

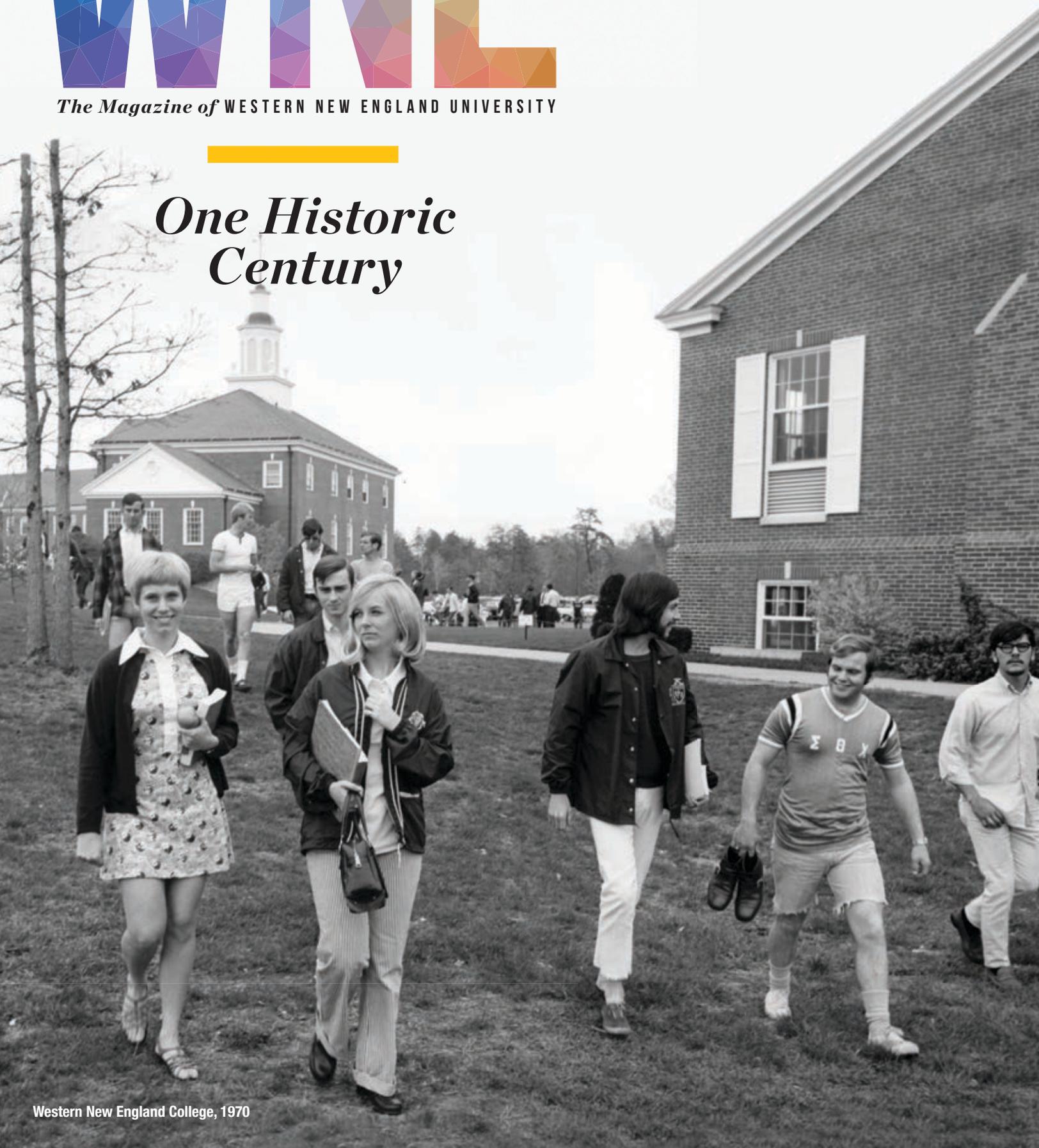
WVNE

SUMMER 2019
CENTENNIAL ISSUE

The Magazine of WESTERN NEW ENGLAND UNIVERSITY



One Historic Century



Western New England College, 1970

100 Years of Memories

Do you have a piece of Western New England history,
a photo from your Golden Bear glory days, or a fond
memory to share with the WNE family?



Join the
conversation
on social media

#WNE100

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Summer 2019

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The Magazine of Western New England University is published for alumni, parents, and friends of Western New England University.

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The
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WESTERN NEW ENGLAND
UNIVERSITY 

WELCOME

to our
Centennial year!



IT'S OUR CENTENNIAL YEAR AT WESTERN NEW ENGLAND UNIVERSITY—AND WE ARE CELEBRATING!

As we continue to embark on our University journey, we look back with gratitude, and we look forward with enthusiasm and pride, knowing that we have all played a vital role in the evolution of our beloved Western New England University.

Our modest origins in 1919 in rented classroom space in downtown Springfield were born of a simple idea—that high quality, higher education was the key to helping working-class people transform their lives, their communities, and our greater society.

This issue of *The Magazine of Western New England University* is the first of a two-part focus highlighting our Centennial year. The cover story of this summer issue reflects on that historic first century, while our winter issue will look forward to how Western New England, and higher education in general, will prepare students for tomorrow.

Vital to our continued progress is the Campaign for Our Second Century, the University's most ambitious fundraising effort in our history. I encourage you to read about its goals and find a personal connection that inspires your support. This issue also celebrates our Centennial Class whose members joined our alumni ranks in May, and the accomplished alumni we honored at our Centennial Commencement ceremonies: Kevin S. Delbridge '77 and Dean '82 and Denise '84 Vanech. We also share with you a story of the generosity of J. Raymond '39/L'56 and June Lester who quietly bequeathed a gift from their estate to provide financial aid for our law students.

Giving of oneself is a core value of the Western New England University community and our members are doing that in diverse ways. Our feature on Dr. Christian Salmon showcases how he and his colleagues are applying their engineering skills to help rural communities around the globe gain access to healthcare while reimagining our programs here on campus. In our informative focus on the opioid crisis, we look at the events that created this monumental societal challenge and the ways our faculty, students, and alumni are working to find solutions.

As our Centennial video featured on the University website (wne.edu) highlights, this institution was founded on the tenets of opportunity, accessibility, and community. It was shaped by the thousands of students, alumni, faculty, staff, and community supporters who believed in its potential to transform lives through the power of education. Just imagine what we can achieve together in our next 100 years.

Sincerely,

Anthony S. Caprio
President

ONE HISTOR

*Western New England University
Celebrates Our Centennial!*

BY MARY MCLEAN ORSZULAK G'10



WESTERN NEW ENGLAND
1919 UNIVERSITY 2019

100 YEARS CENTURY

It's a milestone that has been a century in the making—in 2019 our beloved Western New England University is turning one hundred—and we're celebrating!

The world has changed a great deal since our first students opened a textbook and began their academic journey at the institution that would become known as Western New England University. The year was 1919, and while those students were young working adults attending part-time evening classes in rooms rented at the Springfield Central YMCA, their goals and ambitions were no different than those of our students studying on laptops today: to use their educations to transform their lives.

Those pioneering students were a part of a bold experiment to make a private college education accessible and affordable to working class people living in the Post-World War I boomtown of Springfield, Massachusetts. Northeastern University,

then a college, had recognized a need for programs in business, accounting, and law beyond its Boston campus and decided to open satellite divisions in industrialized cities throughout New England. Springfield-Northeastern, as our division was known, welcomed its first students at a tuition cost of just \$100 annually. Three years later, in 1922, it graduated its inaugural class comprised of many future city leaders and staunch supporters of what this new venture would one day become.

Within those crowded first classrooms, students found opportunity, community, and accessibility to higher education, tenets that remained core values that have attracted more than 48,000 students to pursue bachelor, master's, or doctoral degrees at Western New England University. Their stories are intrinsically bound with our story, our shared history in this remarkable first century.

LET'S TAKE A LOOK BACK. 

1920s

Under the direction of Dr. John D. Churchill, who would later become Western New England's founding president, the Springfield-Northeastern Division grew in the 1920s to include the Evening School of Engineering, which in 1925 became the Springfield Engineering Institute run by the YMCA. In 1927, the business program was extended to offer a B.B.A. and the M.B.A. was introduced. By the close of the 1920s enrollment reached 400 students.



1930s

During the Depression years, the Springfield Engineering Institute revamped its curriculum and was reabsorbed into Northeastern University in 1930, becoming the Applied Science Program in the School of Commerce and Finance and granting the degree of Bachelor of Commercial Science (B.C.S.), the only Northeastern entity to award that degree. That year the Educational Committee of the Springfield Division became the Board of Governors, under the close direction of Northeastern University.

1940s

In the forties, particularly in the lean enrollment years during World War II, Northeastern University separated itself from all divisions except Springfield. Between 1941-45 the Springfield Division participated in the Engineering Defense Training Program and in the Engineering, Science, and Management Defense Training Program. But by the end of 1942, the law program was phased out and closed entirely because the ABA would not accredit legal programs in more than one Northeastern location. In 1945 the influx of returning war veterans swelled enrollment ranks.



1950s

By mid-century, the institution faced a historic crossroads. In July 1950, Northeastern communicated to the YMCA that the Springfield Division was to be terminated as soon as possible. After exploring options, the Springfield Division Board of Governors sought to create a distinct institution. In 1951, an autonomous charter was obtained to grant and confer the degrees of Bachelor of Business Administration and Bachelor of Laws. With just three full-time employees, the Springfield Division of Northeastern University was renamed Western New England College and Dr. John D. Churchill (1951-54) was elected president. In 1955, following the death of Dr. Churchill, Class of 1922 valedictorian Stanley O. Smith stepped in as acting president until Dr. Beaumont A. Herman (1955-76) was elected. A year later, the College's charter was amended to allow a B.S. in Engineering and an M.B.A. degree. A Day Division in Engineering was added in 1957.



1960s



Called "The Miracle on Wilbraham Road" by the local community, the land purchased by the College quickly took shape into a campus. Led by President Beaumont Herman, the sixties saw a flurry of growth in academic programs, the physical campus, and the creation of a distinct learning community. The School of Arts and Sciences was established in 1966. Construction projects included the first administrative building, a library, second classroom building, a campus center, and the first dormitories forming the Quad, and later the first women's dorm. The transition from a commuter campus to a residential one sparked the development of myriad student activities and support services along with personnel to oversee them, including the first athletic coach.

The seventies welcomed a surge of Baby Boomers with undergraduate enrollments exceeding 1,700. As a stipulation for accreditation, the College was required to establish a School of Business with a Day Division. During the tenure of President Richard Gottier (1976-79), the School of Law initiated a full-time day J.D. program at a leased site, which was accredited by the ABA in 1978, and moved to the Blake Law Center in 1979. Off-Campus Programs were established at Hanscom Air Force Base to serve military personnel.



By the 1980s, under the direction of President Beverly White Miller (1980-96), the College was thriving with five schools (Arts and Sciences, Business, Continuing Education, Engineering, and Law), 14 varsity sports, and an enrollment of 5,398. Major construction and renovation projects and land and property acquisitions enhanced the campus. This decade saw the development of continuous ongoing strategic planning for the institution and the recognition of the need to support campus diversity through the creation of the Office of Diversity Programs and Services.



1919

The first classes were held in rented rooms of the YMCA at 122 Chestnut Street in Springfield.

1922

The inaugural class of the Springfield Division of Northeastern University graduated 13 students.

1951

Western New England College was granted a charter.

1956

The original 34 acres for the present campus on Wilbraham Road was purchased.

1961

The Western New England College Alumni Association was established.

1970

Engineering students petitioned to be called the Golden Bears and the first football game was played.

1972

The College received accreditation by NEASC as a general purpose institution.

1986

The "Bring the Bear Home" campaign installed a five-ton bronze statue of "Spirit," the beloved Golden Bear school mascot.

