Historic Gift Cornerstone of New Building

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HISTORIC EXPANSION
WORLD SERIES SUCCESS
MBA TEAM CHAMPS
President’s Message

Dear Alumni and Friends,

The excitement of final exams, the pageantry of Commencement and the culmination of an exciting baseball championship run are behind us. The 2014-15 Academic Year was certainly full of incredible change and many milestones for our growing University. What an amazing and blessed year we had.

New faces have taken the helm of key leadership positions, while the team worked together to design new academic degrees to expand our offerings; the first of those degrees rolled out this fall. Our online programs have also experienced significant growth, meeting market demands across the country. A partnership with our Catholic high schools is providing for an educational continuum that builds on their foundation of faith and commitment to academic excellence. There were many accolades for our students, faculty and programs – both on and off the field of play – from Princeton Review, to the Suncoast Conference, to Fullbright Scholars. Bobcats presented cancer research in Athens, won national competitions against other top universities, and helped farmers in Haiti grow their coffee cooperative.

Equally exciting is our progress on our Blueprint for Leadership Plan. From building a new home for our School of Business, to bringing in the top academics to lead our exciting new programs, and providing resources for students to enjoy hands-on learning, the Blueprint is our roadmap to cementing our position as the best Catholic university in the southeast. Mr. Machado’s generous gift provides the cornerstone of the construction funding to provide current and expanded business programs in a new, state-of-the-art School of Business facility. Alumni, Trustee and distinguished business executive Jorge Rico pledged an additional $3 million, jumpstarting the project. Mr. Machado’s legacy of business leadership and philanthropic support will be recognized through the naming of the Gus Machado School of Business at St. Thomas University. A former member of St. Thomas University’s Board of Trustees, Gus Machado came to the United States from Cuba in 1949 and attended military school in North Carolina. A visionary businessman, he owned a series of car dealerships until he acquired his first franchise in 1982. Gus Machado Buick. Today, he is President of Gus Machado Ford and continues to lead his company to multi-city success. Mr. Machado, and his wife Lillian, are a major force in Florida philanthropy, supporting many charitable organizations.

“Supporting our future business leaders means the world to me,” said Mr. Machado. “Being able to make that happen at St. Thomas University – a University that has a reputation for providing an excellent educational experience and developing the next generation of ethical business leaders – is an opportunity I am very pleased to be a part of.”

The twenty-first century facility will house the institutes of Global Entrepreneurship, Cyber Security Management, Trade and Logistics, and Sports Administration, as well as other business programs, and have an open architecture, green design that will feature multi-purpose spaces and combine robust technology with functionalities that will help students learn real-life business practices. Interactive Smart Classrooms with specialized software, audience response technology, networking and audio/visual capabilities, as well as a Trading Room, a Global Conference Auditorium, the Student Business Incubator, and a Communications and Media Lab, are among other innovative spaces.

“Gus Machado is a name well respected in our community. His generosity will allow our institution to offer a first-class business education in a first-class, values-based, multipurpose environment,” said St. Thomas President Rev. Msgr. Franklyn M. Casale. “Thanks to Mr. Machado’s gift, as well as the generous donation by Trustee and alumnus Jorge Rico, the new Gus Machado School of Business at St. Thomas University will empower our business students to meet business challenges with free market solutions and excel as ethical leaders in the global marketplace.”

Naming Gift launches exciting new chapter for St. Thomas University

It is the single-largest gift to St. Thomas University, to date. On July 1st, the St. Thomas University Board of Trustees and President announced that former Trustee and prominent South Florida businessman, Mr. Gus Machado, pledged $5 million for the Blueprint for Leadership Campaign – the University’s ambitious plan to cement its position as the best Catholic university in the Southeast. Mr. Machado’s generous gift provides the cornerstone of the construction funding to provide current and expanded business programs in a new, state-of-the-art School of Business facility. Alumni, Trustee and distinguished business executive Jorge Rico pledged an additional $3 million, jumpstarting the project. Mr. Machado’s legacy of business leadership and philanthropic support will be recognized through the naming of the Gus Machado School of Business at St. Thomas University. A former member of St. Thomas University’s Board of Trustees, Gus Machado came to the United States from Cuba in 1949 and attended military school in North Carolina. A visionary businessman, he owned a series of car dealerships until he acquired his first franchise in 1982. Gus Machado Buick. Today, he is President of Gus Machado Ford and continues to lead his company to multi-city success. Mr. Machado, and his wife Lillian, are a major force in Florida philanthropy, supporting many charitable organizations.

