Let there be PEACE on EARTH

The Ashbaugh Madonna, by Ivan Mestrovic (1883-1962) at the Snite Museum of Art.
BRIEFS

NEWS

SAVE THE DATE

2018 WALK THE WALK WEEK

The University’s annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day Commemoration takes place Monday, Jan. 15, with a candlelight prayer service at 11 p.m. in the Main Building. The event will be followed by a post-event breakfast at the South Dining Hall.

The MLK Celebration Luncheon (free but ticketed) takes place Monday, Jan. 22, at 11:30 a.m. in the Joyce Center North Dome. Classes will be cancelled between 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

Watch for additional information on the week’s events in the January/February issue of NDWorks.

CAMPUS NEWS

GIFT FROM JACK KELLY AND GAIL WEISS TO SUPPORT NOTRE DAME INTERNATIONAL SECURITY CENTER

Alumnus John A. “Jack” Kelly and his wife, Gail E. Weiss, have made a $1 million gift to support initiatives within the University’s Notre Dame International Security Center (NDISC) and the Office of the President.

The NDISC examines pressing international security issues facing the nation and world and conducts research that contributes to dialogue on global policy. The center supports faculty and student research projects, an endowed speaker series, an under/graduate fellows program and a seminar series featuring scholars and experts on national security.

The Jack Kelly and Gail Weiss Lecture in National Security has been a staple of the NDISC and will continue the practice. The Kelly-Weiss Network on the week’s events in the January/February issue of NDWorks.

GROTON NETWORK LAUNCHES

On the occasion of its 175th anniversary, the University announced Nov. 26 the launch of Groton Network, a digital media platform for young Catholic adults.

For 175 years, the University has sought to educate the minds and inspire the hearts of young people,” said Notre Dame President Rev. John I. Jenkins, C.S.C. “Groton Network is our effort for this time as we — in partnership with many others, but especially local parishes — employ technology with which the generation is conversant, help millennials live richer lives, experience the joy of the Gospel and use their talents in generous service to others.

Through video storytelling, authentic online conversations, social campaigns and practical tools for navigating career, finance, personal wellness and relationships, Groton Network will engage Catholic millennials’ desire to make an impact in their communities and cultivate their spirituality — ultimately encouraging them toward deeper participation in their parishes. Visit grotonnetwork.com.

PEOPLE

GRIFFIN APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF KEOUGH-NAUGHTON INSTITUTE FOR IRISH STUDIES

Patrick Griffin, the Madden-Heaney Professor of History, has been appointed director of the Keough-Naughton Institute for Irish Studies.

The Keough-Naughton Institute for Irish Studies, a teaching and research institute within the Keough School of Global Affairs, is dedicated to the study and understanding of Irish culture — in Ireland and around the world — in all of its manifestations. Since its inception with the Donald and Marilyn Keough Program in Irish Studies, the institute has assembled world-class faculty and expansive library collections.

“Patrick Griffin is a seasoned administrator, a world-renowned scholar and a sought-after expert in Irish history and society,” says Scott Appleby, the Marilyn Keough Dean of the Keough School of Global Affairs. “As such, he is the ideal successor to Christopher Fox, the founding director of the Keough-Naughton Institute.”

Fox, a professor of English who is an expert on Jonathan Swift and 18th-century Ireland, co-founded the institute in 1992 with the Irish poet and scholar Seamus Deane.

Griffin, who joined the Notre Dame faculty in 2008, explores the intersection of colonial American and early modern Irish and British history, focusing on Atlantic-wide themes. He has studied the ways in which Ireland, Britain and America were linked during the 17th and 18th centuries. He has studied revolution and rebellion, movement and migration, and colonization and violence in each society.

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Notre Dame Stadium project offers clean slate for women in need

Notre Dame receives first-of-its-kind $100 million unrestricted commitment from entrepreneur Kenn Ricci

By Erin Blasko, Media Relations

The University has announced a first-of-its-kind, $100 million unrestricted commitment from Kenn Ricci, an aviation industry leader who is a Notre Dame alumnus and Trustee, and his wife, Pamela.