2011

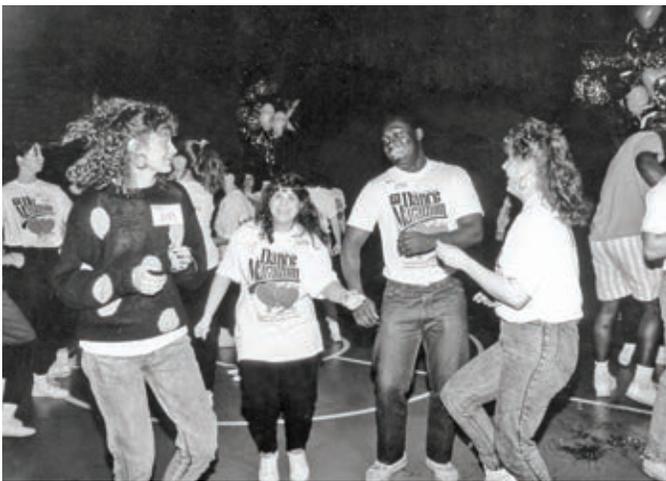
Western New England College officially became Western New England University!

2019

Western New England University turns 100.

1990s

Thanks to the generosity of graduates who supported the “Buy a Brick” campaign, the Alumni Healthful Living Center was built. The Off-Campus Programs expanded to 19 sites. Following his installation as president Dr. Anthony S. Caprio commissioned self-studies to help inform strategic planning, including an assessment of the impact of the growing Athletics Program. The results of this research led to the development of numerous reports and Strategic and Facilities Master Plans, which provided a roadmap for developing new academic, athletic, diversity, and support programs; enhanced campus facilities; initiatives for faculty development; improved processes through technology; increased international recruitment and travel opportunities; and increased alumni engagement and giving.



2000s



In the first decade of the new millennium, Western New England began to fully realize the impact and the potential of the Digital Revolution on how it recruited, supported, and taught students. After an intensive multiyear effort, the School of Business earned AACSB International accreditation in 2006. Modernization and expansion of campus facilities continued at a record pace. The College website became a prominent vehicle for recruitment while online learning developed into a staple of graduate study. Western New England was named to *U.S. News & World Report's* list of America's Best Colleges. The first doctoral program was offered in Behavior Analysis, paving the way for a transition to university status. Due to new state mandates, the Off-Campus Programs were discontinued. The decade concluded with the establishment of the School of Pharmacy and the unveiling of the Center for the Sciences and Pharmacy.



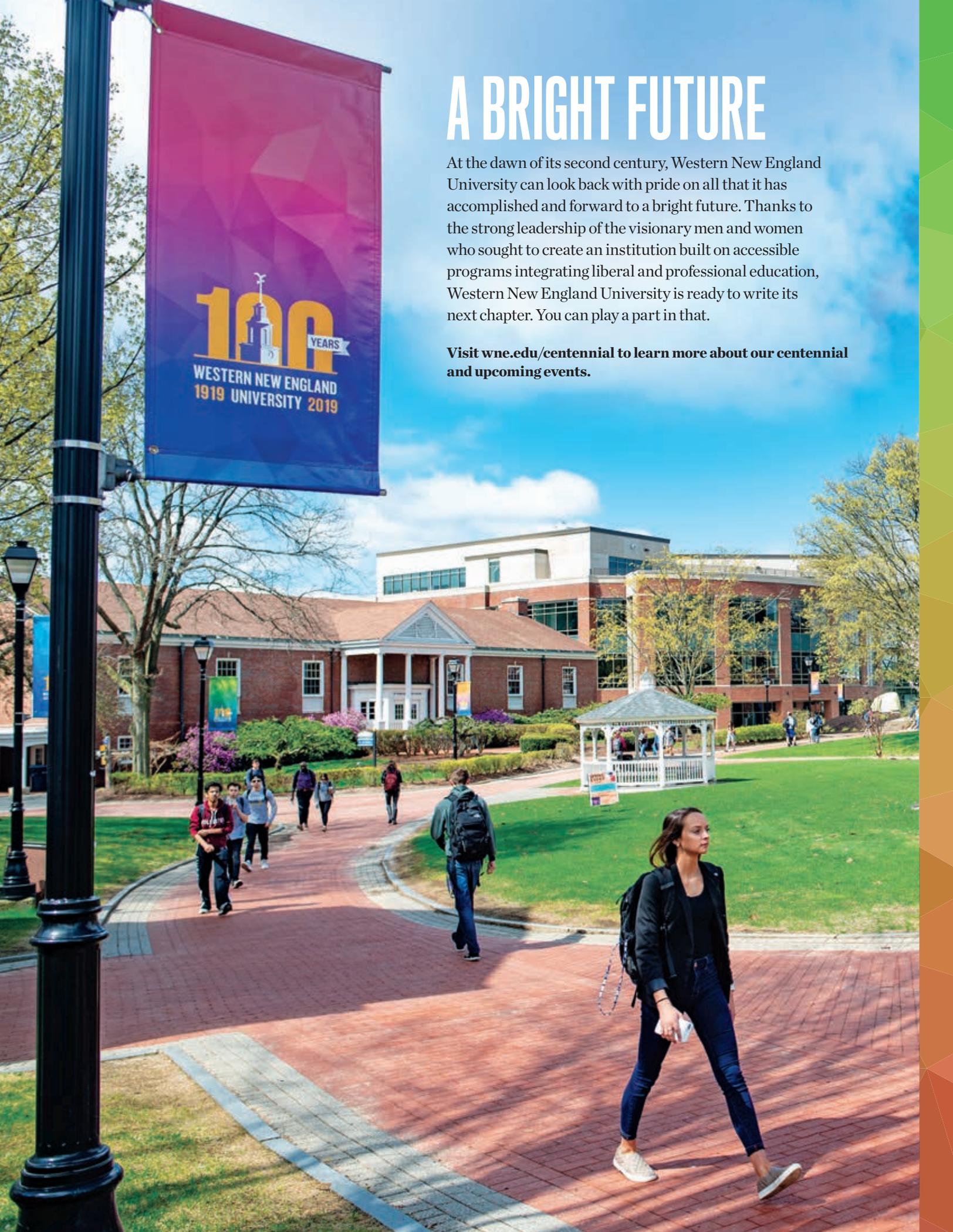
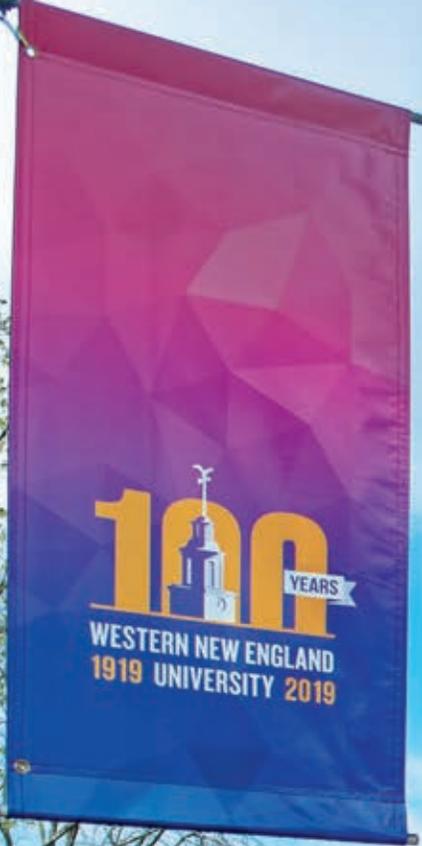
2010s

On July 1, 2011, Western New England College officially became Western New England University. The change to university status better reflected the institution's growth, diversity, entrepreneurial culture, and expansion of graduate and doctoral offerings with a worldwide reach. Along with the change in name of the University, four of the Schools: Arts and Sciences, Business, Engineering, and Pharmacy became “Colleges,” while the School of Law retained its name. The University's tenth decade saw the institution continue to grow its physical plant to remain vibrant. Despite national and institutional financial challenges, population shifts, and greater competition for students, the University powered on. With the introduction of the Doctor of Occupational Therapy program and anticipated future growth, the University's fourth college was renamed the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. Today Western New England has become a comprehensive university offering 90 academic programs that attract students from around the globe to our evolving campus.

A BRIGHT FUTURE

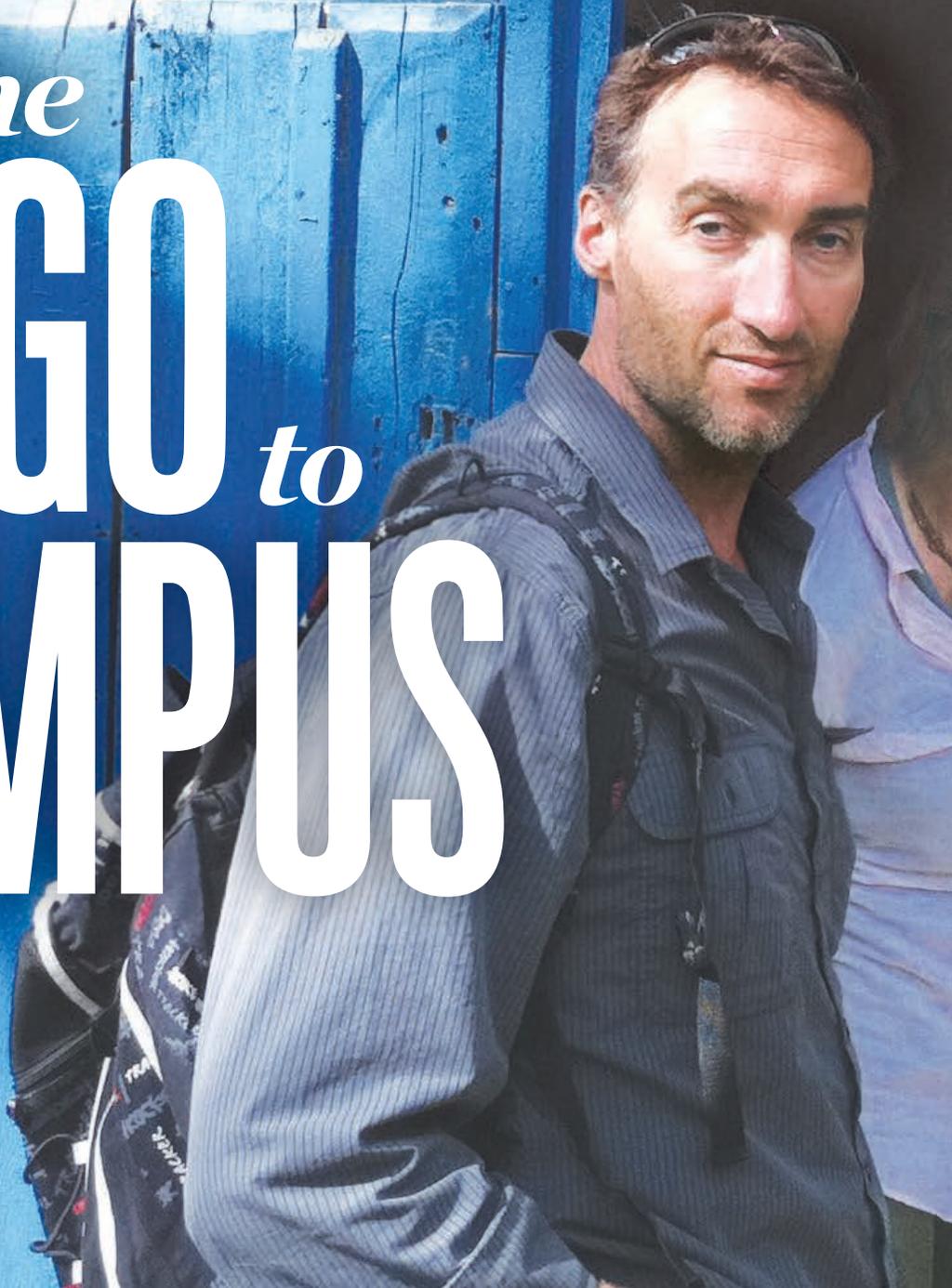
At the dawn of its second century, Western New England University can look back with pride on all that it has accomplished and forward to a bright future. Thanks to the strong leadership of the visionary men and women who sought to create an institution built on accessible programs integrating liberal and professional education, Western New England University is ready to write its next chapter. You can play a part in that.

Visit wne.edu/centennial to learn more about our centennial and upcoming events.



PROVINCE DU

From the
CONGO *to*
CAMPUS



SUD-KIVU

Professor Christian Salmon is developing creative solutions to global problems and reimagining education at home.

