175th Anniversary and Beyond: The Board at the Prep

As part of ongoing efforts to increase transparency regarding the school’s operations, our President, Father Chris Devron, SJ, has asked the Board of Trustees to provide semi-annual Vision/Mission Effectiveness Updates to the wider Prep community through Ramview.

As chair of the Board of Trustees, I would like to (1) provide an overview which describes the Board’s composition and approach to serving the Prep, (2) explain the Board’s guiding principles in support of the Mission and Vision of the Prep, and (3) update you on initiatives undertaken by the Board and Prep Administration to make the Vision and the Mission realities.

The Board is responsible for the school’s overall governance. In doing so, it is our duty to develop and implement the long-term Vision for the Prep in direct support of our vibrant Mission. As a clearly focused method to help realize that Vision, we employ a practicable Strategic Plan that is repeatedly reviewed and consistently fine-tuned. Finally, one of the Board’s major tasks is to provide ongoing fiduciary oversight of the Prep’s finances and physical assets.

The Vision for our school is clear: Fordham Preparatory School will be recognized as the premier Catholic, Ignatian-based secondary school for young men in the United States by providing its diverse student body with a deep spiritual foundation, an unparalleled secondary school education grounded in Catholic faith and Ignatian principles, while cultivating important leadership and service skills.

The Mission of the Prep remains unchanged. The core Mission of Fordham Prep is to provide able, motivated young men from diverse socioeconomic strata with an unparalleled secondary school education grounded in Catholic faith and Ignatian principles, while cultivating important leadership and service skills.

The obstacles to achieving the Vision are markedly different from past decades. An increasingly secular society, mounting costs to provide a first-class education and greater competition from charter and private secondary schools are formidable, but surmountable, challenges. Fortunately, we have a Board well suited to face these challenges and deeply committed to Fordham Prep’s Mission and Vision. The Board’s twenty-one volunteer members comprise several generations of ardent alumni, current and former parents, Jesuit educators, and senior administrators from other secondary schools and universities.

Recent Mission and Vision related initiatives by the Board, President and Administration include:

- To address the consolidation and closing of hundreds of Catholic grammar schools, the Prep is reinforcing its Higher Achievement Program (HAP), consolidating our Summer Academy with Regis’s renowned R.E.A.C.H. program (Recruiting Excellence in Academics for Catholic High Schools) and creating relationships with high-performing charter grammar schools. These new avenues are introducing the Prep to qualified applicants who may have otherwise been overlooked. The Prep will continue to cultivate its existing strong relationships with more traditional feeder schools.

- Publication of a first-ever annual Report on Endowment debuted in 2014. The 2015 Report on Endowment was recently completed. The Board has been working with Prep administrators to grow the Endowment organically as well as through new alumni engagement efforts. The Board recently approved the largest tuition assistance disbursement in Prep history – $3,500,000. This will allow the Prep to continue its support of middle class and lower income families.

- The Board has aligned efforts with the Prep’s Office of Engagement, Development and Communications to encourage Prep Alumni, when donating to colleges and universities, to help continue the Prep’s mission by designating/prioritizing those donations to deserving Prep graduates with college financial needs.

- To avoid the risk of financing shortfalls, the Board follows a strict financial discipline in approving and funding facility projects. The new Commons, entranceway, athletic field and gymnasium refurbishments were all more than 90% funded before these projects were begun. Recent changes are already benefitting our students and faculty.

- The Prep is participating in numerous Jesuit High School collaborative initiatives. One of the most exciting involves partnering with The Hyde Center for Global Education to gain unparalleled access to primarily Jesuit High Schools around the world. At a time when globalization is driving dramatic change in every profession, our Prep students will better appreciate other cultures and opportunities available to them.

- The Administration and Board have made a conscious effort to increase opportunities for faculty, staff and alumni to better appreciate and experience the Spiritual Exercises developed by St. Ignatius Loyola. A dozen Prep faculty and staff, as guests of the larger Jesuit Community, recently returned from a week-long pilgrimage to Ignatian sites in Spain. During this time they reflected on the Mission of the Prep with colleagues from other Jesuit secondary schools.

- The Prep recently completed a successful accreditation process by NYSAIS (New York State Association of Independent Schools). The NYSAIS Committee complimented our faculty, administration and Board for their commitment to the Prep’s Mission and comprehensive Vision.

(Continued on page 2)
Fordham Prep Begins Multi-Year Renovation

By Jerry Karr ’68

As Fordham Prep approaches its 175th anniversary the school has begun a major facilities program to deliver a learning environment that honors its history and looks ahead to educational excellence for decades to come.

The steady improvement of the Prep’s building and campus is about to become much more dramatic. Work began this summer on the first phase of a program to renew some of the most cherished and recognizable parts of the school. The Commons will be fitted with new finishes, dramatic lighting, and a more-efficient seating arrangement. The Prep Chapel will be relocated to a dramatic new space on the third floor, away from the busy—and occasionally noisy—south entry.

A generously-proportioned lobby will be built in the area now occupied by the Chapel and the main entrance. Later phases will renovate classroom space on all floors of the east wing of the building, renew the administrative area and make improvements to the parking areas.

The Commons ceiling is now in a grid pattern with striking curved panels in each segment of the grid. Energy-efficient lighting in the curved panels brighten the space, and lighting controls can change the mood to a subdued glow for evening events. Behind the scenes, an obsolete and inefficient heating and cooling system has been replaced by highly efficient new equipment.

In the new lobby, the Prep’s history will be on display, with artifacts and documents in museum cases for visitors and students to enjoy. The lobby will have a much-needed seating area with large-scale video screens for current Prep events and other programming. The orientation facing the University campus always appeared to be the main entrance to the school, but the low ceiling and dark doorways on either side of the Chapel made the entry experience to the Prep an uninspiring arrival at a narrow brick corridor. With the creation of a new entrance, a visitor entering the Prep will enter a gracious lobby and be greeted at a reception desk. Improved building security and monitoring of visitors will be an important benefit of the change.

A large part of the wall between the Commons and the lobby will be a sliding glass partition open to both spaces to create a more flexible and more welcoming space for special events.

Alumni who remember Hughes Hall as the Prep building think of the current structure as a new building. Opened in September 1972, it is not new by any stretch of imagination. Like all things, school buildings have a natural life cycle. Fordham Prep has been a good steward of its physical plant, maintaining and making incremental improvements as necessary, but there is now a pressing need for renewal. Beyond simple obsolescence and wear of the building fabric and systems, the rapid and urgent changes in the educational environment drive the need for changes to the physical plant.

A renewed emphasis on the sciences, the initiation of the 1 to 1 computer program, the incredible availability of information online and new interactive teaching methods all contribute to shaping a new model for the Prep building. A school building is no longer a box full of equal-sized classrooms. At its best, the school facility becomes part of the educational experience itself. And that experience changes at a pace like never before.

This initiative began in 2008 with a detailed Needs Assessment by veteran educational facility designers Ernest Harris Architects and CFS Engineering. With input from the school administration and faculty, the design professionals analyzed the physical plant of the school, identified areas for improvement and began the process of creating a vision for the building’s future. In the past eighteen months, the team focused on the most-needed improvements to the fabric of the school, and produced a design that could be implemented in phases, as school operations and funding availability allow.

The Prep’s response to a rapidly evolving educational environment is to embrace continuous renewal as the cornerstone of its long-term facilities program. The driving principle is that there must be an ongoing commitment to provide a learning environment that encourages excellence in every Prep student.

In many ways, the Prep building is a home to every graduate. It is here that the serious business of college preparatory learning takes place. It is also where shy freshmen evolve into confident graduating young men. It is, therefore, a worthy goal to make Fordham Prep’s physical presence a place that is the pride of every member of the Prep family. All who have been involved in the Commons and lobby projects have been focused on one thing: Creating the best environment possible for fulfilling the mission of Fordham Prep.

Jerry Karr ’68 served with great distinction for 7 years on the Fordham Prep Board of Trustees. Prep Trustees normally serve two, 3-year terms, but due to Jerry’s commitment and his expertise in architecture and construction, he was asked to serve an extra year to help guide and advise the Prep as plans for a major update of the facilities of Shea Hall began to take shape. Jerry served as a member of the Facilities Committee of the board throughout his entire 7 years. His service coincided with the two biggest facilities initiatives undertaken at Shea Hall: the addition of the fourth floor and the new updates that will be undertaken as part of the Prep’s 175th anniversary.

The Board at the Prep (continued from page 1)

• While competition among top-tier high schools for outstanding educational professionals has been steadily increasing, the Prep has been fortunate to recruit recognized specialists to fill the roles of Chief Financial Officer, VP of Engagement, Development & Communications, and new Directors of Admissions and Athletics.

The Prep’s Strategic Plan will build upon the successes referenced above, as well as outline a detailed set of newly prioritized goals, objectives, action steps and measurements (budgets, costs and benefits) necessary to achieve the Vision. The Strategic Plan is currently in a developmental stage, awaiting further review by faculty and Board members. Once these reviews are completed, the Board will make the Strategic Plan available to the wider Prep community.

My colleagues and I take this opportunity to recognize and thank our faculty, administration, alumni, parents and wider Prep community for the part they have played and continue to play in Fordham Prep’s first 175 years of evolution. We look forward to assisting Fordham Prep in the pursuit of the great opportunities that lie ahead.
As we reflect on the 2014-2015 school year, I realize that the Prep has accomplished a great deal in one year. We survived a record winter with early departures, delayed openings and school closings – to say nothing of the temperatures. We successfully went through the NYSAIS accreditation process which required an intense amount of work and labor from many on the faculty and staff, as well as many parents who played a vital role. We continued to improve the 1 to 1 computing experience. We’ve begun to explore how we can leverage the Jesuit Global network to the benefit of our students. We have added a full-time Admissions Director and a full-time Athletics Director.

The end of this past school year also marked the conclusion of Bob Gomprecht’s service to Fordham Prep. Bob served us with distinction during forty-two years, as teacher, department chair, Registrar, Assistant Headmaster, and Principal. There is no aspect of the Fordham Prep community life in which he has not been involved, or helped to improve. He has been an enthusiastic sports fan, winning basketball coach, dance and trip chaperone, moderator of student government, retreat participant, leader of the TRB, and unofficial landscaper. He has recruited an extraordinary faculty—a mission-driven group of educators concerned to communicate cura personalis in and out of the classroom.

Bob enhanced the academic standards and culture through ongoing comprehensive curriculum review; implemented the 1 to 1 computing program; increased the number of honors and AP course offerings; introduced Arabic and Mandarin Chinese as language options; and created and implemented a faculty development plan. He has led the faculty through a Middle States and NYSAIS accreditation, a Province sponsorship agreement, and a refinement of the school’s mission statement.