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STAY CONNECTED WITH STU ON:

BLUEPRINT FOR LEADERSHIP UPDATE

The exciting news about the Gus Machado School of Business caps a year of incredible generosity and support of St. Thomas University. Last Fall, an anonymous donor pledged $2 million to fund the new Endowed Distinguished Chair in Cyber Security Management, allowing St. Thomas to hire the top expert in the field to launch this innovative, multi-disciplinary program. A new program within our Sports Administration offerings will be possible thanks to the support of businessman Art Hertz. His $1 million donation will fund a endowed professorship in Sports Tourism. Soon, the University will break ground on new sand volleyball courts, a dream of donor and trustee Dominic Miniaci, as well as begin improvements to our Library atrium funded through a $100,000 gift from philanthropist Glenn Hubert. Substantial gifts to the Center for Community Engagement, as well as the generosity of the dozen donors that jointly provided $200,000 last year as a match to the $200,000 Batchelor Foundation Scholarship Endowment, have expanded programs and scholarships identified as priorities in our Blueprint for Leadership:

“Every area of our Blueprint for Leadership benefited from the generosity of individuals and organizations this past year,” said Vice President for University Advancement Hilda M. Fernandez. “It is clear that many alumni and friends share our vision for this incredible University, and we are so grateful for their support in making this vision a reality.”
A commitment to prepare graduates to meet the workforce of the future is paramount for St. Thomas University. After analysis and discernment to define specific career demands, a historic academic expansion has been launched that is designed to meet existing and future marketplace needs. These academic enhancements include the addition of 20 new degree programs to St. Thomas University’s already broad and diverse program offerings. Many of the new programs will begin this fall. 

Through the expanded course offerings are unique bachelors, masters and MBAs programs. The unique Cyber Security Management degree curriculum is interdisciplinary, with course offerings that relate to business, technology, criminal justice and law. The Trade and Logistics degree programs respond to our unique location as the Gateway to the Americas, addressing the need for a specialized workforce. Our Business Administration program is also expanding to offer a unique Doctorate of Business Administration in Sports Administration, and Bachelor and Master’s Degrees in Nursing addressing the increasing need for healthcare workers with college degrees as well as the growing demand for Nurse Practitioners.

Typically we go where the jobs are, and we are sensitive to that,” said Provost and Chief Academic Officer Dr. Irma Becerra. “We’re dedicated to seeing every student graduate within four years, with a job waiting at graduation. So when putting these new degree programs together, we look at areas where we know there is a need for people with skills.”

Additional new degrees and enhanced programs include: BBA and MBA in Marketing; MA in Liberal Studies for the 21st Century with four unique concentrations; and an MA in Criminal Justice. New science degrees include an MS in Applied Mathematics; MS in Cell and Molecular Biology; BS in Physics; MS in Applied Physics in Nanoscience; MS in Library and Information Science; an MS in Environmental Engineering; and an MS in Science Teaching. An expansion of programs to meet the needs of teachers also includes an MS in Reading and an MS in Educational Technology. Each new degree program undergoes a rigorous review process, with a prospectus – the equivalent of a business plan – that must be approved internally by the University’s Academic Program Committee, and then by the Board of Trustees.

ST THOMAS LAW SELECTED AS THE REPOSITORY FOR JUDGE WILLIAM HOEVELER’S JUDICIAL PAPERS
On March 18, 2015, St. Thomas University School of Law was selected as the repository for Judge Williams Hoeveler’s judicial papers. The St. Thomas University School of Law’s Alex Henna Legal Information Center is now home to Judge Hoeveler’s case-related documents and correspondence, district from the official Court Room of his cases. The collection includes his personal anecdotes, exchanges with attorneys and notes that serve to document Judge Hoeveler’s career and give unique insight into the process of his judicial deliberation through many of the cases over which he presided. “These documents can bring judicial history alive for law students, legal scholars and the general public alike in a way that textbooks may not,” said Law School Dean Al Garcia. In addition to the papers, the Law School will house memorabilia that include courtroom sketches from the Manuel Noriega trial, the Pontifical Medal Benemerenti bestowed by His Holiness Pope John Paul II, personal photographs, and even Judge Hoeveler’s famous briefcase.

STU Online
Last Fall, St. Thomas expanded its online offerings, providing students from more than 20 states, as well as here at home, with an opportunity to receive a masters or doctorate degree in one of our education programs. More than 300 students enrolled within the first five months. New programs will be launched in the new academic year, including degrees in international business and global entrepreneurship.

A NEW CLASS OF LEADERS FOR LIFE!
ST THOMAS UNIVERSITY WELCOMES NEW ALUMNI
The 422 members of the St. Thomas University Class of 2015 celebrated commencement ceremonies Saturday, May 16, at the Fernandez Family Center for Leadership and Wellness, starting with the School of Law graduation in the morning. Former Florida Governor Bob Martinez served as the School of Law commencement speaker, while widely recognized business leader and civic figure, Stanley G. Tate was the keynote speaker for the Main University Commencement exercises that afternoon. The former, long-time member of the St. Thomas University Board of Trustees, who is also a former mayor, city councilman, and President of the National Advisory Board of the Resolution Trust Corporation, reminded the graduates of the importance of passion and commitment. “St. Thomas University welcomes its newest alumni and looks forward to witnessing them accomplish many great things in our community and society,” said President Rev. Msgr. Franklyn Casale.

