CONTENTS

News, Highlights, Events and More .................................................. 2
Joseph Havis: Boosting Enrollment .............................................. 5
Honoring Excellence ..................................................................... 6
Carey Adams: New Leadership in Academic Affairs ..................... 9
Introducing Enactus ..................................................................... 10
A New Way to Give ..................................................................... 12
Kitty Lohrum: Taking the Lead in Advancement ......................... 13
The Spaces Behind the Names ..................................................... 14
A Sister Story ............................................................................. 18
Young Alum Turns Passion into Fashion ..................................... 20
Treatment Court Offers New Hope for Vets ................................. 22
A Very Generous Gift ................................................................. 25
Matt Banderman Bounces Back .................................................. 26
Who’s Doing What? Class Notes .................................................. 29
Faculty Successes ....................................................................... 32
We Remember ........................................................................... 33

On the cover: The start of the fall 2015 semester brought with it record international student enrollment. Nearly 200 enrolled international students now call Fontbonne their own. These Griffins represent 27 different countries, making Fontbonne not just Griffin nation, but global Griffin nation.

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A WHOLE NEW WORLD

Do you remember your first year on Fontbonne University’s campus? New friends, new classes, new instructors, new responsibility and, of course, new freedom. Not only does college represent a fresh start, it opens up a whole new world of possibility … and at Fontbonne, we mean that both figuratively and quite literally. This academic year, your alma mater boasts record international enrollment, with 78 new and 177 enrolled international students on campus — 10 percent of our total student population. These students hail from 27 different countries, including Japan, Turkey, India, Vietnam and Colombia. A world of possibility, right here on Wydown Boulevard.

And our world just keeps growing. Our residence halls are filled to capacity. Our freshmen class is one of the largest in history at 178 first-time, first-year students. And our student athletes total 258 — the most who have suited up in half a decade.

In this issue of Tableaux, you’ll meet some of the people and projects making such growth possible. Learn about two exceptional instructors on pages 6 and 8. Get to know three energetic and passionate vice presidents on pages 5, 9 and 13. Read all about Fontbonne’s role in a new veteran’s treatment court benefiting service men and women in Jefferson County, Mo., on page 22. And meet a young alumna and entrepreneur on page 20 who understands the value of hard work.

Our world may be expanding, but your role in it is still just as important. We invite you to return often and stay in touch. Get involved — as the stories on page 10 and 27 indicate, there are opportunities everywhere for our alumni to make a difference.

Elizabeth Hise Brennan

Do you have a story idea? Let us know. Email tableaux@fontbonne.edu with your thoughts.
NEW MEMBERS JOIN TRUSTEES

Fontbonne University welcomes two new members to the board of trustees.

Craig Glover ’01 MBA ’13 is the CEO of Norwalk Community Health Center in Norwalk, Conn. Glover earned his bachelor’s and master’s degrees in business administration from Fontbonne and is expected to receive a doctorate from Indiana Wesleyan University in 2016.

Dr. Brian Abel Ragen holds a bachelor’s from Pomona College in Claremont, Calif., and a master’s and Ph.D. from Princeton University. He is professor emeritus of English at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, where he taught from 1988-2013.

BUCKLER HEADS CROSS COUNTRY, TRACK AND FIELD TEAMS

Chris Buckler leads Fontbonne University’s cross-country and track and field teams as head coach for the 2015-16 season. Buckler comes to Fontbonne after serving as assistant coach and adjunct professor of sports management at the University of Wisconsin-Parkside.

SIXTEEN FCC GRANTS MAKE CAMPUS PROJECTS POSSIBLE

Now in its eighth year, the Fontbonne Community Connection, a women’s giving circle supporting Fontbonne University, has announced its 2015-2016 award winners. Sixteen awards, ranging from $1,000 to $12,050, will jumpstart or boost programs and people throughout campus and the community. This year, funded projects range from robotics and reading to teaching and theatre. Examples include a mobile application lab, a literacy camp for children with hearing loss, a community reading program and a repository for the archives of the Bosnia Memory Project.

“Each member’s vote has equal value, and no member has any greater role in determining the award winners than any other member,” explained Joan Falk, 2012-2015 FCC chairwoman. “This is part of the great appeal of our giving circle — the direct hands-on experience of determining how funds are spent.”

Each member of the FCC contributes a small percentage of the total funds raised by the group, collective gifts that have made possible 92 projects and totaled $614,710 since the inception of the group, an impact that stretches far beyond the campus.

“Often there is a ripple effect that extends beyond the project itself into many other areas,” Falk said. “And certainly, results from touching lives in unique one-to-one experiences are beyond measure. The projects frequently bring people onto campus for the first time — for workshops, speakers, children’s camps, theatre or conferences. The Fontbonne community has developed business connections, opportunities for jobs or internships, and monetary or in-kind donations as a result of FCC-funded projects. And these projects energize Fontbonne faculty, staff and students by realizing academic dreams that are creative and exciting but do not fit within normal budget constraints.”

The FCC includes a passionate group of Fontbonne alumna, faculty, staff and friends of the university.

“The more members we have, the more good we can do for Fontbonne,” said Falk. “Our members report enormous satisfaction in this rewarding work. And we have a great deal of fun doing it, too!”

To learn more about the FCC or see the full list of 2015-16 funded projects, visit www.fontbonne.edu/FCC.

FONTBONNE’S NEW DIGITAL LOOK

Have you stopped by Fontbonne.edu lately? If so, you’ll have noticed a brand new — and very different — look and feel to Fontbonne University’s digital home. The website, launched in November 2015, features bold photos, easy navigation, an interactive major finder for prospective students, and a section devoted entirely to alumni, among many other features.

“Before designing the new site, we met with and talked to current and prospective students, as well as staff and faculty from across campus,” said Ann Ehnert, Fontbonne’s web and digital communications manager. “Our new website is primarily focused on prospective students and how we tell the Fontbonne story in a bolder, bigger, better way.”

In tandem with the website, two new intranet sites — one for students, one for staff and faculty — also launched. While the new public site is geared toward prospects, these new intranet sites are devoted to the needs of internal audiences.

Visit www.fontbonne.edu!
COUNCIL OF REGENTS GROWS
The Fontbonne University Council of Regents welcomed seven new members, including Matthew Banderman ’01, Northwestern Mutual; Valerie Beason, SSM Behavioral Health Services; Sarajeni Hammond MBA ’00, Monsanto; Daniel Meyr, Reliance Bank; Andrea Purnell, Missouri Institute of Mental Health; Garrett Ray, Enterprise Holdings; and Kyle Segelle, Ameriprise Financial Services Inc. Additionally, Nancy M. Garvey, AT&T, was named an honorary member. The council is an advisory board providing counsel, guidance and support for Fontbonne.

ATHLETICS LAUNCHES WEBSITE REDESIGN
A redesigned Fontbonne University athletics website rolled out in June under the direction of Maria Eftink, director of athletics, and Danielle Donze, sports information director.

The website offers a more responsive design, a greater emphasis on social media, and easy access to schedules, rosters, successes and more. Fans are able to access game day links and news releases on the homepage, then explore each sport individually on customized pages.

Get all Griffin sports news at www.fontbonnegriffins.com.

PRESSIMONE FEATURED IN ST. LOUIS AMERICAN
Dr. J. Michael Pressimone, Fontbonne University president, was featured as a guest columnist in the July 23 edition of the St. Louis American. Titled “Why Black Lives Matter,” Pressimone’s editorial discussed the importance of the phrase and the meaning it has for him as a college president and the father of African-American children. Read the article at www.fontbonne.edu/stlouisamerican.

BOOSTING MATH AND SCIENCE SKILLS
Dozens of teachers met at Fontbonne University in July to work on their teaching skills at the National Math and Science Initiative’s Laying the Foundation Program.

About 60 educators from districts as far as Austin, Texas, spent a week learning the best and most modern teaching practices in a variety of classes from elementary math/science to high school math.

NMSI’s national training corps focused on research-based instructional strategies and best practices for increasing academic rigor, and ways in which students learn and process new skills and concepts. Teachers attending the summer program receive print and online classroom-ready materials and resources that are aligned with state standards.

The three-year Laying the Foundation program includes 12 days of training over three years, providing 26 hours of professional development credit per year. Fontbonne is hosting the training at no cost as a contribution to the future of STEM in St. Louis.

INVESTING IN YOUTH: FONTBONNE PARTNERS WITH JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT
Fontbonne University officially announced the launch of its partnership with Junior Achievement of Greater St. Louis in a May 2015 ribbon-cutting ceremony.

The university is sponsoring a space in JA’s A.G. Edwards Finance Park in Chesterfield, Mo. The finance park gives seventh–12th grade students an opportunity to explore and learn about the finances involved in life situations such as college, shopping, banking, household budgeting and more.