The single largest unrestricted gift guaranteed ever committed to the University is being made through a Philanthropic Succession Partnership (PSP), an innovative giving structure developed by Ricci, founder of Directional Aviation Capital, a holding company for aviation companies he has founded or acquired.

The $100 million commitment will begin to be fulfilled through lifetime gifts by the Riccis and, ultimately, completed with proceeds from the sale of business assets held by a Ricci family limited partnership that owns interests in Directional Aviation Capital.

Upon Ricci’s death, Notre Dame will receive beneficial rights to a limited partnership interest and become the partnership’s successor general partner. The University will hold the controlling interest and have responsibility for the valuation, liquidation and distribution of the partnership’s assets, providing incentive to maximize their value. The proceeds will fulfill any outstanding portion of the Riccis’ $100 million commitment.

The Ricci commitment to provide unrestricted funds to the University gives Notre Dame’s leadership the flexibility to devote attention to its areas of greatest need at the time. Recent uses of unrestricted gifts include financial aid, areas to further Notre Dame’s Catholic mission, programs that enhance student life and experiences and uses that strengthen academic programs and research opportunities.

The Ricci family has previously given Notre Dame an additional $5 million gift to create an outdoor home for the Band of the Fighting Irish and a world-class facility for students participating in RecSports; the Ricci Band Rehearsal Hall; the Ricci Band Musical Excellence fund; the President’s Circle; and financial aid, including the Tomasetti Grace and Lynne Grace Brown Scholarship, the Frank and Doris Vai Scholarship and the Charles and Mary Ricci Scholarship.

This newly unvailed gift contributes to the Boldly Notre Dame campaign announced by the University in August.

By Erin Blasko, Media Relations

Toering above Notre Dame Sta- dium, Comerford Family Hall, O’Neill Hall and Duncan Student Center — part of the massive Campus Cross- roads project — cast impressive shadows over the south end of campus. But for 14 local women, the struc- tures, comprising 800,000 square feet of classroom, research, student life, media, performance, meeting, event and hospitality space, are a welcome source of light on the otherwise dim path to financial security.

The women — clients of St. Margaret’s House, a South Bend day center for women and children who struggle with poverty — work for My Best Friend Services, a local cleaning company hired to mop, dust, polish and scrub the massive new buildings, as well as other renovated areas of the stadium, prior to final occupancy.

Jacki Elliott, owner of the business, hired the women earlier this year after attempts to recruit new employees through traditional means — print and online job postings and refer- rals — proved ineffective because of low unemployment and a tight labor market in the area. Elliott had previously donated to St. Margaret’s House, dropping off old business clothes for the women to wear to job interviews. But until the economy improved and the labor market tights- ened did she consider them as possi- ble job candidates.

She interviewed them on the spot. “They told us they were going to be coming in and hiring 30 girls or something for a job and I said, ‘I want a job.’ So they helped us do our resumes and everything and then they hired us,” said Cooper, 53, who had been out of work for more than five years. Previously, Cooper said, she had more or less given up on the possibility of full-time work because of health issues and family obligations, which tended to fright- en off employers.

“Because we’re a commu- nity of women and we know each other here, we knew that we had women who could work if just given a chance,” Schneider said. “We are pleased to be able to work with the ladies on Jacki’s team. They have worked very hard with great attention to detail all the while doing so with a ready smile and ‘hello’ each time they see you,” Boynton said.

“We are glad to do this for the women,” Schneider said. “The fact that we cared about the women as much as she cared about the work.”

Cooper said, “My Best Friend Ser- vices, they understood that we are people and we go through things, and they help us in the midst of everything to get things done. They work with us. They’re flexible.”

St. Margaret’s, meanwhile, pro- vided lunch for the women for the first few weeks “to make sure they fit in” with the rest of the crew and had something to eat, Schneider said.