One of Bob’s greatest accomplishments during his tenure as principal has been his commitment to and support of the infrastructure of several programs: guidance & counseling, ministry, service, and athletics. These programs enhanced and strengthened the academic program, fostered cura personalis, and provided the momentum for a mission-driven school committed to faith, scholarship, and service. Bob has been known at Fordham Prep as a leader who cares about people. His commitment as an educator is much more than a career; it is a vocation: a calling to accompany others, listen to their joys and concerns and offer them support and encouragement.

Vocations like Bob’s do not drop out of the sky: they are nurtured and encouraged by loving parents. When asked about his family’s history at the Prep, Bob’s answer usually centers on his father, Dr. Robert F. Gomprecht ’41. Not only was Dr. Gomprecht a blessing to his son; his legacy of service and care was also gift to so many who were blessed to be counted among his patients. It is therefore most fitting that Bob will return to Fordham Prep on November 20, 2016, when we induct his father, Robert F. Gomprecht ’41, into our Hall of Honor.

On behalf of the entire Fordham Prep community I want to thank Bob for his commitment to the Prep and his dedication to the Prep Mission while helping so many students become men for others. Bob helped build a sound Ignatian foundation necessary for the exciting initiatives that will further institutionalize our mission and vision.

As we look to the future, I commit to do whatever I can to bring to the principal’s office another outstanding educator and visionary leader who will help us continue to solidify our place as one of the nation’s premier Jesuit secondary schools.

2015 Wall Street Forum

The genesis of this year’s Wall Street Forum arose from a conversation between Mario Gabelli ’61 and Fr. Devron in the summer of 2014. Mario and Carl Ichan suggested that Fordham Prep invite Carl’s wife Gail to headline the 2015 Wall Street Forum.

The Icahn name needs no introduction in the world of Wall Street. However, it is also making an impact in urban education. The Icahn Charter School Network operates seven high-performing grammar schools in the Bronx. Students from these schools have participated in Fordham Prep’s Summer Academy, HAP and have enrolled at the Prep. Gail Icahn serves as the chair of the Icahn Charter School Network Board. It was Gail’s and Fr. Devron’s idea to structure the Wall Street Forum as a conversation and to include Dr. Jeffrey Litt, the Icahn Charter School Superintendent, who is a nationally-recognized leader in the field of urban education, and Julie Goodyear, the executive director of the Foundation for a Greater Opportunity. It was a fascinating conversation!
Principal’s Report

Brian Carney
Principal

On June 30th of this year, after 21 years of extraordinary leadership, Robert Gomprecht ‘65 stepped down as Principal of Fordham Preparatory School to become the President of Albertus Magnus High School in Rockland County. The thoughts and prayers of the Prep community are with him as he begins this new endeavor.

I was asked to serve as the Interim Principal for the 2015-16 academic year and assumed that role on July 1st. It is an honor to serve the Prep community in this capacity. I feel privileged, in partnership with you, to ensure in the coming year that a spirit of cura personalis (care for the individual) and magis (always striving for the greater)—both hallmarks of a Jesuit education—continue to be at the heart of the Prep experience for our students, faculty, staff, parents and alumni.

I am committed to ensuring that the Prep continues to flourish this year. The recommendations from our recently completed NYSAIS (New York State Association of Independent Schools) accreditation process provide us with an invaluable roadmap for the near future. I will work closely with our faculty, staff, administrative team and Board of Trustees to provide the support necessary for the process of discerning how and when to best implement the NYSAIS recommendations.

One of my priorities in the coming year will be to help facilitate the growth of our 1 to 1 computer program, which was launched successfully last year. I will work with our technology team and Assistant Principals to implement robust professional development opportunities for our faculty as well as a comprehensive plan for the use of technology in enhancing instruction and student learning in the coming years.

Other priorities include: ensuring a strong enrollment plan for the class of 2020; working with department chairpersons to make sure they have the resources necessary to fashion a curriculum and academic experience worthy of the talents and needs of our students; supporting the continued growth of our outstanding programs in Campus Ministry, Christian Service, Guidance, athletics and extracurricular activities; and helping to nurture new initiatives for adult Ignatian formation and global networking with Jesuit schools. I am especially eager to assist Brad Sertom ‘95 (our new Director of Admissions) and Anthony Kurtin (our new Director of Athletics) as they establish their leadership in these two important areas of the Prep’s mission.

Finally, I am committed to regular and timely communication with all members of the Prep community. In addition to sharing updates, soliciting input and working with you to develop shared priorities and goals, I welcome your questions, concerns and observations about any aspect of life at the Prep.

Thank you to the many people who have and who will continue to make this a smooth transition. I am indebted already to the Prep’s administrative team and staff for their great help in orienting me to my new duties.

I move forward confidently into this new role and look forward to collaborating with the entire Prep community. May God bless you and your families in these remaining weeks of the summer.

Stretching Our Wings Beyond the Rose Hill Campus

By David Gelpi, PhD

Fordham Prep is thrilled to announce the establishment of a new collaborative partnership with the Hyde Center at Boston College High School. The Hyde Center was established in 2012 through a generous gift from BC High alumnus Lawrence Hyde to supplement and enhance student classroom education with a globally based learning experience.

As Jesuit educators, we have become increasingly aware over the past few years that students graduating from our schools must be ready, in the short term, for challenging courses of study in college, but also in the long term for a world that is constantly changing and ever more diverse and international in scope. Vivien Stewart, of the Asia Society, in an address given to international Jesuit educators, spoke of the challenges that our students will face when they leave our schools and the skills they will need to succeed. When considering the world they will live in, Stewart pointed out, "In the 21st century, your students may be selling to the world; buying from the world; working for international companies; managing employees from other countries and cultures; competing with people on the other side of the world for jobs and markets; cooperating with people all over the world in joint ventures and global work teams; collaborating to solve international problems such as diseases, environmental problems or conflicts across borders. Do they have the knowledge and skills to be ready? Will they be globally competent? What does it mean to be globally competent? According to a task force of the Council of Chief State School Officers, Stewart pointed out, global competence is "the capacity to employ knowledge and skills effectively to understand and participate in an increasingly complex, diverse, and interconnected world."

Fordham Prep will take students out into the world to support their classroom learning to develop their global competence. In partnership with BC High, Fordham Prep is engaged in discussions with St. Ignatius Riverview (Australia) to develop a student and possibly a teacher exchange to take place in the 2016-2017 school year. The partnership with BC High allows Prep boys to participate in international exchanges beginning Spring and Summer 2016 to Dublin and Tanzania.

These are exciting times for Fordham Prep. I look forward to working with the Hyde Center as Fordham Prep stretches its wings beyond the Rose Hill Campus.
Principal Search

This summer marks several transitions at Fordham Prep. Easily the most significant is the change in the principal's office.

On June 30th, Bob Gomprecht ’65 completed his service as Fordham Prep principal and Brian Carney has assumed this role for the interim year of 2015-16. During the month leading up to Bob’s departure, he and Brian worked together on a principal transition plan.

Meanwhile, Fr. Devron began preparations for Fordham Prep’s first-ever national search for its next principal, who he anticipates will assume office on July 1, 2016.

Perhaps the most important responsibility of a Jesuit high school president is to cultivate strong, accountable and caring leadership among the administration. This leadership must start with the principal, the chief academic officer of the school, the leader of the faculty, the most visible school spokesperson to students and parents and the individual most dedicated specifically to establishing standards and outcomes of excellence, true to our tradition and mission in Jesuit secondary education.

Fr. Devron interviewed and invited several accomplished and committed educators, Jesuits, parents, faculty and alumni to serve as members of the Principal Search Committee (see box on right). Chaired by Rev. Vincent Biagi, SJ, this team of 9 will partner with Fr. Devron to assess the qualities most desired and needed in the Prep’s new principal at this time in its history. In order to identify the most appropriate candidates for the Prep, Fr. Devron and the committee will survey students, faculty and parents.

Fordham Prep is blessed that Fr. Biagi will lead this effort. Serving as the Provincial’s Assistant for Secondary Education of the UNE Province, Fr. Biagi helps to ensure that the 10 Jesuit secondary schools in New England, New York and New Jersey embody their Ignatian mission of academic excellence, faith, cura personalis, a commitment to justice and service to the Church and society. As a recognized leader on the national stage of Jesuit education, Fr. Biagi has a unique knowledge of emerging and energetic leaders—the next generation of principals—at the 62 Jesuit secondary schools in the United States. The Prep’s location in metropolitan New York City—an area and market known for its outstanding network of private and independent schools—also serves as a resource. Fr. Devron anticipates that our search will attract high potential candidates. Certainly we can expect that whoever emerges from this search will be an educational visionary, focused on a mission-driven curriculum, capable of recruiting, retaining and nurturing an outstanding faculty.

Fr. Biagi is enthusiastic and hopeful about the committee’s work in the weeks and months ahead: “With its reputation for academic excellence, a strong faculty and its accomplished alumni, FP is well-positioned to take the next steps that will ensure its future as an excellent Jesuit school. A transition in leadership provides an important opportunity for a Jesuit school to reflect on how it has grown over the years, to articulate its strengths and the challenges facing it, and to be bold and creative in strategizing how best to continue to foster a real passion for excellence. I am excited to be part of the committee that will assist the Prep in identifying its next outstanding Ignatian and educational leader!”

Fordham Prep just completed its 10 year accreditation review which produced several recommendations for its future success and growth. Together with the Prep’s emerging Strategic Plan, the review will be an invaluable resource for the new principal to chart a path of continuous improvement and excellence in every area of the Prep’s mission.

PRINCIPAL SEARCH COMMITTEE

Vin Biagi, SJ (Chairman)
Provincial Assistant for Secondary Ed., UNE Province, Society of Jesus

Pierre Chavez
Faculty, Science, 8 year tenure

Jack Foley ’63
Faculty, Classical Languages, 49 year tenure

Paul Homer
Faculty, Religious Studies; Director of Christian Service Program, 29 year tenure

Patricia Morris, PhD
Faculty, Modern Languages; Director, Financial Aid Program; 30 year tenure

John Verlezza ’94
Faculty; Chairman, Mathematics 18 year tenure

Cassandra Hyacinthe, EdD
Past Trustee; parent of 2 alumni; public high school administrator

Paul Brusco ’82
Trustee; parent of current student

Msgr. Thomas Petrillo, EdD
Trustee; Pastor, Sts. John & Paul (Larchmont, NY); former Catholic h.s. administrator

Rev. Peter K. Arabia, SJ
Reflection Garden Dedication

On Saturday, May 30, 2015, the family, friends and classmates of Rev. Peter K. Arabia, SJ ’76 came to the Prep for the dedication of the Rev. Peter K. Arabia, SJ Memorial Reflection Garden. The garden, located in the front of Shea Hall, will be a place for all members of the Prep community to go for a prayerful time.