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NEW - AND FAMILIAR - FACES TRANSFORMING OUR CAMPUS
Communications and public affairs veteran Hilda Fernandez is our new Vice President for University Advancement, Marketing and Community Relations; the newly appointed Interim Dean of Biscayne College. Dr. Arnold, who is also Associate Professor of Philosophy, previously held faculty positions at the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs, and Colorado State University, Pueblo. He has a doctorate in philosophy from the University of Bielefeld (Germany), an MA from St. Louis University, and a BA from Bellarmine University.

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HISTORIC ACADEMIC EXPANSION AT ST. THOMAS

It is a logical partnership, and now it has a name: the Catho- lic Education Continuum (CEC). This new program strength- ens the ties between Catholic high schools in the greater Miami area and St. Thomas University, offering distinct benefits to their high schools, their faculty and especially their students. The goal is to provide a seamless transition of educational excellence and faith formation as the students graduate from their Catholic high school. The partnership includes the de- partment of Secondary Academics at the high school, providing students with the possibility of college degree acceleration and early immersion in their career path. The academic allows students to complete undergraduate and graduate degrees sooner by starting their college coursework in high school. Participating students can earn a Bachelors/ Masters degree in four years or a Bachelors and Law degree in five years. Academies in the areas of Pre-Law, Sports Ad- ministration, Hospitality Management, Biology, and Nursing start in the high school. The CEC includes an accelerated, multi-disciplinary program. The CEC also includes a full-tuition scholarship to St. Thomas Uni- versity for a student from each Catholic high school in the tri-county area. Eight scholarships were awarded this inaugu- ral year.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION CONTINUUM CONTINUES EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE AND FAITH FORMATION

STU Online

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Law Professor Roza Pati participated in the 28th Plenary Assembly of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace that took place at the Vatican and the 28th plenary assembly of the Pontificia Academia Scientiarum. She was based in Ljubljana, Slovenia.

Dr. Judith Bachay, professor in the Social Science and Counseling Department, was awarded a Fulbright Specialist Grant for Summer 2015. She worked with Amatorian University, an educational institution in the Austrian city of Salzburg which was founded as an initiative by the European Academy of Sciences and Arts and includes 29 Nobel Laureates. She was based in Ljubljana, Slovenia.

Professor Patricia M. Ronee published her latest literary work, Dostoevsky and the Law, and her perspective on Dostoevsky, a Russian writer, in the context of the legal system in his country influenced his writing and the law. Anthony Vinciguerra, the Coordinator for Community for Engaged Learning, was selected by Florida Campus Compact as the Florida Engaged Educator of the Year, and received the 1st Place - Spirit of Service Learning Award/Award of Higher Education. The Miami-Dade Teacher of the Year Coalition/Returned Peace Corp Volunteers of South Florida in October.

Law Professor Amy Ronner has published her latest literary work, Dostoevsky and the Law, and the law's perspective on Dostoevsky, a Russian writer, in the context of the legal system in his country influenced his writing and the law. Anthony Vinciguerra, the Coordinator for Community for Engaged Learning, was selected by Florida Campus Compact as the Florida Engaged Educator of the Year, and received the 1st Place - Spirit of Service Learning Award/Award of Higher Education. The Miami-Dade Teacher of the Year Coalition/Returned Peace Corp Volunteers of South Florida in October.

Law Professor and former Law Dean Doug Ray has published the fourth EDITION OF UNDERSTANDING LABOR LAW which focuses on the National Labor Relations Act and private sector labor relations management.

Rev. James MacDougall For 30 Years, Rev. James MacDougall – affectionately known as Fr. Mac – was part of our Bobcat family. After joining St. Thomas University in August 1989, Fr. Mac served as Chaplain, Assistant Professor of History and Teacher, and Coach of the soccer team evolved over time to become one of South Florida's premier soccer programs. Fr. Mac is a student of the Augustinian Monastery to sit in his chair at the library and read the New York Times or watch us, but Father Mac continued to celebrate mass at the Chapel of St. Anthony on campus. A farewell mass and reception was held on May 14th for Father Mac, which was attended by alumni, faculty and staff. Augustinian, Father Mac was to retire at a parish on his own accord, and the Bobcats will continue to honor him.

St. Thomas University is grateful to those who donated to the St. Thomas University 2014-2015 Annual Giving Campaign. Your generosity is providing student scholarships, access to state-of-the-art improvements to our campus, among many other important initiatives. On behalf of our students, faculty and staff, THANK YOU!
St. Thomas University 1st Place Winner In National MBA Case Competition

Facing stiff competition, St. Thomas University’s School of Business MBA High Performance Team won first place in the 11th Annual KeyBank Foundation Minority MBA Student Case Competition, held February in Cleveland. This was the first time the School of Business Graduate Program competed in this event, presenting against other top-tier business schools and universities in the nation. The three-woman team of Soledad Filgueira, Candy Sicle and Alicia Llamazaes – the only team from South Florida invited to compete – made it to the “Final Five” alongside teams from Yale, USC, Boston College and the University of Chicago. In addition to the first place finish for the STU Team, Ms. Filgueira, a Global Entrepreneurship major, won the Best Presenter Award during the 1st round of the competition.

