davis

Judith L. Davis '43

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Jose A. Diaz '09

Donna DiFiore

Janice Dominguez '15

Karen Dunton '10

Rich Edstrom

Tom Englehardt '09

Nancy Farrar Tofferi '55

Lisa Fey

Katherine A. Flygare '70

Joan Forte '58

Muriel Gelinas

Lorraine Gettings '58

Lydia A. Gonsalves '98

Katie Harrington

Dot Haskell

Patricia Hebert



# 118 Beacon Society

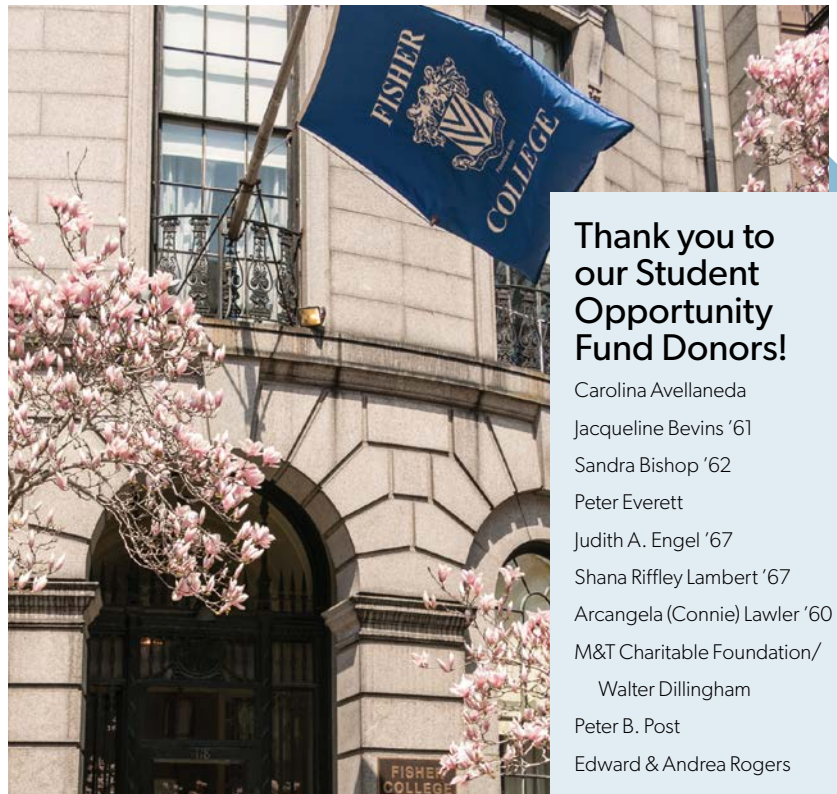


**F**or more than 75 years, 118 Beacon Street has served as home to Fisher College and as a haven to its students. Thousands of students have ascended the marble staircase in the grand lobby in their quest for knowledge.

In many ways, that iconic staircase symbolizes the transformative power of a Fisher College education. Unfortunately, many would-be Fisher students cannot obtain a college degree because they do not have the financial resources to pay for higher education. They recognize the value of the opportunities offered by Fisher College, but without help the doors to 118 Beacon remain closed. Opening these doors requires not only the courage to dream of a brighter future but also the financial assistance to make that dream a reality.

Now more than ever, Fisher College students need our support. Therefore, for the first time in its history, the College is launching a scholarship fund — the Student Opportunity Fund. By donating \$1,000, you will become a member of the 118 Beacon Society and forever be identified as a founder of the Student Opportunity Fund. Your tax-deductible gift will ensure students are able to claim their rightful place within the walls of 118 Beacon Street, fulfilling their dreams of obtaining a college education.

For more information about becoming part of the 118 Beacon Society please contact 617-236-8822 or [alumni@fisher.edu](mailto:alumni@fisher.edu).