BY ALEX LYMAN '12/G'16





“ONCE YOU GET INVOLVED IN THIS KIND OF ENVIRONMENT, THERE’S ALWAYS MORE YOU CAN DO.”

Dr. Christian Salmon



Associate Professor Christian Salmon prefers the role of problem solver—he has to, simply by nature of being an accomplished industrial engineer. However, nothing has tested his resourcefulness quite like aiding the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), where he has worked to develop and maintain processes in healthcare to improve quality of care.

In 2009, Dr. Salmon was introduced to the Heal Africa Hospital in the DRC by his sister, an emergency physician, who was working in the public health realm there. She saw a need her brother could fill, particularly in the hospital’s pediatric HIV clinic, which was about to lose its funding due to an inability to provide information about its work. So Dr. Salmon went to the DRC to find out what was wrong.

“There were a lot of problems with Western entities bringing solutions that are not transferable or sustainable for a developing nation,” he explains.

The first order of business was to get the clinic’s method of collecting patient data organized and streamlined so that the clinicians could use data efficiently and report operational updates back to donors. Dr. Salmon implemented a restructuring of the clinic, which included reducing the amount of data collected from each patient. What he discovered was that medical staff was collecting large amounts of unnecessary data points. Dr. Salmon pared questioning down to five of the most critical metrics for pediatric health, which made data collection easier and reduced appointment times. He also helped bring in a more accessible information technology software package

produced by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention specifically for low-resourced healthcare settings. Within seven months, the clinic had an appreciable and manageable body of information and could accurately report on it.

Another hospital in the DRC that Dr. Salmon worked with had an issue surrounding physical resources; namely ultrasound gel. He says that it is common for donors to be willing to provide large pieces of equipment like an ultrasound machine, but do not ensure the continual supply of the smaller needs. This causes hospitals in developing nations to use inappropriate substitutes, if any, which compromises results. While on site,



Dr. Michael Rust

Dr. Salmon researched alternatives to ultrasound gel and discovered that cassava, a root vegetable that is abundant in the DRC, was a viable option. So he experimented and taught doctors how to “cook up” their own ultrasound gel. The cassava ultrasound gel was later officially deemed a good substitute by an academic study published on the online peer-reviewed journal PLOS ONE, as well as a validation study in partnership with Einstein Hospital that was published in the *Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology*.

Dr. Salmon notes “Once you get involved in that kind of environment, there’s always more you can do.” This was certainly true for him as well as for Associate Professor of Biomedical Engineering Michael Rust, who has been working with hospitals in Guatemala for the past nine years, and has involved his students through study abroad trips there.

Working with healthcare processes and technology in developing nations brought Professors Salmon and Rust together with the idea that they could do more as a collaborative effort under the construct of some sort of institution. They could even involve their students and colleagues. And thus, the Center for Global Health Engineering was born.

The Center for Global Health Engineering not only allows both professors to continue their respective research, but it gives them a nexus from which to release their findings and look for funding. It is also an excellent opportunity to cultivate

“OUR GOAL IS TO
HELP IMPROVE THE
HEALTHCARE SYSTEM
IN OUR CENTRAL
AMERICAN NEIGHBOR”

Dr. Michael Rust

relationships with faculty members in other fields who have expertise the Center may benefit from. Because, as Dr. Salmon aptly noted, “Everyone has something to offer from other disciplines, we just need to give them the context.”

FINDING SMART SOLUTIONS CLOSER TO HOME

While Dr. Salmon spends much of his time improving healthcare processes in developing countries, as the chair of the Department of Industrial Engineering, he is equally invested in transforming engineering education to better suit students in the modern world.

One of his first actions in the role was to form an undergraduate Student Advisory Board to create a simpler and more open line of communication between students and faculty.

He also has championed a strategic partnership called the WNE FIRST Robotics Initiative. FIRST® Robotics

Competitions (FRC) are becoming an increasingly popular extracurricular activity for students at the elementary, junior high, and high school levels around the nation, where teams not only build their own robots and program them to complete tasks in competitions, but also market and fundraise the entire effort, making the experience a well-rounded and fun mix of STEM, team-based learning, and entrepreneurial thinking.

Through the WNE FIRST Initiative, undergraduates mentor students teams and host major FRC events (see Campus News, page 27). The University has also established a \$1,000 scholarship for incoming first-year students who have been FRC team participants.

The graduate programs in both Industrial Engineering and Engineering Management are experiencing their own shift under Dr. Salmon’s leadership and vision. Previously the department only offered a Master of Science in Engineering Management. Now with a master’s in Industrial Engineering, he is working to help prospective students more clearly understand the distinctions between the two degrees. Dr. Salmon says the MS in Industrial Engineering is an ideal choice for engineers seeking to advance within the field, while the cross-disciplinary MS in Engineering Management is designed to help them develop the business and leadership skills necessary to move into broader executive roles.

With the graduate education landscape trending toward courses with both immediate relevancy and application as well as opportunities to apply toward certificates or master’s degrees, he has revamped three existing certificates and introduced five new offerings.

Whether working abroad or at home, Dr. Salmon has proven that collaboration between disciplines, ingenuity, improvisation, and the ability to bring people together is a formula that solves problems, regardless of scale. 🐾

SOWING THE SEEDS FOR *Success*

BY MARY MCLEAN ORSZULAK G'10



Raymond '39/L'56 and June Lester Legacy Creates Endowed Scholarship to Support Working Law Students

During the Great Depression, J. Raymond “Ray” Lester was one of the hard working students who spent their nights studying in the University’s cramped first classrooms rented from the YMCA. Like his classmates, Ray recognized that despite the tough times, an education was key to cultivating opportunity. Today, through a \$3,000,000 bequest made by his beloved wife, June, at her 2016 passing, the Lester’s legacy is creating similar opportunities for students like Ray.

In its first year (2019-20), \$100,000 from the bequest will fund two full tuition scholarships awarded to working western Massachusetts students enrolled part-time in the Juris Doctor program. The remainder will distribute additional \$10,000 awards to other students. In subsequent years, the bequest will distribute \$150,000 in annual scholarships. To read more about the J. Raymond and June Lester Memorial Endowed Scholarship, visit wne.edu/scholarships.

Ray’s educational journey spans a pivotal time period in the evolution of the University. In 1939 the Springfield native earned his first degree in Accounting as a student of the Springfield Division of Northeastern College. He returned over a decade later to earn his law degree in 1956 from the newly minted Western New England College.

Ray was charismatic and outgoing with an entrepreneurial spirit. His law practice focused on real estate law and estate planning, but he also recognized opportunity in real estate development fueled by returning WWII veterans and their families who were eager to build lives and memories in Springfield’s nascent East Forest Park neighborhood. Ray helped build homes for such families, including that of David Carlson, the son of Ray’s best friend and the family attorney.

“JUNE KNEW HOW HARD RAY HAD WORKED TO GET THROUGH SCHOOL. SHE REALLY LOVED RAY AND THIS SCHOLARSHIP WAS HER WAY OF HONORING HIS MEMORY.”

June came to Springfield from Sherbrooke, Quebec, Canada seeking her own opportunities. She became a nurse at Springfield Hospital, the precursor to Baystate Medical Center, and later for Blue Cross and Blue Shield Insurance, where she traveled to physicians’ offices as a consultant.

June and Ray were athletic and active outdoors people whose social circles intertwined through their membership in the Springfield Ski Club. Eventually, the two married, sharing many happy years together until Ray’s passing in 1987.



Raymond '39/L'56 and June Lester

The Lesters also were itinerant travelers and Ray enjoyed sharing with friends slideshows of their many adventures set to music. One of Ray’s greatest joys was tending to his garden on the couple’s Allen Farm, located at the fork of Allen Street and Sumner Avenue in Springfield—not far from Western New England, the institution that had helped make his many dreams possible. “June knew how hard Ray had worked to get through school,” recalled Marion Waleryszak, June’s longtime friend. “She really loved Ray and this scholarship was her way of honoring his memory.” From planting perennials in their garden that continue to flourish today, to building a cherished neighborhood, to now helping working law students achieve their own dreams, Ray and June Lester’s legacy will continue to sow seeds for success for many years to come. 🐾

To learn how you can give the gift of education, visit wne.edu/giving.

NEED TO SEE A DOCTOR?

There's an App for That.

**Dr. David Berman '80 Constructed
a Dual-sided Marketplace App to Benefit
Both Patients and Providers**

BY ALEX LYMAN '12/G'16

David Berman '80 (Biology) didn't intend to pursue entrepreneurship. After all, he was a practicing attending physician in internal medicine with his own medical practice. However, one dinnertime conversation with his son about the challenges of the healthcare industry sparked an idea that fit right in with his years of expertise as an M.D. What if he could create a healthcare-based marketplace that solved the problems of both patients and providers? Dr. Berman immediately jotted his idea on the back of napkin; the result was the launch of Slingshot Health, which is currently operating in Manhattan with hopes to expand.

He describes Slingshot Health as a dual-sided, unfettered marketplace in healthcare, based on the idea that the average provider has four open appointments each day which garner large net losses each year. The administrative costs of collecting unpaid bills is also substantial. On the flip side, the average wait for patients to see a provider can be 24-30 days with varying costs to them. Slingshot Health is a solution to benefit both parties. Users simply note the day and time they'd like to be seen,

and will be given the average cost for the service needed to use as guidance. The patient can then decide how much they'd like to pay, and a bid goes out to providers, who can accept, ignore, or counterbid the offer. Once an offer is finalized, the appointment is made.

Dr. Berman hopes for Slingshot Health to someday be the marketplace of the world, but his personal goal is for his life to always be a positive value proposition and for his legacy to last beyond his lifetime. It was his years as a Golden Bear that gave him the confidence to think big and the desire to succeed at all levels.

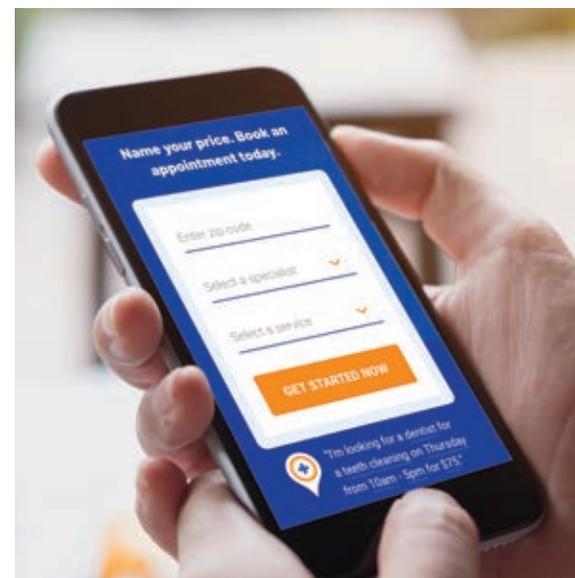
**"ATTENDING WESTERN
NEW ENGLAND WAS
TRANSFORMATIONAL
FOR ME."**

Dr. David Berman '80

"The school allowed me to focus on me, and I was supported by professors, teachers, and administrators who took interest in helping me along the way," he said. "My sails continued to rise higher and higher because of the stronger winds they

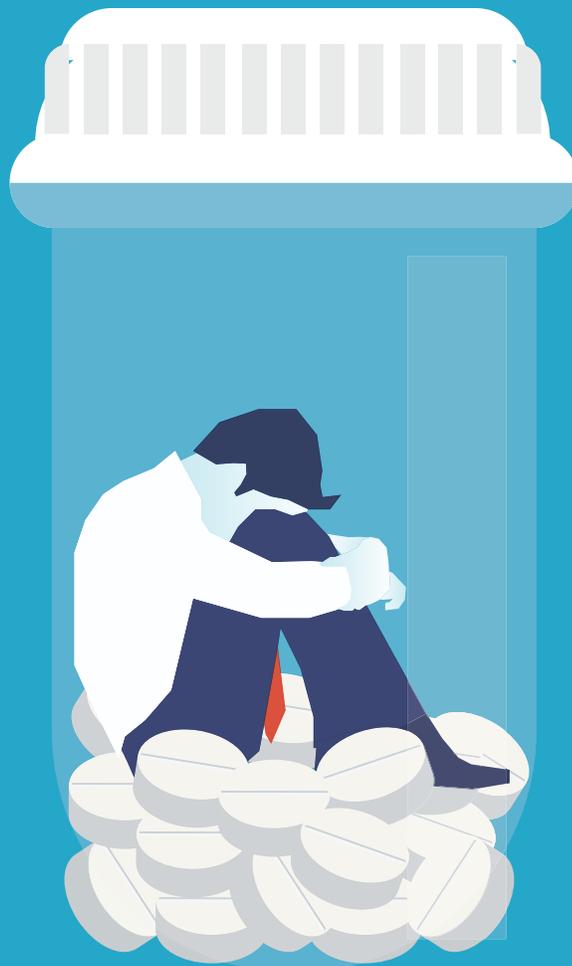
provided, and provide today. You are born with a set of tools in your toolbox. The goal is to identify them, sharpen them, and add to the toolbox continually. The University taught me that I could do that." 🐾

For more information about Slingshot Health, visit slingshothealth.com or follow the company on Facebook and Instagram.