School of Law Ranked Top 5 Nationally by Princeton Review

St. Thomas University School of Law maintained its Top 5 national ranking in the 2015 edition of the Princeton Review, for having the “Best Environment for Minority Students.” For a law school to be ranked it must meet the Princeton Review’s criteria for academic excellence and be approved by the American Bar Association. Princeton Review surveyed almost 200,000 students at 169 law schools and collected data from school administrators, as well as reviewed data on admissions, academic aid, and employment information, to develop the rankings.

Newman Civic Fellow at STU

St. Thomas University’s June Nziani Wamba was selected a Newman Civic Fellow by Campus Compact. The Newman Civic Fellows Award recognizes undergraduate students who are proven leaders with both the motivation and ability to make substantial contributions toward public problem solving. June, a political science and international relations major at STU, is one of only 200 Newman Civic Fellows selected nationwide this year for this honor.

St. Thomas Law’s Phi Alpha Delta Chapter Wins National Mock Trial Competition

The St. Thomas School of Law’s Phi Alpha Delta chapter took home the 2015 Phi Alpha Delta (PAD) National Mock Trial Competition for Law School Chapters, held in Alexandria, VA this past spring. This annual national mock trial competition was limited to 30 law school chapters. Following three rounds of competition, the St. Thomas Law team of Freddy Figueroa, lleana Garcia, Natasha Paragas, and Tayron Lopez advanced to the Final Round against defending champs, Tennessee University. Figueroa and Garcia also earned the award for Best Team Defense.

School of Law Nationally Recognized for Pro Bono Service

The 2014 edition of Super Lawyers ranked St. Thomas Law as one of the Top 10 Law Schools for Pro Bono Graduation Requirements. Not only was St. Thomas Law in the top ten nationally, but they were the only law school in South Florida to be ranked in the Top 10. Pro-bono service is a graduation requirement at STU Law, with most students far exceeding the required 40 hours.

Committed and Engaged

St. Thomas has once again been selected as a Lead Institution in Civic Engagement through the NASPA Civic Learning and Democratic Engagement Project (NASPA CLDE). Begun in 2012, the NASPA CLDE initiative was founded to highlight, and build collaboration, among universities with a proven commitment to civic engagement. St. Thomas was part of the CLDE’s first cohort of lead institutions in 2012-13 and 2013-14, and was chosen once again for this academic year – our third year in a row.

A BANNER YEAR FOR BOBCATS ATHLETICS

From the courts to the fields, St. Thomas University’s Bobcats Athletics teams and student-athletes enjoyed much success in 2014-15. The Women’s Volleyball team won the Sun Conference regular-season championship for the first time since 2001, with two Bobcats (Samantha Garza, Dana Nowaczyk) named first-team All-Conference performers. St. Thomas University Head Women’s Volleyball Coach Callaway Mefford was named to the American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) Thirty Under 30 list. The award recognizes the nation’s 30 top coaches under 30 years of age. Mefford, who was one of just three coaches from NAIA schools to receive the recognition, led the Bobcats to a 23-8 overall record, a 13-1 conference record and the school’s first regular-season Sun Conference championship since 2001.

Women’s Basketball swept the regular season and conference tournament championships and advanced to the NAIA National Championship tournament two of the third time in five years. STU was led by two-time National Conference Player of the Year and a third-team All-America. The STU Men’s Basketball team, led by first-team All-Conference performers Chuckie Becton and Loret Beckford, advanced to the NAIA National Championships for the fourth consecutive year and the seventh time overall. Spring sport highlights included the STU softball team making the NAIA Tournament of Champions, and women’s tennis teams all qualifying for the conference tournament for the seventh straight season.

The off the field and courts our sports teams were also champs, with an impressive 11 of 12 STU athletic teams finishing the 2014-15 academic year with a cumulative grade point average of over 3.0, earning the NAIA Scholar Team Athlete Award, while clocking hundreds of hours of community service as part of the NAIA’s Champions of Character program.

“From our coaching staff to our players, has been a remarkable year for our Bobcats Athletics,” said Athletic Director Laura Courtley-Todd (MS, Sports Administration, ’95). “Our University Community should be immensely proud, as I am, at how our student-athletes performed and conducted themselves. They are champs in every sense of the word.”

In Focus

STU’S BEN ANCHEFF BECOMES MEDIA SENSATION

In the days following the NAIA World Series, STU starting pitcher Ben Ancheff became an international media sensation with coverage in outlets such as People Magazine, USA Today, the New York Post, ESPN and FOX Sports as well as media outlets in Croatia, Japan, Mexico, Taiwan and the UK. Ancheff, who was coming off Tommy John Surgery, allowed just one run on two hits while striking out five over a season-long 4.1 innings in the championship STU–Cardinals game at Marlins Park on June 23. STU starting pitcher Ben Ancheff threw out the ceremonial first pitch.