“We are thrilled to partner with a like-minded organization such as Junior Achievement,” said Dr. J. Michael Pressimone, Fontbonne president. “Helping educate youth to understand their role as global citizens and responsible members of society is directly in line with our institutional mission.”

The Fontbonne space features dynamic visuals and information that illustrates the importance of a college degree and how it ties into student interests, career paths and lifetime earnings. Students also learn about the college search process, financial aid and scholarships, including a new Gipson Family Scholarship for Junior Achievement providing $2,500 per academic year for qualified students.

THEATRE CAMP SHINES IN LOCAL AND NATIONAL MEDIA
The Augmentative and Alternative Weekend Family Theatre Camp at Fontbonne University isn’t your typical summer camp. It’s an opportunity for students with disabilities and their families to learn, grow and put on a show. This year, the camp was featured prominently in the ASHA Leader, a publication from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, as well as on HEC- TV, a producer of education and arts television programming. See these features at www.fontbonne.edu/campcap.
BOSNIA MEMORY PROJECT INTRODUCES CIVIC COURAGE AWARD

The Bosnia Memory Project at Fontbonne University honored Sarajevo newsman Kemal Kurspahić and his wife, Vesna, a photo curator, with the inaugural Civic Courage Award in June 2015. The award, to be presented annually, is designed to recognize the values of inclusion, tolerance and mutuality at the foundation of civil societies.

As wartime editor-in-chief of the Bosnian newspaper Oslobodjenje, Kurspahić led a multi-ethnic staff in publishing the paper every day throughout the 3½-year siege of Sarajevo. Currently a resident of the Washington, D.C., area, he has written four books including “As Long As Sarajevo Exists” and “Prime Time Crime.”

Vesna Kurspahić is the curator of a new photo exhibit on the life and culture of Bosnia-Herzegovina. Called “Documenting Hometown and Family History in Stari Majdan, Bosnia,” it was showcased at a variety of locations in St. Louis as part of the Missouri History Museum’s “Bosnia 101” series.

SLP CELEBRATES 50+ YEARS

Fontbonne University’s speech-language pathology department has educated students and served the community for more than 50 years. Former and current faculty and staff joined together in May 2015 to celebrate this milestone. The department hosted four continuing education sessions in the afternoon, followed by a reception with more than 80 guests.

CONVOCATION KICKS OFF 2015-2016 ACADEMIC YEAR

Fontbonne University officially opened its 93rd academic year with annual convocation ceremonies, one for evening students and one for traditional daytime students. Convocation is an opportunity for the campus to recognize, celebrate and strengthen its identity as a Catholic institution of higher education. These events also kicked off Fontbonne’s 2015 Dedicated Semester focused on “The Future.”

Sumit Dhawan, vice president for corporate development and chief commercial officer of Novus International, served as convocation speaker at both events. Headquartered in St. Charles, Mo., Novus is an industry leader in animal nutrition and health, helping to sustainably feed the world affordable, wholesome food.

Additionally, Leslie Doyle, Fontbonne’s director of service, diversity and social justice, received the Jason Sommer Dedicated Semester Award for her outstanding service during the 2014 Dedicated Semester, “Civil Rights: Then and Now,” and for her constant example of tolerance, compassion and peaceful dialogue on difficult subjects.

THORNHILL NAMED HEAD MEN’S BASKETBALL COACH

Fontbonne University named Lance Thornhill as the Griffins’ head men’s basketball coach. Thornhill succeeds Anthony Hall, who stepped down in May to relocate to Tennessee with his family. Thornhill will become the fourth head men’s basketball coach in Fontbonne’s history.

“Coach Thornhill has shown his loyalty and dedication to Fontbonne athletics over the past 20 years,” said Maria Eftink, director of athletics. “He has been mentored by every men’s basketball coach in program history, and it is now time for him to step into the head coaching role. I thank Coach Thornhill for his commitment throughout the years. We are excited to have him lead such a talented group of returning players and incoming recruits.”

Thornhill, who has been with the university since 1995, was the associate head coach alongside Hall last season, as well as the head men’s and women’s golf coach. He will take over the men’s basketball program, while also performing duties as director of golf operations.

SCHOLARSHIP BREAKFAST CELEBRATES DONORS AND STUDENTS

Fontbonne University scholarship students told their stories and met with donors at Fontbonne’s annual Scholarship Breakfast on Oct. 15, 2015.

“This interaction is important for our university on many levels,” said Jan Sheehan, planned giving officer. “Seeing the real effects of scholarships means a lot to the students and our extended Fontbonne family.”

Dozens of donors shared the meal with more than 50 students, staff, faculty, CSJs and other university leaders.
When Joseph Havis was in high school, he identified as a baseball player — a “jock,” as he was always labeled by his peers — and not much more.

But something happened in college. Pursuing psychology and pre-law at Millikin University in Illinois, he soon found that his experiences at the small, private institution were reshaping the perceptions he had for himself.

“My world got bigger,” said Havis, Fontbonne’s new vice president of enrollment management. “I started to learn that I was so much more than that ‘jock’ label that had always followed me. My plans changed.”

Havis earned his degree and was set to go to law school, but then gravitated toward higher education because a mentor encouraged him to pursue a job as an admission counselor at Millikin. In 10 years, he worked his way up to director of admission.

He moved on to the University of the Ozarks in Clarksville, Ark., where he served as the vice president of enrollment. In the back of his mind, however, he wanted to return to his home of Edwardsville, Ill., to be closer to his friends and family.

“When I began to pursue this position, I felt an immediate sense of belonging with Fontbonne’s mission,” he said. “It means a lot to me to be part of a community so deeply connected to its values.”

Since he arrived in February, Havis has had a single clear priority above all others: “The students will always come first,” he said. “My priority is to be an advocate for the students. I want to enroll students who are excited to be a part of Fontbonne. A healthy, enthusiastic enrollment will result in a healthy institution overall. We have to stay student-driven.”

In addition to his own personal mission, Havis is eager to exemplify the mission and values of Fontbonne.

“I want everyone to know about Fontbonne’s commitment to serving others,” he said. “We are educating students to help their community. Our focus on service is going to make the world a better place.”

And it comes as no surprise that he is equally happy to be back in the St. Louis area, close to the people and things he loves.

“I love the energy and spirit of St. Louis. I am a huge Blues and Cardinals fan,” he said. “I’m so thankful to be closer to my family and friends again. I especially have a great appreciation for my wife, Jody. She is a great partner and supporter of all that I do.”

The energy and enthusiasm that Havis brings to Fontbonne reflects the motto that is heard and seen all over campus: Learn more. Be more.

“It goes back to my realization that I was more than just an athlete,” he said. “I want our students to realize that there is more to life than those kinds of labels. They can be more, and I like helping them work with the changes that come with that awareness. I’ve already seen that transformation happening to Fontbonne students.”
“We develop a personal relationship with our students that lasts beyond graduation. We have excellent students who are committed to social work. They’re good people who are driven to do good in the world. Educating people who are motivated by compassion … who could ask for a better job?”

— Sharon Jackson ’94
You could say that Sharon Jackson was destined to embrace Fontbonne University’s mission of “educating students to think critically, to act ethically and to assume responsibility as citizens and leaders.”

“I remember traveling to downtown St. Louis with my dad when I was about eight years old,” said Jackson, an associate professor and the director of Fontbonne’s social work department. “I saw homeless people, and I had a lot of questions about them. Who were they? Where were their families? Was anyone helping them? What could I do to help?”

Indeed, over the last 15 years, Jackson has been hard at work, educating and supporting students who want to make the world a better place. She has put her heart and soul so deeply into her teaching that she was awarded the school’s highest academic honor this year: the 2015 Joan Goostree Stevens Excellence in Teaching Award.

Throughout her adolescent and early adult years, Jackson continually felt called to serve, and she credits the Catholic education she received from grade school through college as her inspiration to continue down that path. She graduated from Fontbonne University in 1994 with a bachelor’s degree in social work, and then went on to earn her master’s degree in social work from Washington University. Later, she worked with the National Health Service Corps and created a clinical mental health practice in rural Southern Missouri.

“Everyone knows someone with mental health and disability issues,” she said. “However, stigma and lack of knowledge continue to negatively impact treatment and recovery. My work involves creating programs and services for siblings and extended family members. These individuals are often left out of the treatment process even though they are willing to help. Programs and services that are designed to support the family result in better treatment outcomes and healthier communities.”

She returned to Fontbonne in 2000, this time as an adjunct in the human services department. Not long after, the National Association of Social Workers in Missouri opened the door for licensed bachelor-level degree programs.

“The administration at Fontbonne understood the need for a social work program and asked if I would create and direct it through accreditation,” she said. “Since its development eight years ago, the program has achieved high ratings from health and human service agencies. The valued reputation is due to the curriculum that addresses current service needs and the quality students the program attracts.”

