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A COMMON LINK

Jesuit Worldwide Learning and Regis University quench a thirst for learning in the most marginalized places on earth — refugee camps.

10 | A VISION AND A GIFT
Alumnus Andy Anderson’s $10 million gift was the largest in University history.

18 | THE POWER OF WOMEN
Regis celebrates 50 years of coeducation on campus.
OUR BEST SHOT

Incoming freshmen get a glimpse into the Colorado lifestyle through the University's Outdoor Adventure Program.
Regis University Magazine is published biannually by the Office of Marketing and Communications for the University community of alumni, benefactors, faculty, staff, students and families.

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ON THE COVER: Refugees inside the Kakuma Refugee Camp in Kenya hold hands during a Mass.

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FEATURES

18 HALL OF FEMME
In 1968 the United States was rapidly changing. At Regis, this meant the first class of exceptional women stepped on campus.

LIBERATING FORCE
BY LUKE GRAHAM
For nearly a decade Regis University has provided education to refugees around the world through Jesuit Worldwide Learning.

IN EVERY ISSUE

THIS IS REGIS
These are the stories of who we are and what we believe.

CLASS NOTES
Anderson College of Business
Dean Tim Keane, left, and Andy Anderson embrace at a naming of the college in October.

READ THE FULL STORY, PAGE 10.
Dear friends,

When I recently led our Board of Trustees on a campus tour, many were retracing familiar steps from their college days.

The weather was perfect and we often would simply stop to admire the natural beauty of our world-class arboretum.

But then, much to their surprise, we headed indoors to Loyola Hall Room 115, and the environment changed dramatically.

The cinder blocks and wood paneling, lack of cool air and a distinct difficulty in navigating the narrow hallways to enter the classroom was an eye-opening experience.

The visit led several trustees to reflect on their role in helping with our Master Plan priorities. We have already begun to reinvest in our physical campus with the Student Center and Main Hall renovations, the Field House and residence hall updates and the shiny new Vincent J. Boryla Apartments near campus.

Now we need to bring a laser-like focus to our new Master Plan — the first revision of the plan in almost two decades.

The plan is the result of nearly two years of community discernment and analysis. It’s the product of surveys, focus groups and retreats and has included everyone from freshmen and staff to community members and trustees.

As a result, the Master Plan embraces new opportunities along Federal Boulevard; envisions growing our capacity for much-needed housing, dining and gathering space; and preserves beautiful open space — all to ensure that Regis can provide the facilities and infrastructure needed to continue to deliver exceptional education.

This framework for the next 20 years will allow us to thoughtfully respond to opportunities like gifts and partnerships so that Regis’ core values and priorities are incorporated.

Please visit regis.edu/masterplan for more information, and reach out with any questions, comments or concerns. Working together we can build the 21st century campus our students, employees, alumni and friends deserve.

Gratefully,

JOHN P. FITZGIBBONS, S.J.
PRESIDENT
GETTING UP AGAIN

Why Jesuit Matters: Joan Slaughter, RC '91

It's a daunting mission: Joan Slaughter wants to eradicate all pediatric cancers.

Yet Slaughter, RC '91, is not discouraged. The magnitude of her undertaking propels Slaughter, executive director of the Morgan Adams Foundation, deeper into funding promising cancer research to improve treatment outcomes.

Slaughter and her husband, Steven Adams, started the foundation 20 years ago after their 5-year-old daughter, Morgan, died from a malignant brain tumor.

The couple started the foundation, in part, to deal with their grief.

"Burying a child will tear a family to shreds," she said. Slaughter's husband died from an abdominal cancer in 2013, leaving her and her two children, now young adults, wrestling with hefty, existential questions.

A lifelong Catholic, Slaughter struggled to find God in this additional, shattering experience. Part of the answer, she has learned, is in her family's survival, and sharing that hope with other families struggling with cancer.

"That's where my personal service comes in," Slaughter said. "I find myself spending time with families who are devastated and I am maybe able to help them a little tiny bit know that at some point, they will be able to get up again."

The Morgan Adams Foundation directs $1 million a year toward cutting-edge clinical research in the areas of brain, spine and central-nervous-system tumors, focusing on collaborative efforts at multiple institutions.

The foundation has provided $4.7 million in research dollars to Children's Hospital Colorado since 2001, but Slaughter wants to do more.

"We exist at one of the coolest points of time," she said. "Once they mapped the human genome and really started to understand the genetic machinations of our cells, technology started to catch up with human ingenuity. Things are changing so rapidly, it's extraordinary."

Slaughter credits Regis with providing a well-rounded education and approach to life that has helped her run the foundation and navigate life's bumpy ride. An accounting double major, she enjoyed Regis' interdisciplinary discussions — the mashups of science and religion or philosophy and economics.

"In my program they really turned us on our heads and invited us to critically examine — really — everything," she said. "That provided me with the structure to pick things apart and put things back together. It was a great opportunity. I really loved it."
BRIEF
A ROUNDUP OF RECENT NEWS AND NUMBERS

400
Number of attendees at the inaugural education conference, Hidden in Plain Sight: The Power of Diversity, at Regis in October.

CUPBOARD
Regis University Cupboard, sponsored by Military and Veteran Services, is a new food pantry in the Dayton Memorial Library that offers free food and hygiene products to all Regis students who may need a little extra help.

70/30
It's the 70th anniversary of the nursing school at Loretto Heights College and the 30th anniversary of when the school became part of Regis.

MAKING HISTORY
History Professor Nicki Gonzales is one of five members named to the first State Historians Council by History Colorado.

COACHING CAREER
Regis women's soccer coach J.B. Belzer recorded his 300th career win this season. He has the eighth most wins in NCAA Division II history.

WILD HOPE
Regis College Professor Suez Jacobson was the executive producer of "Wild Hope," which looks at the human connection to the natural world. Go to www.wildhopefilm.com to see a trailer.

62,678
Total Service Learning hours students completed University wide during the 2017-18 academic year.

70/30
It's the 70th anniversary of the nursing school at Loretto Heights College and the 30th anniversary of when the school became part of Regis.
She's an educator, a leader and a human-rights activist. Now Lisa M. Calderón would like to put Denver mayor on her resume.

Calderón, who has taught as an affiliate faculty member since 2009, joined Regis' sociology and criminology departments full time in the fall while mulling over a bid for city mayor. Too many people throughout the city had stopped her and asked if she'd run.

"Running for public office is the last thing I ever wanted to do," Calderón said. "As a longtime community activist, I challenged politicians and never considered myself one."

Calderón, who declared her candidacy for mayor in October, will face Mayor Michael Hancock, who is seeking his third term, and several other candidates in the May 2019 election.

Meanwhile, she's getting acclimated to a Loyola Hall office and a full course load.

"I love Regis' emphasis on social justice where students are open to critically thinking about local and global issues and what they can do to affect change," she said. "The Regis environment is rooted in dignity and respect not only for students, faculty and staff but for the surrounding community. As a community activist, that's important to me."

Calderón's activism informs her research: She'll continue to study how people of color are over-represented in jails and prisons and focus on incarcerated women's needs and safety.