Julie Boynton, director of interior architecture for Notre Dame, helped select My Best Friend Services for the job. Boynton previously worked with Elliott on Alumni Hall of Law, the Moors Inn and McCourtney Hall, in addition to Jenkins and Nanovic halls.

“It has been very rewarding to meet and work with the ladies on Jacki’s team. They have worked very hard with great attention to detail all the while doing so with a ready smile and ‘hello’ each time they see you,” Boynton said.

“Their work is excellent,” she said. “We are pleased to be able to work with My Best Friend Services and to help provide a training and work opportunity for some incredible women.”

Women like Tiffany Brown, 28, a single mother of five. “To be able to take care of my children and to be able to fill up on hours like we do is wonderful,” Brown said. “Jackie really saved my life. And St. Margaret’s has too.”

For Schneider, a further con- firmation of the lessons she learned as a student at Notre Dame. “As an alum of Notre Dame, I am proud of Notre Dame and I am proud of Jackie,” Schneider said. “Every class at Notre Dame, I was taught that every gift you’re given bears responsibility to be used for the benefit of others. And I think this is a great gift that was given to these women.”

“My Best Friend Services staffs.

Diana Quinn (left) and Lynette Cooper (center) clean in the entryway of O’Neill Hall; at right, Mary (‘Miss Mary”) Hicks. “Been cleaning all my life, now I’m getting paid for it,” she says.
The Snite Museum of Art, considered by many to be one of the finest University art museums in the country, contains works of art that represent many cultures and periods of world art history.

Strengths in the collections include Mesoamerican, Spanish Colonial, Latin American, Mexican and Chicano art; 19th-, 20th- and 21st-century photography; old master to 19th-century paintings, sculpture, drawings and prints; design and decorative arts and modern and contemporary art.

But collecting, preserving, maintaining and exhibiting art takes a dedicated staff of professionals most of us never see. Here they take us behind the scenes to show us how their jobs contribute to the mission of the museum and the University.

For more information on upcoming exhibitions and events, visit the website at sniteartmuseum.nd.edu.

Cheryl Snay: Works on paper vault

“We estimate that around 87 to 90 percent of the collections are in storage,” says Cheryl Snay, curator of European art. The collections contain, she estimates, around 29,000 items, many of them fragile.

In the paper vault, Snay notes that works on paper that must be stored flat are ordered by size, color-coded by medium (drawings or prints, for example) and filed alphabetically by the name of the artist. Each drawer contains a tracking sheet, and each acid-free storage box contains a printed inventory box list (information contained in the electronic collections database as well.)

The room’s large flat surfaces are used for pulling and examining works on paper, for research or when curators are selecting works to exhibit. Works on paper are exhibited only for brief periods of time to minimize exposure to light.

Another room contains hanging works, with temperature and humidity monitored three times per day. Large flat drawers contain even more fragile pastels, which must be kept flat, covered by protective sheets and stored in the dark.

Preparator Ramiro Rodriguez and assistant preparator Kyle Thorne

Preparators perform a number of critical museum tasks—but, says Preparator Ramiro Rodriguez, “Our job is not to be noticed.”

Rodriguez and Assistant Preparator Kyle Thorne (here examining a recently acquired 1610 engraving by Willem Swanenberg) review new acquisitions, assess their incoming status, make sure they are matted to museum standards with acid- and lignin-free mats and hinges, and stored flat in Solander cases — the ubiquitous clamshell boxes for flat storage named for 18th-century Swedish botanist Daniel Solander.

Rodriguez and Thorne also design exhibition installations, planning design, layout and flow; mat and frame art works for exhibition; install and de-install works for gallery shows; pack and crate (or unpack and uncrate) objects; and build small pedestals, risers and stands for objects. In addition, they prepare and install signage and didactic materials, and bring works and objects out of storage for study by classes and researchers.
Our job is not to be noticed’

Deb Osborn

Deb Osborn, the museum’s custodian, keeps the Snite’s many spaces pristine for visitors. But visitors might be surprised to learn that any dusting or other cleaning of frames, vitrines (Plexiglas or glass display cases) and anything around the artwork can only be cleaned by preparators.