## Thank you to our Student Opportunity Fund Donors!

Carolina Avellaneda  
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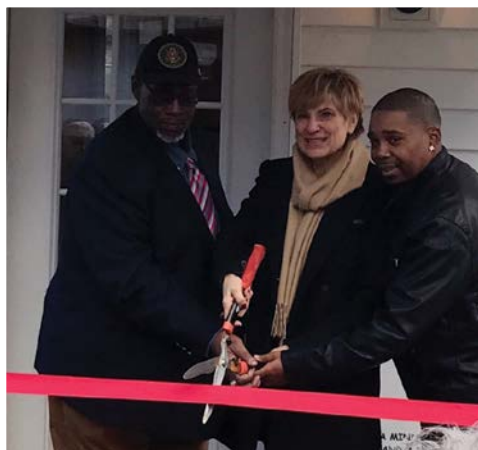
Heidi Henderschott	Michael Pithis '11
Marjorie Hewitt	Marshalyne Pullen '56
Rodney Hinkle	Jillian Purvis
Cheryl A. Hovey	Sandra Quelle
John Jolley '09	Glenna Richardson '59
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Kevin McWilliams	Willem Wallinga
Scott Merriam	Janet Walsh '66
Sandra Mumford '62	Catherine Wells '55
Karen A. Myers '68	Jeff White
Avraham Nahoumi	Marilyn White '54
Bob & Tammy Olson	Carolyn Woods
Nicole Palermo	Colin Woods
Amanda Parziale	Colleen Woods
Nancy M. Pedranti	Caroline Wright
Barbara M. Peterson '52	Barbara Zerillo
Cara Pichette	





(L to R) Reverend Norman Graves, Nancy Pithis, Anthony Covington

Photo: Nancy Pithis



# Making a House a Home ... Again

BY JANICE DOMINGUEZ '15

**N**ancy Pithis, dean of international academic operations and curriculum development, has spent more than three decades roaming the halls of Fisher College. During her career, she has held many titles, but this past year one more was added to the list—hero.

It all started in 1962. Jack and Arline Greenberg had just bought a house on Dixon Avenue in Liberty, New York, which would become their lifelong home and where they would raise their two children, Nancy and Ronald. Never did they imagine they would be leaving behind a legacy through their home.

Years later, and soon after losing both parents, Nancy and Ronald were facing a tough decision. What were they to do with their childhood home? Although selling it seemed like the only option, the New Beginnings Community Worship Center (located just a few blocks away) would provide an alternative. Rev. Norman Graves and a few of his parishioners were developing the Begin Again Transitional Services project—an initiative to provide transitional housing and supportive services for homeless veterans. Pithis learned of the project from church member Anthony Covington, a close friend and a longtime neighbor of her parents. He told Pithis about BATS, and she knew immediately where the house should go.

“My father was a World War II veteran. He didn’t talk much about his time in the service. In fact, he downplayed it and told my brother and me that he was a cook,” Pithis said. “But that wasn’t true—he served on the front with General Patton, was involved in many interesting things and received many awards.” Through BATS, Pithis said, she and her brother were given a renewed sense of purpose for their parents’ home. Where questions and doubts had once been, there was now clarity. “We were

either going to help raise the money to buy the home, or we were going to give it to the church,” she said. “It just felt right that we would donate the house to this wonderful cause.” They signed over the home to the church in February 2015.

But the work was just beginning. The home needed to be renovated and furnished to accommodate the new tenants, so the BATS crew began their fundraising efforts. Then, on November 11, 2016—Veterans Day—dozens of guests, including Nancy and Ronald, attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony. The newly renovated home, which includes handicap accessibility, can accommodate five to six veterans at a time. “It is such a huge deal [in Sullivan County, New York]. My lawyer who helped me through all this asked if I realized that my brother and I were now famous,” Pithis quipped. “I find that notion silly, because the bottom line is, this was such a win for us; we got to do something nice for people. It is pretty spectacular how this all came together.”

Pithis’ attitude toward her contribution is one of the many reasons that make her a hometown hero and a great example. Nancy and Ronald lived in that house their entire childhood. The emotional connection made it both hard and rewarding to let it go. “It was more than I expected,” she said. “I knew it was going to be weird seeing the house renovated with other people’s things in it. It was good and it was sad all at once.”

The best part for the siblings is knowing their parents’ legacy will live on forever. “My parents were a part of the community, but they were not prominent people,” she said. “But now there are pictures and plaques and my father’s service record hanging up in this house. This house will live on, hopefully indefinitely, honoring them for this gift, and that is overwhelming and so special.”

To learn more about BATS and this project, contact Pithis at [npithis@fisher.edu](mailto:npithis@fisher.edu) or 617-236-8814.





(L to R) Bill Brown, U.S. Army; Andrew Gilfole, National Guard; Giselle Sterling, U.S. Marine Corps; Sly Egidio, U.S. Army; Francisco Urena, U.S. Marine Corps; Neil Trotta, U.S. Air Force; Norman Chamberlain, U.S. Army

## A Decade of Honoring Veterans Observed During Fisher College Event

**Fisher College hosted the 10th Annual Honor Your Veterans celebration**, an event that recognizes the service and dedication of U.S. veterans connected to the Fisher community, on Wednesday, November 2.