Though there have been many changes over the course of Jackson’s teaching career, the best part of her job has always remained the same. “The good news about Fontbonne is its value of community,” she said. “We develop a personal relationship with our students that lasts beyond graduation. We have excellent students who are committed to social work. They’re good people who are driven to do good in the world. Educating people who are motivated by compassion … who could ask for a better job?”

Jackson is so enthusiastic, she can’t highlight a single student success story. “All of my students are success stories,” she said. “Success is found in the commitment social work students make when they engage themselves in the process of learning to think critically and ethically to support their responsibility to improve themselves and the world around them.”

Although she stays very busy with her career, Jackson devotes time to other passion projects. She is a CSJ Associate, an individual committed to extending the mission and sharing the spirit of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet without becoming a vowed member. She also spends as much time as possible with her husband, Tom, and is the proud mother of three sons: Thomas, a physician; William, a health care lawyer; and Matthew, a financial analyst and Fontbonne alumnus.

“They’re my biggest supporters,” Jackson said of her family. “Family has always been important in both my personal and professional lives. I have a supportive spouse and three sons who developed into responsible and thoughtful men, and for that, I am very thankful.”
In her free time, Erica Fishel enjoys traveling, kayaking, running … and teaching. Teaching might seem like an oddity in that list, but to Fishel, it’s just as much of a challenge as her other hobbies.

“I actually enjoy teaching a required course that nobody signs up for because they want to,” she said, laughing. “I know that people don’t flip through the course catalog, see Intro to Statistics and think, ‘That one sounds like fun! Sign me up!’ No, they take my class because they have to, but I still find it worthwhile.”

It is, perhaps, her pure love of teaching that earned Fishel the 2015 Excellence in Teaching Award for Part-Time Faculty.

“Winning this award truly is an honor. I’m very pleased,” she said. “I know I’m not the only math teacher, and I’m not the only adjunct. To be acknowledged by students and colleagues for what I’m doing is a big honor. I know I am appreciated.”

A native St. Louisan, Fishel earned her undergraduate degrees in biology and French from the University of Kansas. She then earned a Ph.D. in plant biology from Washington University in St. Louis in 2013. She works full-time at the Donald Danforth Plant Science Center as the director of technology transfer. For the last five years, she has taught introduction to statistics at Fontbonne, and in the fall of 2015, she began to teach a new Fontbonne class: Biostatistics.

Fishel credits her success at Fontbonne to the overwhelming support she has always received from fellow faculty members.

“The math department really works together as a collective unit,” she said. “This kind of support isn’t exclusive to that department, either. Now that I’m branching out into the biology department, I’m experiencing the same level of encouragement.”

For Fishel, the students at Fontbonne make teaching special.

“Most students come to my class because they need it to graduate,” she said. “What sets Fontbonne students apart from others is the fact that they are eager to learn the material so that they can understand why the class is required. They know there is value in the class, and I enjoy watching them figure it out along the way.”

With five years of teaching under her belt, Fishel says that the students are a major source of inspiration.

“I have learned a lot about patience. Not every student thinks the same way, and I am always revising my approach to teaching,” she said. “I allow all students to go through this learning process in their own style. Witnessing the transition from nervous to confident over the course of a semester is the real reason I do what I do.”

Since winning this award, Fishel said she is experiencing even more affinity toward teaching. “This recognition reinforces my commitment to the students,” she said. “It makes me want to be better for them. This is especially important since I’ll be teaching a new course in the fall. It’s like I’ve been given a burst of new energy.”
Carey Adams, Fontbonne’s new vice president for academic affairs, didn’t plan on a career in education.

“After graduating with my bachelor’s in communications and religion from William Jewell College, I planned to go into organizational consulting,” he recalled. “I began to pursue my master’s degree in communication studies at Baylor University, and I had the opportunity to teach for a year. There I realized that I have a true love of academics.”

After completing his master’s, Adams earned a Ph.D. in communication studies from the University of Kansas, then headed to Missouri State University, where he worked for 21 years. During that time, he served as a faculty member, graduate program director, department head and eventually dean of the College of Arts and Letters. In 2012, he moved on to Armstrong State University in Savannah, Ga., where he served as the provost and vice president for academic affairs.

“I hope to give students the opportunity to explore ideas and new aspects of themselves in a safe environment. As an educator, the best thing to hear from a student is, ‘I didn’t know I could do that.’ Hearing that tells us that we’re doing great things.” — Carey Adams

While teaching was a passion, Adams was also drawn to leadership.

“Taking a role in administration appealed to me because I felt that was the best way I could make an impact,” he said. “I can be trusted to use my good judgment to help people.”

Adams was attracted to Fontbonne for a number of reasons.

“I was very drawn to the commitment of Fontbonne’s intellectual and Catholic mission,” he explained. “I think it’s really amazing to be part of a community that is so devoted to helping society, and I believe the students truly see the ways of learning and serving. In addition to that, though, Fontbonne is very similar in size and academics to William Jewell. I always saw myself returning to a school like that.”

Adams believes strongly in small schools, and he sees great value in the many experiences students gain from attending a college with a close-knit community.

“Students can truly be engaged with their school outside of the classroom,” he said. “In my undergraduate years, I was very active as a resident advisor and in campus ministry, and those involvements played a big role in my college experience. At a small school, there is an opportunity for close collaboration between faculty and students. This is so special, and an awful lot of learning happens in those relationships.”

His true calling realized, Adams plans to ensure that Fontbonne continues to advance as a university of choice for talented students. He noted that he had positive experiences in college that he wants to pass along to Fontbonne’s student body.

“I hope to give students the opportunity to explore ideas and new aspects of themselves in a safe environment,” he said. “As an educator, the best thing to hear from a student is, ‘I didn’t know I could do that.’ Hearing that tells us that we’re doing great things.”

While Adams is a native of Chicago, he and his family are pleased to be in St. Louis.

“We’re much closer to a lot of family and friends now, and we are so glad to be back in a metropolitan area. I can’t say I like the Cardinals since we’re Cubs fans, but I do like being in a baseball town. And we love Imo’s pizza.”

Adams and his wife, Julie, have two children. Their daughter, Hannah, 23, was recently married and works for Teach for America near Washington, D.C. Their 16-year-old son, Evan, is a sophomore in high school.

Adams is optimistic about the opportunities ahead.

“I already feel a connection to everyone I’ve met at Fontbonne,” he said. “Each person I’ve met with or spoken to has been welcoming and engaging. I look forward to becoming even more involved in the Fontbonne community and its many storied traditions.”
You probably haven’t yet heard of the Fontbonne University Enactus Club. Just two years old, this new addition to the university blurs the line between student organization, honor society, experiential learning opportunity and service endeavor. Last year, the club’s eight members gave multiple presentations in front of corporate executives, held a meeting with the national Enactus president, and worked with a local restaurant owner in Ferguson, Mo., to help boost his business. And they’re just getting started.

Enactus is a national nonprofit organization partnering students, educators and business people to enable progress through entrepreneurial action worldwide. More than 70,500 students at 1,700 universities in 36 countries participate in the organization, which values the entrepreneurial spirit, sustainability, action and collaboration in order to tackle real world problems. Teams of students take on these problems, then present their solutions in regional, national and worldwide competitions, with corporate executives and business professionals as their judges.

“Enactus is all about entrepreneurship,” explained Mark Alexander, Fontbonne business instructor and Enactus advisor. “It’s about creating a world that is better for all of us.”

Formerly known as SIFE, Students In Free Enterprise, Enactus now focuses much less on profit, and much more on the intersection of business and social responsibility. For students, involvement means a chance to gain actual, tangible experience outside the boundaries of campus, regardless of their major. It allows them to serve others, while at the same time, gain valuable business skills and opportunities.

“We’re one of the only campus organizations that helps people in the community outside of campus,” said Yuri Khechoyan, now a sophomore double major in business administration and management information systems, and the 2015-2016 Enactus chapter president. “Enactus really shows what students are capable of — that’s why companies pay attention. You have the
chance to get a job or internships. It’s a lot of effort, but it offers great networking opportunities, and it helps you be proud of yourself and your teammates.”

Just as the 2014-15 school year began, Michael Brown’s death and the subsequent riots in Ferguson, a suburb just miles from Fontbonne, put the St. Louis area in an international spotlight. As Fontbonne Enactus began searching for a project, the team knew they wanted to explore opportunities that could benefit the Ferguson business community, hit hard by the unrest. Alexander called the St. Louis Regional Chamber, which connected him with a business needing a boost — the Ferguson Burger Bar and More, owned by Charles and Kizzie Davis.