Growing up poor in North Denver fostered resiliency, and ambition - for a better life. Calderón remembers the poverty she endured as a young single parent all too vividly.

"I never want to forget what it feels like to count out my food stamps in the grocery line," she said. "There's a brutality about poverty."
When Andy Anderson thinks about his success, he immediately traces it back to his main mentor. For Andy, his father Lee has been an adviser, tutor and best friend. When it came to business, Lee’s nuggets of wisdom and advice always resonated.

“He really created that gut instinct for me, especially in business,” Anderson said. “He told me ‘You may have eight to 10 life-changing opportunities cross your desk in your lifetime. Your job is to recognize those opportunities. Some you’ll see and some you won’t. But your job is to recognize those.’ Giving to Regis is one of those.”

Anderson, the president and CEO of Nor-Son Inc., a construction services firm in Minnesota, has given the largest gift in University history. Thanks to his $10 million donation, his name adorns the Anderson College of Business.

“I’M HONORED, HUMBLED AND PROUD TO DO THIS. REGIS IS A REAL DESTINATION. LET’S GROW IT BIGGER AND BETTER.”

Anderson said he hopes the gift will encourage other alumni whose lives have been transformed by Regis to support the University. Anderson recently sat down with Regis Magazine to discuss the gift, his life in business and what he thinks a Jesuit business school can be.

FIRST THINGS FIRST. WHY GIVE THIS GIFT TO REGIS?

My father was a West Point grad, so I’ve been around the leadership model all my life. It was important for me to act from a leadership role beyond just being co-chair [of the current capital campaign and a trustee]. From a dollar standpoint, I needed to set an example. When you consider sizable gifts in a campaign, the last shoe and first shoe to drop are the hardest ones to get. To have the most impact, I knew I needed to get this kick-started.
WHAT CAN THE REGIS UNIVERSITY ANDERSON COLLEGE OF BUSINESS BECOME?

I think the 50,000-foot view is it can be one of the best business schools anywhere someday. I want it to be one of the top-rated business schools in the country.

HOW DO JESUIT VALUES PLAY INTO THAT?

That’s what really excites me. I believe a business school based around Regis and the Jesuit values are what is needed in the business world. We need people who know how to treat people and how to do business. Business today doesn’t have to be cutthroat. It has to be fair. It has to be fair for both sides. Integrity and morals can be in business. It is in business. From the values Regis has built itself upon during the last 140 years, we have the opportunity to have a tremendous business school.

HOW DID REGIS SHAPE WHO YOU ARE?

HOW DO JESUIT VALUES PLAY INTO YOUR BUSINESS?

It transformed me to who I am today, especially in business. I think when you look at business or in life, everyone has their own control over their integrity. It’s one of most important assets you’ll have. You need to protect your integrity over everything you have. If you lose that, it’s hard to make up to friends or in business.

YOU HELPED GROW YOUR FAMILY’S BANKING BUSINESS AND SOLD YOUR OWN IN 2008. WHY STEP AWAY FROM THE FINANCIAL SECTOR AND ENTER THE CONSTRUCTION BUSINESS?

I love the entrepreneurial spirit and building things. I tell my kids all the time there is no greater feeling than success. Success doesn’t always mean making money. It could mean getting an A on a test or riding a bike without training wheels. I just really enjoy that process. This allowed me to take on something new and build on that success.

WHERE IS THE ANDERSON COLLEGE OF BUSINESS IN FIVE YEARS?

Hopefully, we’re talking about great success. We’re hearing success stories from graduates and where they’ve found great jobs. Mostly, we want to be talking about what our graduates are doing to give back. This has really been a surreal
As the saying goes, hindsight is 20/20, but what if things were more obvious from the outset?

Regis School of Physical Therapy Assistant Professor Andrew Smith is looking to the past to find solutions to improve treatment options for future spinal cord injury patients.

"By knowing what spinal cord injury patients look like today, in terms of walking and moving around, we can leverage their past MRI scans to see what characteristics are associated with a positive outcome," Smith said.

In partnership with Denver’s Craig Hospital, Smith and his team are using advanced MRI methods to help predict what range of motion a patient will regain after a spinal injury. They base this on the MRI scans of former patients who had similar injuries.

The research eliminates a one-size-fits-all approach to spinal cord injury treatment and instead allows doctors to provide more precise treatments to ensure that patients maximize recovery, regain ability and return to independence. For example, doctors can look at the MRI scans of patients who have had successful post-injury outcomes and tailor recovery programs for patients who have similar scans and exhibit similar injuries.

"Ultimately, we seek to improve the lives and well-being of patients with spinal cord injury," Smith said.

Not only does spinal cord imaging research hold the potential to guide individualized clinical management, but it also provides Regis Physical Therapy professionals with the opportunity for interdisciplinary research. Smith’s team, for example, consists of physical therapists, spinal cord injury physicians, magnetic resonance scientists and neurosurgeons, among others.

"It's truly a multidisciplinary approach to addressing our ultimate goal," Smith said.

Working with researchers not only from Colorado but from around the country and internationally, Smith is conducting research that could one day lead to large-scale MRI research for developing more refined treatments. This, ultimately, will allow patients to return home to resume their lives.

Our Master of Development Practice program is equipping the next generation of students to improve the planet and help people in areas ranging from global health and engineering to finance and governance.

Regis trains development students at home and abroad to examine development challenges through the lens of social justice. To find out more, visit regis.edu/mdp.

The program had 52 students in 2017 who worked in 15 countries and places including:
A wah Tilong is a lot of things.
She's educated. She's Cameroonian.
She's a strong woman. She's got a lot to say, and she doesn't care if that causes you to stare.

But when she got to Regis, the junior premed biology and sociology major felt out of place.

"At first I didn't know how to fit in at Regis," she said. "I felt very noticeable. I had no way of conversing with people. I felt like a spectacle. But I learned I needed to redirect my energy. I knew I had to make the best of my experience and help others overcome the similar challenges."

Tilong is the daughter of immigrants and the only daughter among five children.

She came from a predominately black and Latino school where she was among the majority. At Regis, that changed. After struggling with this change her freshman year, Tilong embraced her role not only as a black leader but as a campus leader.

She's spent the past two years as president of the Black Student Alliance (BSA). She's worked with the Violence Prevention Program and the Regis University Student Government Association (RUSGA).

And now she's getting ready to start an internship at Denver Health, where she'll shadow a primary care physician.

Mainly, Tilong is trying to bring people together. As president of the BSA, she encourages anyone and everyone to attend meetings, and along with the other organizations, she wants individuals to talk and ask questions.

During her internship she hopes to find new ways to bridge the health gaps and equity in marginalized communities.

"My ultimate goal is to affect a generation — at least one," she said. "I want to affect a generation and inspire someone to do better and more than me."

Although her initial experience at Regis pushed her out of her comfort zone, Tilong sees more than hope. She sees progress.

"Regis wants to do better," she said. "People who find Regis now learn about its mission and goals. In 10 years, they won't have to find out about it, they'll know about it. I truly believe people will come for its mission and goals."
PROVOST SCHOLARS ADDRESS PRESSING NEEDS

For a nontraditional research university, there is plenty of cool research happening at Regis.