The event featured keynote speaker Giselle Sterling, commissioner of veterans services for the City of Boston. Sterling is the first woman and first Latina to hold the position. Prior to attaining this role in 2012, Sterling served in the United States Marine Corps. In 2000 she completed basic training at Parris Island, South Carolina, and she was soon after trained as a field radio operator with deployments to Afghanistan, the Philippines, Guam, Diego Garcia, and Japan. Sterling was honorably discharged in 2004. For her service, she received the Good Conduct Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and the National Defense Service Medal.

Fisher College also presented its fourth annual Distinguished Veterans Awards to Francisco Urena, secretary of veterans services for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The event also featured a World War II M3 Halftrack. Throughout the day, students, faculty, staff, and neighbors were invited to take pictures of the historic army vehicle. M3 Halftracks were widely used during World War II as communications vehicles.

## Student Veterans Center Now Open on Fisher College Campus


**Student veterans of Fisher College now have a space to call their own**, with the new Student Veterans Center now officially open on campus. For the February 5 ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new center, President Thomas McGovern was joined by Giselle Sterling, Boston's commissioner of veterans' services; Brian Marchand of the Fisher Chapter of Student Veterans of America; and Dr. Neil Trotta. The veterans' center was built through a grant of \$10,000 awarded to Fisher by the Home Depot Foundation and SVA.

The newly formed chapter was established at Fisher College toward the end of the 2015–2016 academic year, and currently has 16 members. The purpose of the organization is to provide student veterans with a source of support, advocacy, and camaraderie. The center will offer members of the organization a place to meet, both as a group and socially.

"As a designated military-friendly school, we are very proud that Student Veterans of America and the Home Depot Foundation have recognized Fisher College and its student veterans in this way," said Dr. Trotta, veterans liaison for Fisher College. "Because our student veterans tend to be a little older than the traditional college student and have had some very significant life experiences, it's important to provide them with a space where they fit in and feel comfortable."



(L to R) Neil Trotta, Thomas McGovern, Giselle Sterling, Brian Marchand



Minerva Marciano presents on her MIT internship experience.

# From Fisher to MIT

*Navigating the internship process has given one Fisher student clarity and direction*

BY MINERVA MARCANO '17

Photo: Christina Martin

Over the summer, I completed an internship at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology called *Emergent Behaviors of Integrated Cellular Systems*. The purpose of the program is to create new scientific discipline aimed at solving real-world problems in security, health, and the environment through the development of living, multicellular machines. My project focused on engineering perfusable, three-dimensional microvascular networks using a microfluidic system. Working alongside Ph.D. candidates, investigators, and other laboratory faculty, I learned firsthand about conducting research experiments, and received guidance about exploring career paths in the field of microbiology.

Throughout the summer, after working long hours in the laboratory, I learned how to culture cells, grow microvascular networks, and quantify the perfusability, length, and diameter of each microvascular network using binarized and skeletonized images. I learned how to write an abstract and a research proposal, and also created a poster to present to others. At the end of the program, I attended several poster sessions, symposiums, and conferences. Among those was the annual EBICS retreat in Chicago, where several institutions joined together to share research.

At the urging of my biology professor, Dr. Danna Zeiger, I secured the internship through a program called Research Experiences for Undergraduates. This program grants undergraduate students the opportunity to gain experience in a laboratory setting by conducting research and developing skills that

not only aid them as a student but also open horizons to possible career options and advance their education. Although securing this internship was not an easy task, it provided me with valuable insight into such a competitive application process.

Among the tasks I was required to complete was writing a personal statement about how I would benefit from participating in an internship program. I was lacking any hands-on experience in a laboratory, so I participated in a two-week internship at Charles River Laboratory, a diagnostic lab in Wilmington, Massachusetts, shadowing technicians in the areas of serology, histology, and bacteriology. Through that experience I felt confident I could speak to what I had learned and how it would apply to any future endeavors. I was also required to provide three letters of recommendation. It was through this experience that I came to appreciate the personal attention I have received at Fisher College and the relationships I've established with members of the faculty.

In the end, the hard work and focus paid off, as I was accepted to the EBICS program at MIT. Fortunately, my journey at MIT did not end during the summer, and I was granted the opportunity to continue my project throughout the academic school year. I could not have been happier to be in such a welcoming and enriching environment where I formed relationships with professionals in the STEM field. These relationships, I hope, will only grow stronger, and the guidance that I receive not only from the Fisher College faculty but also MIT will only push me closer to my desired career path. I hope to continue my education after obtaining my B.A. in biology and to obtain my Ph.D.