Friends of the Snite: Mary Rattenbury

Mary Rattenbury is program coordinator of the Friends of the Snite Museum. Membership in the Friends funds education outreach programs to the community. Sponsored programs include museum tours for area children that reach nearly 10,000 elementary students per year; High School Art Day, Art and Architecture tours and exhibition opening receptions.

Security: Fred Slaski

Security monitor Fred Slaski; every day there are seven security monitors working in the museum, as well as a rotating group of students and one staffer on duty to provide visitor information.

Edward J. Steichen (American, 1879–1973), Nocturne, ca. 1905, oil on canvas.
The University welcomes the following employees who began work in October:

James W. Baud, Campus Technology Services
Patrick M. Balanow, North Dining Hall
Kassandra L. Blanton, Candalaria Flavors
Shane M. Packer, Custodial Services
Ashley M. Boccuzzi, Notre Dame Initiative for Global Development
Kimberly J. Bradford, Kasagau E. Nabepled and Allison M. Sheets, Notre Dame Research Administration
Clewson D. Brown, College of Engineering
Meghan L. Broyer, Donor Services
Sarah M. Cahalan, Notre Dame Magazine
Sushma Chandrashekar, Customer IT Solutions
Christopher E. Charisiopoulos, Football
James J. Comerford, Shakespeare at Notre Dame
Katharine L. Dittrich, Licensing
Tyrone Dyer, Alumni Association
Wendy Patelr Farel, Center for Ethics and Culture
Silvia Paloma Garcia-Lopez, Institute for Latino Studies
Christopher W. Gillis and jean A. Pavlik, User Services
Guadalupe Gomez, Kellogg Institute for International Studies
best C. Hanrahan, Office of the Controller
Brian E. Harper, Food Service, Holy Cross House
Matthew R. Hensley, Infrastructure Services
Steven M. Hosung, Operations
Yuanxian Huang, Procurement Services
Kelly Hutch, English
Sarah E. Lawless, Special Events and Stewardship

Shelly S. Lapas, Office of Human Resources
Kathleen M. Maas and Elleen E. Vor, Law School Admissions
Jemma D. Mcelish, Biological Sciences
Anthony F. Onumun, Recreational Sports
Mary D. Prescott, Engineering and Science
Computation Administration
Shawnan Weye, Robinson Community Learning Center
Pablo D. Robles Grande, Computer Science and Engineering
Angelina Rose and Joshua T. Sarker, Morris Inn
Tamuto Takakura, Turbomachinery Facility
Rase Vogel, Vice President and Associate Provost for Innovation

The University extends its sympathy to the families and friends of these recently deceased employees and retirees:

Robert (Bogdani) Momotulic, retired Joyce Center maintenance technician, Oct. 28
Elsie Orban, retiree, Nov. 1
Isauros Nevaro, food services retiree, Nov. 3
Sheridan Patrick McCabe, professor emeritus, department of psychology, Nov. 6
Elaine Kleva, retiree, Nov. 7
Stephen Tapp, a system administrator specialist in Campus Technology Services, Nov. 11
Robert H. Schulen, Zahn Professor Emeritus, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, Nov. 13
William Dawson, professor emeritus, department of psychology, Nov. 22

Improving work processes across the University

By Angela Knoblach, CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

Providing safe dining options for students with food allergies or medical conditions was the primary focus of one of nine Office of Continuous Improvement (OCI) Six Sigma Green Belt projects this fall. Green Belt projects focus on “making Notre Dame better every day” by improving services, reducing rework, mitigating risk, and giving back to people the gift of time that can be transferred from administrative tasks to more value-added activities, says Carol Mullany, senior director of sustainability and continuous improvement.