The ceremony started with a Mass in the Hall of Honor concelebrated by Father Devron and Peter’s Jesuit classmate and former Prep faculty member, Father Thomas Benz, SJ. In his homily, Father Benz spoke of Peter’s devotion to Mary and how appropriate it was the Prep’s statue of Mary is part of a place dedicated to Peter’s memory. The Mass ended in the reflection garden with the dedication.

At the lunch that followed, Brian Arabia ’73 paid tribute to his brother and thanked the people who worked hard to make the Rev. Peter K. Arabia, SJ Memorial Reflection Garden a reality.
The Slate of inductees for the
2015 Hall of Honor Induction Dinner

Thank you to the Hall of Honor 2015 Hall of Honor Nominating Committee of Chairman Jack Geraghty ’60, Scott Alberi ’95, Howie Cook ’72, Ron DeCastro ’83, Lou DiGiorno ’88, Chris Healy ’85, Llewellyn Hyacinthe ’80, Mike Stanton ’79 for their work on this project.

The 2015 Hall of Honor Induction Dinner
Friday, November 20, 2015
The Garden Terrace Room at The New York Botanical Garden.

Invitations will be mailed in early October.

LIVING INDUCTEES

Josephine “Josie” Abplanalp
Prep Trustee, Parent of a Prep Graduate
Former trustee Josephine Abplanalp was an extraordinarily involved member of the Prep community during the separation from the University and the move from Hughes Hall. It is not an exaggeration to say that without the support of Josephine and her husband, Robert Abplanalp ’39, the Prep would have closed its doors forever during those tumultuous years. She is the mother of a graduate, John, Class of 1975.

James E. Buckman, Class of 1962
Prep Trustee
Jim Buckman ’62 is currently the Lead Director at Wyndham Worldwide. He has extensive experience in the hospitality industry. Jim has always answered the call when the Prep or one of his classmates needed assistance. Jim has been generous with his time and resources having served on the Board of Trustees and started the Class of 1962 Class Scholarship.

Hon. Joseph J. DioGuardi
Class of 1958
Joseph DioGuardi has been a loyal alumnus. Joe, a former Congressman from Westchester, is of Albanian and Italian descent, and has worked hard on the causes of helping and improving the lives of the Albanian people as well as the Albanian-American community. Joe’s business background is in accounting and he has written books that show possible ways for the United States to watch the bottom line.

Rev. Nicholas D. Lombardi, SJ
Class of 1961, Prep Faculty
Nicholas Lombardi entered the Society of Jesus shortly after his Prep graduation. His first assignment was as a classics teacher at the Prep. He also served as moderator of several clubs, and started, along with his fellow Jesuits, the Emmaus and Ad Amorem Programs at the Prep. It was the work of integrating computers into the learning process that put Fr. Lombardi and Fr. Russell Sloun, SJ into the national spotlight. Nick is currently the pastor of St. Anthony’s, the Jesuit parish in Oceanside, New York.

William J. Mulrow
Class of 1974, Prep Trustee
Bill Mulrow has been successful in both the worlds of politics and business. A former Chairman of the Board of Trustees, he is a graduate of Harvard’s Kennedy School and is currently Governor Andrew Cuomo’s Chief of Staff. He has been a tireless and generous supporter of the Prep. He has received many civic and community awards including the Roy Wilkins Humanitarian Award of the NAACP and the Humanitarian Award of the North American Board of Rabbis.

Nicholas J. Visconti, Lt. Col.
Class of 1988
Nicholas Visconti entered the Marines in 1993 after his graduation from college. He left the Marines in 1996 and began a career in pharmaceutical sales. After the events of September 11, 2001, Nick returned to the Marines and served his country with distinction in Afghanistan and Iraq. In Iraq, he received many commendations for his leadership.
Hon. Carlos de Zaldo y Beurmann
Class of 1877
Carlos de Zaldo y Beurmann was the co-founder of the first Cuban Baseball League. Later, he became Cuba’s Secretary of State.

J. Ignatius Coveney
(Fordham University Class of 1906)
Although technically not a Prep graduate, teacher, trustee or even benefactor, Ignatius Coveney is the creator of a tradition that is dear to all Prep students and alumni to this day: he wrote *The Ram*, the school fight song while a student at Fordham University.

Rev. Matthew Flood, SJ
Prep Faculty
Fr. Flood taught for more than 40 years at the Prep. He was a versatile man who taught religion, German and Classics, served as moderator of band, and also spent time serving in the Prep Library. He also had a distinguished career as a singer in many choirs.

Peter S. Fornatale
Class of 1963
Pete Fornatale was one of New York’s premiere rock and roll disc jockeys who made a name for himself when he worked at WNEW-FM, WXRK-FM and WFUV-FM.

Robert F. Gomprecht, MD
Class of 1941
Dr. Gomprecht was a true Man for Others who was generous with his time and sharing of skills so that others could learn correct medical procedures. Dr. Gomprecht was also the house doctor for the Jesuits of Fordham.

Most Rev. Walter P. Kellenberg
Class of 1919
Bishop Kellenberg was the founding bishop of the Rockville Center, NY Diocese. Bishop Kellenberg High School is named for him.

Rev. Edward F. Maloney, SJ
Prep President
Fr. Maloney served as the President of Fordham Prep from January, 1980 through August, 1996. Father brought a sense of calm to the Prep after the tumultuous ‘Burn the Mortgage’ period. He oversaw the Sesquicentennial Campaign that added the Leonard Theatre, Gabelli Hall of Honor, Intramural Gym and Mentor’s Court to the Prep’s physical plant.

Colman Mockler
Class of 1947
Colman Mockler attended Harvard after graduating from the Prep. He became Chairman of the Board of the Gillette Company and a well-respected business author.

William J. Reidy
Class of 1959
Parent of Two Prep Graduates
Bill Reidy ‘59, son of Maurice Reidy ’27, father of Maurice “Tim” Reidy ’93, and Gavin Reidy ’10 was a legendary New York restaurateur, and one of the founders of New York’s air rights sales. He contracted polio as a child just before the vaccine was discovered, and attended the Prep in a wheelchair. (Think about the stairs in the old building.) He served on the Archdiocesan Synod in 1988, and was featured in *The New York Times* front page for one week during John Paul II’s US visit for a segment entitled, *A Faith Proudly Lived*. He passed away just prior to his 50th Prep reunion.

Rev. Russell J. Sloun
SJ Prep Faculty and Prep Assistant Headmaster
Fr. Sloun was a member of the Prep faculty from 1974 – 1988. During his tenure, he served as a teacher in the Classics Department and a teacher and chair in the Modern Languages Department. He also served as Assistant Headmaster. Fr. Sloun, along with fellow inductee Fr. Nicholas Lombardi ’61, integrated technology into the classroom. Their work was featured in many national educational and technological publications in the mid-1980s. Fr. Sloun was a member of the team of Jesuits who brought the Emmaus and Ad Amorem retreats to the Prep. Father left the Prep at the end of the 1988 school year to become the Assistant Headmaster at Xavier High School.
Reflections of a First Time Pilgrim
By Teresa Di Vita-Geremia
Modern Languages Department Member

This past June, the province sponsored a week long Ignatian Pilgrimage to Northern Spain to celebrate the creation of the new UNE Province. On June 16, a contingent of nearly 40 administrators, faculty members, and staff hailing from Jesuit schools throughout the Northeast (Fordham Prep with the largest representation - 12 strong) converged in Bilbao ready to get their pilgrimage on.

We all went with our own expectations, filled with excitement, enthusiasm and a fair amount of apprehension, as well. A pilgrimage?? Me? What exactly happens on a pilgrimage? Were we going to be cloistered in prayer all day? Would faculty members Craig Smith and Jen Bell be forced to trade in their newly purchased Louis Vuitton accessories for more modest Coach ones? Would faculty member Patty Simeone have to give her birthday cake to those less fortunate? Who knew?! Fortunately, all of our trepidation was assuaged as soon as we began our journey. We had come to walk in the steps of St. Ignatius—El Camino Ignacio—to see first hand what he saw and experienced, incredible sights, and having gastronomical epiphanies daily.

In a recent conversation, a colleague asked, “How was Spain, Teresa?”

“Amazing,” I said.

“What made it amazing?” he replied.

Good question. What made it amazing? Everything, I thought. The people, the country, the food, and the history were all remarkable. But what was it that moved my fellow pilgrims and me so profoundly? I realized it was quite simple. St. Ignatius came alive. Obviously he was not resurrected (that would have been quite the pilgrimage!), but he was revived in a clear and appreciable way. Whether it was celebrating Mass in the Conversion Chapel, visiting the Black Madonna in Montserrat where he symbolically laid down his sword, walking through the Magdalena Hospital where he served the sick and marginalized, visiting the Church of St. Sebastian where he was baptized, or standing in the cave at Manresa where St. Ignatius wrote what later became the Spiritual Exercises, he was ever-present emotional. His life, his inner struggles, his sacrifice, his faith and his mission were manifest and unmistakable. It was plain and sure. It was the essence of our shared vocation.
Bradley Serton has been named Fordham Prep's next Director of Admissions

Bradley Serton ’95 has been named Fordham Prep’s next Director of Admissions. After a thorough search which included many qualified candidates, the committee comprised of Anthony DiFato ’99, Eavan O’Driscoll P ’14, Jack Foley ’63, Patricia Lee, Patricia Morris, Paul Homer, Randy Pedro, Russell Baker, Teresa DiVita-Geremia, and Trish Charles P ’15 ’19 recommended Brad to Principal Bob Gomprecht ’65.

Brad has a passion for and nuanced understanding of Jesuit secondary education as well as experience cultivating the type of relationships that will benefit our admissions program.

During his time at the Prep, Brad participated in a wide variety of activities including baseball, wrestling, and serving as an Emmaus leader. He also performed in the first ever Leonard Theater musical, Guys and Dolls. He attended Trinity College in Hartford, CT, where he also played baseball and majored in Classics, which was an interest fostered by teachers like Fr. Lombardi ’61, Mr. Foley ’63, and Mr. Lauber ’79.

More recently, Brad served as Assistant Dean of Students and Athletic Director at Regis High School (New York). There, he coached golf and baseball at various times and spent time in the classroom teaching Latin. He left Regis for an opportunity in sports development helping to develop local baseball and softball players, clubs, and infrastructure and later worked as Director of High School Outreach for MSG Varsity. In 2013, he returned to Regis as the Dean of Students. He currently lives in Greenwich, CT, with his wife Carolin, and their twin daughters Grace and Charlotte.