# Psychology Rocks for This Fisher Grad

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*Time at Fisher opened doors  
Ryan Koch '16 never considered*

BY CHRIS LEBLANC

**W**hen he picked up the saxophone and guitar during his formative years, there was no question: Ryan Koch was going to be a rock star. He spent the better part of his adolescence jamming as a member of a few garage bands.

"We weren't very good," he confessed, in retrospect. "But we always had a good time."

Despite the admission, Koch was determined to hone his craft and applied to the Berklee College of Music. Fate had other plans, however, and when Koch didn't get accepted, he forged ahead with his Plan B. But while Koch may have abandoned what he thought to be his one true love, he was well on his way to becoming a rock star, in a manner of speaking.

A 2016 graduate of Fisher College with a Bachelor of Arts in psychology, he is looking forward to continuing his education and earning his master's degree in applied experimental and human factors psychology. Koch credits Fisher for propelling him in a new direction, which has included work as a research assistant at MIT for the past two summers.

"When I started out, I expected I would end up working in a clinical setting," he said. "I had no idea [working toward a

master's] was even an option, and without Fisher, I'm not sure I would have been able to take advantage of the opportunities presented to me."

Koch is now looking to participate in a post-baccalaureate program in computer science until he enters grad school, which will give him the technical training he needs to achieve his goals.

"Post-baccalaureate programs are equivalent to a minor in some cases," he explained. "These programs are designed to take people from a liberal arts background and provide fundamental technical training to allow them to go into a more technical field."

Koch spent two years working on the Fisher campus as a research assistant for the Fisher College Center for Leadership in Public Service, under the guidance of Director Alex Wagner. He secured that position after participating in a faculty-led research project on social media, through which he co-authored a report with Fisher College Assistant Professor Dr. Tunde Turi-Markovic: "The Effects of Social Media on Psychopathology."

While a student at Fisher, Koch participated in four conference presentations, received an award for outstanding research, and was eventually promoted to senior research assistant. It was that experience that caught the eyes of folks at MIT's Lincoln





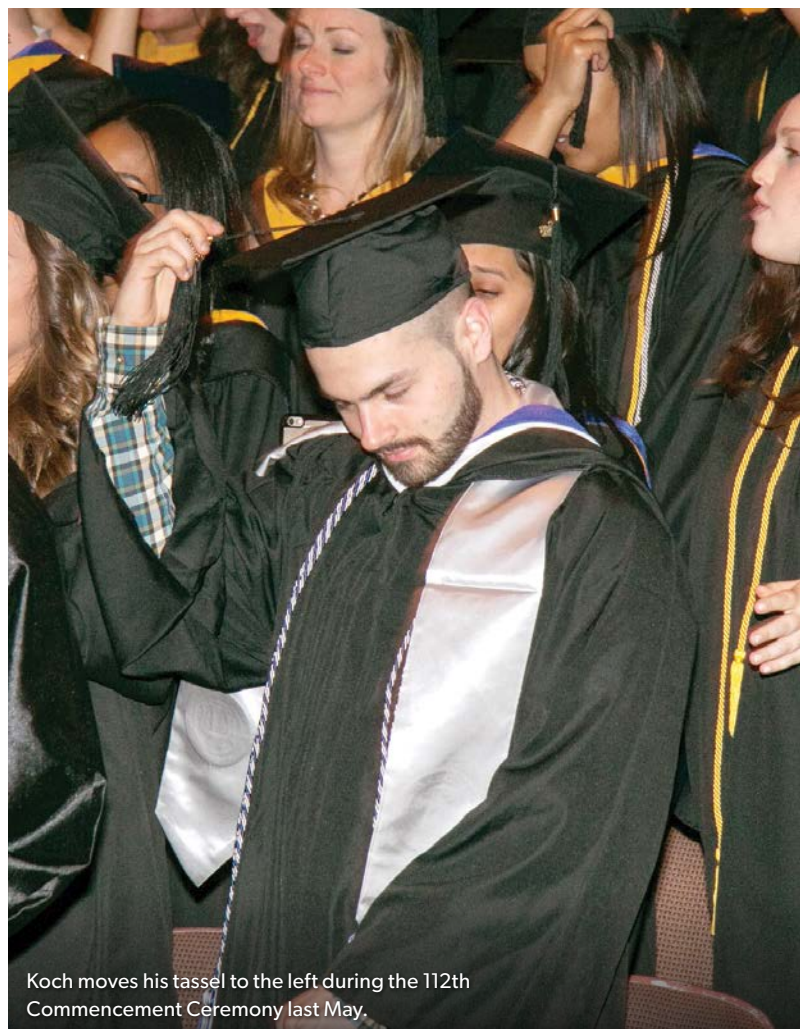
Photo: Christina Martin

Laboratory, where Koch was hired to work on video analytics research projects focused on health and law enforcement. That is where he was introduced to human factors research, and he hasn't looked back.