As a result of one project, ND NetNutrition, complete nutritional information including the identification of potential allergens) is now available for 100 percent of all recipes served in the dining halls.

“This tool provides critical information for the 8 to 9 percent of students who have a serious or life-threatening food allergy or dietary-related medical condition,” says Cheryl Bauso, associate director of sourcing and sustainability in Campus Dining. “It’s also a win-win for all of our diners who want to be able to make food choices that are best for them.”

In another project, University Health Services recognized the need to enhance the office’s ability to respond to student and parent health insurance inquiries.

“During the summer, our volume of inquiries was well over 3,000 in just an eight-week period. Most of this volume relied on the expertise of one staff member,” says Connie Morrow, assistant director of USHS.

“A key improvement implemented was equipping our staff members, as well as campus partners, with the information needed to directly respond to inquiries.”

In many instances, students and parents received answers without having to contact USHS, saving time and unnecessary frustration. The improvement actions taken to proactively address inquiries resulted in a 30 percent decrease in volume during the same eight-week period in 2017. “The reduction was primarily on easily answered inquiries. We were better able to focus on the more complex health insurance inquiries in a timely manner,” says Morrow.

In addition to the nine Green Belt certifications, Duane Wilson, program director in the Office of Continuous Improvement, received Black Belt certification, indicating a post-Green Belt project of greater complexity and impact across campus.

“The University congratulates all those who have completed Green Belt and Black Belt projects,” says Mullany.

For more information on OCI, visit continuousimprovement. nd.edu. Prerequisite Yellow Belt classes are offered several times a year. Visit Endeavor for information or to register.

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Notre Dame establishes Office of Military and Veterans Affairs

BY SUE LISTER, MEDIA RELATIONS

Long recognized as a leader in training students preparing for military careers and as a partner to the United States military, the University has strengthened its commitment to those who have served our country by establishing its new Office of Military and Veterans Affairs (OMVA).

The office will expand the University’s support for Notre Dame-enrolled veterans and their families, active-duty and ROTC students and those who are dependents of service members.

“The bonds between Notre Dame and the U.S. military predate the American Civil War and have grown stronger over many years, as successive generations of Notre Dame graduates and Holy Cross priests have served our nation in times of war and peace,” says Thomas G. Bur- sch, Charles and Sheila Fischer Provost. “With this new office, we will further strengthen our commitment to serv- ing those who have given so much to our nation and the University. I am grateful to the Military and Veteran Initiative Steering Committee, whose members led this initiative.”

Under the direction of Regan Jones, a highly decorated Marine Corps veteran who came to Notre Dame in 2014, the OMVA will focus on growing the military-connected undergraduate and graduate student populations and developing targeted services to meet their unique needs. It will also coordinate and lead Notre Dame’s multidisciplinary efforts to support these students and will work collabor- atively with representatives from other areas of the University, including ROTC, admissions, student affairs, the Graduate School, financial aid, First Year of Studies and other departments.

“We believe Notre Dame can achieve singular distinction as one of the nation’s best universities for veterans, military, ROTC and their families,” says Laura Carlston, vice president and associate provost and chair of the Military and Veteran Initiative Steering Committee. “In Regan Jones, a highly decorated Marine Corps veteran who has spent the past three-plus years getting to know the University from a variety of per- spectives, we have the ideal leader to direct us in this endeavor.”

“Since Sept. 11, 2001, more than 3.8 million veterans have served in the U.S. military,” Jones says. “The Office of Military and Veterans Affairs will ensure that those mili- tary-connected individuals within the Notre Dame community experience the gratitude that we have for their sacrifice for our country and feel fully supported in their academic pursuits.”

The office’s strategic plan sets goals of making the Notre Dame experi- ence robust, inclusive and vibrant for military-connected students and en- abling the University to be a leading model of engagement for this student population. Among other things, this will entail actively recruiting more veterans and military-connected individuals for undergraduate and graduate enrollment, providing multiple pathways for academic and personal success, preparing these students for post-graduation pursuits, ensuring timely degree completion and becoming an em- ployer of choice for veterans.