RECKONING WITH THE OPIOID CRISIS

The WNE Community Seeks to Stem the Tide of Addiction



By Alex Lyman '12/G'16

One hundred and thirty Americans die every day from an opioid overdose, while almost 400,000 people died between 1999 and 2017 from an overdose involving opioids. These staggering statistics from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) leave little question to the fact that we are in a crisis revolving around opioids and their misuse. However, understanding how we got to this point and where we go from here is something both medical professionals and society at large are trying to wrap their heads around.

The CDC outlines the opioid epidemic in three distinct waves. The first wave began in the 1990s, which saw the increase of opioid prescriptions, which led to increased overdose deaths in the late '90s. The year 2010 marked the start of a second wave with a rise of heroin overdose deaths, as more people addicted to prescription opioids sought a more readily-available, if not legal, option. The epidemic transitioned to a third wave in 2013, where overdose deaths were most common due to synthetic opioids, such as the illicitly-manufactured fentanyl that can often be found in heroin, cocaine, and counterfeit drugs. These unregulated "street drugs" are among the most dangerous because unlike prescription opioids, the user doesn't truly know what is in the drug, and whether or

**"IN 1999 WE WERE
HAVING A VERY
DIFFERENT
CONVERSATION
ABOUT PAIN"**

not fentanyl is used, and if so, how much, which can easily lead to accidental overdose. Clinical Assistant Professor of Acute Care in the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

Mark Klee started as a hospital pharmacist around the time of the first wave of the opioid crisis. He says that the demand for better pain management for patients and misconceptions about the use of opioids may have had a hand in unintentionally aiding the opioid crisis. "In 1999 we were having a very different conversation about

pain," he notes. "At that point many of the people in the hospital were giving us feedback about how we were treating their pain poorly. So there was a real shift back then with the idea that we had to do a better job and the solution at the time was to give more opioids.



Dr. Mark Klee

VIABLE SOLUTIONS FOR CHALLENGING TIMES

The first piece to the puzzle is education. This is an important way to work towards a solution to the opioid crisis; medical professionals need to better understand what they are prescribing and users need to learn about safe usage. This might be in the form of more continuing education credits for healthcare providers, or ensuring more comprehensive information and counsel for patients, so that everyone can operate from an informed perspective.

Other solutions come directly from the line of care. For example, pharmacists have the right of refusal; they do not have to fill a prescription for someone who is exhibiting drug-seeking behavior. Pharmacy prescription monitoring programs allow pharmacists to search a database to see when the last time was that a patient filled a prescription for a controlled substance, which can help prevent patients from jumping from pharmacy to pharmacy to fill the same prescription. Some doctors' offices ask patients to sign a narcotics contract, where they promise to only take the opiate as directed when they are in pain and that they won't fill the prescription at different pharmacies. Dean Robinson has explored with several area physician groups adding a final line to the contract for patients to seek a safe, effective, legal, and environmentally appropriate means of disposal of the product from their home.

Dr. Klee is a big proponent of making naloxone (better known to the general public as Narcan) more readily available to prevent overdose. In fact, many pharmacies offer naloxone without a prescription at little to no cost with insurance. Naloxone comes as a nasal spray and can be administered by just about anyone.

"With naloxone there is really little risk," he says. "If you come across somebody you think is having an overdose, but they're actually having a stroke, naloxone isn't going to harm them. Regardless, your first step is always to activate EMS so that you have back up."

On the more controversial side, supervised injection sites have become a topic of conversation. These sites provide clean needles, a safe place to inject, naloxone in case of overdose, and most importantly,

There was a perception being put forth that people who are in pain had a low risk of addiction when given opioids. In retrospect, as a society we weren't providing enough education or monitoring for appropriate use. I think we're seeing the repercussions of that now, despite trying to do what we felt was the right thing."

While the inclination to place the culpability squarely on Big Pharma and prescribers isn't entirely off base, the opioid crisis is in fact, much more complicated, and made up by a perfect storm of combined factors.

"We want to blame the crisis on the pharmaceutical industry or on physicians, but that's looking at the small picture," notes Associate Professor of Pharmacology Jilla Sabeti. "Opioids can address physical pain, but they are also effective in addressing emotional pain. If we are not engaged with our emotions and don't understand how to cope, it becomes a huge risk factor to developing issues with substances. We need to look at a holistic picture of why there is such a demand for this."

Ironically, as the growing market for opioids and resulting overdoses have generated a considerable amount of media coverage and public awareness, it also created an unintended consequence of patients who do not treat their pain with opioids prescribed to them, for fear of becoming addicted themselves.

College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences Dean Evan Robinson says that in many instances people with legitimate pain can take opioids safely, as long as



Dean Evan Robinson

they stay within medical guidelines. The pharmacist can help allay such fears and provide information to the patient as well as other suitable options, so they can make an informed decision.

"From my perspective, it's important to talk to the patient about the fact that they are taking a controlled substance, which may be alarming to them, even though it's for a legitimate reason," he explains. "The treatment of pain is helpful in assisting the recovery process."

Because the opioid crisis is made up of so many layers, it becomes that much more difficult to solve, short of removing prescription opioids from pharmacies. Even that won't stop the manufacturing of unregulated drugs found on the streets. So one question remains: what can be done to stem the tide of opioid addiction?

outreach professionals that can assist users in getting help to end their addiction. While supervised injection sites are criticized for enabling addiction, these sites may prevent the spread of HIV and AIDS from contaminated needles, avert overdose deaths, and give users options to get help.

While explaining the reasoning behind these sites, Dean Robinson said, “If someone can’t break the cycle of addiction then sites such as this can at least decrease the spread of disease by

ACCORDING TO THE AMERICAN PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION, NEARLY ONE IN THREE PEOPLE KNOW SOMEONE ADDICTED TO OPIOIDS

contaminated needles. From there it becomes important to work with them to find a safe and secure way out of the addiction process, potentially at a treatment facility.”

Retired Chief of Police Frederick Ryan '91 launched a revolutionary drug addiction recovery program called the Arlington Opiate Outreach Initiative (AOOI) in his jurisdiction of Arlington, MA. The AOOI has two facets: proactive outreach to individuals known to have a substance abuse disorder and community outreach. This initiative helps the



police department and first responders provide outreach after a crisis (in this case, usually an overdose) and determine what can be done to help. This program creates a positive contact with police and individuals who are addicted, and opens up the lines of communication for them to get help, rather than criminalizing the illness of addiction. The AOOI also builds relationships with the families of users to offer them support.

“This epidemic was taking a whole generation of young adults from us and we weren’t going to stand by and be witness to the destruction of families and the community,” Chief Ryan said. “Having a front row seat to this epidemic as a police officer forever changed my mindset on how communities manage addiction.

“We needed all hands on deck and had to overcome many barriers to success, but what resulted was simply extraordinary.”

COLLEGE OF PHARMACY AND HEALTH SCIENCES RESPONSE

In 2015, the then College of Pharmacy put out a “Call to Action,” a document meant to engage the campus community in raising awareness about the opioid crisis. It included data and statistics and gave recommendations for the different levels at which everyone could unite towards

the call. This call to action suggested that we all have “super powers” that, when combined, could reverse the crisis. The document was the start of a variety of initiatives on campus and within the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences that focused on addiction, from curriculum upgrades and community work to campus-wide education programs and discussion.

REWRITING THE RX

Practical solutions, including the ones mentioned here, are vital to helping victims wherever they are in the cycle of addiction. However, to truly eradicate the opioid crisis, it’s going to take collaboration, empathy, and conversation to move us forward as a more empowered society.

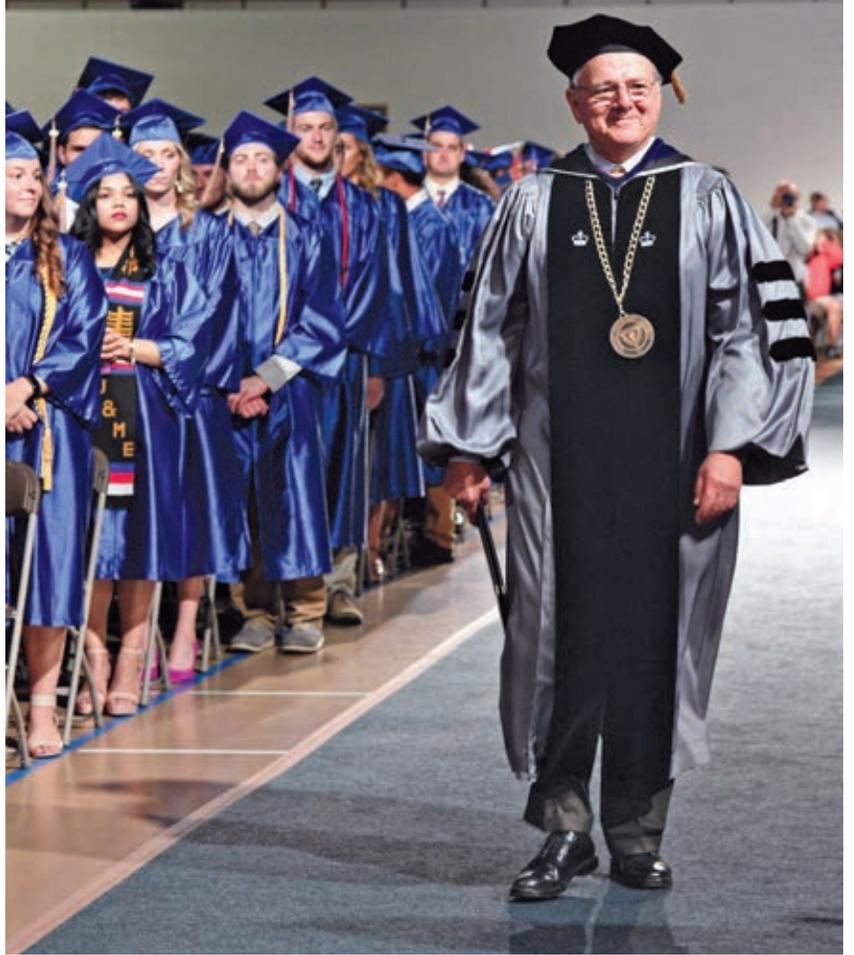
Says Dr. Sabeti, “Nothing short of the power of unity, eliminating stigma, and enhancing our discourse can really help dramatically stem the tide of the epidemic. It’s going to take an entire community to do that, and it’s going to take talking between us all. It’s not just physicians or pharmacists that are going to solve the problem. There is a shared social and moral responsibility that every single one of us have.” 🐾



*Honoring the past.
Shaping the Future.*

CENTENNIAL COMMENCEMENT 2019

BY MARY MCLEAN ORSZULAK G'10



“You are our Centennial graduates. You have been a fundamental part of our historic first century. You are the last graduates of our first 100 years,”

said University President Anthony S. Caprio as he welcomed graduates to the Undergraduate Ceremony.

Celebrating 896 graduating students, Centennial Commencement Weekend May 18 & 19 focused on tradition, community, family, and honoring Golden Bears who have helped to make the University what it is today.