Simply stated, human factors refers to "the marriage of psychology and engineering: the application of a scientific body of knowledge about human strengths and weaknesses to the design of technology," according to the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society. Fascinated by the discipline, Koch said his immediate goal is to acquire as much experience as possible, which will enable him to tackle his longer-term goal of "inventing things." Beyond anything else, Koch would describe himself as a creative person, so there is little surprise that he has embarked on his current journey.

"The work in this area is tangible. You can see how you can help people on a broader scale," he explained. "There is an opportunity to have a much bigger impact through my work."

Although Koch is looking forward to making his mark, he isn't certain what that impact will be. In January 2017, he took



Koch moves his tassel to the left during the 112th Commencement Ceremony last May.

an internship with Nuance Communications, conducting human factors research on automotive technology and web tools. He also has an opportunity to work with Charles River Analytics in a temporary six- to nine-month position in which he will be performing human factors research on social robots in their "human effectiveness group." Following completion of that assignment, he'll move forward with the Charles River Analytics internship. But although he is careful not to point to one particular opportunity or area of specialization, he is focused on gaining as much experience and making as many professional connections as possible.

"I'm trying to acquire a diverse set of experiences in the field to discover what really interests me the most, and to help guide me toward an appropriate program of study and creative outlet to accomplish my goals," he said.

The rock star Koch envisioned himself becoming so long ago is different from the one he is becoming. The future is now brighter than ever as he continues to learn, grow, and experience the world of psychology.

# Shutting Down Online Pharmacies to Combat the Opioid Crisis

*Fisher professor leads students through investigation process with real-world, jaw-dropping results*

BY CHRIS LEBLANC

**W**hen reflecting on the question, “What are the greatest influences in life?” one might answer by referencing parents, a respected educator, a sports hero, or maybe even the president of the United States. But Fisher College professor Garth Bruen’s answer would come as a

surprise—game-show hosts.

He credits these personalities from his youth for his energetic style of presentation. “They were always ‘up,’” he explained. “There was always such positive energy, and people respond to that.”

As a child in Newton, Massachusetts, he was always interested in law enforcement. So it was to everyone’s delight that he brought practical experience to the

classroom of Fisher College as a faculty member in the criminal justice program.

Armed with his love for investigations, an intimate knowledge of computer forensics, and a game-show host demeanor, Bruen offers the Fisher classroom focus on cybercrime investigations. His 2016 spring-semester students compiled an important piece of research that focused on the availability of opiate painkillers

## Expert Insight on the Opioid Crisis Offered at Fisher Symposium

**In November 2016, Fisher College hosted a panel discussion on efforts to combat the opioid epidemic in Massachusetts.** The panel discussion featured four leaders in addressing the crisis on legislative, public health, and public safety initiatives: Massachusetts State Rep. Kevin J. Kuros; Dr. Allison Burns, founder and CEO of End Mass Overdose Inc.; Amy Leone, mental health counselor, prevention supervisor, and owner of Community Impact; and Garth Bruen, criminal justice professor at Fisher College



and presenter of “Online Opioids: Report Concerning Ease of Access, Highlighting Potential Solutions Using Existing Laws and Technology,” a study completed by Bruen’s criminal justice students and published last year.

This conversation marks the first of two such events at Fisher this year, bringing together leaders who are collaborating on a common cause.



without a prescription through online pharmacy sites. This published report was responsible for shutting down more than 200 online pharmacies.

The published report comes during a time when focus is being placed on the opioid crisis in Massachusetts, especially in recent years, as the state legislature has taken on the battle to limit the availability of prescription painkillers and combat heroin addiction as it finds its way into suburbia. As Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker assembled a work group of public policy and health officials to examine the matter statewide, Bruen found himself taking an interest in the work.

"I read the reports that came out of the governor's work group, and while they were tackling the problem from a variety of angles, they were still missing part of it," he said. "They weren't focused on the internet."