HISTORIC PERFORMANCE BY STU BASEBALL

The 2013 STU baseball team was the most successful in school history, finishing runner up at the NAIA World Series in Lewiston, Idaho. Under the guidance of Head Coach Jorge Perez (MS, ’12), the Bobcats advanced to the NAIA World Series Championship Game for the first time in program history, falling just short of the STU’s first national title in any sport. The Bobcats qualified for the NAIA World Series for the fifth time in school history and finished with a no. 2 national ranking in the Postseason NAIA Top 25 Coaches Poll. The Bobcats lost in the title game 10-7 to Lewis-Clark State after staving off elimination four times in the ten-team, double-elimination World Series. “They played with heart,” said Bobcat Baseball Coach Jorge Perez (M.S, Educational Administration, ’12). “These young men make all of us proud with their determination and passion. We are already looking forward to returning next year.” Five Bobcats were named to the All World Series team, including left fielder Jerri Downs, who was drafted in the 15th round by the Boston Red Sox, the first position player from an NAIA school to be selected in the 2015 MLB Draft. The 2015 STU baseball team was honored at the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. basketball game at Marlins Park on June 23. STU starting pitcher Ben Ancheff threw out the ceremonial first pitch.

BOBCAT BASEBALL COACH PEREZ NAMED ABCA/DIAMOND REGIONAL COACH OF THE YEAR

St. Thomas University Head Baseball Coach Jorge Perez (M.S, Educational Administration, ’12) has been named ABCA/DIAMOND Regional Coach of the Year by the American Baseball Coaches Association. The ABCA, founded in 1945, is the primary professional organization for baseball coaches at the amateur level. Perez won the award after leading STU to a 48-18 overall record and the first-turner finishing fifth in the NAIA South Atlantic Conference.

In seven seasons as the Head Coach at STU, Perez has compiled a 240-172 overall record and led the Bobcats to the NAIA World Series Opening Round in 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2015. In 2012, he also led STU to its first Sun Conference Tournament Championship. “Coach Perez brings to STU a level of coaching skill and consistency that we want to instill in our student-athletes,” said STU President Rev. Mgr. Franklyn Casale. “There is no doubt he deserves this recognition.”

Perez, a collegiate and professional baseball player, has been coaching college ball since 1996, and was hired as an Assistant Coach at STU in 1999.
Alumni News

Homecoming 2015: Let the Good Times Roll

Homecoming was a memorable and exciting time for STU students, alumni, faculty, staff, parents and friends. Between the Mardi Gras themed Parade & Celebration, the Bobcats Serve event at Carol City Middle School, an inspiring message from our alumni speaker Dion Welton ’86, and the exciting men’s basketball team win over the Ave Maria Gyrenes, it was a homecoming to remember. Other events included the annual President’s Reception, alumni games, Homecoming Gala, and alumni tailgate party in recognition of Greek alumni. Please visit stu.edu/alumni for the Homecoming 2015 photo gallery.

Alumni Association Chapter News

South Florida

STU alumni and friends gathered on August 27, 2015 at Yard House in Gulfstream Park in Hallandale Beach for the annual South Florida Alumni Chapter Happy Hour. Attendees reconnected, networked, and celebrated the end of summer with complimentary cocktails and hors d’oeuvres.

Houston, TX

On February 18, 2015, STU alumni in Houston enjoyed getting to know each other as well as their city’s history through its charming and unique downtown pubs. The Strolling through Market Square and hearing about the stories behind the bars set in historic Houston buildings, alumni delighted in this fun and casual tour of Houston.

Washington, D.C.

Congressman Mike Fitzpatrick, ’85 (PA-08) hosted a reception for the STU National Capital Region (NCR) Alumni Chapter on Capitol Hill on March 23, 2015. University President Monsignor Casale and Law School Dean Al Garcia, alumni and their guests enjoyed an evening of networking, hors d’oeuvres and remarks from President Casale, Dean Al Garcia, Congresswoman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen and Congresswoman Frederica Wilson of Florida. To learn more about the NCR Alumni Chapter, please contact Lorena Hidalgo, director of Alumni Relations at 305-628-6601 or lhidalgo@stu.edu.

Alumni Speakers Series

Harnessing the Power of Social Media to Get What You Want

On October 22, 2014, STU Alumni, students, faculty, staff and guests attended the “Harnessing the Power of Social Media to Get What You Want” panel discussion. Our distinguished alumni speakers included: Guendy Abraira ’00, Alvarez De La Cruz’11, Diego Sanchez ’13, and Alex Soto ’00. Our moderator was School of Business professor Jose Rocha. The discussion provided insights on how to use social media to increase business, ignite social and political change, build a great brand, and for the job search process. Attendees had the opportunity to ask questions and learn more about the future of social media. To learn more about the Alumni Speaker Series, please contact Lorena Hidalgo, director of Alumni Relations at 305-628-6601 or lhidalgo@stu.edu.