HATS OFF TO UNDERGRADUATES

With the Alumni Healthful Living Center awash in a kaleidoscope of colors reflective of the bold Centennial campus banners, Saturday's Undergraduate Ceremony welcomed 572 students from 18 states into the alumni fold. Prior to the University-wide event, outstanding students were recognized by their individual Colleges.

During the ceremony, Student Speaker Kenneth Stratton '19 and Chelsea L. Raleigh '19 were presented the Alumni Association Student Academic Excellence Award for highest GPA. Professor of History and Coordinator of the Arts and Sciences Global Scholars program Meri L. Clark was the recipient of the 2019 Teaching Excellence Award.



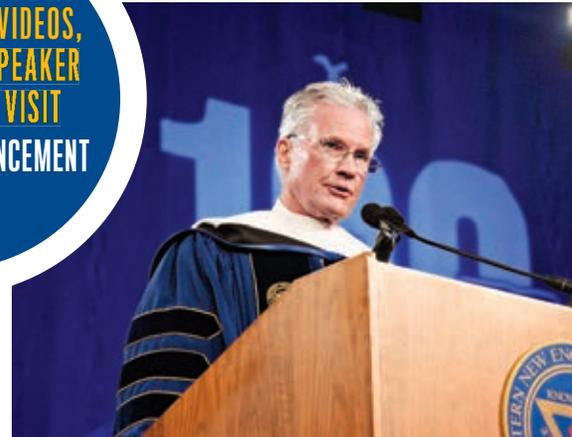
The ceremony recognized ROTC Cadet and graduating senior **Henry R. Wix '19** with a posthumous Bachelor of Science in Mathematical Sciences degree. Henry passed away after suffering a brain aneurysm in March. A place was left vacant in his honor during the commissioning of ROTC officers.



FOR CEREMONY VIDEOS,
PHOTOS, AND SPEAKER
BIOGRAPHIES, VISIT
WNE.EDU/COMMENCEMENT

“Starting now, we set out into the ‘real world,’ ambassadors of Western New England University, ready to help carry that Golden Bear legacy into the next one hundred years.”

Kenneth Stratton '19
Student Speaker



Kevin S. Delbridge '77, a distinguished alumnus, longtime trustee, and the largest individual donor in the University’s history was presented with an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree. In a speech with hilarious references to today’s influence of social media and his own generational challenges to understand it, Delbridge shared advice on attaining long-term success. “What matters is what we do, not how loud we do it,” he said. “Every single event, whether positive or negative, offers you the opportunity to make it a learning experience and to show you the path forward.”

TOP 5 FIELDS OF STUDY FOR UNDERGRADUATES

1. MECHANICAL ENGINEERING
2. CRIMINAL JUSTICE
3. PHARMACY STUDIES
4. ACCOUNTING
5. PSYCHOLOGY



GRADUATE CEREMONY REFLECTS DIVERSITY OF ADVANCED DEGREES

The Sunday ceremony awarded advanced degrees to graduates of the University’s doctoral, law, pharmacy, and numerous master’s programs. Family and friends, whose support was so critical to the success of these students, applauded the achievements of the 324 graduates.

President’s Medallions were awarded to **Dean '82** and **Denise '84 Vanech**, distinguished alumni who are among the University’s most generous individual

donors. Dean is founder, chair, and CEO of Olympus Holdings, LLC. Denise is a philanthropist, who serves on the Boards of J.W. Hulme and Marist College. In his address to graduates, Dean spoke of the importance of ethical decision-making, strong personal relationships, and a healthy work/life balance through an appreciation of art and culture.





Campaign FOR OUR Second Century



Cochairs John Brennan '71, Denis Gagnon G'76 and Laura Sturgis Boulé '01/G'02

Message from the Cochairs

Throughout our Centennial year, we are celebrating the growth and transformation achieved during Western New England University's historic first century and we are looking ahead to our bright future. In January, we launched the **Campaign for Our Second Century**, a \$35 million fundraising endeavor designed to enrich student experiences and propel us into our next century of greatness.

The number one priority of the Campaign is to increase student aid through donor-funded scholarships. Together, all of the objectives emphasize enhanced opportunities for current and future Western New England students, building on our mission to provide a rewarding and life-changing education—both academically and personally.

We invite you to learn more about the Campaign for Our Second Century. To help us reach our goal, we look to you to consider what Western New England has meant in your life—every gift of every size brings us closer to our common goal. We are grateful for all our donors and partners who help make this journey possible.

Sincerely,

Laura Sturgis Boulé '01/G'02

John J. Brennan '71

Denis G. Gagnon G'76



Matthew LaBombard '11, Thomas Hayes '12, and Abigail Hennelly at the New York reception



Finance major and student ambassador Ricardo Hinds with Charles and Mariane '85 Woodruff



President Caprio with Springfield Kickoff hosts Michael Flynn '82/G'83 and Denis Gagnon G'76

Hundreds of alumni and friends gathered at The Armory at MGM Springfield for the Campaign Kickoff Celebration on March 5.

Additional regional celebrations have included Coconut Creek, FL on March 19, Naples, FL on March 20, St. Petersburg, FL on March 21, New York, NY on April 16, Hartford, CT on May 1, Providence, RI on May 2, and Boston, MA on June 4. To view photos of recent events or to find an event near you, visit wne.edu/campaign.



\$35 MILLION

Invest in our future

Campaign Priorities and Goals



\$11,500,000

Grow Scholarship Aid

Scholarship aid is an essential resource for students today. To continue to recruit and retain the most talented and deserving students, we must ensure that a Western New England University education is financially accessible now and for future generations.



\$13,500,000

Build and Enhance Campus Facilities

Intellectual growth occurs both inside and outside the classroom. The new University Commons and renovations to the St. Germain Campus Center will ensure that undergraduate and graduate students have access to leading edge facilities that deliver a holistic model of student support and development.



\$3,500,000

Create Impactful Opportunities for Student Life

We are called upon to be proactive, creative, and strategic in shaping an educational and cocurricular experience that prepares students for success. Expanded services from the Career Development Center will create career-ready leaders, while robust athletic offerings will provide opportunities for students to learn about teamwork, work ethic, and mentorship.



\$4,500,000

Boost Academic Initiatives and Experience

Hands-on experience, real-world problem-solving, and intensive research gives today's graduates a huge head start when applying for jobs or graduate study programs. We will continue to provide a unique blend of integrated liberal and professional learning, delivered in small, personal classes.

\$2,000,000

Strengthen the President's Fund for Excellence

From special initiatives to meeting pressing needs as they arise, this fund is critical to capitalizing on emerging opportunities and strengthening the academic experience.



Hartford Reception hosts Alexander Corl '84, Kenneth Rickson '75, and Michael Serafino '77, pictured with President Caprio and Vice President Beverly Dwight



Michael McGuire, Pamela Safford, and Dr. Dan Covell at the New York reception



Andres Otero '16 with Coconut Creek reception host Peter Steingraber L'84



Providence reception host Janet Johnson Bullard '69 (center) with Guy Asadorian '86 and Beverly Dwight



Michael Borg L'88 with daughter Gennah Borg '16 at the Springfield kickoff



Walter Bush '77 with Jasmine Clarke and New York City reception host Richard Cassata '80

Celebrate Our History Define Our Future.

The Campaign for Our Second Century is a collective effort of thousands of alumni, faculty, staff, students, parents, and friends who are strengthening Western New England University through their gifts. As we travel the country to gather with alumni and supporters, we hear about the transformative experience of a WNE education. Alumni speak about the valuable mentorship they received from faculty, the eye-opening service experience they were a part of, or the character-building leadership opportunity they took on.

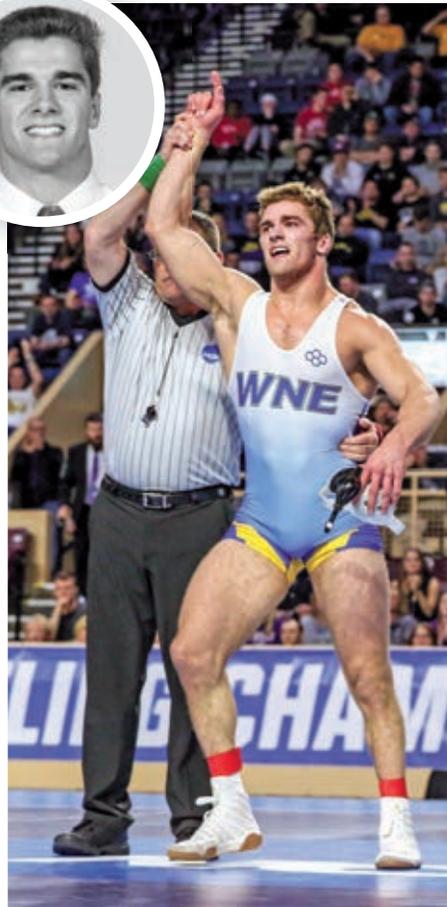
The Campaign is an opportunity for all who have been positively impacted by a WNE education to invest in the future of this institution. To ensure that we can continue to provide students with an education that is outstanding and life-changing.

Support the Campaign for Our Second Century at wne.edu/campaign.

BY JUDITH CURRAN

CAMPUS NEWS

Centennial Year Sees Historic Wins in Athletics



John Boyle made University history in March when he captured the 184-pound National Wrestling Title at the NCAA Division III Championships. With this historic victory, Boyle becomes Western New England's first national champion in any sport. His junior campaign came to a close with a record of 33-6. As a team, Western New England placed 15th in the 74-team field with a score of 19.0.

In February, **Women's Basketball** won its first Commonwealth Coast Conference (CCC) title in University history. Coach Nicole Chaszar led the third-seeded Golden Bears to best top-seeded Endicott College with a 69-55 victory over the Gulls.

The **Men's Lacrosse** team won 9-8 over Endicott College in the championship game of the Commonwealth Coast Conference Tournament in May, earning its second consecutive CCC title.

Follow our teams at wnegoldenbears.com.

Coming for fall 2020—Women's Ice Hockey!



School of Law Takes Second Place Honors in ABA Tax Challenge

The team of Emily Eash 3L and Eliana Hoepfner 3L took second place honors at the 18th Annual Law Student Tax Challenge held at the American Bar Association Section of Taxation 2019 Midyear Meeting in New Orleans last January. The high-profile national competition is designed to give JD and LLM students an opportunity to research, write about, and present their analyses of a real-life tax-planning problem. Six

teams were selected from more than 60 law schools nationwide to participate in the final J.D. Division rounds, where they presented oral arguments before a panel of distinguished tax lawyers and tax court judges. Professor of Law Fred Royal, a nationally recognized tax expert and director of the University's LLM and MS in Elder Law and Estate Planning programs, coached the award-winning Western New England team.



“DESTINATION: DEEP SPACE” Draws 1,500 Visitors to Campus for Regional *FIRST*® ROBOTICS Competition

On March 23 and 24, Western New England welcomed 30 high school teams to campus to compete in the FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC). The event drew 1,500 students, teachers, mentors, sponsors, and family members to the Western New England District Event, one of the largest competitions in the Northeast.

The March competition followed the success of the FIRST® LEGO League Competition held in December. Western New England has opened its doors to these events as part of the University’s new FIRST Robotics Initiative, which includes hosting regional elementary through high school qualifying events, mentorship of regional teams, and establishing new teams in local communities. Beginning this fall, Western New England University will launch a new \$1,000 FIRST Scholarship. Learn more at wne.edu/first-robotics.



Inaugural Issue of *WNE Magazine* Among Four Gold Awards for University Publications

Western New England University was named among the top institutions in the nation in the **2018 Collegiate Advertising Awards** and the **34th Annual Education Advertising Awards**—two competitions designed to recognize higher education organizations for excellence in communications, marketing, advertising, and promotion of their schools. Western New England University and its creative partner Spark451 received a total of four “Gold” awards. Two gold awards were earned in the 2018 Collegiate Advertising Awards competition. One was for the inaugural issue of *The Magazine of Western New England University* and the other was for the vibrant Centennial Logo appearing in University communications

and across campus this year. The University also garnered two gold awards from the 34th Annual Educational Advertising Awards competition for the *What’s New at WNE* brochure and the Centennial Logo. Judges in this competition present gold, silver, and bronze awards to those entrants whose programs and materials display exceptional quality, creativity, and message effectiveness. The magazine also won a bronze award at the **Ad Club of Western Massachusetts 2019 Creative Awards**.