Bruen seized the opportunity and brought the idea to his students in the Special Topics in Computer Forensics classroom. He would lead them through the process of undertaking an internet investigation. For several months, the team of junior and senior students, under Bruen's guidance, conducted research, moving through each phase to identify sources of opiates readily available despite no prescription.

"This entire process was so rewarding," said Bruen. "To watch these students go through the process and understand, to see them just 'get it,' was worth it."

As the students left during the summer months, Bruen presented the findings at several conferences, including the Massachusetts Association of Crime Analysts annual conference. He said he plans to continue his focus on these sites. Because there is no regulation, he said there is a lot of work that needs to be done to restrict the sale of the painkillers.

Bruen came to Fisher in spring 2015, following a career that included investigations

Faculty member Garth Bruen used real-life challenges to lead his students in finding a solution for the sale of opiates through online sites.



Photo: Christina Martin

and information technology. He earned undergraduate degrees in criminal justice from Northeastern University and software engineering from Suffolk University, where he also earned a graduate degree in public policy. Bruen said he had seen countless oddities during his career and he wanted to be able to relay that to his students. More important, he said his background made him uniquely qualified to share his knowledge of cybercrime in a way that was truly meaningful and applicable.

"As I would speak about cybercrime and present to those in law enforcement, I found there was a lack of understanding of the fundamentals," Bruen explained. "Fisher is open to change, and that has enabled me to bring this curriculum to my students."

According to Bruen, although there are a considerable number of criminal justice degree programs, very few include a focus on cybercrime. As a result, he said there is a propensity for detectives to approach cyber investigations the way they would

any other crime. Because of his varied background, Bruen is changing that through his curriculum and hopes others will follow his lead.

Through an ability to simplify the complicated, he said, it is incredibly satisfying to present such information to students in a way that can be applied in real-world situations. While he admits not all students under his tutelage will follow a career path in law enforcement, watching them move through the process in the classroom and come through with a thorough understanding of cyber investigation has been truly rewarding.

"No one should be afraid to tackle this material," he said.

Cyber investigation isn't traditionally thought of as a game, but then, Merriam-Webster does define "game" as "a procedure or strategy for gaining an end." So, perhaps it makes sense that Bruen's fascination with cybercrime began with a love of game shows.



## Espresso Yourself Through Song, Spoken Word, and Poetry

**Espresso Yourself, an open mic-style event that takes place one evening a month,** has brought together the Fisher community over coffee to hear from talented Fisher students. Offering both original and well-known pieces of spoken word or poetry, stand-up comedy, and instrumental and vocal performances, students have made creativity and expression come alive at Fisher, tapping into an otherwise hidden artistic community at the College. The series has even inspired a new event—Fisher's Got Talent, a more traditional talent show open to the Fisher community. The show will be held Tuesday, April 25, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. in Alumni Hall.

Top: Minh Vuong and Eugenie Coste perform in the newly transformed Library classroom. Photos: Caroline Wright



## Fisher Chapter of SHRM Gets Insight on the Future of HR

**Jeff Pon, Ph.D., chief human resources and strategy officer of the Society of Human Resource Management, speaks to a capacity crowd at Fisher College.** Fisher boasts one of the only active SHRM student chapters in the state of Massachusetts. Dr. Pon shared insight into the future of HR management..

## National Day of Service and Remembrance

**Fisher faculty, staff, and students marked the 15th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks and the September 11th National Day of Service and Remembrance with a service project.** Volunteers gathered to construct nearly 300 care packages for veterans currently served through the New England Center and Home for Veterans, joining hundreds of thousands of Americans across the country in volunteer service. The project, Remembering 9/11: Leading Change and Connecting Communities Through Service, took place on Wednesday, September 7, 2016.



Volunteers stand behind the care packages they assembled.



# Fisher Lauded for Digital Learning Initiative

**Fisher was selected from more than 100 digital courseware initiatives in the Online Learning Consortium's first-ever Digital Learning Innovation Award.**

As one of three institutions and five faculty-led teams, Fisher was selected from among 106 submissions for advancing undergraduate student success through the adoption of digital courseware. Team members include Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Janet Kuser, Associate Bursar Bradley Mish, Assistant Dean of Academic Affairs Carla DeLucia, and

Assistant Professor and Academic Administrator for Mathematics Willem Wallinga.

Fisher was recognized for its Project ASCEND (Advanced System of Collaborative E-learning Numeracy Development), which was established in 2012 with a goal of finding better ways to help students in developmental mathematics courses master required math skills and complete coursework. Project ASCEND incorporates a digital courseware solution to aid developmental math students in learning such skills.