By Brian Carney

Ministry & Ignatian Formation

This year at the Prep, we expanded our faith and service programming for our adult community in order to better share the Ignatian vision and spirituality at the heart of our mission. New programs included POTS Family Service Sundays, Faith on Tap, Igniting Our Values Lenten Prayer, Ignatian Book groups, and How Pope Francis is Changing the Church. These programs offered opportunities for our faculty and staff, parents, and alumni to build community, share faith, and serve our brothers and sisters in need. Our Engagement Office connected the community to more online Ignatian spirituality resources through our website, Facebook and Twitter posts, and our new monthly Pilgrim’s Post. We also collaborated with the Prep’s Guidance Department and Fathers’ and Mothers’ Clubs to connect Ignatian spirituality with existing events and presentations for parents.

Perhaps one of the highlights of the year was our How Pope Francis is Changing the Church event on Sunday, March 1st. An unexpected snow storm that day did not deter 450 people from gathering in the Prep’s Leonard Theatre for a conversation between renowned author and Editor at Large of America, Fr. James Martin, SJ, British author, editor, and internet blogger, Andrew Sullivan, and Associate Professor of Religious Studies at Manhattan College, Natalia Imperatori-Lee, Maurice Timothy Reidy, Prep Class of 1993 and Executive Editor of America, moderated the conversation. The program was recorded and posted on the Prep’s YouTube channel and to date has received over 13,000 viewings.

Comments from participants after the event included the following: “On so many levels, the dialogue was successful in strengthening and renewing our Catholic faith.”

In Brad’s own words:

Coming home to the Prep has always been a dream of mine. During every year of the 1990s there was at least one Serton enrolled at the school including 1993-1994 when Evan (’94), Richard (’97), and I were there at the same time. Douglas graduated in 2000. The Prep has made me the person I am today, as it has for thousands of alums. My goal as Director of Admissions is to build upon the traditions of the past and help future generations find their way to the Prep. Jesuit education is transformative. I look forward to helping all who are anxious for an opportunity to join our community rooted in faith, scholar, and service to do so.

Brianne & Mike Franchi ’96, Conan Dolce ’96, Jared Davin ’97 at POTS Sunday March 15

“What a delightful and informative program. It was excellent. I heard the same comment from all of us who were invited to attend.”

“I really enjoyed this presentation. It was incredibly informative, uplifting, spiritual and at times, very entertaining! Much of what was spoken about will stay with me.”

All of us at the Prep were excited to see the enthusiasm for this and the other new programs this year. We look forward to the growth of these programs over the next several years and are grateful to Mr. Michael Kravatz and Mr. Craig Smith from our Campus Ministry Department who will help to facilitate these programs in the coming year. St. Ignatius’ vision of schools as instruments of transformation is alive and well not only in the lives of the students at the Prep but also in our adult community.

Ramview | Summer 2015
The Class of 2015

On Wednesday, May 27, 2015, the Class of 2015 joined the ranks of Prep Alumni as they received their diplomas at their Commencement Exercises in the Fordham University Gymnasium.

In his address, Senior Speaker for the Graduates Anshuman Konuru reminded his classmates of how much they have achieved during their four years at Rose Hill.

Dr. Albert Sackey '94 spoke to the graduates about how the Prep played an important part in his life. Albert is the Principal at the Nathan Hale Middle School in Norwalk, CT.

The College Destination Summary

By Maura Brennan
Director of College Counseling

Fordham Preparatory School’s Class of 2015 is a talented group of students who have enjoyed a great deal of success both inside and outside of the classroom. The class boasts seven National Merit Commended students, two National Hispanic Recognition Program Scholars and three National Achievement Outstanding Participants.

By the end of their junior year, one student was named a National AP Scholar, three students had been named AP Scholars with Distinction, eight earned AP Scholar with Honor, and thirty-one students were AP Scholars. Collectively, the Class of 2015 found great success on college entrance exams: Their mean score of 1813 is the strongest Fordham Prep performance on the 3-part SAT since its inception.

Students in the Class of 2015 were adventuresome in their application patterns, filing 2,216 applications to 298 different colleges and universities across the United States, Canada and Europe. The greatest change in application patterns this year was the number of students choosing to submit an application early in senior year: Nearly 85% of the class filed at least one application by November 15. In the recent past, typically 60% of each class has filed applications under an early plan. Seniors have reported acceptances to 224 different institutions. In the fall of 2015, 98.35% of graduates are planning to attend 99 different four-year colleges and universities in 27 different states and Canada.

Fordham Prep seniors are encouraged to matriculate at an institution that they feel will be the best academic, social and financial fit. To that end, students have selected to attend a wide variety of schools ranging from small liberal arts institutions to large state research universities. More than 62% of the class has chosen to attend “Most Competitive” and “Highly Competitive” schools. Eight students will enroll at Ivy League institutions. The pull towards Catholic education is strong and nearly 45% of the class will be attending a Jesuit or other Catholic institution. There will be Prep alumni in the freshman classes at 10 different Jesuit schools. Fordham University is again the number one choice: 19 students will enroll in the fall. Georgetown and NYU are tied for second with 10 students planning to enroll at each school, followed by Manhattan, Providence, Loyola MD and Holy Cross.

A survey of the senior class attempted to uncover the primary reasons for their college decision. Of the 218 respondents, 64% indicated that Academic Reputation or Major was a key factor, while 30% cited Cost/Financial Aid. More than 15% of the class will enter undecided.

For the fourth consecutive year, business is the most popular intended major; engineering or computer science is the second most popular first year path. It is hoped that the Fordham Prep education has prepared them well for their chosen course of study.
College Destination Summary – Class of 2015

Adelphi University
Alfred University
American University
Arizona State University
Auburn University
Bard College
Baruch College of the CUNY
Bates College
Bellarmine University
Bentley University
Binghamton University
Boston College
Boston University
Brandeis University
Brooklyn College of the CUNY
Bucknell University
Buffalo State College of SUNY
Canisius College
City College of New York CUNY
Clark University
Clarkson University
Clemson University
Coastal Carolina University
Colby College
Colgate University
College of Charleston
College of Mount Saint Vincent
College of the Holy Cross
College of William and Mary
Columbia University
Columbus College of Art and Design
Connecticut College
Cornell University
Creighton University
Dartmouth College
Dickinson College
Drew University
Drexel University
Duquesne University
Elon University
Emerson College
Emmanuel College
Emory University
Emory University - Oxford College
Eugene Lang College The New School for Liberal Arts
Fairfield University
Fairleigh Dickinson University
Florida Atlantic University
Florida State University
Fordham University
Franklin and Marshall College
George Mason University
Georgetown University
George Washington University
Georgia Institute of Technology
Gettysburg College
Gonzaga University
Gordon College
Goucher College
Hartwick College
Haverford College
High Point University
Hobart and William Smith Colleges
Hofstra University
Howard University
Hunter College of the CUNY
Indiana University at Bloomington
Iona College
Ithaca College
James Madison University
Johns Hopkins University
La Salle University
Le Moyne College
Lehigh University
 Loyola Marymount University
 Loyola University Chicago
 Loyola University Maryland
 Loyola University New Orleans
 Macaulay Honors College at CUNY
 Manhattan College
 Manhattanville College
 Marist College
 Marquette University
 Marymount Manhattan College
 McGill University
 Merrimack College
 Miami University, Oxford
 Michigan State University
 Monmouth University
 Morgan State University
 Mount Saint Mary College
 Mount Saint Mary's University
 Muhlenberg College
 New York Institute of Technology
 New York University
 Northeastern University
 Northwestern University
 Oberlin College
 Ohio University
 Pace University
 Parsons The New School for Design
 Pennsylvania State University, University Park
 Polytechnic Institute of NYU
 Providence College
 Purchase College State University of New York
 Purdue University
 Quinnipiac University
 Reed College
 Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
 Rice University
 Rochester Institute of Technology
 Roger Williams University
 Rollins College
 Rutgers University-New Brunswick
 Sacred Heart University
 Saint Joseph's University
 Saint Louis University
 Saint Michael's College
 Santa Clara University
 Savannah College of Art and Design
 School of the Art Institute of Chicago
 Seton Hall University
 Siena College
 Skidmore College
 Sophie Davis School of Biomedical Education of the CUNY
 The Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville
 Southern Methodist University
 St. Bonaventure University
 St. John's University - Queens Campus
 St. Lawrence University
 Stetson University
 Stonehill College
 Stony Brook University
 SUNY at Brockport
 SUNY at Cortland
 SUNY at Fredonia
 SUNY at Geneseo
 SUNY at New Paltz
 SUNY at Oneonta
 SUNY at Oswego
 SUNY Maritime College
 SUNY Polytechnic Institute
 Susquehanna University
 Syracuse University
 Temple University
 Texas A&M University
 The Catholic University of America
 The Citadel, the Military College of South Carolina
 The College of Saint Rose
 The King's College
 The Ohio State University
 The University of Alabama
 The University of Arizona
 The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
 The University of Tampa
 The University of Texas, Austin
 Trinity College
 Tufts University
 Tulane University
 Union College
 United States Military Academy
 University at Albany, SUNY
 University at Buffalo, SUNY
 University of British Columbia
 University of California, Davis
 University of California, Irvine
 University of California, Los Angeles
 University of California, Santa Barbara
 University of Cincinnati
 University of Colorado at Boulder
 University of Connecticut
 University of Delaware
 University of Florida
 University of Hartford
 University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
 University of Maine
 University of Maryland, Baltimore County
 University of Maryland, College Park
 University of Massachusetts, Amherst
 University of Miami
 University of Michigan
 University of Nebraska at Lincoln
 University of Nevada, Las Vegas
 University of New Hampshire
 University of New Haven
 University of North Carolina at Wilmington
 University of Notre Dame
 University of Pennsylvania
 University of Pittsburgh
 University of Rhode Island
 University of Richmond
 University of Rochester
 University of San Diego
 University of San Francisco
 University of Scranton
 University of South Carolina
 University of South Florida, Tampa
 University of Southern California
 University of St. Andrews
 University of Toronto
 University of Vermont
 University of Virginia
 University of Washington
 University of Wisconsin, Madison
 Ursinus College
 Vanderbilt University
 Vassar College
 Villanova University
 Vassar College
 Virginia Tech
 Wake Forest University
 Washington and Lee University
 Washington University in St. Louis
 Wesleyan University
 Western University of Pennsylvania
 West Virginia University, Institute of Technology
 Widener University
 Worcester Polytechnic Institute
 Yale University

Students will enroll at colleges marked in bold.