TOP MOMENTS IN WESTERN NEW ENGLAND'S ATHLETIC HISTORY!

BY WES POPOLIZIO G'18

The history of Western New England athletics dates back to 1966, when the Department was established with three original teams—baseball, men's basketball, and men's soccer. Legendary coach Arthur William "Red" Downes G'83, who is honored by The Downes Athletic Hall of Fame, came on board two years later, beginning his 50-year association with the University.

Western New England's success in the early years was highlighted by the men's basketball and men's soccer teams, which routinely competed for NAIA District titles. Basketball became the school's first women's sport in 1976, and softball followed in 1979.

The Department continued to expand its women's sports program with the additions of field hockey and women's soccer in 1981 and 1984, respectively. At the end of the decade, the men's basketball squad became the first Western New England team to reach the NCAA Tournament in 1989-90.

With the transition to a full-time coaching staff and the expansion of athletic facilities in the 1990s and early 2000s, Western New England entered an era that saw the Golden Bears leave their mark at the conference, regional, and national levels.



MEN'S BASKETBALL APPEARS IN CONSECUTIVE NAIA NATIONAL TOURNAMENTS IN 1969-70, 1970-71

Just four years into the men's basketball program's existence, the Golden Bears found themselves on the national stage at the NAIA playoffs in St. Louis at the conclusion of the 1969-70 campaign. The following season, Western New England went 19-7 and again reached the NAIA National Tournament.

1975 MEN'S SOCCER TEAM FINISHES FOURTH NATIONALLY

With Downes as head coach and offensive maestro Mark Staropoli '76 (52 career goals) serving as team captain, the 1975 men's soccer team set a program record for wins, going 15-4-2, and won the NAIA New England Championship. The Golden Bears went on to compete in the NAIA National Tournament, finishing fourth.



RODNEY SMITH '89/G'03 CAPTURES OLYMPIC BRONZE MEDAL AT 1992 SUMMER OLYMPICS

Smith, a 1989 Western New England graduate and two-time All-American during his time as a Golden Bear wrestler, achieved Olympic glory in 1992 when he captured the bronze medal in Greco-Roman wrestling at the Summer Games in Barcelona, Spain. Smith went on to captain the United States squad at the 1996 Games in Atlanta.



WOMEN'S SOCCER WINS 1998 ECAC METRO TOURNAMENT

Led by Hall of Fame coach Ron Dias, the 1998 women's soccer team went 20-2 and claimed the ECAC Metro Tournament title with wins over Western Connecticut and Drew University. The next year, Dias guided the Golden Bears to the NCAA Tournament, marking the first time a Western New England women's program reached the national stage.



MEN'S BASKETBALL GOES BACK-TO-BACK IN 2000 AND 2001

The late Doug Pearson took charge of the men's basketball program ahead of the 1998-99 campaign, a year after the Golden Bears posted a 2-23 record. Coach Pearson's first squad went 14-11, before the 1999-00 team turned in a 22-6 mark, won the GNAC title, and reached the NCAA Tournament. The following year, Western New England appeared on the national stage again and repeated as GNAC champion.



SOFTBALL REACHES NCAA FINAL EIGHT IN 2003

After earning its first conference title in 2002, the 2003 softball team made program history as the Golden Bears won the New England Regional title and reached the NCAA Final Eight in Salem, VA. Lori Mayhew-Wood's squad, which was anchored by future Downes Athletic Hall of Fame pitcher Marcie Bruder '03, went 32-7 and finished the season ranked 10th in the final national poll.



MEN'S SOCCER MAKES CONSECUTIVE SWEET 16 APPEARANCES IN 2005 AND 2006

The men's soccer program's run of success under head coach Erin Sullivan was highlighted by back-to-back appearances in the NCAA Round of 16 in 2005 and 2006. The 2005 squad set a program record for wins, going 21-3 overall.



MEN'S LACROSSE BREAKS THROUGH WITH HISTORIC 2007 CAMPAIGN

Coming off four consecutive runner-up finishes in the Pilgrim League Tournament, the 2007 men's lacrosse team posted a 17-1 record, won the Pilgrim League title, and made the first of three consecutive appearances in the NCAA quarterfinals. John Klepacki was named the national Coach of the Year, and five players earned All-America honors for a squad that was ranked as high as No. 3 nationally.

BASEBALL ADVANCES TO NCAA DIII COLLEGE WORLD SERIES IN 2011

Led by former Head Coach (and current Director of Athletics) Matt LaBranche, the baseball program won five consecutive conference championships from 2006-10. The Golden Bears reached new heights in 2011, as WNE racked up a school-record 42 victories, captured the New England Regional title, and advanced to the Division III College World Series for the first time in program history.



FOOTBALL WINS FIRST NCAA TOURNAMENT CONTEST IN 2016

The football program won its first conference title in 2011, before posting a historic 10-0 regular season record in 2015 en route to another NCAA Tournament appearance. The 2016 Golden Bears made program history when they defeated Husson 44-27 in the first round of the NCAA playoffs.



MARKET YOUR BUSINESS WITH PODCASTING

BY KIM (BITHER) DAWSON '99



Kim (Bither) Dawson '99 (Accounting), is an entrepreneur and business strategist who helps business owners grow successful and profitable businesses of their own. Kim is the host and producer of *The Sassy Strategist Podcast*, and author of *Passion to Profits: Your Guide to Building A Successful Business You Love*. To connect with Kim, visit her at kdawsonco.com or follow her on social media, [@sassystrategist](https://www.instagram.com/sassystrategist).

Small business owners are always looking to keep their business relevant, as well as continue to keep the attention of their target audience. While there are many ways to accomplish this, one of the most important is to implement effective marketing strategies. Over the past 8-10 years we have seen a shift in marketing methodology, moving away from traditional outbound marketing (direct mail, telemarketing, and email marketing) to inbound marketing (blogs, podcasts, whitepapers, and webinars). One of the latest and increasingly popular trends in inbound marketing strategy is podcasting.

From solopreneurs to *Fortune* 500 companies, just about anyone can launch a podcast these days. Having your own podcast can be a great way to connect with your audience, gain media exposure, build credibility, and sell your products and/or services.

Podcasting allows you to share expertise and advice with your audience. You can choose topics that align with your business mission and purpose, as well as meet the interests and needs of your audience. Giving them a chance to "listen in" on a regular basis helps them get to know you and your business. The next time they need your services, they might

be more likely to reach out, because they already understand what you do and the value you provide to your clients.

Podcasts can consist of host-only shows, they can have an interview platform, or they can be a combination of both. The latter is ideal because it allows you to share your own thoughts, experiences, and expertise with your audience, but also gives you the opportunity to bring guests on the show that can expand upon your own level of knowledge. Having guests on your show serves two benefits: you provide more useful content to your audience that you can't provide on your own, and it gives you additional media



exposure. Every time you have a guest on your show, you now get introduced to their network.

Hosting and producing your own podcast helps build your professional credibility. Your listeners, guests, and network see you as an expert in your field. In order for this to happen, however, you need to be strategic about your podcast. Make sure you follow a consistent production schedule (whether you choose to release episodes weekly, bi-weekly

or monthly), have quality guests on your show, and choose topics that align with your brand and mission. In other words, if you have a business podcast don't talk about triathlon training one week, and sous vide cooking the next.

Having a podcast can help you sell your products and/or services, though it's best not to "sell from the stage," so to speak. Your podcast shouldn't be about selling, it should be about education, entertainment, or inspiration. However, it is acceptable to mention what you sell, or even your other inbound marketing content such as your blog, webinars, or whitepapers, when it is relevant to the conversation. It's also a good idea to remind your listeners how they can connect with you, online or offline, during your show's introduction and/or closing.

With a little bit of research, you can find plenty of resources online regarding the equipment and software you will need, the cost, and other information on how to get started. While it can be time-consuming to have your own podcast, it is time well spent as it can help you connect with your audience, market yourself as an expert, build credibility, gain media exposure, expand your network, and grow your business. 🐾



ALUMNI NEWS

Alumni Association Grants Enhance Student Experiences



WNE Students at the 2018 FIFA World Cup

In 2007, the Alumni Association established a program to provide grants to support initiatives that promote a positive student experience. Over the past 11 years, more than 300 grants totaling over \$470,000 have been awarded by the Alumni Association grants program. Behind these funding decisions are alumni volunteers serving on the Grants Committee who are committed to giving back to the University.

"I hear firsthand from students who have benefited from these grants. They truly appreciate the experiences—attending conferences, hearing from world-class speakers, traveling with classmates for Alternative Spring Break, and so much more," said Kevin McKiernan G'97, Grants Committee chair. "I am proud to be a part of the alumni community and to serve the University in this way."

Funding from the grants program has made a difference in the lives of thousands of students, who are often working hard through fundraising and other requests to find the money needed to pursue their interests. Past funding has proudly supported initiatives such as the "For the Love of the Games" speaker series and trips to the FIFA World Cup and Olympic Games offered by the Center for International Sport Business (CISB).

"As director of the Center for International Sport Business, I am so grateful for the Alumni Association and its grant program," said Curt Hamakawa L'84, professor of sport management, director of the CISB, and director of the Honors program. "Their support is what enables programs like the CISB to bring high-profile and influential personalities to campus

for students to listen to, learn from, and meet with to leverage their network in furtherance of their professional careers," he said.

The Alumni Association and the Grants Committee continue to proudly support and connect the global network of University students and alumni. This work is made possible by the Alumni Association's affinity programs, which include Liberty Mutual Insurance® and Amazon® Smile.

"Quite frankly, the CISB and its programs would not exist in anywhere near its current form without the long-standing partnership with—and funding support of—the Alumni Association," Hamakawa noted.

Western New England University's partnership with Liberty Mutual offers exclusive savings in quality home and auto insurance to alumni. This partnership is invaluable to supporting the Alumni Association's efforts to enhance the student experience. Call 844-799-2091 or visit

libertymutual.com/wnealumni to learn more or get a free quote.

By shopping at Amazon Smile, half a percent of each purchase is donated to a charity of your choice, including Western New England University. To sign up, visit **smile.amazon.com/ch/04-2108376**.



Celebrate the Centennial at Homecoming

This year's Homecoming will take on special significance as alumni take part in our Centennial celebrations. This jam-packed weekend will be full of events for Golden Bears of all ages, with opportunities for alumni to return to campus, reconnect with old friends, and meet current students.

"The excitement around the Centennial will make this weekend extra special for alumni, students, faculty, and staff alike," said Gina Lovotti '05, director for university events planning. "There will be many elements incorporated in the weekend to commemorate this historic milestone in a way that truly welcomes back all who have made up the Western New England community over the years, and strengthens those bonds for another 100 years to come," Lovotti added.

Special events for the Centennial will include a Parade of Classes in which alumni will gather together, united by their graduating class year, in a procession across campus. Several reunions will also take place, including the Class of 1969 50th Reunion, the annual U&ME Reunion Dinner Dance, and a variety of affinity-based reunions.

Homecoming traditions such as athletics contests, alumni games, the Downes Athletic Hall of Fame induction ceremony, the Law Alumni Recognition Reception, Law and Alumni & Students of Color Dinner, and the President's Donor Recognition Brunch will help round out a weekend full of festivity and history at Western New England University.



SAVE THE DATE FOR HOMECOMING!
October 4-6, 2019
wne.edu/homecoming

Class Notes

STAY CONNECTED

Your classmates want to know about the milestones in your life. Send your news including weddings, births, career changes, publications, accomplishments, and more to the Office of Alumni Relations at alumwne@wne.edu.

1970s

Robert Simone '72 (English) has been named vice president and general manager of WWLP-TV (NBC), EWLP (CW) and digital services. A 30-year broadcasting veteran, Simone returns to western Massachusetts after serving as vice president and general manager of WLNS-TV in Lansing, MI.

Joe Peters G'75 (MBA) was recognized as a 2019 Difference Maker by *BusinessWest* for his service to the local community and the village of Guayape, Honduras. The longtime Rotarian is the former president and current vice chairman of the board of Universal Plastics, board member of Holyoke Hospital, and board member and chair of the Board for CareerPoint (now MassHire Holyoke).