(L to R) Brad Mish, Willem Wallinga, Carla DeLucia, Janet Kuser

## A 'Big, Easy' Presentation for Fisher CJ Students



(L to R) Paige Ciavarro, Allix Kallini, Meridith Spencer, Victoria Park



(L to R) Meridith Spencer, Danielle Messere, Marcus Rodriguez, Patricia Rosario, Joseph Fetter

**Last November, seven juniors and seniors from the criminal justice program attended and presented at the American Society of Criminology's annual meeting in New Orleans.**

ASC is an "international organization whose members pursue scholarly, scientific, and professional knowledge concerning the measurement, etiology, consequences, prevention, control, and treatment of crime and delinquency.

ASC's annual meeting provides

scholars the opportunity to meet and discuss current trends and research in the field of criminology and criminal justice, to present their own research, and to network with other professionals in the field. This conference provided the criminal justice research team the opportunity to present its research.

Tori Park '17, Allix Kallini '17, and Paige Ciavarro '18 examined incidents of violence committed by NFL players off the field, the punishments meted out by the NFL and the criminal justice system, and the NFL's attempts to curb violence among its players. Using data from 825 incidents in the USA Today NFL Player Arrest Database, they found 36.76 percent of all criminal incidents began as a result of a traffic incident; only 9.9 percent of players were cut from their teams as a result of the incident in question; and the most common offenses involved drugs, alcohol, driving under the influence, domestic violence, and assault.

Marcus Rodriguez '17, Danielle Messere '18, Patricia Rosario '18, and Joseph Fetter '17 examined how Title IX is used to ensure colleges and universities properly address sexual violence. Their research also provided an overview of the current state of Title IX investigations, and examined best practices for colleges and universities. Title IX refers to 20 U.S.C. § 1681(a) and provides: "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance." The team examined 338 Title IX investigations, of which 57 had been resolved. Nearly half of all investigations involved multiple complaints, and the majority of those cases were closed as a result of a resolution agreement.

## Time May Pass, but Fond Memories Remain

**Many years have passed since Fisher College alum Bernice Hingham Potvin '50 paid a visit to her alma mater.** Potvin visited the Beacon Street campus to reminisce about the time she spent at the college and found a copy of her yearbook, which she happily shared with President Thomas McGovern and Amanda Matarese, director of student activities and alumni affairs. After more than 60 years away, she said she was excited to return to the college that played such a pivotal role in her life.

Fisher College alumni are encouraged to stop by or update us with news of their lives since their days on campus. Visit us online at [www.fisher.edu/alumni](http://www.fisher.edu/alumni) and update your contact information or share a class note. We'd love to hear from you!



(L to R) Amanda Matarese, Bernice Hingham Potvin '50, and President McGovern

## New Fisher Alumni Chapter Calls Boston Home

**Last fall, Fisher College held the inaugural reception for the New England Alumni Chapter of the Alumni**

**Association, bringing together graduates of the College, faculty, and staff.** Co-presidents Kyle Grenier '07 and Janice Dominguez '15 hope to promote and sustain strong ties with, as well as provide networking opportunities for New England-area alums. They also hope to foster a spirit of camaraderie and encourage Fisher graduates to continue contact with their alma mater.

Fisher alumni from any area who are interested in joining and organizing a chapter or club should contact the Alumni Affairs Office at 617-236-8822 or [alumni@fisher.edu](mailto:alumni@fisher.edu).

*Photo: Jenny Delgado*



Director of Student Activities and Alumni Affairs Amanda Matarese (far left) with First Lady Elaine McGovern, Vice President for Academic Affairs Janet Kuser, and Vice President of Operations and General Counsel Carolina Avellaneda (three far right) with the New England Alumni Chapter members.

## Tri-state Alumni Chapter Roots for the Home Team

**Regardless of which team you were rooting for, members of the Fisher College Alumni Association Tri-state Chapter were all for Fisher!**

The group met and attended a game between the New York Yankees and Boston Red Sox last fall. The event was held at Yankee Stadium and brought together a multigenerational group.

Events such as this one are held throughout the year. Share your pictures and stories with us at [alumni@fisher.edu](mailto:alumni@fisher.edu).