Establishing the OMVA writes a new chapter in the University’s long history with the U.S. military, which includes service by thou- sands of alumni, students and priests from Notre Dame’s founding reli- gious community, the Congregation of Holy Cross. One of those priests, Rev. William Corby, C.S.C., who would later become University presi- dent, served as chaplain to the Union Army’s Irish Brigade during the Civil War and famously gave absolution to the troops at Gettysburg as they prepared for battle.

During World War II, more than two-thirds of the Notre Dame student body enlisted, and a Navy program hosted on campus trained 12,000 officers. After the war, a housing complex known as Verville was built near where the Hesburgh Library now stands to accommodate veterans returning to school with their families. In the 1950s, Notre Dame was among the first universities to host all three ROTC branches of the military.

Outside of the military academies, the ROTC program is today among the national leaders in graduating commissioned officers. Currently Notre Dame’s Mendoza College of Business MBA program enrolls 38 veterans as part of the Yellow Ribbon Program. This past summer, the University hosted a cohort of the Warner-Scholar Project, through which 15 veterans and active-duty military members spent a week with Notre Dame faculty and administrators preparing for enrollment in colleges and universities around the country.

To learn more about Notre Dame’s resources for military-connected students, visit the OMVA website at omva.nd.edu.
Notre Dame–Newman Centre to engage Irish millennials

BY AMANDA SKOFSTAD, MEDIA RELATIONS

President Rev. John I. Jenkins, C.S.C., joined the Most Rev. Diarmuid Martin, archbishop of Dublin, in inaugurating the Notre Dame–Newman Centre for Faith and Reason in Dublin with a Mass held on Thursday, Nov. 23.

At the invitation of Archbishop Martin, the University agreed in 2016 to steward the historic Newman University Church by establishing a center designed for young professionals. The center is named for the church’s founder, Blessed John Henry Newman.

“I see the establishment of the center as an opportunity for University Church to return to its original vocation as a focal point for reflection on faith and reason,” says Archbishop Martin. “Dublin can take a new lead in today’s changed social context in something which is part of the rich heritage of Newman’s presence in Dublin.”

Father Jenkins notes: “The Notre Dame–Newman Centre enables us to bring together our respect for Blessed John Henry Newman’s towering contributions to the dialogue of faith and reason with the University’s deep connection to the people, culture and nation of Ireland. We are grateful for the opportunity and hope the endeavor serves the Church and people of Ireland.”

The inaugural events in Dublin included a lecture on faith and reason in a secular age by Cyril O’Regan, Notre Dame’s Huisking Professor of Theology, as well as the premiere of a new Mass composed by the internationally recognized Irish composer Patrick Cassidy and performed by the National Orchestra of Ireland.

The newly established center complements an array of University activities in Ireland, including those of the Dublin Global Gateway, a partnership with Kylemore Abbey and myriad teaching and research projects connected to the work of the Keough–Naughton Institute for Irish Studies.

1. Undergraduate course at O’Connell House in Dublin, Ireland.
2. Michael Pippenger (left) vice president and associate provost for internationalization, speaks with Notre Dame undergraduates studying at University College Dublin in Dublin, Ireland.
4. Theology professor Cyril O’Regan gives a lecture on faith and reason in a secular age. The lecture was part of the inaugural events of the Notre Dame–Newman Centre for Faith and Reason.
5. University of Notre Dame president Rev. John I. Jenkins, C.S.C., poses for a group photo with Notre Dame students and staff in Ireland at a Thanksgiving dinner in Dublin, Ireland.
6. The National Orchestra of Ireland performs a new Mass composed by Irish composer Patrick Cassidy at the historic Newman University Church in Dublin, Ireland. The concert was part of a series of events surrounding the inauguration of the Notre Dame–Newman Centre for Faith and Reason.