Bruce Beal L'76 (JD) was honored as a Distinguished Friend of Spoon River College (SRC) in Canton, IL. Beal's involvement with SRC began through the SRC Community Chorus, and continued with his work on the SRC Foundation Board. He also helped establish the Sherman Reed Trust, which offers more than \$16,000 in scholarship aid to SRC students.

Dean Paul L'77 (JD) has retired from private practice and is living in Fort Worth, TX. His recent book, *Second Thessalonians 2:1-12 Unlocked: The Key to the Timing of the Rapture*, is an expositional study of one of the most noted prophetic passages in the *Bible's New Testament*.

Michael Dowling L'79 (JD) of Holahan, Gumpfer & Dowling was recently recognized as an Outstanding Lawyer in Fairfield County, CT, in *Fairfield Living Magazine*.

Peter Harris '79 (Government) was named interim dean of student affairs and enrollment management at Manchester Community College in Connecticut.

1980s

Michael Goggins L'82 (JD) retired in January as first justice at Northampton District Court, after serving on the bench for close to two decades. Goggins served as assistant district attorney on the Northwestern district from 1983-1985 and from 1993 until his appointment to the bench in 1999.

Maureen Tobin L'82 (JD) is celebrating just over one year as the Tax and Legal Coordinator at Ostberg & Associates Insurance and Financial Services in Northampton, MA. Tobin works on a consultative basis with clients' attorneys, accountants, and other advisors.

Susan Berkowitz L'83 (JD) has been selected as the South Carolina Bar Foundation's 2018 DuRant Distinguished Award recipient. Berkowitz is being recognized for over 20 years of service to South Carolinians. As an attorney, she has worked on several pieces of legislation, such as the State

Children's Health Insurance Program and Payday Lending Act. Berkowitz is the director of the SC Appleseed Legal Justice Center.

Maria Elsdon L'83 (JD) has been appointed town attorney of Enfield, CT. Elsdon, who has been serving Enfield since 1990 as assistant town attorney, had been acting town attorney since September 2018.

Michael Hrab L'84 (JD) was hired at Hancock Estabrook, LLP as counsel for the firm's real estate practice area.

Peter DiMaria G'85 (MBA) after retiring in 2014, has become the owner of Home Helpers home care agency in northern Connecticut and western Massachusetts.

Marjorie Hurst L'85 (JD) was recognized, along with her husband, Frederick Hurst, as a 2019 Difference Maker by *BusinessWest* for their lifelong efforts to advance social change.

Chris Kelley L'85 (JD) has been appointed to the New York State Court of Claims. He will serve as an Acting Supreme Court Judge in Suffolk County. He is currently assigned there, serving in the Suffolk County Family Court. Kelley is also an adjunct professor at the Touro Law Center in Central Islip, NY. In 2016 Kelley founded the LGBTQ Law Committee on the Suffolk County Bar Association, and continues serving as cochair.

Diane Sievers L'85 (JD) is enjoying the life of a retired attorney, having stepped away from her private practice in 2015.

Francis Wright L'85 (JD), an alderman of Melrose, MA, has just been reelected to his seventh term. Currently, Wright serves as city solicitor for Somerville, MA.

Vincent Salamone L'87 (JD), after 30 years of service, has retired from the federal government. A Captain in the U.S. Army, Salamone served in several capacities over the years. He was special assistant U.S. attorney and a command procurement fraud advisor at the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command. Salamone was also a civilian attorney in the U.S. Office of Government Ethics, serving as associate counsel. There he was also press liaison, and served as an ethics course instructor for the General Services Administration.

Kerry Flynn L'88 (JD) of Vertex Pharmaceuticals Inc. was recently awarded the 2018 Global Intellectual Property Counsel Award by Lexology in conjunction with the Association of Corporate Counsel.

Christine Hilton '89 (Business) was recently promoted to paralegal at Alexion Pharmaceuticals Inc. of New Haven, CT. In this position, Hilton will be responsible for working closely with the Intellectual Property Team.

1990s

Mark Thompson G'91 (MBA) has been appointed president of Wentworth Institute of Technology in Boston. Thompson is the school's fifth President and first in its history outside the field of engineering. Thompson was previously at Quinnipiac University for more than 20 years, where he most recently served as executive vice president and provost.

Andrea Gaspardino Kovachy '92 (History) has recently moved to Washington, DC, where she started a new position at George Washington University as associate director of student-alumni programs.

Leslee Hill L'92 (JD) was sworn in as State Representative for the 17th House District in the Connecticut General Assembly in January. She is serving on the Finance/Revenue/Bonding, Education, and Judiciary committees. Hill previously served as the First Selectman of Canton, CT, the first Republican woman to hold the position.

John Bassi '93 (Sociology) was inducted into the Pittsfield Baseball/Softball Hall of Fame at the annual UNICO of Pittsfield dinner in November. Bassi, a member of the Pittsfield Police Department, was a pitcher for the Golden Bears, and later worked with the Massachusetts Special Olympics.

Joseph Cavanaugh '93/G'95 (Law Enforcement/MCJ) has been promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Navy Reserves. Currently, Cavanaugh is serving as Officer-in-Charge, Headquarters Detachment, Navy Medicine Training & Logistics Command.

Eric Krautheimer L'93 (JD) has been named one of the top 100 lawyers in California for the second year in a row. Krautheimer has worked on major deals such as Amazon.com Inc.'s \$13.7 billion acquisition of Whole Foods Market Inc., and the \$81 billion purchase of Time Warner Inc. by AT&T.

Maura Malo '93 (Quantitative Methods) was elected to her first term as OWL Board president at the Oliver Wolcott Library in Litchfield, CT. Previously, she served as the board's secretary. Currently, Malo is the senior vice president and chief risk officer for Connecticut Mutual Holding Company.

Rachel Van Winkle '93 (Communication) has been serving as interim Parks and Recreation Director of Redmond, WA, since July 2018, and in the fall was officially appointed as the new director.

Kristi Bodin L'94 (JD) has been in solo practice for five years at Legal Solutions in Plain English, PC, specializing in business law, liquor licenses, special permits, zoning and land use, as well as civil litigation.

Scott Dinneen '94 (Sociology) has been promoted at Alexander Technology Group. Dinneen is the new senior managing director, overseeing both Massachusetts offices in Woburn and Boston.

Melissa Doran '94/L'98 (Management/JD) began her new role as assistant clerk in Hampshire Superior Court in Northampton, MA, in January. Doran most recently served in the Hampden District Court where she was chief of the Domestic and Sexual Violence Unit.

Rodney Warner L'94 (JD) has joined Jaffe as vice president of content strategy in Yardley, PA. Most of Rodney's legal career was spent at the Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities and at two legal aid agencies in Philadelphia: the Senior LAW Center, and the Legal Clinic for the Disabled.

Ralph Cahoon '95 (Law Enforcement) was recognized as Alumnus of the Year by Cape Cod Community College (CCCC). Before attending Western New England, Cahoon was a graduate of CCCC, majoring in Liberal Arts. Today, he works

as a counselor/therapist in his own firm, Spartina Counseling, and also works at the Community Health Center of Cape Cod as a behavioral health clinician.

John Nasci L'95 (JD) is currently employed as a Hearing Officer in the New York State Justice Center for the Protection of People with Special Needs.

Susan Fentin L'96 (JD), has retired from the active representation of clients after 20 years with Skoler, Abbott & Presser, P.C. Fentin served as editor-in-chief of the *Western New England Law Review* as a student, found a niche in employment law, ascending to become a partner with the firm after just five years.

Jodi Rathbun-Briggs '96 (Accounting) has joined the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation Board of Directors. She currently works as senior vice president and chief lending officer at Greylock Federal Credit Union.

Laura Riccio L'96 (JD) is a member of the Massachusetts Bar Association's Probate Council, which is responsible for the development and implementation of the Fiduciary Litigation Session.

Karen Bell L'97 (JD) was named first assistant district attorney in Berkshire County. Bell was previously the Hampden County assistant district attorney, and spent two decades in other areas of legal service.

Chris Mowatt '98/G'12 (Engineering Management/MSEM) of OMG Inc. has been promoted to director of manufacturing engineering. Mowatt started with OMG Inc. in 2011.

Emily O'Quinn '98 (Management and Entrepreneurship) has self-published her first book, *The Ice Princess*, under the name of Emmy Morgan. With a trilogy in the works, O'Quinn is currently busy bringing to life the tales of the next two books.

Charles VanDerMiller III L'98 (JD) was promoted to the rank of Major in the U.S. Army this past December. He is on active duty, assigned to the Office of the Chief Counsel, National Guard Bureau, Arlington, VA. VanDerMiller serves as judge advocate in the Administrative Law Division.

Barbara Burke L'99 (JD) has joined the Mass Tort and Product Liability Practice Group of the Carlton Fields law firm. Burke spent 17 years as a registered nurse, followed by years as a product liability and healthcare litigation lawyer.

David Kiley G'99 (Criminal Justice Administration) has a new position as an elder law attorney with Patrick J. Kelleher and Associates, P.C., an estate planning & elder law firm in Hanover and Quincy, MA. David recently retired after 20 years of service as a Sergeant with the Boston Police Department.

John Scippa G'99 (Criminal Justice Administration) joins the Northern Essex Community College/Methuen Police Academy as the new director. Scippa is a retired Stratham, NH, police chief.

Shenandoah Titus L'99 (JD) has published a book on the bar exam called, *Ivy Letters: Meditations for Resilient (Repeat) Bar Examinees*. Titus hopes the book will inspire repeat examinees to overcome and succeed.

2000s

Joseph Bennett '00/G'02 (Law Enforcement/Criminal Justice Administration) has been promoted as the town of Hopkinton, MA's first deputy police chief. Bennett has been with the department since 1993, first as a patrolman, then later serving as a detective and a sergeant before becoming a lieutenant in 2015.

Renee Inman L'00 (JD) is now a Manatee County judge in the 12th Judicial Circuit, appointed by Governor Rick Scott of Florida.

Thomas Turco III G'00 (Criminal Justice Administration) was named secretary of the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security by Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker.

Christopher Ward L'01 (JD) has been named comanaging partner of LaTanzi, Spaulding & Landreth of Orleans, MA. He specializes in trusts and estates, with work primarily on Cape Cod.

Lindsay Holden '02 (Communication and English) has been named president, Eastern Zone of the PURE Group of Insurance Companies. Holden will oversee operations from Maine to Virginia, and will serve on the Executive Committee.

Wayne White G'02 (MBA) has is now the director of operations and finances for the Randolph Public School District in Randolph, MA. His professional experience includes time with the Swampscott Public Schools in Swampscott, MA, and Shore Educational Collaborative in Chelsea, MA.

William Butman '03 (Technical Management) is now the owner and chief executive officer of Electra-Sounds Entertainment, LLC. Butman previously served in the U.S. Marine Corps, and worked for U.S. Department of Defense.

Javier Padilla L'03 (JD) is the new chief talent officer for Norwalk Public Schools in Connecticut. Padilla comes into this position from the Connecticut Children's Medical Center in Hartford, CT.

Jamie Platt '03 (Biology) has completed her term as the U.S. Lacrosse All American chair of Houston, TX. For the last four years, Platt has also served as the president of the Texas Girls High School Lacrosse League. Platt recently started a new position at the Awty International School in Houston, as sports information director. Last year, she received the Coach of the Year Award at Awty.

Remi Subair '03 (Electrical Engineering) has joined a team of engineers at the Ministry of Public Works in Bermuda. After completing his degree, Subair participated in the ministry trainee program, later earning a full-time post and becoming principal electrical engineer in 2017.

Richard Regnier '04 (Criminal Justice) is currently employed as a continuous quality improvement specialist at MA DCF. He is also an adjunct professor in psychology and sociology at Bay Path University. Regnier also serves on Enfield's Board of Education.

Shannon Henne-Eighmie L'06 (JD) of Eighmie Law Firm, P.A., has been nominated for one of the top 10 Criminal Defense Attorneys in the state of Florida.

Kristina da Fonseca L'07 (JD) is cofounder and executive director of SouthCoast Fair Housing where she is conducting research to advance fair housing policy in Rhode Island.