“I was initially afraid to step on anyone’s toes,” said Celeste Herrmann, a double major in fashion merchandising and marketing, who found her niche assisting with the Burger Bar’s social media accounts and website. “But they were so willing to hear what we had to say. The more comfortable we felt with them, the more comfortable they were with us.”

Guided by Alexander, the students worked hand-in-hand with the Davises.

“We visited two or three times each month since August, conferencing with Charles and seeing what we can do to empower him,” Khechoyan said. “We helped him increase his profit margins, redesign the menu, develop and implement customer surveys, and overall, help the business become more efficient.”

The goal, Alexander emphasized, is not to walk in and claim to have all the answers. Instead, the Enactus team strives to continually be a partner and an asset to the Davises.

“We try to empower Charles to improve his own livelihood, touching not only profits, but people and the environment as well,” he said. The model is beneficial for students too, who can gain valuable experience working with business owners in unpredictable, real world situations. They then turn their experiences into a presentation, outlining opportunities, actions and collaborations.

“Since I took over as Enactus president, my goal for us has been to participate in nationals,” said Aaron Pavese, who graduated from Fontbonne in May with a double major in business administration and accounting, and served as 2014-2015 Enactus chapter president. “It’s a competition, but everyone wins. We’re helping people and communities, not just generating profits. There are so many ways you can improve the community — it’s inspiring.”

In 2015, the Enactus national competition was held in St. Louis, so the Fontbonne team had home court advantage. The Enactus national president paid a visit to Fontbonne, meeting both students and university leaders. Fontbonne’s Enactus team, along with Charles Davis, were invited to attend the Enactus United States Exposition Pre-Event, held at Enterprise Holdings. They gave their presentation to around 100 local business executives and leaders, who then critiqued their performance and offered helpful advice and strategy. By the time they made their way to the national competition, they were well-prepared, and although they didn’t advance, they achieved their goal of competing on a national scale.

“I’m most proud of presenting at the National Exposition. I have a fear of public speaking, and I was really apprehensive, but I’m so glad I did it,” explained Herrmann, who, like many other Fontbonne students, was approached at the Exposition by professionals offering jobs and internships. Herrmann has already signed on to become a merchandising intern for Wal-Mart in the summer of 2016.

“Enactus gives students the opportunity to put themselves directly in front of top-level business people,” Alexander said.

From networking opportunities to real world business experiences, Enactus is taking Fontbonne students to bigger and better places, all within the university’s charge to serve a world in need.

“We’re students — we can do more,” Pavese said. “Enactus doesn’t require you to be study a specific major. All you have to do is participate and you will be able to help.”

Could your business expertise benefit the students of Enactus? Contact Mark Alexander at (314) 889-1406 or malexander@fontbonne.edu.
Do you have $19.23 in your pocket?

The 1923 Giving Society is a new opportunity for the Fontbonne University community to make a lasting, but relatively simple, contribution.

The year 1923 speaks to our past. And your monthly $19.23 will support our future.

In 1923, a small group of Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet created Fontbonne College, now Fontbonne University. It took immense courage, dedication and financial sacrifice. CSJs worldwide responded to a request to give as much as they could so Fontbonne could come to fruition.

The college began with a class of six students and nine faculty. Nearly 100 years later, Fontbonne University has more than 17,000 alumni and annually enrolls approximately 2,000 undergraduate and graduate students taught by 222 faculty and instructors.

“The founding of Fontbonne University is nothing short of inspiring,” said Laura Farrar, director of annual giving. “We hope the 1923 Giving Society provides an easy and meaningful way for our supporters to make a difference.”

Membership in the 1923 Giving Society is open to donors who commit to giving $19.23 or more per month for a minimum of 12 months.

The 1923 Giving Society provides a sustainable source of funding to the most pressing needs of the university – scholarships, key priorities and strategic growth for advancing Fontbonne’s mission.

To learn more about the 1923 Giving Society, including membership benefits, please visit www.fontbonne.edu/1923.

Questions? Contact Laura Farrar at lfarrar@fontbonne.edu or (314) 889-4712.
Kitty Nangle Lohrum knows a thing or two about fundraising. And she’s no stranger to Fontbonne, either. That’s why she was able to dive headfirst into her new role as vice president for advancement when she came on board in March. She has big plans for Fontbonne’s future — and she has the drive to make them happen.

“My great aunt Doreen lived in Atlanta and wanted to study deaf education,” she recalled. “When she found this nice, private, Catholic, all-girls school in St. Louis, her brother, my granddaddy Mac, dropped out of Georgia Tech to work full time to send her to Fontbonne. She graduated after just three years in 1936, having taken summer correspondence courses because she knew what a sacrifice he made for her. When my mom wanted to go away for school, there was only one place my granddaddy would allow: Fontbonne.”

Lohrum never dreamed she would one day work in higher education, especially after a life-threatening brain infection. “I was studying biology and kinesiology,” said the Regis University graduate. “And the summer before senior year, I contracted meningitis. When I woke after three weeks in a coma, I had lost my memory.”

Lohrum’s experience following her illness completely changed her life plans. “Continuing on for my Ph.D. in physical therapy was no longer an option, but I had always wanted to do Peace Corps,” she said. “While it was a difficult recovery, it was the best thing that ever happened to me. Had it not been for meningitis, my life would be very different.”

A new plan in place, Lohrum began work as a Peace Corps volunteer in Paraguay and quickly realized she would need to find additional funding to see her projects through. “My community worked with me to raise funds from the World Bank and UNICEF for their running water system and wood-burning stoves,” she said. “We also did more grassroots work, like soccer tournaments and bake sales. It was a pretty good entrée into the field, although I had no idea at the time.”

Her experience would also shape her outlook on those less fortunate. “If I learned one thing from my time in Paraguay,” she said, “it’s that poverty is not a lack of money, it’s a lack of opportunity; and opportunity comes only through education.”

After her Peace Corps assignment, Lohrum ventured into the corporate world as a business development director. But she felt the calling to serve a mission, so she began working with the National Conference for Community and Justice. It was there that she realized her passion for issues of equality and social justice. The deeper she got into anti-oppression work, the more she realized the power of education.

Lohrum combined her passion for education and fundraising when she became a development director at Teach For America and then later at Saint Louis University, where she also earned a Master of Arts in Leadership and Organizational Development.

She met Dr. J. Michael Pressimone, president of Fontbonne, during his first week in St. Louis, and their paths continued to cross regularly.

“I saw myself at SLU for the long haul, but when Mike asked if I would consider Fontbonne … I just couldn’t pass up the opportunity to work for him. He’s an amazing man, and someone I believe can do amazing things. I wanted to be on his team,” she explained.

Lohrum, who has a 3-year-old son, Hank, with her husband, Brad, described the Fontbonne culture as familial — a place where people care for each other like family.

“Our alumni agree,” she said. “We provide an excellent education in a nurturing environment and enable students to form enduring friendships. Our donors know that supporting Fontbonne is an investment in something that will nurture generations to come. And there is no better investment than education.”
What’s in a Name?

By Elizabeth Hise Brennan

At 92 years old, Fontbonne University has a long and storied history, complete with spirited Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, generous benefactors, and the students, faculty, staff and alumni that have long filled the school with life and possibility. Stroll through Fontbonne’s grounds and you will see evidence of these individuals in the named spaces and places on campus. We’re highlighting some of these for you here, but by no means is this an exhaustive list. Visit campus to explore even more.

Maurine Gerwig Science Laboratory

Maurine Gerwig was always inquisitive and driven. The biology major and chemistry minor graduated from Fontbonne in 1950, then enjoyed a successful career as a medical technologist. Fontbonne, she said, prepared her well for her life and career, and because of that, she gave back to the institution, funding a science laboratory that will benefit students for years to come.

Jack C. Taylor Library

The founder of St. Louis-based Enterprise Holdings has long been a supporter of Fontbonne, and his many generous gifts to the university were recognized in 2010 with the naming of the library. Built in 1967, the Taylor Library today houses an extensive collection of resources and serves as an ever-present reminder of a truly generous friend of Fontbonne.
Audrey Naumann Steinfeld graduated from Fontbonne in 1943 with a major in dietetics and a minor in chemistry, and her passion for her areas of expertise, her work and her community only grew. She and her husband, John Steinfeld, supported many organizations and causes, including Fontbonne, and the university’s food science laboratory honors this support.

Golden Meadow
Fontbonne’s 13th president retired in 2014 after 19 years as the first male, married, lay president. Dr. Dennis Golden and his wife, Monica, left a legacy along with their nearly two decades of leadership and loyalty to the university. It seems fitting that Golden Meadow, a hub for student activity, honors them and their dedication to students past and present.

Bonnie and L.B. Eckelkamp College of Global Business and Professional Studies
Just as Fontbonne is dedicated to “serving the dear neighbor,” so too are Bonnie and L.B. Eckelkamp, friends of the university who, as business people and philanthropists, have dedicated their lives to bettering their community. They were honored for their commitment to the university with the naming of Fontbonne’s business college in 2010.