In addition to the number of research proposals doubling in the past school year, a new program encourages faculty and students to come together for research.

The inaugural Provost Scholar Award was conferred to four Regis faculty members whose work either supports faculty-student research or addresses diversity, social justice, the science of learning, our global role or nurturing our environment.

BELOW IS A LOOK AT THEIR RESEARCH:

JAZMIN MURO, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, ANTHROPOLOGY, SOCIOLOGY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Muro’s research focuses on Latino segregation, gentrification and race relations in Denver’s Northside/Highlands neighborhoods. The once working-class, Chicano neighborhood has experienced significant urban development and change in the past decade. Since 2000, the Latino population in this area has declined by more than half, with most now identifying as non-Hispanic white.

GEENA KIM, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, COLLEGE OF COMPUTER & INFORMATION SCIENCES

Kim’s research focuses on creating an algorithm to help segment glioblastoma multiforme (GBM) tumors in MRIs. GBMs are the most aggressive type of brain cancer, with a median survival rate of less than two years. The algorithm can reduce the time and cost of analyzing MRIs and help doctors diagnose, make treatment plans and predict the outcome of treatment.

MEGHAN SOBEL, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, COMMUNICATIONS

Sobel will look at the role that news media played in Rwanda’s post-genocide era of reconstruction. She is working with journalists and staff members at non-governmental organizations to better understand the role that journalists play in society and how media is currently being used. She will also examine the public’s trust in the media and how the media could be a tool to promote sustained peace.

AMY SCHREIER, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, BIOLOGY

Schreier’s work will focus on how forest fragmentation is affecting Central American spider monkeys. The monkeys rely on fruit from large, mature forest trees and are one of the primates most vulnerable to habitat fragmentation. Schreier will look at the ability for the monkeys to alter their diet, their activity patterns and their lives at a small forest fragment and a continuous forest in Costa Rica.
# Events Calendar

**Winter/Spring 2018-19**

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Regis University hosts a variety of events open to all. They range from public talks and performances to athletic events. Find all there is to see and do at regis.edu/events or follow us on social media.

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**On the Front Line of Data Safety**

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PERFECT ON THE PITCH

Regis University's Ryan Ebert, a junior, wins a ball against a CSU-Pueblo defender earlier in the fall. The Rangers won, 3-0.
A TRIP TOWARD GRATITUDE

Tomas Auruskevicius can emphatically say whenever people see him on campus, it's the true him.

In fact, he'd encourage anyone and everyone to come up and get to know him.

"Now I just love talking to people," said Auruskevicius, a sophomore on the men's basketball team. "I love getting to know people."

It wasn't always like this for the Lithuanian-born basketball player. Getting to Regis, Auruskevicius had a long, strange journey in which the highest of highs were followed by the lowest of lows.

It started years ago in Lithuania when as a 17-year-old Auruskevicius hired a handler to help him find a basketball team in the United States. The agent helped him put together a highlight tape and contacted several U.S. high schools.

Finally, a Los Angeles school was interested, and it agreed to pay for Auruskevicius' room and board plus meals if he agreed to play basketball during his junior and senior seasons.

"I thought, 'Wow L.A.!'" he said. "I knew about it from the movies."

When he got to the school in Los Angeles, however, something felt off. Auruskevicius was one of about 100 students, most of whom arrived from other countries. Students were given textbooks and told to read alone as a teacher sat at the front of the classroom. If Auruskevicius had a question, he was referred back to the textbook.

Auruskevicius noticed something about all the other books on the classroom shelves: They all had a single author: L. Ron Hubbard.

"I was at a Scientology school," Auruskevicius said.

Auruskevicius thought he could ride it out to play basketball. Eventually, however, the nonstop pressure from the church became too much, and he left.

Auruskevicius found another school, this time a high-end private school. Unfortunately, stress fractures in both feet knocked him out for his entire senior year.

Thousands of miles from home, at another school where he felt he didn't fit in and without a sport to play, Auruskevicius became depressed.

Eventually he went on his senior retreat, where he encountered other youths who felt similarly.

"I was listening and realized, 'Hey I'm not the only one having issues,'" he said.

Regis coach Brady Bergeson saw Auruskevicius play that spring and offered him a basketball scholarship.

Auruskevicius found serenity on Regis' campus. He said the environment felt right and that Regis was where he was supposed to be.

"It's easy to look back now and say, 'I'm glad I went through it.' But I'm just blessed to have it in my past," he said. "It did work out in the end. It's taught me to spread love and be good to people. That all ties into gratefulness. I have this amazing opportunity here. I'm going to pay that gratitude forward."
As many as 40,000 young men are being drafted each month, adding fuel to the anti-war movement. The assassinations of Martin Luther King Jr. and President John F. Kennedy are igniting riots across the country. Fitted dresses with matching accessories are giving way to flirty blouses and maxi skirts.

It's 1968, and an undeniable wind of change is felt in every corner of the nation, including on Regis' campus.

During that fall, Regis opened its doors to welcome a troupe of bell-bottoms loving, cardigan collecting, shift-dress wearing female students to live on campus for the first time.

"The atmosphere when the first women arrived at Regis was tentative," said Katie Nichols, a student from Regis' first coed class. "The teachers, administration and upperclassmen didn't know how to react to 'the girls.'"

The presence of women on campus created plenty of logistical questions. From visiting hours and room visits in the once all-male Carroll Hall to public displays of affection, the business of free association was on all coeds' minds.

While some boys had miniskirts and Twiggy pixie cuts on their minds, many of the girls expressed other concerns about campus life, and shared their views with the student newspaper the Brown & Gold:

"The medicine cabinet designed to hold a razor, toothbrush and a bottle of after-shave now must be made to hold toothpaste, face cream, shampoo, hair rinse, hair spray, eye makeup, lipstick, forty-seven bobby pins, an assortment of perfume bottles ..."
Audrey Morton, RC'71,

was raised during a time of immense challenge and change in the United States. She was also an unbelievable trailblazer. She was the first black female graduate of Regis University and was the first black woman appointed as deputy assistant secretary for the Office of Equal Employment Opportunity and Civil Rights. Here she directed the department's first study on sexual harassment. She championed insurmountable change for minorities and women through decades of public service. The advice that her parents gave her is still the advice she follows today: Put family, education, religion and hard work before anything else. Now retired, she is still a true force to be reckoned with.

Coeducation was an integral moment in the University's history, said Connie Kavanaugh, Regis' dean of women during the initial years of coeducation. It not only shook things up, but it started to put men and women on the same plane.

"It was an opportunity for the boys to see girls in everyday-type situations rather than only when they're dolled up ready for a big date," she said.

For the first time, women could let down their hair (literally) in a revolutionary assertion of individualism.

While it wasn't easy, Regis' first female class was encouraged by faculty to grip all the femininity and charm they could find and develop a keen sense of humor to persevere through the changes and challenges that coeducation presented on campus that initial year.

Not only did they persist, but they thrived and paved the way for future classes of exceptional Regis women – while balancing in sky-high platform shoes nonetheless. The concept of a male-only Regis quickly became an antiquated one.