Kelly Koch L'07/L'11 (JD, LLM) is one of four new board members and corporators to join the team at Glenmeadow Retirement Community in Longmeadow, MA. Koch is currently an attorney with Bulkley, Richardson and Gelinas in Springfield, MA.

MaryBeth LeFevre L'07 (JD) was a recipient of the Secretary of Homeland Security Unity of Effort Award presented by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. She leads the USCIS Personnel Security Division FEMA Adjudication Team. LeFevre recently graduated from the Vermont Federal Executive Association Leadership Development Program for Federal Supervisors GS-13 and above.

Matthew Reed L'07 (JD) was hired in January as counsel for the Connecticut Freedom of Information Commission in Hartford, CT.

Kenneth Danielsen L'08 (JD) has been promoted to partner with Kaufman Dolowich & Voluck LLP (KDV) of Woodbury, NY. Danielsen rejoined the firm as an associate in 2015, before being promoted to counsel in 2017.

Neil Donah '08 (Criminal Justice) has become a corporal at the Hampden County (MA) Sheriff's Department.

Justin Gorman L'08 (JD) has been named as counsel at UCB Inc., a pharmaceutical company.

Spencer Stone L'08 (JD) has joined Boston-based law firm Sullivan & Worcester as counsel in the firm's Real Estate group.

Christopher Bovino '09 (Information Technology) has started a new position as systems engineer at Northeast IT Systems Inc. of West Springfield, MA. Previously, Bovino was systems administrator for Court Square Group in Springfield, MA.

Brian Harrison L'09 (JD) was recently hired as associate attorney at the Law Offices of Thomas S. Francis in Boston, MA.

Bob Hennessy L'09 and **Merritt Schnipper L'09** were both recognized with the Jay D. Blitzman Award for Youth Advocacy. The award honors advocates who have exhibited both extraordinary dedication and excellent performance to assure that children accused of criminal conduct, or otherwise at risk, are treated fairly and with dignity in the courtroom, in the community, and in the custody of the state.

Alexander Mazzaferro '09 (English) has accepted a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Chicago's Stevanovich Institute on the Formation of Knowledge. Mazzaferro is a postdoctoral fellow at the American Philosophical Society, who has recently published essays in the *Early American Literature* and *Early American Studies* journals and received the Society of Early Americanists' essay prize in March.

Dave Wawrzonek '09 (Marketing) is now WB Mason's contract furniture manager in its Manhattan branch. He has been with WB Mason since graduating from Western New England, and thanks the University for his success. After almost eight years with the company, and moving between New York and New Jersey, Wawrzonek is now happy to call New York City his home.

Marriages



TESS O'ROURKE '13/G'15 and **MATT MANGELLI '13**, July 13, 2018 in Simsbury, CT



OLIVIA MAZZARELLA '10/G'18 and Christopher Corso, August 18, 2018 in Farmington, CT (L-R) Dillon Tardif '10, Kaylyn Smith '10, Lauren Sullivan '10, Marco Gomes '10, Leigh-Ann (Malke) Gomes '10, Christopher Corso (groom), Olivia Mazzarella Corso '10/G'18 (bride), Ted & Roxanne Zern, Marilyn & Dick Pelosi, and Jessica Covino '10



HALEY BATTISTA '14/G'16 and **ALEX RIOS '14**, December 15, 2018 in Charleston, SC (L-R) Nicholas DeFeo '14, Nicole Silengo '14, Michael Schenarts '14, Alison Haddad '14, Robert Alex Knizek '14, CENTER Alex Rios '14 (groom) and Haley Rios '14/G'16 (bride), President Anthony S. Caprio, Kelly Tomlinson '14, Renee Daigle '15, Camaria Maddox '14, Haley Hartzell '14, and Stephanie Ramirez '14.



SARA OKSCIN '11 and Sean Matthews, September 1, 2018 in Westfield, MA



JESSICA JORALEMON '09 and Nick Syron, July 21, 2018 in Glenville, NY



DANIELLE JOHNSON '15 and **CHRISTOPHER SILVIA '15**, September 21, 2018 in Brandford, CT



MELISSA FERRIS '16 and **ANTHONY D'ANGELO '16**, September 22, 2018 in Sudbury, MA



ANGELA MONACO '11 and **DAVE MCCARTEN '11**, October 19, 2018 in Southington, CT

2010s

Rachel Fain L'10 (JD) has been promoted to partner at Halloran Sage in Hartford, CT. She works with the firms' Litigation & Dispute Resolution practice group. Fain's work has been recognized by Super Lawyers, where she was listed as a Rising Star in Personal Injury—General: Defense in 2018.

Talia Gee L'10/G'12 (JD/MBA) was named the new chief diversity and inclusion officer for Springfield, MA. First hired by the city as an attorney, Gee is responsible for ensuring the demographics of city employees reflect the people in the city.

Rob Guiry '10/G'14 (Sport Management/MBA) has been signed by American International College for a second season as interim head men's rugby coach. Founder of the rugby team at Western New England, Guiry later coached the Golden Bears before eventually accepting the position of assistant coach for AIC's Division I rugby program.

Jonathan Longobardi L'10 (JD) has joined the law firm of Neubert, Pepe & Monteith, P.C. in New Haven, CT, as an associate. A civil litigation attorney, Longobardi's practice focuses on motor vehicle, premises, and professional liability defense and insurance coverage disputes. In addition, Longobardi was sworn in as president of the Board of Directors for the University's School of Law Alumni Association for the 2018-2019 academic year.

Kristen Opitz '10 (Psychology) has accepted a full-time position at Preferred Therapy Solutions as an occupational therapist.

Jim Perras L'10 (JD) is the new CEO at Home Builders & Remodelers Association of CT, Inc.

Amelia Holstrom L'11 (JD) has been made partner at Skoler Abbott & Presser PC in Springfield, MA.

Rebecca Morin '11 (History) was recently appointed to head librarian at the Worcester Art Museum in Worcester, MA.

Ashley Nyman '11 (Integrated Liberal Studies) is now a consultant at The Traveler's Companies, Inc., the company she's been with since graduation. Nyman was previously an analyst in the Corporate Finance Department. She thanks Western New England University for helping get her to this point in her career.

Sara Okscin G'11 (MSA) has become a senior accountant at Questex in Framingham, MA.

Melanie Stevens L'11 (JD) was recently promoted to partner at McCoy Leavitt Laskey, LLC, where she's provided legal services since 2016.

Michael Fenton G'12/L'12 (MBA/JD) has recently been named partner at Shatz, Schwartz and Fentin PC in Springfield, MA. He has been a member of the Springfield (MA) City Council since 2010, serving as president from 2014-2016.

Shaun Kelly '12/G'15 (Management/MBA) has started a new position as a senior consultant with EY of Hartford. He leaves MassMutual Financial Group, where he had been for six and a half years.

Alex Lyman '12/G'16 (Communication/Organizational Leadership) recently had her graduate research with Professor Stacie Chappell published in the textbook *Leadership and Role Modelling: Understanding Workplace Dynamics*. She has also appeared as a guest on several podcasts, including the SPRH Podcast; the Entrepreneur Master's Podcast; and Planting the Seeds of Change discussing entrepreneurship, creating relationships with the media, and the power of self-promotion through providing value.

Casey O'Connell L'12 (JD) has been promoted to partner at Halloran Sage in Hartford, CT. O'Connell represents institutional lenders and corporate clients in a variety of commercial lending transactions. Every year since 2015, he has been recognized by Super Lawyers as a Rising Star in Business/Corporate law.

Glenn Rooney L'12 (JD) was promoted to deputy general counsel at the Massachusetts Department of Fire Services. He was previously deputy director of Employee Relations and Staff Counsel for the Massachusetts State Police.

Derek Beaulieu '13 (General Biology) graduated from Tufts University School of Medicine with an MD. He is beginning his residency training at Signature Healthcare—Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, where he'll be for a year before a dermatology residency in Stamford, CT.

Dennis Carnelli L'13 (JD) has joined the New Haven, CT, law firm of Neubert, Pepe & Monteith, P.C. as an associate. Carnelli's practice concentrates on appellate matters and civil litigation in state and federal courts.

Briana Santaniello '13/G'14/PharmD'15 (Pharmacy Studies/MBA/PharmD) has started a new position with pharmaceutical company, Allergan, as medical science liaison—Migraine, New England Territory.

Alexander Joslyn '15 (Accounting) has accepted a position as a senior assurance associate at Ernst & Young in Hartford. Since 2018, he has also served as the head women's soccer coach for Berlin (CT) High School.

Elizabeth O'Reilly '15 (Political Science) has started in a new position as associate at Milbank LLP of NY. She was previously a summer associate for Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy LLP while studying at Albany Law School of Union University.

Alicia Jacobs G'16 (Communication/PR) has joined the Board of the Public Relations Society of America Capital Region NY chapter.

Becky Turner '16/G'18 (Communication/Communication/PR) was recently hired as the web content coordinator at Western New England University. She is responsible for creating and managing content for the University's website and social media accounts.

Daniel Carey L'17 (JD) was elected Massachusetts state representative in November, taking the seat formerly held by retiring state rep, John Sciback. A former Easthampton city councilor, Carey will be representing the 2nd Hampshire District, comprised of Hadley, Granby, Easthampton, and South Hadley.

Sabrina Serra '17 (Management & Leadership) is celebrating two years as a B2B Business Account Manager with Wayfair, in Boston.

Shayla DeNigris '18 (General Biology) has started a new job as a 6th grade science teacher at the Springfield Renaissance School.

June Klemmer '18 (Psychology) graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, San Antonio, TX after completing the eight-week training program.

CORRECTION:

In a previous publication, **Maureen Driscoll L'90** (JD) was mistakenly listed as **Maureen Driscoll L'89** (JD) in an announcement of her appointment as Connecticut workers compensation commissioner.

SEE MORE ONLINE

For more Class Notes and our In Memoriam listing of alumni and community members who have recently passed away, view the online version of *WNE Magazine* at magazine.wne.edu.

Baby Golden Bears

1. Elliot, September 28, 2017 to **KARA (WHITE) ORMSBY '09** and **MICHAEL ORMSBY '09**
This announcement was inadvertently omitted from the Winter 2018 issue of *WNE Magazine*.
2. Duke Richard Karis, May 2, 2018 to **DARLENE (MASSERY) KARIS L'98**
3. Meredith Margaret, September 20, 2018 to **RACHEL (BRADSHAW) GRIFFIN '11** and **DAVID GRIFFIN '11/G'16** (no photo)
4. Kinsley, November 28, 2018 to **SARA (SULLIVAN) CARLUCCI '11** and **CANIO CARLUCCI '11**
5. Elizabeth Klaire, December 20, 2018 to **MATTHEW DESMARAIS '13/ PharmD'15**
6. Lillian Catherine, January 5, 2019 to **ALEX WU PharmD'15**
7. Amira, March 25, 2019 to **REESHA WALDRON PharmD'18**
8. Ainsley Jade, January 7, 2019 to **JESSICA AUDET L'06**
9. Lola Morgan, March 28, 2019 to **ROBERT MADRID G'09**



1. Elliot (then and now)



2. Duke



4. Kinsley



5. Elizabeth



6. Lillian



7. Amira



8. Ainsley



9. Lola



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This fall the Centennial celebrations will continue with events for students, alumni, faculty and staff, and friends of the University.

August 26, 2019

Centennial Convocation

The fall semester will kick off with a Centennial Convocation, welcoming first-year, transfer, and returning undergraduate students to campus with a tradition-making reimagined ceremony followed by an Opening Day University Barbecue.

September 17, 2019

**Historic First Class:
A Toast to the Next 100 Years**

At this event, the campus community will come together to recognize the historic first day of classes (September 17, 1919) and set the tone for the future. Representatives from Faculty and Student Senates will address the community at this fun-filled event packed with music, food, University trivia, giveaways, prizes, and the unearthing of the time capsule buried during Homecoming 1989.

October 5, 2019

**Forever A Golden Bear:
Cheers to 100 Years
Centennial Homecoming
Weekend**

Join fellow Golden Bears in raising a glass to toast the first 100 years of Western New England University. Sparkling cider, adult beverage trucks, and Centennial desserts will be on hand to make this a University event long to be remembered.

Learn more about our Centennial celebrations at wne.edu/centennial