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Thank you Mr. Gomprecht, Mr. Otis and Mrs. Scallion!

At the end of the 2014 – 2015, the Prep said goodbye and thank you to Principal Bob Gomprecht ’65, Music teacher Doug Otis and English teacher Lynette Scallion. Bob is now the President of Albertus Magnus High School in Bardonia, NY. Doug and Lynette have retired.

We asked members of the Prep community to send their memory of and wishes for the three long-time Prep faculty members.

Messages to Bob Gomprecht:
Thank you for all you have done for my son, as well as thousands of other students who were fortunate to attend Fordham Prep under your leadership.

You will be sorely missed, but fondly remembered, by all the students who crossed your path.

Thank you for all that you have done to make the Prep what it is and the person that you are. I am fortunate to have been a student of yours in my youth and count you as a friend in adulthood.

You carried lightly and with such good humor the many responsibilities of your position and it was clear that your faith and your love of the boys, their families, the faculty and the school itself were at the center of your vocation.

You truly left a lasting impression on me and my brother. I’d like to think that our many successes and achievements in life are from you never giving up on us.

I always found you to be professional, warm, personable, practical, discreet, humorous and a man of integrity, principle and honor. Simply put, you are a man for others.

Messages to Lynette Scallion
I want to thank you for all the encouragement you gave to my son this year. As you know he is a very shy young man, but when he entered your class room he felt understanding, motivation and hope.

Your class was instrumental in my college application process, helping me have three essay frameworks before the summer. I used one of those essays for all of my college applications. During February that year I mentioned to you that I would be traveling to Washington, D.C. with my family, and you suggested I visit Georgetown University, thinking I would like it. You were right. I loved attending and graduating from Georgetown.

I just wanted to say how much I enjoyed your English class that I took in junior year. It was definitely one of the most memorable classes I had while at the Prep. You made me appreciate great literature. I especially enjoyed reading A Streetcar Named Desire, now one of my favorite plays.

Messages to Doug Otis
The most important lesson you ever taught me was when we lost both Al Lento ’03 and Brian McGuiness ’03 to suicide. Both boys were in our class. The day after we found out about Brian, you took us out on the back field and gave us a jarring reflection on life. It was cold, gray, and flurrying. The only thing that warmed us were the shoddy suit jackets on our backs. You talked about how growing up can be confusing, frustrating, intimidating, and scary. But you reminded us that “no matter what happens, no matter how bad things are, it always gets better.” I never forgot that. That line has kept me going through the roughest days since.

I think back to those days at Fordham very often, and it’s impossible to not think about the time spent in the band or one of your classes or in the auditorium where everyone would chant your name.

Your orchestra was one of my favorite experiences from the Prep. You guided us with the perfect amount of direction. You challenged us to push our limits, but gave us the flexibility to explore new things.

You showed us that life wasn’t all rainbows and butterflies. You showed us that hard work and dedication truly did produce results. You showed me what it was like to be a man (period).
Prep Swimming & Diving – A Century of Success!
By Patrick Masseo ’07
Assistant Swimming Coach

Each fall, as the temperature drops and the days grow shorter, a group of Prep students commit themselves to long nights and early mornings. For over 100 years, 101 to be exact, Prep swimmers have devoted their time to plunging into the pool for hours of grueling practice. Founded in the 1913-1914 school year, the Aqua Rams have one of the most impressive histories of any high school swim and dive team in New York State, and perhaps the country.

The standard was set high for the Swim and Dive team early on. From 1947 to 1949, the team won every dual meet it competed in, was crowned back-to-back Private School Champions, three-peated as CHSAA and Jesuit champions and won the 1947 National Catholic Interschool title. The team added to its laurels over the years, most notably with the emergence of Bob Hacket ’77. Bob is the Prep’s most accomplished individual swimmer. While a sophomore, he won two medals in the 1975 Pam Am Games. He followed up his performance the following year, winning a silver medal at the 1976 Olympic Games, in the 1500 meter freestyle. Bob became the first active Prep student to earn an Olympic medal, a feat he remains alone in achieving to this day.

Over the next few decades, the team competed in various leagues where they won multiple dual meets and championships. Since the 2006-2007 season, the Prep has an incredible run within the Catholic High School Athletic Association, due to the leadership of head coach Dominick Galimi ’92. In that time, the Prep has been undefeated during the regular season every year except two and won eight of nine CHSAA Championship meets. In 2004, after years of petitioning the New York State High School Federation Swimming Championships, CHSAA swim teams were finally allowed to join the meet in 2004. This is the most elite meet in New York State high school swimming, and one of the fastest high school meets in the country. It did not take long for the Aquarams to make their presence known.

During the 2010-2011 season, the team won its first New York State High School Federation Swimming Championship, but this was only the beginning. The team has now won five straight State Federation Championships. A historic run in state history, especially when one considers no team had ever won more than two titles in a row.

The Prep swimmers have battled to leave their imprint on the meet. Four Prep alumni have won individual state titles, Philip Davies ’06 in the 50 Freestyle, Matthew Krey ’08 in the 200 Individual Medley, Michael McVicker ’09 in the 100 Breaststroke and Patrick Conaton ’14 in the 100 Backstroke. The team has won nine state relay titles. Of the nine, four attained in the 400 Freestyle Relay, consecutively from 2011 to 2015.

In 2011, for the first time, the Prep achieved a New York State Record when it was victorious in the 400 Freestyle Relay. In the three consecutive years, from 2012-2014, the team lowered its record mark in the event each year. In 2014, the team put its name on the New York State record board in two other events, claiming the 200 Freestyle Relay record, and its first individual state record, in the 100 Backstroke by Patrick Conaton ’14. These historic performances launched the 2013-2014 team to the number five ranking in the country for independent schools (population over 900), and number 18 in the country over all!

But the team is more than the accolades, the Prep swimmers are a family. These achievements have been no small task, and although often perceived as an individual sport, members claim it is the students’ and coaching staff’s commitment to team that has carried them so far. Tim Buttigeig ’15, a co-captain for the 2014-2015 season explained “I think the success comes from the entire team effort, from coaches and moderators to each individual member. In or out of the pool this team is such a family. In the peak of the season, we wind up spending 12-13 hours together, and at a certain point these boys are no longer just classmates and teammates, but for me they’re brothers.” It is this dedication and teamwork that has been a cornerstone for the team’s success, and one that has permeated through the years.

As the graduates head off to various colleges and universities to pursue their swimming and academic careers, from Stanford University to Boston College and everywhere in-between, most return to the Fordham University pool during the winter holiday. Each year on Christmas Eve, an annual alumni vs. student water polo game tradition has developed. Although no trophies are given out, the competitive nature and familial bond that has driven the team to such success is palpable. Michael Verini ’15, a co-captain this past season, summarizes the team’s ethos embodied in the annual game and every mission the Swim and Dive team embarks on when he says “The team knows that excellence is not an act, but a habit. When the air turns below freezing, and the 5 am alarm goes off, we often ask ourselves ‘why are we doing this?’ But for us, for this team, this family, the answer is simple. To win, to be the best, because it’s better to suffer the pain of discipline than the pain of regret.”

This May, the team wished good luck and farewell to another outstanding graduating class, yet the future is bright. The Prep will return another great core of swimmers and divers, as well as a welcome outstanding graduating class, for the 2015-2016 season. Each athlete and coach is looking forward to another challenging year of competition, and another year of the 6 am morning swim.

Congratulations to these members of the lacrosse team who received CHSAA League Awards

William Randell ’15 - Academic All American
Kevin Sohr ’15 - Attackman of the Year
Colin Malarchuk ’16 - Co-Defenseman of the Year
Patrick Coughlin ’16 - LSM of the Year

1st Team All CHSAA
Andrew Abbatista ’16, Jack Casella ’16, Eamon Coughlin ’15, Colin Malarchuk ’16, William Randell ’15, Kevin Sohr ’15

2nd Team All CHSAA
Thomas Marra ’18, David Randell III ’17, Peter Semprevivo ’15, Michael Wagner ’15
The 2015 spring racing season for the Fordham Prep Crew Team started out in the cold of March and ended in mid-June in the heat and humidity of Sarasota, Florida at the US Rowing Youth National Championships. Those contrasting conditions perfectly encapsulate the team's racing season which developed and grew into an historic and memorable season in the 100th anniversary year of the crew team at Fordham Prep.

During the regular season, the team shook off the effects of the long winter and began to enjoy increasing successes on the race course. The Varsity Eight began to show flickers of brilliance at early races against tough competition, posting the fastest time of the day at one of the early Manny Flick Regattas and finishing among the top eights at the Saratoga Invitational Regatta in late April. After some line-up changes and the unprecedented addition of a novice rower, sophomore Emiliano Garcia, who had only taken up the sport in March, the Varsity Eight began to really come into its own a week before the New York State Championship, with a fourth place finish at the very competitive Philadelphia City Championships.

Coming into the NYS Championship, the team knew it had been gaining speed and approached the Varsity Eight event with some guarded optimism. While no Fordham Prep crew had ever won the New York State Championship in the Varsity Eight, the crew had a sense that anything was possible. The tough competition at the Philadelphia Championships proved to be a good warm-up as the Ram Varsity Eight opened the weekend at States by winning the Saturday time trial by 4 ½ seconds over defending State Champion Chaminade High School of Long Island to advance to Sunday's grand Final.

As the top seed in the nine boat grand Final, the Rams lined up directly next to defending champion Chaminade. Off the start, the Prep Varsity Eight took an immediate lead over the field getting almost a ½ length lead over Chaminade and Manhasset High School who were battling for second. Going into the last 500 meters, the crew was about a length ahead of the field and looking for open water. While Manhasset faded back, Chaminade was not going to give up as easily, and over the next 400 meters fought back to within a couple of seats of the Prep. In one of the more exciting finishes of the weekend, the Rams held on to win by .48 seconds and became the first Varsity Eight from Fordham Prep to win the Varsity Eight State title. Later that afternoon, the Prep Second Varsity Eight employed its own last minute sprint to win the Silver Medal in the Second Varsity Eight.

By winning the state championship, the Varsity Eight earned an automatic bid to the USRowing Youth National Championships in Sarasota, Florida. After some excellent racing in Sarasota, which included a rematch with Chaminade, which Fordham won comfortably by over 5 seconds this time, the Varsity Eight finished 18th overall and was the 3rd fastest high school in Sarasota.

Members of the Varsity Eight were: Matthew Ptucha ’17, Sean Haggerty ’17, Skender Mustafaraj ’15, Emiliano Garcia ’17, Seamus Hall ’16, John Mooney ’15, Alexander Calder ’17, Jorge Gonzalez ’16 and Arthur Condor ’15. The crew returns 6 of 8 rowers in 2016 and looks forward to the opportunity to repeat as State Champions after a lot of hard training in the meantime.