"Regis has always had a strong Jesuit tradition of educating and preparing students to make a positive impact after graduating," Nichols said. "That was as true 50 years ago as it is today."

Why did you choose Regis?

My husband at the time and our four children moved to Denver permanently in 1964 for his professional baseball career. Our marriage ended and I realized the need to complete my college education in order to pursue my career interests and become the primary income provider for my family. Regis had the small class sizes and the religious environment that I needed.

What does a Regis education mean to you?

It was very difficult being a single parent, worker and student, but it was something I believed in and had to do. My philosophy classes raised deep, probing questions that required critical thinking. This encouraged me to think independently to address issues in my personal life as well as the major issues facing our society. Among these are the issues of racism and discrimination.

How did Regis prepare you?

The encouragement that I received from my Regis professors strengthened my faith in looking to the future. The interaction with other students in the small group settings enabled me to express my own opinions but also to learn from the opinions of other students. After my graduation from Regis, things seemed to happen very naturally for me. Regis opened a door for me to find my passion and address the issues I cared about in our society regardless of my race and gender.
Hollie Horvath, RC '00, RC '14,

the director of community relations for Xcel Energy, is a Jill of all trades. She has a breadth of experience, from raising money for political candidates in Colorado to serving on several civic and nonprofit boards. One constant: She contributes to the community in which she lives, works and plays.

Tell us a little bit about your background and past work experiences.

I entered the political world scheduling Congresswoman Diana DeGette. I then went on to spend over 10 years raising money for political candidates and nonprofits in Colorado. I've been at Xcel Energy for a little over seven years now, leading the department responsible for the company's social investments, local government affairs and economic developments for Colorado.

What challenges have you faced as a woman in your career?

I honestly don't see anything as a challenge, but more of an opportunity. I tend to see everything on the bright side and believe in the statement 'lean in.' Sit at the table, voice your opinion and don't doubt yourself because you are the only one. Women who are sitting at the table are valued for their leadership; we should never doubt that as female leaders.

Any advice to this next generation of young women navigating the professional workplace?

Take risks. Believe you can do something even if you don't know anything. You can learn. Advocate for yourself. And work hard. Really hard.

What did your Regis education mean to you?

I absolutely loved my education at Regis University. In fact, I came back to Regis over 10 years later to get my graduate degree because I loved it so much. The education I received from Regis was beyond what I expected, bringing academics, leadership, civic and community engagement and faith together. It truly was my launching pad for all that I've done in Denver and Colorado over the last two decades.
Monica Coughlin, RC '98,

chief operating officer of the Colorado Technology Association, is a leader in the traditionally male-dominated information technology industry. But times are changing, and she is helping turn the tide. Like the women before her, she works hard to help the next generation, serving as an example for other women and ensuring they have opportunities.

How did Regis prepare you?
I was able to explore different areas because of Regis' liberal arts perspective. That's how I became interested in technology. All of my professors were very accessible and supportive, especially my computer science professors. They connected me with the tech community and helped me get my first job.

How did Regis' mission prepare you?
Regis' mission is even more relevant for me today. I started at Sun Microsystems, which became Oracle. Afterward, I moved to the Colorado Governor's Office of Information Technology, and now to Colorado Technology Association. The more I've advanced, the more I've realized how important it is to be part of something bigger than just profits — to be a part of the community and make it better. That was instilled in me at Regis.

What are the challenges you've faced as a woman in tech?
I'm so grateful for the amazing women who paved the way before me. Because of them, I've never felt that being a woman in tech has been a challenge. Even when there were more men than women in my classes — or now in meetings — I've always felt like I've had a voice. I developed that confidence at Regis.

HELP US honor and continue the STRONG LEGACY of female students and consider making a gift to the General Scholarship Fund at Regis.

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Kristen Blessman, CPS ’07

For Kristen Blessman, leadership was always in the cards. Currently serving as the president and CEO of the Colorado Women's Chamber of Commerce, she has worked hard to create a unique space in the community that advocates for equal opportunities for women in the workplace. That kind of systematic change is what inspires her every day to continue to push boundaries and ultimately break that glass ceiling.

How did Regis prepare you for your current role?
I didn’t realize that the knowledge gained while working on a master’s can be immediately applied in the workplace. In my first position after graduating, I was sitting in an executive team meeting and commenting on the organization’s strategy and approach. I actually remember being surprised with what came out of my mouth. I thought to myself, “I actually know what I’m talking about.” That was a direct result of learnings from the coursework and namely the business simulation class I took at Regis.

Looking back, were there any particular obstacles or challenges you faced on the path to your career, particularly as a woman in the workplace?
I now work for an organization that helps women overcome challenges no matter what industry they are in. But I can tell you that the challenges are all very similar as a female executive. There’s obviously gender bias against women in executive leadership and cultures that struggle to get women in top leadership roles. However, the good news is that there are so many heads of companies in Colorado that are extremely passionate about changing this. And this includes male and female leaders. We need all parties at the table to create change.

Do you have any advice for this next generation of young women looking to step into leadership roles?
I can tell you that all along the way on my career journey, the most important thing that I can stress is having several mentors and peers you can call at any point along the path of leadership to get you through the tough times, because as we all know, there will be challenges.
Meshach Rhoades, RC '01

She's not yet 40 but already Meshach Rhoades, an equity partner in the Denver law firm Armstrong Teasdale – and the first Latina to rise to such internal leadership ranks. The recipient of an Outstanding Women in Business award from the Denver Business Journal this year, Rhoades makes achievement work for her. Rhoades, who is married with two small children, holds a law degree from the University of Colorado but credits Regis with setting her up to succeed.

How did you get to where you are?
"There aren't a lot of people who look like me in positions of power. I have had to blaze my own trail. I have to work harder and more strategically than some of my peers. I know that. I'm OK with that. I know that at the end of the day, it makes me a better person.

How did Regis play a part in that?
It made me a whole thinker. I learned to think globally about service. It taught me to show up for others, to be present in my community, and to not disengage. I've learned how to do (law) in a way in which I take into consideration what others are doing and thinking and feeling, and that's what sets me apart from other lawyers.

You played basketball while at Regis. How did you balance that?
"I learned pretty quickly that the people (at Regis) were committed to my education. They were committed to me as a person. It gave me confidence to step into any classroom, onto the court – and now, into any courtroom and any board room – and know I have the skills to be there."
A LIBERATING FORCE

JESUIT WORLDWIDE LEARNING, REGIS DIPLOMAS AND THE LIFE-GIVING POWER OF EDUCATION IN AFRICAN REFUGEE CAMPS
In the far northern deserts of Kenya, there are two ways into the Kakuma Refugee Camp. One is a 90-minute United Nations humanitarian flight aboard a large commercial plane.

Or, like on this boiling, mid-July day, it's an aging van with 10 passengers packed like sardines, making the 74-mile trip in three and a half hours. On a sometimes paved, sometimes dirt, always meandering road, the van speeds up, slows down, bounces up and down, then swerves off the highway and into the distant desert on its way to the 180,000-person refugee camp.