Social Enterprise: Start-Ups, Change Makers, and Solutions

The future of social enterprise was the topic on November 13, 2014 during the Social Enterprise: Start-Ups, Change Makers, and Solutions discussion at STU. Speakers included: Hait Tec board member, Michaela Auguste Saint-Natus; CEO and president of Charity Services Centers, William Burdette, Esq.; director of CREATE Accelerator at Miami Dade College, Wifredo Fernandez; coordinator of the STU Center for Community Engagement, Anthony Vinciguerra; and alumnus and social entrepreneur, Neal Waugh ’83. Panelists also shared their favorite collaboration tools and solutions for startups. The discussion was moderated by Entrepreneur Club president, Tony Ma-modaly and treasurer, Youseline Poteau.

Dining with 12 Bobcats

Alumna Carol Ellis-Cutler ’84 and her husband Bill hosted our first Dining with 12 Bobcats event at their home in Miami, Fl. on November 4, 2014. The seven STU students that participated had the opportunity to learn from Carol and Bill, as well as the other alumni in attendance (John Baldwin, ’83, Pilar Baldwin, ’85, and Lynda Sult) about their experience as students and graduates entering the workforce. Dining with 12 Strangers is a unique program and growing tradition in colleges and universities across North America that brings alumni hosts together with a group of students to enjoy a good meal, have insightful conversations, and have the opportunity to network and find out what life after college is really like. To learn more about Dining with 12 Bobcats or to host an event, contact Lorena Hidalgo, director of Alumni Relations at 305-628-6601 or lhidalgo@stu.edu.

Reunions

Biscayne College Alumni

A delicious lunch and good conversation was on the menu on January 13, 2015, as Ed Walsh, ’71 and his wife Liz, hosted a group of Biscayne College alumni at their home in Jupiter, Fl. Alumni had a wonderful time reconnecting with old friends, some they had not seen in over 45 years, reminiscing about days gone by and learning about the University’s progress. Also present was Coach Stibler, University President Monsignor Casale and Provost Dr. Irma Becerra. If you were not able to make this Biscayne College reunion, we hope to see you at the next one. Visit stu.edu/alumni for the Biscayne College Reunion photo gallery.

International Alumni

International alumni from the 2005-2008 classes revisited their past, learned about changes on campus and explored the University’s progress during an exclusive campus tour and lunch on May 29, 2015. The group, led by Melissa Gumbs, ’06, reconnected with former classmates, professors and staff, and stocked up on STU memorabilia at the Campus Bookstore during their visit. To plan an alumni reunion and campus tour, contact Lorena Hidalgo, director of Alumni Relations at 305-628-6601 or lhidalgo@stu.edu.

Sports Administration Alumni

An STU Sports Administration alumni reception took place on June 17, 2015 at the Orlando Marriott World Center, during the 2015 National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA) Convention in Orlando, Fl. The event brought togetherSpo Ad alumni, faculty and staff for an evening of great food and networking.

Alumni Advisory Council

The STU Alumni Advisory Council announced new officers on June 26, 2015. The council, which functions in an advisory capacity to the Office of Alumni Relations, has three new officers who will begin their one-year terms on July 1st: Tony Lopez, BBA ’02, Chief of Operations at the Town of Miami Lakes, will serve as Chair. Ben Bobillo, BA ’91, MS ’93, Job Developer at ServiceSource, will become Vice Chair. Renae Martinez, BA ’11, MS ’13, will serve as Secretary. STU Alumni Advisory Council members reflect the diversity of St. Thomas University, and play an integral role in furthering the goals and objectives of the University. To learn more about the STU Alumni Advisory Council, contact Lorena Hidalgo, director of Alumni Relations at 305-628-6601 or lhidalgo@stu.edu.

Update your contact information

Did you move, change your phone number or email address? Update your contact information with the Office of Alumni Relations to stay connected. Visit stu.edu/alumni/update or contact us at 305-628-6601.
1968  
Joseph T. Cooney, B.A. Liberal Studies, retired from the University of Pennsylvania after twenty four years working as a human resources consultant. He is currently an adjunct professor teaching Performance Management and Organizational Psychology & Behavior at Cabrini College and at the Rosemont College.

1970  
Rev. Brian M. Flanagan, B.A. History, who has served as pastor of the St. Patrick Parish in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla. for 12 years, retired on July 1, 2015 because of increasing vision problems. Parishioners organized two farewell receptions for Father Flanagan, who is taking some time off to visit family and contemplate new ministry work for the future. Father Flanagan held several leadership roles and served on diocesan committees and boards in the Dioceses of Palm Beach. He was one of the diocese’s most beloved pastors.

Richard E. Murray, B.A. Accounting, who served as president and CEO of the Kennedy Health System from 1992 to 2009, was honored when his official portrait was unveiled and dedicated in the lobby of Kennedy University Hospital in Stratford, N.J. Richard devoted nearly 30 years of his career to Kennedy, leading the healthcare organization through a period of tremendous growth and technological advancement, as a member of the Onondaga County (N.Y.) Board of Advisors.

1971  
Kenneth Manfredi, B.S. History, and his son own a real estate/development company specializing in the construction and sales of luxury homes in Houston. Ken is semi-retired, has been married to Kathy for 44 years, and they have four grandchildren.