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New Athletic Director Named

Mr. Anthony Kurtin
Athletic Director

This past March, Fordham Prep completed its accreditation visit with NYSAIS (New York State Association of Independent Schools). In its report, the visiting team commended the Prep for its robust growth in its athletic programs, and recommended that we support this growth through providing the resource of a full-time athletic director. In fact, over the past 15 years, Prep athletics has grown to include 18 sports, with 41 different teams, including the addition of squash in the upcoming year.

We are pleased to meet this recommendation through hiring our first-ever full-time Athletic Director, Mr. Anthony Kurtin. Mr. Kurtin served as the Associate Director of Athletics at St. Francis College in Brooklyn, a position he was promoted to in 2010 after serving as the Assistant Athletic Director since 2007. In his role as Associate AD, he was responsible for the day-to-day operations of all the college’s Division 1 athletic programs and was the Sports Administrator for the basketball, soccer, water polo and tennis programs.

Mr. Kurtin attended Christ the King High School in Queens, and then completed his undergraduate degree at St. Francis College, where he was captain of the track & field and cross country teams during his junior and senior years. After graduating, he was hired as the Head Coach for the St. Francis College Track & Field program, making him one of the youngest Division 1 coaches in the nation at that time.

In addition to coaching at St. Francis College, Mr. Kurtin taught and coached at Bishop Ford High School in Brooklyn for one year. He has worked and coached with City Parks track & field camps, PAL, NATS Kids and, during the summer of 2005, was named the Empire State Games Head Coach for the New York City track & field team.

Mr. Kurtin holds a Master’s Degree in Guidance and Counseling from Brooklyn College. He and his wife, Laurie, reside in New Rochelle with their two children, JD and Addison.

As Fordham Prep's Athletic Director, Mr. Kurtin will be responsible for overseeing the 41 teams that make up the Prep's 18 programs in the Athletic Department. In addition to supervising the day-to-day operations of these programs, the Athletic Director is responsible for integrating and unifying all athletic programs around the core values of our Ignatian mission and ensuring that the experience for student-athletes promotes their development as men for others committed to faith, scholarship and service.

We welcome Mr. Kurtin to the Prep community and look forward to his leadership in athletics in the coming years.

Former Athletic Director Bob McLaughlin Looks Back

Mr. Robert McLaughlin
Health and Physical Education Chair

When Artie left to take over the Athletic program at Irvington HS in Westchester County, my first goal was to continue the momentum and support the staff and teams that had competed successfully in the CHSAA under his leadership. I felt fortunate to have inherited great coaches who were not only dedicated, but also competitive and eager to prepare our student athletes to compete to the best of their abilities while stressing the Ignatian values that are the pillar of a Jesuit education.

Another goal was to ensure that Fordham Prep continued to offer the most diverse and successful sports program in New York City, and that meant supporting and growing all our teams, not just the teams that garnered the biggest crowds. I am proud that we have achieved this goal as evidenced by our Swimming & Diving and Track & Field programs, for example. Under the leadership of Dom Galimi ’92, the Swimming & Diving program has continued to grow and now is the premier program in New York State, winning five consecutive NYS CHSAA and Federation Championships and preparing numerous swimmers and divers to compete at the collegiate level. Our Track & Field program has won 11 CHSAA City and State titles since 2000. Head Coach George Febles and his staff have built an exceptional program over the last 27 years.

The most important goal, in my mind, was to ensure that our students had an enriching experience as athletes that helped them to grow, mature, and develop into leaders on and off the field and court. It is my hope that our student athletes have enjoyed their experience at the Prep and that they have made great memories that will last a lifetime.

Since 2000, Fordham Prep athletic programs – encompassing 18 sports and 41 teams – have won over 40 Varsity city, state and federation championships. These championships have been won by our Swimming, Track & Field, Golf, Tennis, Soccer, Lacrosse, Wrestling, Crew, Hockey, Football, and Baseball teams. Along with the success of our teams, it is the wide variety of sports we offer – including crew, bowling, rugby, and new for next year, squash – and the number of student athletes who participate that sets us apart from other schools. Last year we had over 650 students participate in our athletic program, an amazing 66% of our student body.

None of this would have been possible if it weren't for the talented coaches, staff, and student athletes I had the privilege of working with over the last fifteen years. As Athletic Director, I have been blessed to have worked with so many talented and dedicated long-time coaches and staff including Pete Gorynski, Kevin Pigott, Kevin Gilligan ’83, Pete McNamara, Nelson Ritter ’96, Alan Pilla, Matt Bobo, Greg Lau ’99, Randy Pedro, Steve Rapitis, Pat Deane ’88, Brian Carney, Pierre Chavez, Gene Calamari ’82, Dave Obiesie ’93, Chris Hemsley and many others. I would especially like to thank Bob Gomprecht ’65, who always made the time to talk and brainstorm about our teams. As a graduate of the Prep, a teacher, and our Principal, he knew the school inside and out and understood what it took to establish a successful academic and athletic program. I would also like to thank Assistant Athletic Directors Kevin Pigott and Kevin Gilligan, as well as Helen Donoghue, Nevie Repetti, Debbie DiDomizio, and Father Charlie Sullivan, SJ, who have been instrumental in the continued success of the department, supporting me and the program during my tenure.

Finally, I would like to thank my amazing wife, Susan, and my three lovely daughters, Sara, Abigail, and Catherine, for all their love and support over the years. I couldn't have done it without them and I know it couldn't have been easy, especially when the responsibilities of the job extended into the early mornings and late nights. I'm looking forward to spending more time with all of them.
The refrain, “Let’s go Fordham!” heard for decades at Fordham Prep sporting events, began to rise—halting at first—to a deafening crescendo in one of the more rare venues for that chorus to be heard. The impressive St. Anthony’s HS indoor athletic facility was the site of the CHSAA State Catholic Freshman and Sophomore Championships in February and the chant served as the clarion call for the start of an historic run of titles and records to be won and set by the 2015 Fordham Prep Track & Field Team.

The Prep won a decisive and shocking sweep of both the Freshman and Sophomore State Catholic indoor titles that day with Colin Duignan ’18 leading the first-years as Meet MVP for his Hurdles and Pole Vault wins. Matt Conlon ’17 led the Sophs to the title on the strength of, well, his strength . . . as state Soph Shot Put champ.

The Varsity squad saw the CHSAA Indoor Varsity title slip away as injury and mishaps sent the team to its lowest placing in years (7th, but we we’re happy the title stayed in the Jesuit family...xavier won their first ever CHSAA title), but it’s at such moments when the true character of a team is discovered. The Rams would discover their character in the weeks to come.

At the 2015 Indoor National Championship, Armory Track & Field Center, Director Norb Sander, MD ’60 played host to some of the best performances in the nation, and his alma mater was a major player. The Prep boasts two Distance Medley National Indoor championships from 2003 and 2006, and the 2015 team found itself in the deepest field in history. The squad of Joe Prunty ’15, Chris Gray ’15, Kyle Guzman ’15 and Conor Lundy ’16 took 4th place, earning All-American status, in a school record time of 10:07.27, topping the 2006 time of 10:14.68 set by Terrence Egan ’06, Matt Keefee ’07, Brian Doherty ’06 and John Bradley ’06. A day later, another Prep record was shattered when Prunty, Guzman, Lundy and Conor Hughes ’17 ran 7:43.61 in the 4x800m relay to take the silver medal.

Outdoor season started with great promise as key team members regained their health and many Prepsters rose to unheard-of challenges. A long preseason ended at the historic Penn Relays, where the Prep distance guys picked up where they left off, taking 4th in the distance medley (less than a second off the winner) in a new Prep record of 10:13.36, after a 38 year run by the former 10:14.3 standard bearers Mike Cleary ’79, Matt McConnell ’77, P’14, Andy Stadnik ’77 and John Hemsley ’77 P’07.

After the Frosh repeated as CHSAA Champs and the Sophs took second thanks to Conlon, Hughes and 800 meter champ and meet MVP Arthur Gooden, it was time for the Varsity to make their mark. Following their disappointing finish at the indoor Catholic States (alumni note: what was always called the “Cities”, “CHSAA Champs” or “Intersectionals” is now recognized as the “Catholic State Champs” since Buffalo NY teams now compete for the title too), the Prep went to work, and shocked the league for their 6th outdoor title. Prunty won meet MVP by dint of his 3200m win in 9:10.65. Mike Miano ’15 came back from a lost indoor season to win the 3000m Steeplechase in a Prep record 9:34.57 (over Vincent Fata’s ’07 9:46.73), and seniors Devin Crichlow ’15, Louis Hurtado ’15, James Ball ’15 scored in the High Jump, Javelin and Pole Vault respectively, all in top-5 all time Prep performances.

As the season wound down, the performances ratcheted up. The outdoor 4x800m record again fell to 7:43.76, 6 years to the day the previous record was set by Phil O’Connell ’09, J. Carlos Petrovich ’09, Zach Keefee ’09 and Mike Jennings ’09. At the NY State Federation Champs, Conor Lundy had arguably his most spectacular race, pulling away from a star-studded field to win the State title in the 1600m run (worth the watch!). His time of 4:07.50 would better Mike Cleary’s venerable 1978 Prep Mile run record of 4:14.0. At the Nationals in Greensboro, NC, the 4xMile relay of Conor Miller ’16, Matt Dougherty ’16, Hughes and Miano would run the #2 all-time Prep time of 18:23, Conor Lundy and Joe Prunty would both break 15 minutes for the 5,000m run for 2nd and 8th place, and the Distance Medley would finish the season with another Prep record of 10:07.07 and All-American status for their 2nd place finish.

The senior stars of 2015 (8 of them) will compete for colleges such as Holy Cross, UMass, Miami, UAlbany and Lehigh, and many underclassmen return for what may be another year where “Let’s Go Fordham!” may well be drowning out all else within earshot.

Follow Prep Track on Twitter @fptrack.
At a recent backyard barbeque, my sister-in-law sat and listened while four Prep alums — her husband, Mike DiGiorno ’91; her two brothers-in-law, Chris DiGiorno ’93 and Yours Truly ’88; and her own brother, Frank Criscuolo ’96 — reminisced about lunch in the Commons late in the last century: the Jamaican patties, the red digital scrolling LED sign, the pool table in the Senior Lounge (smoking permitted, of course, back in the day). The topic had come up when I mentioned this summer’s construction on the first floor of Shea Hall.