Every so often, a car with armed guards slingshots past the van. This is bandit territory, and the trip requires a fortified presence.

The route to Kakuma is as unnerving as it is uncomfortable. But for the passengers inside the van, this trip isn't just important, it's necessary.

Near the back, Regis University President John P. Fitzgibbons, S.J., sits with his trademark black brimmed hat swaying back and forth like a boat in white-cap weather.

Fitzgibbons is making his second trip to Kakuma — and fifth overall — for a Jesuit Worldwide Learning (JWL) graduation. JWL provides refugees around the world with the opportunity to earn a Regis University diploma.

Amidst the rattling, Fitzgibbons turns back to thank a lone soul in the last seat, stuck over the wheel well and bouncing around like a lost coin in the laundry.

"Soon you'll get it," Fitzgibbons said. "This trip is one of the most important things we do. JWL is at the core of what Regis and the Jesuits are all about."

ORDINARY WORK IN EXTRAORDINARY PLACES

In 2006, Mary McFarland sat through innumerable technical presentations at an online learning conference in Denver. McFarland, then the dean of Gonzaga University's School of Professional Studies, already understood the power of online learning. It had changed her university's homogenous Spokane campus by introducing students from across the country into its classrooms.

Midway through the conference, McFarland's life changed.

At one presentation, Rev. Michael Smith, S.J., explained how Australian Catholic University was using online technologies to help refugees on the Thailand-Burma border. The displaced people there, Smith said, were incredibly intelligent but literally watching their lives slip by.
“That made the hair stand up on the back of my neck,” McFarland said.

As soon as Smith finished his presentation, McFarland had to know how she could help.

One year later, McFarland found herself at the refugee camp in Thailand, working with 21 students from 13 ethnic groups. She saw what education could do at this margin, and it started to change the way McFarland thought about higher education. It provided much more than subject knowledge; it was a way to understand others and overcome cultural differences. Here, thousands of miles from home, McFarland saw that education could bridge worldly differences.

“The hunger for education was palpable,” McFarland said. “Education is a tremendous gift. It changes our thinking. It changes us so we can transform our lives and our community. I think this was the first time that I was so aware of it.”

McFarland started looking for partners. By 2008 she found Regis University Academic Dean Bill Husson and then-President Michael Sheeran, S.J., who emphatically declared the University would take the lead in offering a diploma. By 2010, JWL entered its trial phase and opened its first locations in Kenya, Malawi and Syria. It began with 52 students and three faculty.

“I had no idea what it would become,” said Marie Friedemann, who began as the first Regis liaison for JWL and continues as the Regis director of JWL today. “I should have known because of the vast number of refugees and the vast need for education. It was upsetting how refugees were being treated, and continue to be treated. We knew we needed to address this some way.”

JWL has expanded to 24 sites worldwide — 11 of which offer the diploma — and has helped more than 5,000 refugees attend classes. The curriculum and program was revamped in 2014 to better fit the cultural contexts in which the students learn.
Today more than 220 students have earned a Regis diploma, which requires 30 credits of liberal arts studies and 15 more in a business, education or social work concentration. It generally takes students about three years to finish the program.

"It's not extraordinary. It's ordinary. It's what should happen," said Smith, who has served on JWL's board of directors. "Refugees should have the opportunity to study and make something of themselves. It's nothing that you wouldn't want for yourself."

**INNOVATION AND INSPIRATION**

The Kakuma Refugee Camp is sprawling.

Opened in 1992 with the arrival of the young Sudanese refugees escaping civil war, the camp has grown exponentially. For decades people escaping famine, war and genocide have found refuge here, raising the population to around 180,000. With each influx the camp has added new living quarters — Kakuma 1, 2, 3 and 4 — and there is talk of adding a fifth.

Driving inside the camp, dirt roads are lined by sheet metal homes, makeshift businesses and refugees sitting around nearly every corner. Jarring sounds fill the spaces: Motor bike engines rev, open markets buzz with chatter and a drum beats. Nearby, children yell and scream during a pickup soccer game. The smells are overpowering as well. Something in the camp is always burning.

Outside of the arrival of a United Nations World Food Program truck, there isn't a lot of movement. It's hot, humid and dusty. The day's mission always includes finding shade and waiting for something to happen.

This day, though, there is excitement as adults and children follow the white Toyota Land Cruisers that have entered camp and then the JWL compound. People line up against the fences and barbed wire that surround most of the community organizations and schools — a wary reminder that among the refugee population, cultural differences can boil over despite a common hardship.

Inside the compound, it’s the day before graduation at the Arrupe Learning Center where JWL students come to study and take classes. Thirty-three graduates — about a third of which are women — file into the main room and sit at nine tables.

Conversations start to reverberate off blue stucco walls. The 100-degree air is heavy and dust lingers. But it's here, a place where seemingly nobody wants to be, that innovation and inspiration reverberate from each table.

It's the best exhibit of the human spirit.

"Here we have opportunities," said Grace Muvunyi, the class valedictorian. "This is a place where you have a chance. It's a hidden treasure."

Each JWL graduate follows Muvunyi, detailing what the program has meant to them. There is Innocent Havyarimana, who owns a business making soap and shampoo that employs 18 fellow refugees. JWL didn't help him get a job, but the business classes helped him create opportunities for his community.
Other graduates took the social work classes and started a transitional organization for refugees coming into the camp. It helps refugees understand cultural differences, what to expect inside the camp and how to transition from a seemingly normal life into one set inside the camp.

“If you’re not ready, you can get to the point where you can lose your mind and become crazy,” said Joelle Hangi, a JWL graduate and Congolese refugee. “You need someone to help guide you and to understand in a refugee camp there is only one way — forward.”

Graduate Pascal Zigashane, of the Democratic Republic of Congo, used his diploma to start a community organization to teach social entrepreneurship. He also works with 30 kids in a life-skills program. Zigashane has nearly 20 employees and teaches another 24 students how to code.

Kakuma has a good many idle hands but through JWL’s efforts, there is hope.

“Really,” said Creighton University President Daniel Hendrickson, S.J., who participated in the graduation ceremony. “JWL represents the best of Jesuit higher education in the world.”

MORE IS NEEDED

Days prior to the trip to Kakuma, Fitzgibbons was in Bilbao, Spain, near the birthplace of St. Ignatius Loyola, where leaders of the world’s Jesuit universities engaged on critical social justice issues.

For Fitzgibbons, Bilbao was a recruitment trip.

Regis has piloted the liberal arts diploma since JWL’s inception and has professors who teach in the program. In coordination with Creighton, Regis will offer an associate’s degree in Healthy Lifestyle Management in the fall of 2019 for the first time. Each school will offer at least 20 scholarships to help JWL graduates continue studying in the camp and complete an associate’s degree.

Of the 28 Jesuit universities and colleges in the United States, only a handful participate in the JWL program. With more than 65 million people forcibly displaced worldwide, the need for education at the margins has never been greater.