Audrey Naumann Steinfeld Food Science Laboratory
Chemist. Philanthropist. Volunteer. Audrey Naumann Steinfeld graduated from Fontbonne in 1943 with a major in dietetics and a minor in chemistry, and her passion for her areas of expertise, her work and her community only grew. She and her husband, John Steinfeld, supported many organizations and causes, including Fontbonne, and the university’s food science laboratory honors this support.
Monsanto Greenhouse

Located on the second floor of Anheuser-Busch Hall, the Monsanto Greenhouse was named and renovated in 2009, thanks to the generosity of the Monsanto Fund. Located in close proximity to the biological and physical sciences department, the greenhouse is twice the size of the structure it replaced and features impressive modern technology.

Eardley Family Clinic for Speech, Language and Hearing

Vernon Eardley, a former Fontbonne trustee, and his wife, Kathy, were so impressed by the work being done in the speech-language clinic located on campus, they committed to funding its operation beginning in 2007. Inside the clinic is the John P. and Mary Ann Capellupo Developmental Language Group Family Observation and Therapy Rooms, seen below.
Mary Martha Hatch Doerr graduated from Fontbonne in 1935, returning later as a trustee from 1986-1989. She was a philanthropist and humanitarian, as well as a wife and the mother of six children. The alumni association honored her dedication to — and support for — her alma mater in 1985, when the Chapel of St. Joseph was renamed in her honor.

Anheuser-Busch Hall

One of Fontbonne’s original five campus buildings, Anheuser-Busch Hall was known as the Science Building until 2009, when a gift from the Anheuser-Busch Foundation made a complete renovation possible. Now, students study and learn in state-of-the-art laboratories, modern classrooms and professional dietetics kitchens.

There are many more opportunities, both large and small, to leave an indelible, named mark on Fontbonne University and on the students it serves. Contact Heather Rich, assistant vice president for advancement, to learn more: (314) 719-3604 or hrich@fontbonne.edu.
We met on a clear, golden morning. Above us, the branches of aged oaks stretched high, their leaves bright green in the early summer light. Standing on the grounds of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet Motherhouse, located on a bluff on the far eastern edge of the City of St. Louis, you can almost feel the mighty Mississippi rumbling past below.

Today, a bustling neighborhood has grown up around the walls of the Motherhouse, and a busy industrial complex extends between the bluff and the river. But, in the stillness of the grounds, in the midst of the trees, you can picture this place before people, before cars, before industry. You can picture it as it was in 1836, when the first Sisters of St. Joseph arrived in St. Louis after their long journey from France.

It was the sisters, in fact, who brought us together that day. Sister Lillian Bauman, CSJ, made her vows 57 years ago and now makes her home at the Carondelet Motherhouse. This Fontbonne University graduate met fellow alumna Samantha Gildehaus last year as part of a nationwide project called SisterStory, which brings together women religious and college students.

“It was a chance to let out all my 57 years of being a sister,” said Bauman, a mischievous grin on her face. SisterStory, founded and funded by the Conrad Hilton Foundation, is housed at St. Catherine University in Minneapolis. The premise is simple: Colleges around the country can apply to participate, and upon acceptance, receive audio recording equipment and training. Participating schools have the freedom to pair their students with sisters of any order. The intent is to cultivate new relationships across generations and create archival recordings of each sister’s life story. For Fontbonne, working with the Sisters of St. Joseph — the school’s founders and sponsors — was an obvious choice. For Gildehaus, a social work major who graduated in 2015, it was a surprising learning experience.

“Before starting this project, I hadn’t attended a Catholic church for many years,” said Gildehaus, who was raised Catholic. “The process opened up my thinking about what it is to be Catholic, about God, and about how the church does work to serve him. It was a wonderful project of learning and listening.”

In total, eight students and eight sisters participated in Fontbonne’s SisterStory project. Throughout the fall of 2014 and the spring of 2015, they met in pairs to talk and share, eventually coming together for an official audio recording session. During each session, students asked a predetermined set of questions, and sisters responded with their own individual stories. The recordings are now stored for posterity, but they’re also given new life through new technology — a SisterStory website explains the project, students write blog posts about their experiences, and social media platforms share the stories with the world.

“We set out to bring visibility to the contributions of women religious and to promote meaningful relationships between them,” said Mary Beth Gallagher, Fontbonne’s director for mission integration and an organizer of Fontbonne’s SisterStory program. “We didn’t understand how much the sisters would enjoy getting to know Fontbonne students, and how much the project would invite the students to own their faith and be curious about their religion.”

Sitting under the trees on the grounds of the Carondelet Motherhouse, it was easy to see the camaraderie that developed between Bauman and Gildehaus throughout their months spent together. In spite of their differences, and even after the program officially ended, they continue to stay in touch. Our interview complete, they headed off to lunch, heads bowed in conversation.

Archived stories are important, yes, but new and meaningful friendships, restored faith, and connections that cross generations? Priceless.
As SisterStory participants, Samantha Gildehaus ’15 (left) and Sister Lillian Bauman, CSJ, spent months getting to know one another, a relationship that led to a recorded interview — and a lifelong friendship.
“Originally, I thought I would run my own boutique, but I wanted to see new designs. I wanted to reach outside the box and create works of art and conversation pieces.”

— Cassiday Dansberry ’11
A PASSION FOR FASHION

By Catie Dandridge

While some people recognize their passion in life at a young age, it’s probably safe to say not too many associate that moment with a pair of hand-me-down jeans. For Fontbonne University fashion merchandising alumna Cassidy Dansberry ’11, however, that is exactly what happened.

“When I was in third grade, my mom gave me a pair of jeans my brother had outgrown,” she explained. “They had light blue and white stripes, and I was so excited because I had always liked how they looked. It didn’t matter to me that they were supposed to be for boys. That’s when I realized that it was OK to wear what I wanted, even if it looked different from what everyone else was wearing.”

Dansberry’s passion for the fashion industry grew over time and eventually led her to Fontbonne’s fashion merchandising program. As soon as she enrolled, she didn’t hesitate to immerse herself into all it had to offer.

“I took some classes that I really, really loved,” she said. “Apparel anatomy was one of my favorites. In that class, we got to learn about all of the technical aspects of different designs. That’s where I learned which types of silhouettes are which, how one lapel is different from another, why using a certain stitch is necessary for a specific fabric and all kinds of things most people never think about. I’m a very technical person, so those things are incredibly interesting to me.”

While studying at Fontbonne, Dansberry was led to the internship of a lifetime. She was hired as an intern at Worth Global Style Network in London — the world’s largest trend forecasting company — where fashion experts research and analyze styles to predict trends in the upcoming seasons.

“I worked in the menswear department, and I got to sit in meetings where people picked the trends for a season a year in advance,” said Dansberry, who credits Fontbonne with preparing her for that experience. “I saw entire fashion collections in giant closets. It was like something straight out of ‘The Devil Wears Prada.’ I actually saw some clothes in person for a major worldwide retailer at my internship, and then saw them being sold online a year later. That was so exciting, and it blew me away.”

Before she graduated in 2011, Dansberry decided that she would start her own business — a handbag line called She Dandy Boutique.

“I didn’t always want to be a designer,” she said. “Originally, I thought I would run my own boutique, but I wanted to see new designs. I wanted to reach outside the box and create works of art and conversation pieces.”

Currently, she is running She Dandy herself.

“I design, hand craft, blog and manage my website and social media,” she said. “It’s a lot of time spent in my basement with my sewing machine and a lot of work to go to trade shows and purse parties, but I know my work is paying off.”

Indeed it is. Earlier this year, Dansberry won the Most Innovative Company award at the Pursue Your Purpose 2015 Celebration of Entrepreneurs Awards Gala in St. Louis. And last year, she was invited to be a vendor at the American Music Awards Celebrity Connected Gift Suite.

“That was a really exciting experience,” she said. “I introduced my bags to a brand-new and high-profile audience, and within 45 minutes my booth was swarmed with guests wanting their very own handbag.”

Dansberry is focused on gaining momentum and growing her business. Her company website, shedandyboutique.com, was re-launched in late May, her handbags have been picked up by a local boutique and her newest collection will debut in September.

For Cassidy Dansberry, what began as some hand-me-down denim turned into a passion — and an exciting and flourishing career.
By Catie Dandridge

There is a new movement within the justice system — one that addresses the challenges facing some veterans who return from deployment with mental and physical health conditions.

According to some sources, one in six veterans will struggle with addiction and one in five will be diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder. These visible and invisible wounds make it difficult for military men and women to return to their lives back home. If left untreated, these issues can lead to unemployment, homelessness, legal troubles or worse — suicide.