We were talking about the time the Dean pulled the plug on the Commons jukebox as the Percapella Remix of Noel’s freestyle classic Silent Morning played for the eleventh consecutive time (Yes, the Prep did actually have a jukebox for a while — a Student Government initiative.) And just then, passing a dish of fried zucchini flowers (it’s a cultural thing), my sister-in-law piped up, “Why do you Prep guys eat in a Commons anyway instead of in a cafeteria or lunchroom like everyone else?”

A very good question, particularly over a meal.

To be perfectly honest, Prepsters have not been eating in a Commons since Day One — June 24, 1841. Back in the Prep’s boarding school days, lunch and all other meals were taken in a dining room housed in a wing of the New Manor House, today the University’s Administration Building, or the Cunniffe House, as it is called, named for Mo Cunniffe, Prep Class of 1950. We even know who prepared the meals in those very first years: Sr. Basilia McCann and the other Sisters of Charity who lived in the long demolished Old Manor House on the site of today’s Collins Auditorium and who oversaw the Domestic Department and Infirmary of the fledgling school.

The sisters would move on in 1846 when the Jesuits arrived to take over the day-to-day operations of the institution, but mealtimes continued on all the same, with meat and produce supplied by the on-campus farm, gardens, and orchard. While the Dining Room remained the typical place that Fordhamites would gather for repast, there were naturally exceptions as one would expect in a boarding situation: afternoon picnics down by the Bronx River (still then a part a the school’s property), hot chocolate and sandwiches down by the frozen pond (today, the University Parking Lot), and of course, the daily afternoon scone break which was served in the Study Hall, and with which the name Bro. Jeremiah Flaherty would be synonymous from 1870 through 1910.

The first major change of prandial venue came in 1867 with the construction of Senior Hall — today Dealy Hall. The Student Dining Room was moved to this space, and would continue to be the site for Prep mealtimes even after the 1890 completion of Junior Hall, or Hughes Hall, the Prep’s home for the next eight decades. In fact, dining at Dealy would persist even after the Prep’s boarding school days came to an end altogether in 1920 — the day students still needed a lunchroom.

In 1935, Keating Hall, the towering Gothic centerpiece of the Rose Hill Campus, was completed, and Fordham’s food services were re-located to its basement. Appointed with sturdy yet easily reconfigurable square tables and ram’s head water fountains, the Keating cafeteria also featured sections of glassbrick ceiling that allowed daylight to permeate the large underground room. While the old Dealy Dining Room remained an option for the College men, the back of Keating’s basement became the one and only lunchspot for battalions of brown-bagging Prepsters.
right through the end of the 1950s. And in those days, brown bags were indeed the rule rather than the exception — most boys purchased only beverages at the counter.

Fordham Prep moved into its next mealtime destination sometime during the 1959-1960 school year with the opening of the Campus Center, later named for Fr. Laurence McGinley, a one-time director of the Vatican’s radio station who would serve as Fordham University’s president from 1949 to 1963. While a main dining hall was (and still is) on the McGinley Center’s first floor, the Prep was given its own eating area on the lower level — the Ramskeller: lunchroom for the Prep boys by day; beerhall for the college students by night. Long after Fordham Prep moved out, the Ramskeller would survive as an alternate Rose Hill cafeteria right up to the present decade — in 2012 it became the RamFit Center: stairmasters and ellipticals as far as the eye can see.

The Prep would dine in McGinley’s basement right up until the move from Hughes Hall to Shea Hall in 1972, and it’s been lunch in the Commons ever since.

End of story.

Ribaldry from the last 174 years? Naturally.

Most destructive (and first recorded) food fight: St. Patrick’s Day Eve, 1851, possibly rife with geopolitical overtones (No joke!). Most fondly recalled member of the food service staff from the 1980s: Ms. Sandra Hopard, “The Candy Lady,” who would go on after her time at the Prep to have a long Rose Hill career with the University Bursar’s Office. All topics worthy of futures articles of their own.

**“Why do you Prep guys eat in a Commons anyway instead of in a cafeteria or lunchroom like everyone else?”**

With all the financial fracas and logistical legerdemain involved in the Prep’s separation from the University and the construction and move to Shea Hall in the early 1970s, it was not uncommon for plans to be made, changed, remade, and then changed again. The Commons — or formally, the Lynch Commons, named for Congressman Walter Lynch, Sr., Class of 1911 — was never supposed to be a lunchroom. An early design for Shea Hall included a separate cafeteria and kitchen on the basement level, with the main floor left as a common sitting area for studying, lounging and generally hanging out: a commons, literally. Somewhere along the way, the idea of having a subterranean salle-à-manger was scrapped. The first floor space would have to suffice as both a lunchroom and a lounge, though the originally proposed name would stay. And that’s why the Prep has a Commons. Simple as that. No leftover 19th-century quaintness. No arcane Ignatian reference. Just a decision to save time and money.

My sister-in-law’s response: “Oh.” Salad was served at the end of the meal. (It’s another cultural thing.)

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**Righting A Wrong**

by Hon. Joseph J. DioGuardi ’58

For nearly 100 years, the Medal of Honor was denied New York’s **Sgt. Henry Johnson**. He received France’s highest military award since his unit, the Army’s 369th from New York, was assigned to France in World War I. Although he was recommended for our nation’s highest military award—The Medal of Honor—he did not receive it until June 2, 2015, at a White House ceremony. I was invited (with Senator Charles Schumer) in honor of my 28 years of persistent effort to rectify this terrible example of racial injustice in our nation’s military history: Representing Westchester County, New York, in Congress in the 1980s, I had partnered with an African-American historian, Dr. Leroy Ramsey, to inform America that an egregious racial injustice had occurred that no one seemed anxious to challenge. Racial segregation in the military resulted in the fact that not one African-American soldier out of the more than 1.5 million who served in World Wars I and II was considered as having performed at the highest level to qualify for The Medal of Honor. Ever since I started a legislative movement on Capitol Hill to correct this in 1986, only nine Medals have been awarded to African-American war heroes from World Wars I and II. I strongly believe that dozens more African-American soldiers have distinguished themselves as war heroes in World Wars I and II, and deserve our nation’s official reconsideration for The Medal of Honor.

**“If there is injustice anywhere, then justice is threatened everywhere.”**
—Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

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“The truth is we weren’t supposed to.

If there is injustice anywhere,
the same is threatened everywhere.”
—Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

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“Apart from winning the war, there is no real victory in a war of aggression. We have no gain by the extinction of a race of men.”
— Wilbur L. Pierce, American medical officer and later Surgeon General of the United States Army (1878-1957)

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“Help remove unjust social structures and patterns of exploitation. Foster the creation of a society where human life is cherished and where all peoples can enjoy God’s gifts in a spirit of love, justice, and equality.”
— St. Francis of Assisi (letter to the Rulers of Europe, circa 1220)
The Class of 2015 was officially welcomed as alumni at the Annual Alumni – Senior Breakfast on Wednesday, April 29, 2015. The event was held in The Garden Terrace Room at The New York Botanical Garden.

Many of this year’s alumni table hosts were supporters of The Patrick S. Joyce ’88 Scholarships. Breakfast speaker Martin Joyce ’84, Pat’s brother, spoke to the class about the importance of the Prep in his brother’s life. He thanked the supporters and encouraged the seniors to continue their support of the Class of 2015 Scholarship which was started by class donations to their senior class gift.

Thank you to these alumni, parents and trustees who served as table hosts at the 2015 Alumni – Senior Breakfast.

Mr. Dennis Ahern ’63
Assistant Principal
Fordham Prep

Mr. Joseph Altenau ’04
Director of Event Operations
New Jersey Devils & The Prudential Center

Mr. Martin Avalone ’79
President
Working Media Group

Mr. Joseph Cantwell ’66
Former Trustee
Drug Development Analytics, LLC
Chief Financial Officer
Hurley Consulting Associates Ltd

Mr. Mario Ciampi ’78
Trustee
Principal – Head of Private Investments
Prentice Capital Management, LLP

Rev. Christopher Devron, SJ
President
Fordham Prep

Rev. Charles Federico, SJ
Trustee
Vocations Director
USA Northeast Province

Mr. David Fitzgerald ’87
General Counsel and Chief Compliance Officer
Gabelli & Partners LLC

Mr. Sean Flynn ’96
Managing Director
Robotti & Company

Mr. Robert Galasso ’69
Engineering Consultant
Travelers Insurance Company

Mr. Thomas Giordano ’87
Trustee
General Counsel
Lend Lease US Construction Holdings

Mr. Robert Gomprecht ’65
Principal
Fordham Prep

Mr. Jose R. Gonzalez
VP, Engagement, Development & Communications
Fordham Prep

Mr. John Haley ’87
Vice President for Development
New York Presbyterian Hospital

Mr. Michael Higgins
Chief Financial Officer
Fordham Prep

Mr. Rey Hollingsworth-Falu ’88
Real Estate Broker/Owner
Hollingsworth Real Estate Group

Mr. Maurice Hyacinthe ’77
Trustee
Chief Operating Officer
HMH Management Company LLC

Mr. Elliot Ikheoa
Engagement Officer
Fordham Prep

Mr. Martin Joyce ’84
Fire Marshall
FDNY

Mr. Peter Maddocks ’88
Agent
New York Life

Mr. Dario Martinez ’87
Attorney
Raphaelson & Levine Law Firm, PC

Mr. William McLoughlin ’87
Senior Vice President & Associate General Counsel
Jefferies LLC

Mr. Donn McNamee ’87
Trustee
Senior Vice President
LPS Futures LLC

Mr. John Montes ’90
Attorney
Law Offices of John J. Montes PLLC

Mr. Robert Moschetta ’90
Owner
Entertainment & Sounds Unlimited

Mr. John Murtagh ’05
Marketing Program Manager
Greenwich Associates
Rifle Platoon Commander
United States Marine Corps Reserve

Mrs. Theresa Napoli
Assistant Principal
Fordham Prep

Mr. John Neary ’87
Former Chairman of the Board
Chief Operating Officer
Kingsbridge Ice Center

Mr. Kevin Norton ’71
Director of Investment Management
Archdiocese of New York

Mr. John O’Keefe ’00
Senior Associate
The Audax Group

Mr. James Slevin ’90
Vice President
United Firefighters Association/FDNY

Dr. Russell Trahan, PC ’77
Podiatric Surgeon
Saint Barnabas Hospital
Saint John’s Riverside Hospital

Mr. Michael Tovini ’85
Senior Vice President
The Related Companies, LP

Mr. Victor Zimmermann ’70
Partner
Curtis, Mallet-Prevost, Colt & Mosle, LLP

Kenneth Singleton ’79
Executive Vice President & Global General Counsel (Ret)
Cushman & Wakefield, Inc.