And the thirst for education has never been stronger. For the latest cohort in Kakuma, 308 refugees applied for 66 positions. In the Dzaleka Refugee Camp in Malawi, there were more than 400 applicants, but only enough resources to educate 59 students. This year JWL enrolled its largest cohort ever, as 192 students at 11 sites began the program. Half of those are women.
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"From a president's point of view, what makes this transformation so important is not only seeing a refugee lifted out of a hopeless situation and into a life filled with hope and possibility," Fitzgibbons told those assembled in Bilbao, "but it is also important that this is a reciprocal experience impacting not just those who are our students, but everyone involved in this education."

HOPE IS HERE

Elie Balyahamwabo and Jacques Baeni arrived in the Dzaleka Refugee Camp from the Democratic Republic of Congo years ago.

Balyahamwabo worked for an organization that developed communities with women and children. He was attacked twice by a militia because of his work but stayed because the work was so important. When his brother was killed by the militia, however, he was forced to flee.

Baeni was a human rights activist studying law when violence forced him to leave.

Inside the camp, each noticed similar obstacles limiting refugees' abilities to thrive.

They observed refugees who were critical thinkers wanting to learn and to improve their community, and they met others who were hopeless and on the verge of giving up.

“They are dipping themselves back into poverty,” Balyahamwabo said about the latter group.

The two knew they needed to help the refugees change their mentality. After taking a peace-building course through JWL, they created Vijana Africa, or “Youth of Africa.”

The organization provides youth with leadership and conflict-resolution training and teaches them how to share the lessons with members of their camp communities. Recently, the two JWL graduates expanded Vijana Africa to help single and disabled women in the camp be more self-reliant. In the new program, women receive a couple of rabbits to breed; later, they may trade the offspring for food or other camp goods.
“This work is so important,” said Akonkwa Machara, a beneficiary who fled the Congo after she was attacked and her husband and two children were murdered. “I started with one rabbit and today I have close to 12. I’ve taught other women on how they can raise these rabbits.”

In the end, that’s the idea of JWL.

Most JWL graduates remain in the camps many years after graduation. Earning a diploma doesn’t necessarily assist a refugee to relocate elsewhere — of the 20 million refugees the UN Refugee Agency worked with in 2017, fewer than half a percent were relocated — and it doesn’t guarantee further education.

JWL’s hope is that graduates will share what they’ve learned with others in their respective camp to improve lives there. It provides the groundwork for graduates to become contemplatives in action by creating organizations like Vijana Africa that make a difference.

It provides hope in a place of so much hopelessness. It engages refugees and provides a sense of purpose in a place where it often feels as if time has stopped still. It bestows an identity of academic accomplishment and esteem on people who are without a country and feel ignored by the world.

“It’s life giving,” Balyahamwabo said. “People think refugees don’t have value or can’t do anything. That’s not the case. JWL helps remind people that refugees are people who are important and who matter.”
**1950s**

**CHUCK MURPHY, RC ’57,** was presented the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Colorado Springs Chamber and EDC.

**1960s**

**ROBERT (BOB) DUNN, RC ’67,** was voted the Missouri Veteran of the Year (2017).

Travel & Leisure magazine named **KATHY Sudeikis, LHC ’68,** vice president of corporate relations for Acendas Travel, to its A-List of top travel advisers.

**1970s**

The Illinois Bar Foundation, the charitable arm of the Illinois State Bar Association, elected **WILLIAM A. PEITMANN, RC ’75,** the second vice president of its Board of Directors.

**1980s**

**MICHAEL CRAMER BOR-NEMANN, M.D., RC ’84,** is the director of Sleep Forensics Associates, a firm dedicated to neurobehavioral investigation of crime.

AerNos, a company that develops sensors to detect air quality, named **DAN ALBOSTA, RC ’87,** its vice president of finance.

Johnson Controls named **NANCY BERCE, RC ’88,** its chief intelligence officer.

**1990s**

Becker’s Healthcare recognized **SHARON COX, CPS ’92,** as one of 71 CEOs of critical access hospitals to know for 2018.

The Health Waters Foundation named **ANNA LEIGH, RHCHP ’93,** its executive director.

**ANDREW COLE, CPS ’95,** is a new member of the BetterWorks HR Advisory Council for 2018.

**JOEL SMITH, MS ’96,** received the 2018 RMAC Women’s Basketball Officiating Legacy Lifetime Achievement Award.

**Kirsten Korosec, RC ’97,** was hired by TechCrunch to cover auto and transportation.

Gastro Health, a gastroenterology company, named **CHRIS WEINSTEIN, CPS ’97,** as its Florida division vice president.

**JASON ARENZ, CPS ’98,** was promoted to pres-
WILLIAM L. TRANSIER, CPS '98, was appointed as an independent director at Gastar Exploration Inc.

Mevotech LP named TODD HACK, CPS '99, its executive vice president of sales and marketing.

BERNADETTE BERGER, CPS '01, was named information technology director at Jefferson County Public Library.

SEAN CHARNOCK, CPS '01, joined Faction's board of trustees.

WILL BOYD, CPS '03, is running for lieutenant governor of Alabama.

DPIC Insurance Brokers and Consultants named MATT LUMELLEAU, RC '03, a principal of its property and casualty practice.

DAVID SAND, M.D., CPS '03, was named chief medical officer at Care N' Care Health Plan.

Diamond V, a global animal health company, named CHRIS VAN ANNE, CPS '03, its director of knowledge transfer at its headquarters in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Seattle Weekly named ERIC LA-FONTAINE, CPS '04, its publisher.

MARNEL MOLA, RC '04, was promoted to southern regional director at the Employers Council in the Colorado Springs office.

Sweetwater County Child Development Center Board named

2000s

AT SOME POINT, ELIZABETH ADAMS, RHCHP '13, WASN'T SURE SHE'D EVER FIGURE OUT WHAT SHE WANTED TO DO WITH THE REST OF HER LIFE.

She'd studied political science and sociology and figured she was bound for law school. Then she started to understand the human experience and what draws us together. Eventually, at the urging of friends, she found the counseling field. Now she works with the internal treatment team at the Adams County Department of Human Services where she focuses on child protection therapy.

Recently, because of her work, members of Elizabeth's family, Lucille Mould and Diana Adams, established awards for outstanding graduates and faculty in the Regis counseling program, as well as a $2 million Pomponio Family Endowed fund for the Regis Center for Counseling and Family Therapy.

WHY GIVE AWARDS INSTEAD OF SCHOLARSHIPS?

I wanted to pay it forward and acknowledge individuals in the teaching and counseling profession. The student award is really for the graduate who is trying to find a job. I know how hard it is, especially right after you graduate. If you receive a scholarship at the start, you may realize counseling isn't for you.

WHY IS THE COUNSELING PROFESSION FOR YOU?

I've always been curious about why people are people. I'm curious and inquisitive. I like to talk to people and understand who they are. As people, we can experience the exact same thing and, depending on who we are, experience something totally different from someone else.

WHAT DID YOU GET FROM THE REGIS PROGRAM?