In an effort to address these issues, the social work department at Fontbonne University has partnered with the Veterans Treatment Court of the 23rd Judicial Circuit in Jefferson County, Mo.

Veterans treatment courts offer alternative avenues to former service members facing criminal charges. This revolutionary shift in the justice system makes it possible for veterans to receive proper rehabilitation through counseling, mentorship and support from their community.

“These treatment courts align perfectly with our Catholic identity and mission,” said Laura Beaver, assistant professor of social work at Fontbonne. “By offering veterans an opportunity for rehabilitation and not just punishing them, we are showing a care for the dear neighbor, which is a main principle of our founders, the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet.”

“Veterans are a unique and underserved population, and this program is a good way to get to the root of the problems faced by many,” said Beaver. “Our hope is that with an emphasis on mental health services and a respect for the service of our veterans, we will be able to provide better treatment, which will result in a more stable future.”

This rehabilitation is accomplished through comprehensive intervention, community supervision, treatment services and judicial oversight.

Judge Patricia Riehl, center, created a veterans treatment court in Jefferson County, Mo., to help service members better rehabilitate. Laura Beaver, Fontbonne University assistant professor of social work (right), and social work students like Lindsay Orrick (left), will work alongside her to collect and analyze data on the program’s participants.
The goal is to create an atmosphere for hope, healing, freedom and success for the veterans and their families.

This program is the brainchild of Judge Patricia Riehl of the Hillsboro, Mo., Courts.

"I worked with a veteran in another treatment court who committed suicide," Riehl recalled. "I wondered if there would have been a different outcome for him if he had received the support he truly needed as a veteran."

Once accepted into the program, veterans are placed in a specialized treatment track based on their individual needs. All participants meet regularly with a case manager and probation or parole officer. They also participate in individual and group counseling sessions and work with a mentor who is also a veteran.

Weekly appearances before a judge are required, and participating veterans must obey a curfew and are subject to random drug testing. Veterans must be actively seeking employment, volunteer work or enrollment in an education or training program. As they move through the program, the requirements are lessened so that they are empowered to go out on their own and continue to succeed, according to Riehl.

There are a number of successful veterans treatment courts across the country, but Fontbonne’s involvement will bring a unique element to this particular court.

Fontbonne’s social work students, under the supervision of Beaver and fellow faculty member Catherine Mennes, will collect and analyze data on program participants throughout the minimum 24-month program. Upon a veteran’s completion of the program, the Fontbonne social work team will also perform follow-up evaluations at several intervals. And they will collect relevant data on the individuals who weren’t accepted into the program or who don’t complete it.

"I am excited to be working with Fontbonne because I’ve never had a team to provide the formal evaluations that are so critical to the success of a veterans program like this," Riehl said.

Since its kickoff in April, the treatment court has gotten off to a steady start. Two participants entered the program within the first month.

“This may sound small, but the goal of the treatment court is to give intense, focused and individualized attention,” Beaver said.

The team overseeing the program is optimistic about its growth moving forward.

“This is a great opportunity for our students,” Beaver continued. “Many social work students don’t get to experience this kind of field work at the undergraduate level. And part of Fontbonne’s mission has always been committed to serving the greater community. This is a meaningful way for us to blend service with academics.”
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Over the summer, two nearly identical hand-written checks for $100,000 arrived at both Fontbonne University and St. Joseph’s Academy, a Catholic, all-girls high school in St. Louis.

With Kansas City postmarks, the donations included letters from Paddy Lorenz, CSJ, explaining that she was a 1948 graduate of SJA and had attended Fontbonne, and she was sending the money from the estate of her brother Harold Alan Lorenz. Lorenz, a CPA, did not marry and had no children, and left no instructions for his estate.

So it was up to Sister Paddy to decide what to do with her brother’s life savings. It was very clear to her that she would contribute to her alma maters, because her passion and her life’s focus has always been on education. And education, to her, meant scholarships.

“In both cases I asked that the donation be used for scholarships so other students could have the same opportunities that I had,” she said.

Growing up in St. Louis’ Hi-Pointe neighborhood, she knew her father — who passed away in 1942 — wanted her to attend St. Joseph’s Academy. His death left the family in difficult circumstances, but her mother, though not Catholic, was determined to see her attend SJA. Scholarships were the answer.

“Whatever consideration they gave me is the reason I was able to come to St. Joe and Fontbonne,” she said. “My education was not only an excellent foundation for future academic work but also the original inspiration for my religious vocation. It was really a gift in so many ways.”

Lorenz graduated from SJA in 1948 and went on to attend Fontbonne University for two years with the class of 1952. She left to join the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, then went on to earn her bachelor’s degree in radiologic technology at St. Louis University and her Ph.D. in microbiology at the University of Kansas.

Throughout her career, Lorenz focused on education. She taught anatomy, physiology, pathophysiology and microbiology at St. Joseph Hospital School of Nursing in Hancock, Mich., and at Avila University and Metropolitan Community College – Penn Valley in Kansas City, Mo. She also taught radiologic technology at St. Joseph Hospital School of X-ray Technology in Kansas City. Through 2000, Lorenz taught full time, then continued teaching part time for another eight years. She served on the boards of St. Joseph Medical Center/Carondelet Health in Kansas City for 35 years and currently serves on the boards of Avila University and the Heartland Center for Behavioral Change in Kansas City.

“More than 60 percent of our students have financial need,” said Heather Rich, assistant vice president for advancement. “Scholarships are not only an incentive for students to attend Fontbonne University, but they support a lot of talented students who otherwise may not have the opportunity to attend college.”

Lorenz met Ruth O’Neill Stroble ’52 SJA ’48 at Fontbonne in homeroom at St. Joseph’s Academy, and they continued their educational journey together.

“She came from a family of very modest means, as did I, and that helped us become great friends,” said Stroble, who has funded several Fontbonne scholarships with her husband, Frank. “We knew she was brilliant from the beginning at St. Joe, and I was touched that she spent her whole career in education.”

“I’m sure her students benefitted immensely from her great talent,” she said. “I wish there were more like Paddy involved at Fontbonne today. We do strongly believe in education and many of our donations go to education in the form of scholarships.”
“His story is a testament to the ability to achieve a great deal in the face of difficult circumstances. The goals he set for himself set him apart: to recover, to return to school, to play basketball, to finish his degree on time.”

—Dr. J. Michael Pressimone, Fontbonne University President

Matt Banderman '01 knows that life doesn't always follow a straight path.

Banderman, 36, is the district director and a financial adviser at Northwestern Mutual. The St. Clair, Mo., native graduated from Fontbonne University with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and is one of the newest members of the university’s Council of Regents.

He counts his many blessings — his wife, children, a job in finance at a Fortune 500 company.

But his journey through college was difficult. For him, one of Fontbonne's draws was to play basketball with his best friend, Bryan Kennedy, another student athlete from St. Clair High School. Known as Bubba, Kennedy was two years older. They both had been urged to join the Griffins by their St. Clair coach, whose father, Lee McKinney, coached Fontbonne's team. It was their passion.

But in December 1997, Kennedy collapsed while practicing. The 20-year-old athlete was rushed to St. Mary's Hospital but died from a previously undiagnosed heart condition. It was devastating for the team and the school.

"The whole school went to St. Mary's that night," said Banderman, who is comforted by the memory of their lifelong friendship. Weeks before, on Kennedy's birthday, Banderman had opened up to him. "It was the only time in my life I told him I loved him. And he said it back," he said.

The following summer, Banderman was in a terrible car accident that forever changed his life. But his faith in God and positive thinking helped keep him on track.

"You can't control what happens to you, but you can control how you respond," he said.

In May 1999, just after he finished his sophomore year, he was on his way to Kansas City with his high school sweetheart and now wife, Jenny, and his mother and stepfather when a drunk driver crossed the center line and hit them head on. He and Jenny, riding in the back seat, suffered severe internal injuries from the car's lap belts. Both had broken vertebrae and crushed intestines. His injuries required seven surgeries. Doctors had to remove the majority of his intestines.

“They told me I’d never eat or drink again,” he said. “That was a heavy and difficult time in my life. My faith in Christ is everything and it’s what I leaned on.”

Banderman pressed on, with Jenny at his side. His sister Sarah Banderman Dierker ’04, now a business teacher at St. Clair High School, joined him at Fontbonne. He was president of his class for his first three years. He was elected Mr. Fontbonne, a sort of homecoming king. “Some people took it more seriously than others,” he laughed. “I don’t know how I got elected.”

Today, Banderman is able to eat, but still has to take most of his nutrition during the night through a sterile port.

continued on next page >>
He continues to play basketball a couple of times a week and has run four half-marathons. “Mostly because they said I couldn’t,” he said.