(L to R) Mary Moceris '56 and friends, Nancy Di Benedetto '60, Judith Engel '67



# Upcoming EVENTS

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 2017**

**New York City Reception**

*New York, NY*

**SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 2017**

**Athletics Banquet & Hall of Fame**

*Boston, MA*

**THURSDAY, APRIL 27 – SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 2017**

**Fisher College Drama Club Presents:  
The Sound of Music**

*Boston, MA*

**MONDAY, MAY 1, 2017**

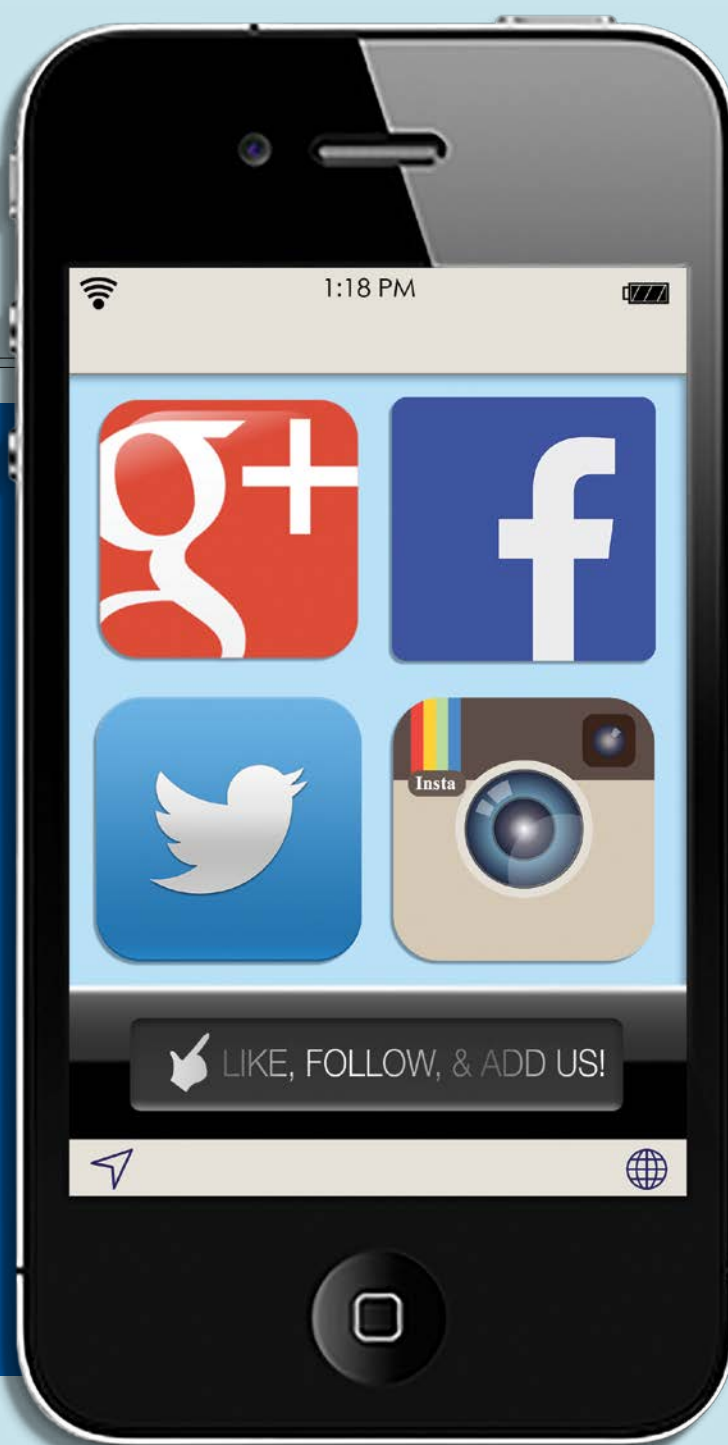
**Falcon Farewell**

*Boston, MA*

**THURSDAY, MAY 11, 2017**

**Fisher College Graduates & New  
England Chapter Rooftop Reception**

*Boston, MA*



If you're Interested in  
attending an event please  
contact [alumni@fisher.edu](mailto:alumni@fisher.edu)

*Like "Fisher College" and "Fisher College  
Alumni Association" on Facebook and  
Google+, and follow "@FisherCollege"  
on Twitter and Instagram.*



#### FISHER TODAY

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## Athletics Banquet & Hall of Fame

*Saturday, April 22, 2017 • 7:00 p.m.*

ALUMNI HALL • FISHER COLLEGE • 118 BEACON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02116

Tickets will be sold at the door for \$30 per person • RSVP at [alumni@fisher.edu](mailto:alumni@fisher.edu)

## Announcing Fisher's 2017 Hall of Fame Inductee

Falcon baseball standout Victor LeBron '15