It was really personal and intimate in a positive way. Every class developed you. It was like three years of really intense therapy. You have to know yourself before you can know someone else. You can only take someone as far as you can take yourself. It's really come full circle. I recognize how life changing the Regis counseling program was for me. It allowed me to find what I really wanted to do and to find genuine joy in my work.
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A PASSION FOR GOOD BEER

AVERY BREWING, A HOUSEHOLD NAME IN COLORADO, TURNS 25 THIS YEAR AND THE MAN BEHIND THE BOOMING BUSINESS IS READY TO CELEBRATE.

Adam Avery, RC '88, believed in the craft beer movement back in the mid-1990s when a basic India pale ale (IPA) was considered too "bitter and weird." Two and a half decades later, the IPA is the most popular selling beer style in the craft industry, and Avery Brewing Co. is an industry leader.

TELL US HOW YOU GOT TO WHERE YOU ARE TODAY.

I grew up in Decatur, Illinois, and got the Colorado bug when I was young and climbing 14ers with my dad. I went to Catholic school my whole life and when it came time to choose a college, the nuns at my school recommended Regis. It was the only school I applied to — good thing I got in.

After college I worked at Eastern Mountain Sports (EMS) and was rock climbing every day. I had hit a bit of a mid-20s crisis and wasn't sure where to take my life. My boss at EMS told me about his home brew at a Super Bowl party and it was pretty good, so the next day I went out and bought myself a kit. I went berserk and brewed two or three batches at a time. I was giving it away to everyone I knew and only asked two things of them: that they give me honest feedback and to bring the bottle back to refill it.

My parents had recently moved to Boulder after retirement, and my dad and I went into business together to start Avery Brewing. I was a dumb 27 year old who thought he could succeed and here we are today.

SERIOUSLY, THOUGH. WHAT'S THE MAGIC FORMULA?

I made it up as I went! It's so cliché, but if you are truly passionate and believe in what you are doing, you will be successful. I put as much energy as I could into differentiating myself and my business in the industry and accepted the fact that I had to try hard every single day.

I don't have a lot of photos and I don't dwell on things in the past. I live very much in the present. But if I sit down and think about my first Avery IPA, I remember thinking about how the first three beers I made were a snapshot of my life at the time: the Red Point Ale (red point is a rock-climbing term), Ellie's Brown Ale (Ellie was my chocolate lab) and the Out of Bounds Stout (out of bounds is a skiing term).

I've always banked on the idea that people would want better-tasting beer, and that thought has been working to our advantage since the beginning.

HOW DOES YOUR REGIS EDUCATION COME INTO PLAY?

Regis was the first place where free thinking was encouraged. I'm incredibly grateful for my Catholic schooling growing up — it grounded me. But those first few weeks on campus at Regis really opened my mind. I remember Father Binnell saying, "You are your own person." He taught me that this was my life and I should be empowered to make my own decisions wisely. Regis opened the door to other religions, political science, philosophy courses and freedom I needed as a young adult finding my way. I believe that is what education should be about, and Regis gave that to me.
Community starts around the table, so we’re saving you a seat at ours. The Big Table Project is your opportunity to extend an invitation to someone eager to pull up a chair at the Regis table.

Here’s how to get involved:

1. **Gift prospective students in your own circles with an application fee waiver for Regis programs that don’t require a centralized application service (CAS) application.** Just send them to regis.edu/bigtable

2. **Share your Regis ambition with our University community at regis.edu/ambition**

3. **Access e-brochures, print application fee waiver cards and learn other ways to share this opportunity at regis.edu/bigtablekit**

Together, we’re serving up new possibilities for Regis.

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A CONSERVATIVE VISIONARY

Ed Feulner’s rise in conservative politics may be traced back to Regis

BY THE TIME ED FEULENER WAS A SOPHOMORE IN HIGH SCHOOL, HIS FATHER INSISTED HE GET HIS COLLEGE DEGREE FROM THE JESUITS.

Feulner’s father was a trustee at Loyola University Chicago and had seen what a Jesuit education could do. “I didn’t want to live at home so I looked around,” Feulner said. “Next thing I knew, I was in Denver at O’Connell Hall.”

Feulner, RC ’63, has built one of the most impressive careers in conservative politics. He co-founded The Heritage Foundation, revolutionizing the way think tanks help drive political thought. He’s been recognized as one of the most powerful conservatives in the United States – from helping to guide policymaking for

President Ronald Reagan, to developing new tax and economic policies as a senior member of the transition team for President Donald Trump.

However, his entrance into the political arena began more than 50 years ago on Regis’ campus.

HOW DID REGIS SET THE TONE FOR YOUR CAREER?

I had professors who introduced me to conservative books and others who were liberal and encouraged dialogue. Really all ideas were welcome and healthy debate was encouraged. That’s what was so good about a Jesuit education. Jesuits and laypeople would propound the questions and give a range of answers. It was very, very different than what I was used to, but it was very good.

DURING YOUR TIME AT THE HERITAGE FOUNDATION, WHEN DID YOU REALIZE THAT YOU WERE AT THE FOREFRONT OF CONSERVATIVE POLITICS?

In 1979, we were asked if we could put together ideas that a new conservative administration would adopt. We created a 32-person volunteer task force and had more than 400 people working on this. The final book, “Mandate for Leadership,” was 1,092 pages with more than 2,500 specific policy recommendations. After the election, President Reagan got 30 copies of the book and put it around the table in the Roosevelt Room for his first cabinet meeting.

WHEN YOU LOOK AT YOUR CAREER, WHAT HELPED MAKE YOU SUCCESSFUL?

If your vision is false or insincere, people will see through you. I think I’ve always had a candor and a willingness to say “this won’t be easy and it may not work this time, but this is how we will lay down the basic premise so that in six months or three years, or whenever, it will be a real new policy option.” I’ve been able to get people on the same team. The biggest thing I’ve realized is politics and life are all about the art of the compromise, and I can really say the basis for that goes back to 1959 to 1963 and what I learned at West 50th and Lowell.

TO READ THE FULL INTERVIEW VISIT REGIS.EDU/MAG

Class Notes

Tax Tip #70½ for Giving

If you are at least 70½ years old, you may support Regis with a direct gift from your IRA. With a charitable IRA rollover gift:

You may make a tax-wise gift even if you do not itemize.

You may direct up to $100,000 per year to the charitable organizations you love.

Your gifts may help fulfill your required minimum distribution.

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By Class

Josie Abboud, CPS '07, has been named the president and CEO of Methodist Hospital and Methodist Women's Hospital.

Multnomah Learning Academy Middle School in Portland, Oregon, named Clark Price, CCLS '15, its principal.

Rutgers University named Jennifer Briggs, CPS '15, a fellow.

True Path Capital Strategies named Marc Kirsch, CPS '15, as its business development manager.

Reedsport Medical Clinic hired Felisha Miller, RHCHP '15, as a certified family nurse practitioner.

Brian Ludwick, RC '17, joined The Andy Warhol Museum Board of Trustees.

Washington State University men's basketball appointed Kenny Tripp, CPS '17, as coordinator of basketball operations.

Holly Turner, CPS '17, was named director of advocacy services at The Arc of Clarkland and Perry Counties.

Goshen College named Ann Vendrely, RHCHP '08, its vice president for academic affairs and academic dean.