Banderman credits much of his recovery and success to his faith in God and the personal attention from the Fontbonne University community. Dr. Dennis Golden, then-president of the university, took an interest in Banderman and made sure that he was able to continue his studies.

“Dr. Golden was at the hospital about 10 times. It was my parents and the Goldens,” Banderman said. “The Goldens gave me a key to Wydown House in case I ever needed to rest. They personally went and talked to all of my professors. I was able to graduate in four years because of Dr. Golden and my professors. That’s the beauty of a small school where even the president knows who you are.”

As a senior, Banderman started as an intern at Northwestern Mutual, which is widely considered one of the best internships in the United States. He’s never left. “I started it (the internship) because it would look good on a resume,” he said. Now his west St. Louis County office is filled with awards from the insurance and financial giant. He is a four-time member of the Million Dollar Round Table, which recognizes the top 6 percent of financial advisors. He has won the quality award from the National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors four times. And he has been asked to speak about his experiences at other Northwestern Mutual agencies around the country and at the NAIFA conference.

Now Banderman is in a position to recruit his own interns and full-time financial advisers and has drawn heavily from the business students at his alma mater. He has recruited numerous interns and three full-time employees from Fontbonne, and he is excited about working with more students while on the board of Enactus, an on-campus organization that helps develop socially responsible business leaders (see page 10).

“His story is a testament to the ability to achieve a great deal in the face of difficult circumstances,” said Dr. J. Michael Pressimone, Fontbonne president. “The goals he set for himself set him apart: to recover, to return to school, to play basketball, to finish his degree on time.

“This is what prompted me to begin the conversation about his deeper involvement in the university. He is what we consider to be the ideal Fontbonne student and alumnus. Who else is going to care like he does?”

Matt and Jenny Banderman are the proud parents of two girls — 11-year-old Brooklyn and 8-year-old Georgia — and a little boy named Cohen, 20 months. In 2013, the Bandermans started working with the Safe Families program at Bethany Christian Services, where Banderman is now on the board. The organization assists children in crisis situations to prevent them from entering the state system. In 2014, the Bandermans adopted Cohen through Bethany.
1960

DOROTHY SUSAN EINIG '61 is proud to announce the birth of her first great-grandchild, Emily Marie Newcomer, on Oct. 14, 2014. Einig is retired and lives in Chesterfield, Mo.

KATHLEEN MARY SAPPINGTON WOODWORTH '64 and her husband, Jim, took three of their grandchildren to Europe in July 2015. She works at Coldwell Banker Gundaker and lives in Town and Country, Mo.

MARGARET LYNCH KIDD '66 '70 has retired as a mathematics professor at California State University, Fullerton, and is now professor emerita. She will miss her students, but looks forward to having some free time. She has moved to San Antonio.

ANNA MARY TEAFF '69 retired after 16 years as head of school at Harpeth Hall School in Nashville, Tenn. She served 44 years in independent school education in Tennessee and Maryland. She and her husband, Don McPherson, live in Maryland.

1970

DEBBIE GILBERT GENUING '72 and her husband, George, will celebrate 43 years of marriage in September. They have five grandchildren, ages 5, 4, 3, 2 and 6 months. She is the director of development at the Foster and Adoptive Care Coalition and wakes up every morning excited about how she can help change lives. She resides in St. Louis.

SUSAN BUSIEK BATTIG '75 recently retired from the Missouri Department of Mental Health as one of 11 case monitors. She supervised mentally ill clients who had committed crimes and had been court-committed to DMH but then achieved conditional releases for community living. Her work was meaningful and she will miss it, but she now intends to spend as much time as possible with her two granddaughters. She lives in St. Louis.

WANDA KENNEDY KUNTZ '76 has written “Kennedy Music,” a historical novel based on her family, which owned Kennedy Music in Maplewood, Mo., for decades. She does book signings throughout the St. Louis area, complete with a display of vintage photos and audio recordings from the store. She and her husband, William, live in St. Louis, where she is a pianist, music director and instructor.

LESLI SOSNOFF SIEGEL '77 announced that her youngest daughter married in June 2015 after graduating from college in 2014. Her oldest daughter delivered her first grandchild, a boy, in August 2015. Siegell and her husband, Rick, live in Fort Worth, Texas, and she works for Texas Health Resources.

1980

EILEEN P. DUGGAN '82 has written “The Not-Ready-for-Julliard Players,” a novel which will be published in March 2016 by Rocking Horse Publishing. Duggan lives in St. Louis.

1990

KATHY LYNN GOUWENS ’91 recently completed the Missouri state requirements to be a licensed professional counselor. She works with adolescents and specializes in trauma therapy at Preferred Family Healthcare. She lives in St. Charles, Mo.

NEIL DANIELS II '96 is a sixth-grade communication arts teacher in the Parkway School District. Daniels was chosen to be part of a panel of speakers in Minnesota to address a group of new teachers with the teacher’s union. He was also one of five teachers chosen to speak for Missouri NEA on Amendment 3. He lives in St. Charles, Mo.

BRITTANY CULBERSON '97 is supply utilization coordinator in supply chain transformation at BJC HealthCare in St. Louis.

ANTHONY J. CUNEO '97 retired in late 2013 as a hospital COO. He began attending classes at Washington University’s Lifelong Learning Institute and OASIS. He became a certified mentor with SCORE, volunteering to help individuals who want to start a business. He finds working with a diverse group of blossoming entrepreneurs fun and rewarding. He and his wife, Sandra, live in Clayton and enjoy spending time with their children and grandchildren, as well as traveling.
KRYSTI DANIELS-JACKSON ’97 was hired as the first African-American district coordinator of gifted education in the Webster Groves School District. She is an adjunct professor teaching gifted certification courses at Maryville University and Webster University. Daniels-Jackson and her husband, Rev. James Jackson II, founded Jaj2music and DK Solutions.

GARRETT E. RAY ’97 completed his MBA at Washington University Olin School of Business in May 2015. He works at Enterprise Holdings in St. Louis and was recently named to Fontbonne’s Council of Regents.

JAMES GRIMES MBA ’98 was promoted to partner at RubinBrown. He and his wife, Margie, live in St. Louis.

MELISSA BRANSON DANIEL ’99 was appointed executive director of student services at Orchard Farm R-V School District. She and her husband, Brad, live in St. Clair, Mo., with their three children.

2000

ROGER HUNT ’00 is an entertainment professional who has worked on a variety of projects in St. Louis and Atlanta. He is the host and creator of the web talk show “Straight Talk with Roger Hunt, Unscripted” and a former radio show host. He also has been a lead and supporting actor and extra in several film projects such as “Layover,” “At Midnight” and “Church of Redemption.” Hunt is also an MC, fashion show director and coordinator, and column writer. He and his wife, Paris, live in St. Louis.

ADAM LONG ’00 was one of the featured sculptors at the Spring Art Fair in St. Louis County’s Queeny Park in April 2015. He lives in St. Charles, Mo.

KATIE DEIMEKE MORROW ’00 MS ’06 and her husband, Joe, announced the birth of Noah James on June 20, 2015. They live in Ferguson, Mo., along with their other children, Emily, Abby and Nate.

JULIE DIEKMANN PHOENIX ’00 (right) married her partner, Jennifer Bledsoe Phoenix, on Sept. 27, 2014, at Compton Heights Christian Church in St. Louis. Julie is a youth services specialist with the St. Louis County Library. They live in St. Louis with their three children, Abigail, Delaney and Westley.

MATTHEW BANDERMAN ’01 was promoted to district manager at Northwestern Mutual in St. Louis. Banderman also was named to the Council of Regents at Fontbonne University. He and his wife, Jenny, live in Eureka, Mo., with their children.

CATHERINE FORDER ’02 received the Cardinal Raymond L. Burke Teacher Recognition Award in May 2015. She is lead teacher at St. Gemma Center, which serves students with severe autism and other developmental disabilities. She lives in St. Louis.

JAMES PAUL PETERSON ’03 is an engineering and manufacturing recruiter with AgentHR Recruiting Group. He also assists in resume writing and interview techniques for prospective candidates. He and his wife, Sharon, live in St. Louis.

AMANDA BARRETT MAYER ’03 is senior accounting manager at DTZ/Cassidy Turley. She lives in St. Louis with her husband, Ryan, and daughter, Mia.

JESSE AARON WALTER ’03 started a consulting company in February 2014 called Model Technology Solutions, which specializes in client and data center automation for small, mid-level and enterprise environments. He resides in O’Fallon, Mo.

KATRINA SELGGE SOMMER ’05 and ADAM SOMMER ’04 announced the birth of their identical twin daughters, Adrina Louise and Kasina Anne, in July 2015. Adam works at MasterCard, and Katrina works for St. Louis County. They live in Brentwood, Mo., with their son, Jack.