1978  
William “Bill” Berger, B.A. Public Administration ’76, M.S. Human Resources ’78, was appointed as a U.S. Marshal for the Middle District of Florida by President Barack Obama. He served as a police chief for 22 years in the City of North Miami Beach and in Palm Bay, FL.

John Mazzola, B.A. Sports Administration, is the general manager for the Eastern Kentucky Expo Center.

1979  
Sylvianne “Lede” Doucette, B.A. History, served ten years in civil service teaching hazardous materials packaging and transportation all over the U.S. and overseas. She served ten years in the U.S. Coast Guard in the Port Security Unit, and was the owner of a company that taught packaging and transportation of hazardous materials all over the world. Sylvianne also served as a North Syracuse, N.Y. volunteer firefighter and as a member of the Onondaga County (N.Y.) Hazardous Materials Team. Sylvianne is now retired, volunteer in her community, and is a member of the VFW, American Legion, Paralyzed Veterans of America and the DAV.

1981  
Charles Elwood, M.S. Sports Administration, is the deputy director of Intercollegiate Athletics at Fordham University.

Nancy Olson, M.S. Sports Administration, is an instructor certified by the U.S. Water Fitness Association at Pine Island Aquatic Center in Davie, Fla.

1982  
Concepcion “Connie” Queralt, B.A., has been promoted to chief financial officer at The Kislak Organization in Miami. Concepcion is a longtime employee of Kislak and has held numerous senior positions within the organization. She also worked for several Kislak affiliates where she was a CFO and a senior vice president.

1983  
Dr. Cedric Alexander, B.A. Sociology, serves as the deputy chief operating officer of public safety in Dekalb County, GA. In this position, he oversees all public safety, police, fire, and emergency management in the third largest county in Georgia. Dr. Alexander holds a doctoral degree in clinical psychology and a master’s degree in marriage and family therapy.

1984  
Carol Ellis-Cutler, B.A. Travel Tourism, is the first vice president at CBRE’s office agency brokerage group in Miami. She focuses on agency and tenant representation, in addition to business development for other teams at CBRE. Carol is the immediate past chairman of the STU President’s Board of Advisors.

Jorge Luis Lopez, Esq., B.A. International Business ’83 and MBA ’84, was honored by United HomeCare, a nonprofit home and community-based care organization in Florida, with the 2014 Claude Pepper Memorial Community Advocacy Award. The award recognizes exceptional contributions to the welfare of elderly and disabled adults in the community. He was also honored with the “Father of the Year” award by the American Diabetes Association. Produced in partnership with the Father’s Day Council, the “Father of the Year” award is given to fathers who demonstrated the ability to balance their personal and professional lives while serving as outstanding role models in their respective communities.

Robert Monica, B.A. Sports Administration, is the operations specialist at Zebra MotionWorks Sports Solutions in Delray Beach, Fla.

1985  
Robert P. Johnson, B.A. Psychology, was presented with his certificate of achievement for successfully completing the Certified Florida Community Association Manager curriculum by the Florida Community Association Professionals (FCAP) in April 2015.

1986  
Ed R. Brown, M.S. Public Management ’86 and B.A. Public Management ’78, is the director for the City of Opa-Locka’s Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) in Florida.

1988  
Ken Elder, M.S. Sports Administration, is the senior director of marketing and strategic partnerships for the College Football Playoff (CFP). James “Jim” Lake, Jr., B.A. Communication Arts, was promoted to national sales manager of Guardian Retirement Solutions at The Guardian Life Insurance Company of America, one of the nation’s largest mutual life insurers and a leading provider of employee benefits.

1989  
Mark McCullers, M.S. Sports Administration, is principal at Mark McCullers LLC in Columbus, OH. He was formerly the president and general manager of the Columbus Crew, a professional soccer club in Ohio, which competes in Major League Soccer (MLS).

1990  
Jorge Barbontin, B.A. Business Management, was named general operations manager of Brickell City Centre in Miami, Fl. by Swire Properties.

1991  
Theresa “Terri” Chenot, M.S. Marriage & Family Therapy, is an associate professor at the Jacksonville University School of Nursing. She has been a full-time faculty member since 2010.

1992  
Madeline Pumariega, B.A. Political Science, was appointed to serve as the next Florida College System (FCS) Chancellor by the Florida Board of Education Commissioner. She is the first woman and the first person of Hispanic descent to hold the job.

Max A. Stemple, B.A. International Business, is the vice president of international operations at ASSA Campania de Seguros in Panama. He was formerly the chief underwriting officer of the Consumer Division of AIG in Brazil.

1993  
Barbara Ferrer, Esq., B.A. Human Services, is a shareholder in GrayRobinson’s Miami, Fl. office and a member of the firm’s Real Estate Practice Group. She was selected for the 2015 Fellows Program of the Leadership Council on Legal Diversity (LCLD).

Vincent “Vinnie” Strumolo, M.S. Marriage & Family Therapy, is the chief executive officer at Addiction Campuses of America in Texas. Vincent developed an integrated and systemic approach to treating trauma and unresolved life issues framework for therapy called Resolution Focused Therapy(RFT).