Chase Chaldekas, RC '09, was honored as a top financial advisor in the country by Northwestern Mutual.

Mark Gornitzka, CPS '09, was promoted to director of regulatory compliance at Enterprise Business Implementations.

The City of Tenino, Washington, named Robert Swain, RC '09, its police chief.

Jodie Tierney, RHCHP '09, joined Luther Manor, a nonprofit senior living community, as health care center director in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin.

2010s

Bruce Museum named Katie Flaherty, CPS '10, to its board of trustees.

Carly Colgan, CPS '11, joined the South Puget Sound Habitat for Humanity as executive director.

Mike Heaton, CPS '11, was appointed vice president for university advancement at Iowa Wesleyan University.

Link Strate, CPS '11, was named the chief of police for Arvada, Colorado.

Elizabeth High School named John Everhart, RC '12, as athletic director and assistant principal.
ALUMNI WEEKEND!

Come celebrate Regis' past, present and future during Alumni Weekend. Join us July 19-21, 2019, as we celebrate with alumni, families and visitors. For more details, visit regis.edu/alumni.
CODE OF HOPE

Standing in the corner of a room in the Dzaleka Refugee Camp in Malawi, Remy Gakwaya fields questions from 11 girls sitting at three picnic tables jammed tightly into a room that serves as a makeshift classroom.

It also serves as the front room of Gakwaya’s house. On this day, though, Gakwaya is helping teach coding to a young group of women.

“We didn’t have a lot of girls in the program,” said Gakwaya, whose other jobs in the camp have included cook, brick layer and barber. “I wanted to help as many people as I can. As refugees we’re limited with what we can do at the camp. I believe that with coding, no matter who you are or where you are living, you can create software or apps and share them to the world.”

Gakwaya is a 23-year-old Burundi native who fled his country after his parents were murdered in an ethnic cleansing.

Now he is changing the way those in the Dzaleka camp live and learn. He picked up coding at a young age, teaching himself the basics on a Nokia 3310c phone. It wasn’t until he got to Dzaleka that his coding skills really took off.

Thanks to an Information and Communications Technology certificate through Jesuit Worldwide Learning, and the Regis University diploma he earned through the program in 2017, Gakwaya has begun to make a name for himself not just inside the camp, but across the world.

In 2015 he started the TakenoLab, Dzaleka’s first computer programming school. A year later he started the Girls Smart Code program to help inspire women to learn to code.

In 2017, Microsoft caught word of Gakwaya’s work. The company helped provide internet access, donated computers and started the AppFactory — a facility where Gakwaya teaches coding to 30 students.

Even the UN Refugee Agency has prospered. Gakwaya developed an app that would send refugees a text when their food or other assistance was ready. Previously, refugees had a few days’ window and had to wait in long lines for many hours.

“My belief is people can get employment through programming locally and internationally,” he said. “I see local solutions here. We have solutions and can create our own programs that solve our own problems.”

Jules Cyuz did just that. Gakwaya helped him create an app that helps refugees fill out a resume and cover letter through an automated system. With one click, they can apply for jobs across the camp.

“Through apps we are building this world,” Gakwaya said. “This is something you can do anywhere you are, no matter who you are.”
CELESTE M. OBERLE, LHC '40
GRACE A. FAGAN, LHC '43
THOMAS X. KELLEY, RC '45
JOHN ALDWRID VICKERS, RC '47
B. L. FISCHBACH, RC '48
AGNES MARIE BURNETT, LHC '50
FRANCIS L. FLANAGAN, RC '50
JOHN C. JEURINK, RC '50
MARGARET I. MARRONE, LHC '50
ANGELUS CARON, LHC '51
GERALDINE T. MULDOON, LHC '51
PATRICIA ANN MURRAY, LHC '52
CATHERINE A. CAMPBELL, LHC '54
JOHN JOSEPH CONWAY, RC '54
DONALD MICHAEL LAWLESS, RC '54
CAROL ANN LOGAN, LHC '55
ANITA NIESEN, LHC '55
ROSEMARY S. QUINN, LHC '55
JOHN J. HURLEY, RC '56
THOMAS J. DANAHEY, RC '57
JO JEAN HORRIGAN, LHC '57

MICHAEL B. SAILOR, RC '57
PATRICIA ANN TOMSIC, LHC '57
A. THOMAS MANSFIELD, RC '58
CAROL ANN TAYLOR, LHC '60
JAMES BRADY TAYLOR, RC '61
FRANCIS LEO RANNEY, RC '62
JOE SIGMUND SOBOTIK, RC '63
EMMETT CONNOR BRENNAN, RC '64
MICHAEL P. DIXON, RC '64
JAMES O. HIX, RC '64
THEODORE CHARLES STOVER, RC '64
EMI HARRINGTON, LHC '66
KEITH RICHARD HASSEY, RC '67
CORINNE E. NYLANDER, LHC '67
FRANCIS JAMES RYAN, RC '67
PATRICK JERROLD O'CONNOR, RC '70
MARGARET ELAINE LENHART, LHC '71
BRIGID ANN SCANLAN, LHC '73
WILLIAM R. CONNOLE JR., RC '74
NORMA CORINE HART, LHC '76
SUZANNE D. DOSH, LHC '77

PATRICIA MILLER, LHC '78
MILES B. COLLETT, RC '79
RONALD L. HEINLEIN, CPS '82
THEODORE RICHARD ZIMMERMAN, CPS '82
ROBERT JOSEPH HAUGHEY, CPS '83
TIMOTHY LEE SANDERLIN, CPS '83
PATRICK E. BROWN, CPS '88
CAROL D. GAUMOND, CPS '88
KATHERINE EIGEL FUHRMAN, CPS '89
ANNA MARIE CLAYTON, CPS '91
RICHARD L. GONZALES, CPS '91
SANDRA KAY WINTER, CPS '93
DANIEL P. GRIFFIN, CPS '97
BARBARA L. NEWTON, CPS '98
KIM A. ORTIZ, CPS '00, '06
DENISE MARIE BLAIR, RHCHP '01
THOMAS M. ROCHELLE, CPS '01
MARY HOPE MARGARET DALE, CPS '03
COLIN F. RICHARDS, CPS '12
PAMELA D. AMMON, CPS '13

The Rev. Edward L. Maginnis, S.J., Regis University friend and professor, died on Oct. 7 in St. Louis, Missouri. He was 95. A Jesuit for 78 years, Maginnis had a profound influence on the lives of many, especially his students, during his 44 years of teaching theology and music appreciation at Regis. He taught at Regis from 1957 to 1979, before returning to the University in 1986.

Joseph Fancanello, RC '63, remembers, "Behind those thick glasses, his large head was full of fun and knowledge. He taught, he proclaimed and he laughed. He took our young minds and souls and helped move us toward improvement and fulfillment. We are grateful. We will remember him with great fondness and appreciation."

An endowed fund in Maginnis' name awards scholarships to students majoring in religious studies. Memorial contributions may be made to University Advancement.
PARTING SHOT
Wood-fired pizza is part of the new additions to the recently renovated Student Center.
Try putting together these pictograms to come up with something related to Regis. It may be harder than it seems.