2010

MARY GOULD PAPULIS ’10 and PETER PAPULIS ’10 welcomed their first child, Douglas Peter, on May 15, 2015. Mary is a teacher at Parkway School District and serves as secretary on the Fontbonne Alumni Board. They live in Kirkwood, Mo.

JOSEPH THOMAS PINI ’10 is working as a customer advocacy specialist with MOHELA, a federal student loan servicer. He and his wife, Trista, have moved to St. Peters, Mo.

MARYCLAY HIRSCHFELD ’10 married on March 15, 2015, in St. Louis. They now live in Houston.

2011

TRICIA MORRIS ’11 of Hazelwood, Mo., married Matthew Upchurch of Dover, Del., in August 2015. Morris teaches high school history in the Union (Mo.) School District.

Cristina M. Weber ’11 MBA ’12 moved back to her home country of Switzerland after completing her degrees. She is a consultant and transition and transformation operations manager for ABB in Zurich, Switzerland.
SEND US YOUR NEWS ... AND PHOTOS!

If you’ve recently moved, married, had a baby or changed jobs, or you have other information to announce, we welcome your news. **We also welcome your photos!** Email your information and photos to the Alumni Office at alumnievents@fontbonne.edu or mail to Office of Alumni Relations, 6800 Wydown Blvd., St. Louis, Mo., 63105.
Dr. Jack Luzkow, professor of history, addresses some of the most relevant issues of our time in his new book, “The Great Forgetting: The Past, Present, and Future of Social Democracy and the Welfare State,” available through Manchester University Press. The book explores topics such as education, social inequality, employment and the Great Recession, tracing these and many other current issues back to a monumental transfer of wealth to the one percent in the U.S. and U.K. beginning in the 1970’s.

“The Great Forgetting reminds us that we once prospered when the government was there for all of us, and people could be confident that their health care, homes, retirement and well-being would be relatively assured; it concludes that welfare for the rich has disabled democracy, and it has not even led to a more efficient economy,” summarized Luzkow.

Luzkow, a professor at Fontbonne since 2004, holds a Bachelor of Arts from Wayne State University in Detroit, and a Master of Arts and a Ph.D. in European history from St. Louis University. At Fontbonne, he chairs the department of history, philosophy and religion, directs the history program, and focuses his teaching on European and world history. Luzkow is the author of two additional books, “What’s Left: Marxism, Utopianism and the Revolt Against History,” published in 2006, and “The Revenge of History, Why the Past Endures,” published in 2004.

Dr. Al Carlson, assistant professor of math and computer science, was highlighted as a key speaker in the Crypto/Privacy Village at the DEF CON 23 hacking conference in August in Las Vegas. Patrick Doherty, a senior computer science major, presented with him. Their presentation, “Breaking CBC, or Randomness Never Was Happiness,” encompassed aspects of cipher block chaining mode used in cryptography, as well as ways to make encrypted data as safe as possible.

Dr. Sarah Huisman (right), associate professor and director of early childhood programs, spoke at South by Southwest 2015 in Austin, Texas, in March. She and her co-presenter, Mally McAuliffe, an advertising professional, discussed the “Health Impact of Screen Time for Babies and Toddlers.”

Dr. Elizabeth Rayhel, professor of biological and physical sciences, collaborated with Dr. Sharon Deem, wildlife veterinarian and epidemiologist at the St. Louis Zoo, and Dr. David Wang, associate professor at Washington University in St. Louis, to co-write an op-ed that was featured in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch highlighting the revolutionary field of One Health. Fontbonne offers an undergraduate One Health certificate.

Dr. Jenna Voss ’03 MA ’04, assistant professor of deaf education, co-authored a new book, “Small Talk: Bringing Listening and Spoken Language to Your Young Child with Hearing Loss,” with Ellie White, an educator at Central Insitute for the Deaf. The book details what today’s parents need to know and do, from first diagnosis to navigating the educational steps in the journey toward raising a listening and talking child. It includes tips to help a baby or toddler ease into hearing device use while exposing him or her to language at home. “Small Talk” covers a range of easy-to-understand and relevant topics, and serves as a thorough resource, even doubling as a college textbook for early intervention programs.

Dr. Daryl Wennemann, associate professor of philosophy, published an article titled “What World Do We Want?” in the Journal of Evolution and Technology.
in memory

FRANCES DOLAN HOLLORAN ’37
of St. Louis, Missouri
March 24, 2015

MARY HAIDER FLYNN ’38
of Belleville, Illinois
April 19, 2015

ELISE BYRNE ’39
of St. Louis, Missouri
March 24, 2015

AGNES BAER, CSJ ’43
of St. Louis, Missouri
July 14, 2015

ROSEMARY MEYER ’44
of St. Louis, Missouri
November 22, 2014

VIRGINIA RODEGAST WARD ’46
of St. Louis, Missouri
November 5, 2014

ROSEMARY DONLEY MARSHALL ’48
of Florissant, Missouri
August 11, 2015

STELLA STROH LEDBETTER ’49
of Webster Groves, Missouri
November 16, 2014

ROSEMARY TOEBBEN BLASE ’51
of St. Louis, Missouri
August 5, 2015

SYLVIA HICKS BOWLING ’51
of Ballwin, Missouri
December 22, 2014

JOAN STEFFEN O’REILLY ’51
of St. Louis, Missouri
July 12, 2015

ELIZABETH CURRAN ’53
of St. Louis, Missouri
January 25, 2015

BEVERLY HORN HURD-SMYKLE ’54
of Valencia, California
October 28, 2014

FRANCES CHOLET, CSJ ’56
of St. Louis, Missouri
July 30, 2015

MILDRED ANDERSON HAWES ’58
of La Grange, Kentucky
November 15, 2014

LORETTA HENNEKES, CSJ ’58
of St. Louis, Missouri
April 6, 2015

MARGARET QUIGLEY ROSE ’58
of Webster, Wisconsin
October 15, 2014

ANNE NIEMEIER CLIFFORD ’59
of St. Louis, Missouri
March 11, 2015

MARGERY O’ROURKE MCNALLY ’59
of Blue Ash, Ohio
April 25, 2015

ALICE MEYER ’61
of St. Louis, Missouri
February 21, 2015

RHONDA TLEY CUSTARD ’62
of College Park, Maryland
May 2, 2015

NANCY COWELL SPIELMAN ’62
of Kennett, Missouri
January 24, 2015

ELEANOR ZIPP ’62
of Ellisville, Missouri
January 10, 2015

CARMEN GRIFFARD ELIASSON ’63
of Noblesville, Indiana
December 13, 2014

ROSEMARY REHAGEN DUNN ’65
of Wentzville, Missouri
April 20, 2015

ANN ROUS ’65
of Kansas City, Missouri
February 14, 2015

KATHLEEN HANLON ’66
of St. Louis, Missouri
December 1, 2014

JOAN HARTZKE MCILROY ’67
of Wilsonville, Oregon
February 8, 2015

KATHLEEN RYAN KEEGAN ’69
of St. Peters, Missouri
March 23, 2015

ANDREA GOETZ GLINKA ’70
of Elkhorn, Nebraska
May 10, 2015

MARY HOECKER ’70
of Midlothian, Texas
December 30, 2014

MAUREEN FLOOD BARRETT ’71
of Forney, Texas
November 27, 2014

SUZANNE KOENIG CROSS ’72
of Moscow Mills, Missouri
May 26, 2015

SALLE CARL SCHARF ’75
of Chesterfield, Missouri
October 25, 2014

ROBYN STREET ’78
of St. Louis, Missouri
January 28, 2015

LOIS FREDERITZI ’89
of St. Louis, Missouri
April 6, 2015

WALTER BECKER ’90
of Fenton, Missouri
December 24, 2014

MARGARET MCNALLY ’94
of Florissant, Missouri
April 25, 2015

Peggy Kansteiner Adderley ’95
of Green Valley, Arizona
February 16, 2015

Robert Riccardi ’95
of Florissant, Missouri
July 23, 2015

Eric Meyer ’96
of Pacific, Missouri
May 28, 2015

Robert Sabine ’01
of Pacific, Missouri
April 12, 2015

Michael Arnold ’06
of Barnhart, Missouri
March 19, 2015

Keisha Powell ’06
of St. Louis, Missouri
March 24, 2015

Stephanie Zehnle Joseph ’09
of Pacific, Missouri
August 14, 2015
Tell us what you think...

We want to know what you think about Tableaux, the official magazine of Fontbonne University. Please fill out our online readership survey, and we’ll enter you into a drawing to win five $50 gift cards!

Just visit the web address below by Jan. 30, and respond to the questions to tell us how you feel about the magazine, how often you read it, and what stories and topics interest you. The survey should take no more than 10 minutes. Thank you!

www.fontbonne.edu/readership