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1996
Michael P. Gennett, Esq., J.D., is a partner at Akerman Senterfitt’s Healthcare Practice Group in Miami, Fla.

1997
David Sobel, M.B.A. Business Administration, is the senior director of corporate and foundation partnerships at American Red Cross of Greater New York.

1998
Roberto Alcalde, M.B.A. Business Administration, is a program director for Broadband and Fixed Line Services at Lime Caribbean (Cable and Wireless Communications).

Jason Bulger, M.S. Sports Administration, is the head of marketing, sales & corporate partnerships at AS Digital in Melbourne, Australia.

1999
Andres “Andy” Fernandez, Esq., J.D., is a partner at Holland & Knight’s Miami, Fla. office and leader of the firm’s Cuba Action Team. Andres began his legal career as a public defender in Miami-Dade County.

2000
Diana Vizcaino, Esq., B.A. Criminal Justice ’96 and J.D. ’00, was recently appointed by Florida Governor Rick Scott to serve as Miami-Dade County Court Judge. Judge Vizcaino served as an assistant city attorney for the City of Miami since 2008.

2001
Karyl Argamasilla, Esq., J.D., is an attorney for Bilzin Sumberg Baena Price & Axelrod LLP Real Estate Group. Karyl was inducted into the 2014 CREWMark Miami (Commercial Real Estate Women) Board of Directors and served as CREW’s president in 2014.

2002
Patrick G. Brugger, B.A. Criminal Justice, is a partner at Shutts & Bowen LLP in the Business Litigation department in Miami.

Antonio “Tony” Lopez, B.B.A. Sports Administration, is the new chief of operations at the Town of Miami Lakes in Florida. He also serves as the Chair of the STU Alumni Advisory Council.

2003
Christopher Francis, M.B.A. Sports Administration, is a business systems analyst at Cape Bank in Atlantic City, N.J.

2004
Alix J. Desulme, B.A. Organizational Leadership ’03 and M.S. Special Education ’04, was elected to the city council by the residents of North Miami Beach, Fla. in a runoff election on June 2, 2015. Councilman Desulme, an elementary school teacher, will be the youngest member of the city council.

2005
Alexander L. Soto, MBA, is the new vice president of private banking and branch coordinator at International Finance Bank in Miami, Fla.

2006
Rodolfo Llanes, B.A. Organizational Leadership ’06 and M.P.S. Professional Studies ’14, was sworn in as the City of Miami’s 40th Chief of Police on January 18, 2015. Chief Llanes began his career of service to the people of Miami as a fourteen-year-old City of Miami Police Explorer in 1981.

2007
Dr. Danielle Boaz, LL.M. Intercultural Human Rights, has accepted a position in the Department of Africana Studies at UNC-Charlotte. She was previously an assistant professor in the Department of Law, Politics, and Society at Drake University.

Christopher M. Pardo, Esq., J.D., was recently honored as a “Rising Star” in employment litigation defense by Super Lawyers Magazine. Chris relocated to Boston, Mass. in 2009 and has been an attorney at Constangy, Brooks & Smith LLP since.

2008
Jordi De Joseph, M.B.A. Business Administration, is the new vice president of solutions at Inktel Contact Center Solutions in Miami.

2009
Julian Casal, Esq., J.D. ’09 and Alejandra Moreno, Esq., J.D. ’10 celebrated their two year anniversary of opening their firm Casal & Moreno, P.A. Their practice focuses on estate planning, guardianships, probate, corporate work and real estate.

2010
Stephen M. Fox, Jr., Esq., J.D., transitioned from his position with the Eleventh Judicial Circuit of Florida in late October 2014 to accept a position as an associate attorney practicing veteran’s disability law at LaVan & Neidenberg, P.A. in Plantation, Fla.

2012
Fatima Roman, M.S. Special Education, is an ESOL teacher at Dr. Robert B. Ingram Elementary School in Opa-locka, Fla.

Michelle Yong, Esq., J.D., is a consumer compliance officer and CRA officer at the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (ICBC) in New York, N.Y.

2013
Yoelene Francois, M.S. Mental Health Counseling, is currently pursuing an Ed.D. degree at St. Thomas University and is writing her dissertation.

Aaron Gray, Esq., M.B.A. Sports Administration and J.D., is an assistant lacrosse coach for the University of Colorado and a Contract Attorney at Denali Law Firm, LLC.

2014
Tracy Asencio, B.A. Communication Arts, accepted an assistant account executive position at Flowers Communications Group in Chicago, Ill.

Giovanni Mentor, B.A. Criminal Justice, is a program coordinator and scholarship committee member at the National Association of Haitian Professionals in Boston, Mass.
You are invited!

Join us as we celebrate two historic milestones in 2016

70th Anniversary of the founding of Santo Tomas de Villanueva in Havana, Cuba

50th Biscayne College Class of 1966 Reunion

For information on planned events, please contact alumni@stu.edu