Mr. James Slevin ’90
Vice President
United Firefighters Association/FDNY

Dr. Russell Trahan, PC ’77
Podiatric Surgeon
Saint Barnabas Hospital
Saint John’s Riverside Hospital

Mr. Michael Tovini ’85
Senior Vice President
The Related Companies, LP

Mr. Victor Zimmermann ’70
Partner
Curtis, Mallet-Prevost, Colt & Mosle, LLP

Thank you to these members of the Prep staff who helped organize this event

Mrs. Carol Isabel
Guidance Administrative Assistant

Mr. Christopher Johnson ’08
Engagement Officer

Ms. Darlene Milone P ’07, ’14
Assistant to the President

Mrs. Mella O’Halloran P ’09
Administrative Coordinator

Ms. Joan Wollman P ’85
Director of Annual Giving
It was a fun afternoon and our stories about our time at the Prep get better each year.”

1954 CLASS REP
Michael lachetta – mialachetta@aol.com
From Michael lachetta: “Tempus is indeed fugitive, we are all getting close to would you believe 80, but there's still one day in our Fordham Prep history that I can't fuzzigate about because it often comes to mind like it was yesterday. It was out first day at the Prep and algebra/swim teacher John Lyttle was making his athletic team recruiting pitch to several members of the Class of ’54. “Beware of the Fox,” Lyttle said. “If you can walk, he will make you think you can run. And if you can run, he will make you think you can run faster and become a champion.”” The Fox he was talking about, of course, was Joe Fox '29, the Track & Field coach. And luckily several of us didn't listen to John Lyttle because Fox took us under his wing when no other coach would look at us because we ranged from 99- to -108- pounds and didn't know our nauta, nautae from our amo, amas. What Fox did was mold us into the collegiate athletic Track scholarship material by teaching us how to win in various weight class events—sub-midget (under 100 pounds), midget (under 112 pounds) and junior midget (under 127 pounds) before we ever started running against the big kids on the varsity. So our sub-midget relay team (John Scanlan, Art Cunningham, Tom Ward and John Hand) became city champions and our midget relay (including me and Tino Clemente) finished second in races at Madison Square Garden. And later, our junior midget relay team (including all of the above plus Pete McCall and George Hunt) won the weight-class city championship at Randall’s Island. Why mention this now? Because all of us, in one form or another, received college scholarships by the time we were seniors. Hand ran the greatest anchor half mile-leg of any us in winning the two-mile relay at the Cardinal Hayes Games against all comers. Ward and Cunningham ran the second and third leg. And I ran lead off. All of us wound up with scholarships to Fordham University—Hand (a future doctor and high-ranking Navy officer) as the typical Fordham man, Ward and Cunningham (a future IBMer and construction industry type respectively) as distance runners and me (destined to become a globe-trotting journalist who would run the re-creation of the original marathon from Marathon to Athens for story purposes), the first runner in Fordham Prep history—founded in 1841—to run the half mile in under two minutes (1:59.2) from a standing start while finishing second in that event in a virtual dead heat in the Bronx-Manhattan-Westchester championships. McCall became the city champion in the quarter mile. Hunt ran a 2:01 half mile on the Prep two-mile relay team that finished second to St. John's in the city championships. The late McCall would turn down a Track scholarship to Manhattan to become a faith-healing Capuchin priest. And the late Hunt turned down a Fordham scholarship to become a Jesuit priest and one of the longest-running editors in the history of America magazine. Clemente, who ran the sprint race of his young life to help the Prep win the Junior Midget city championships by a single point, won an academic scholarship to Holy Cross, became general counsel for a major drug company and argued cases before the U.S. Supreme Court. Jerome Tucille, who never really listened to Fox about training and never broke 2:08 for the half mile, went on to write something like 13 books, including one about to come out in the fall about Teddy Roosevelt and the Rough Riders. And Scanlan, perhaps the best runner of us all, died of Hodgkin’s Disease just before the Penn Relays of our junior year, a lifelong reminder to us to make every minute count. So tempus does indeed fugit and I’d like to hear more re what has happened to the Class of ’54. Send your info to me: miachetta@aol.com. The last time I made that request nobody from ’54 responded except for Jerry Tucille, giving us both the opportunity to wonder whatever happened to our senior year crush, the beautiful Fran Gannon.

1955 CLASS REPS
Paul Petrocelli - petro63@aol.com
Ed Norton published his most recent novel on Amazon, The Last Ayatollah, a sharp take on spies and foreign intrigue. For his other books, particularly a series about the FDR Administration and the march to WW2, click on Amazon.com. Ed sends “Regards to all “Double Nickels” this anniversary year.”

1956 CLASS REPS
Tom Brennan - tab1938@gmail.com
Tony Fiorella - AFIOREL@courts.state.ny.us
Paul Williams - PPPANDPW@aol.com
Augie Perrotta has written a collection of non-fiction stories which give an insider’s view of public and private figures and his connection to them. The medically oriented book includes references to Fordham Prep and Fordham College faculty. It will have special appeal to graduates of Jesuit high schools and universities. A View from the Inside is now available in Kindle eBook, paperback and hardcover from Amazon and Barnes & Noble on the website www.aviewfromtheinside.net. Part of the proceeds from the book sales will be donated to the Prep’s Father Thomas Crowley, SJ Fund.

1957 CLASS REPS
Al Apicelli - dramalfi@mac.com
Ed McAnaney - jmcananey@gmail.com
Al Preissner - ajpreiss@swbell.net
Greg Rinn - gfrnfo@verizon.net
Bill Skehan - lawprof1122@verizon.net
Marty Waters – mamapop@optonline.net

1958 CLASS REPS
Steve Amoretty - amoretty@verizon.net
Joe DioGuardi - jjd@aalcm.com
Jim Melican - pelican984@hotmail.com
Ed Pardon - pardons@snet.net
1959
CLASS REP
Bob Armbuster - armbrusterRbtr@aol.com
Carl Lanzano and his wife Louisa celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 26th.

1960
55th Reunion
CLASS REPS
Frank D’Onofrio - fdjr2@aol.com
Jack Geraghty - jacknavy@aol.com
Paul Powers - ppowers@ssbb.com
Norb Sander - nsander@armorytrack.com

1961
CLASS REP
Carl Liggio - CLIGGIO@MCANDL.COM

1962
CLASS REPS
Jim Buckman - jamebebuckman@gmail.com
Gerry Byrne - gerrybyrneemp@aol.com
Peter Maher – PDM144@aol.com

1963
CLASS REPS
Jenik Radon - jenik_radon@radonoffices.com
Hank White - hfwhitejr@aol.com

1964
CLASS REPS
Robert O’Donnell – rgodesq@aol.com
Jerry O’Gorman - jeremiah31119@yahoo.com
Bernhard Preisser – bfp19@msn.com
John Roy – john.d.roy@att.net

1965
CLASS REPS
Ralph LaBelle - fralph2003@yahoo.com
Ralph LaBelle reports the following: “In late May, half of the living members of the Class of ’65 (76 strong) returned to the Prep for a 4 day Magical Mystery Reunion to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of graduation. Tom Lucia organized a golf outing at the Doral-Arrowwood golf club in Rye Brook. Gregory Woods led a walking tour of Manhattan that began at Grand Central Terminal and ended at the 9/11 Memorial at Ground Zero. Bill Cook, M.D. arranged a Sunday lunch at Gerbasi’s Restaurant on Arthur Avenue. The festivities on campus included a picnic, dinner/dance and memorial Mass for the 28 deceased class members.

1966
CLASS REPS
Bill Heitmann - wgaps@verizon.net
Peter Leider - pleider@drnlic.com
Bill Mulligan - wmmulligan@bpslaw.com

1967
CLASS REPS
Kevin Hackett – krhackett1@gmail.com
Al Naclerio - na24@aol.com
Bill Porcaro - wporcaro@verizon.net
Chris Rohrs – crohrs@yahoo.com

1968
CLASS REPS
Mike Alvino - michael.alvino@chase.com
Rich Ferrara - ferrara@fr.com
Carmine Lucia - carmnelucia77@yahoo.com
Gerry Moss – gmoss616@aol.com
Bill Reilly - wm.spencerreilly@gmail.com
George Zambetti - gejmail@aol.com

1969
CLASS REP
Jim Harrison - jharrison@amscom
Jim Moran is currently the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at the University of South Dakota in Vermillion, South Dakota.
Carl McIntosh was ordained as a Catholic priest on Saturday, June 27th. He had the distinction of being the “oldest seminarian in the country to be ordained this year.”

1970
55th Reunion
CLASS REP
Vic Zimmermann – vzimmermann@curtis.com

1971
CLASS REPS
Michael Letterese - mletterese@aol.com
Jim Parker - james.prker@redcross.org

1972
CLASS REPS
Howie Cook - howard.cook@tradeweb.com
Howie Hopkins - kerrybop@i.com
Bob Murphy was promoted to Associate Chief Medical Officer at Lehigh Valley Health Network and Chief Medical Officer of POPULYTICS, the LVHN Population Health and Insurance entity. These new roles are added to his current responsibilities as a Professor of Surgery and Program Director for our residency.

1973
CLASS REPS
Julio Diaz - diazjr@fordham.edu
Mike Hannigan - mikehannigan@optimum.net
John Panebianco – john@panco.com
John Dolgetta has published Bronx River North which is available on http://www.amazon.com/Bronx-River-North-John-Dolgetta/dp/0692283595

1974
CLASS REP
Tim Tostanoski - truckmiles@aol.com
Rich Walsh – rwalsh10@yahoo.com
William Mulrow is the top aide to New York Governor Andrew Cuomo.
1975
CLASS REPS
Ray Dorado - raymond.dorado@bnymellon.com
John Renzulli - jrenzulli@renzullilaw.com
Dave Balog is communications officer with A Thousand Moms, which educates families, social workers, and communities about the emotional and developmental needs of gay youth. “These youth face the greatest risk for abandonment by their families, substance abuse, mental illness, homelessness, and suicide in their age category. A Thousand Moms is not a direct service organization. It seeks, rather, to educate before the fact so that all parents and workers can keep youth with their families and if that isn’t possible, to find the best solution for these youth. I invite my Prep friends to visit our Web site, www.a thousandmoms.org. We appreciate your support.”

1976
CLASS REP
Ed Bonnano - bonnano.edward@gmail.com

1980
CLASS REPS
Sean Davey - sean.davey@verizon.net
Bob Fink - rjrish@aol.com
Lew Hyacinthe - lhyacinthe@aol.com
Gerry Parker - gpark@ncl.com

1988
CLASS REPS
Tom Andruss - thomas.andruss@optonline.net
Pat Deane - deanep@fordhamprep.org
Tony Fletcher - afletcher@aol.com
Kevin Rooney - krooney@cerberuscapital.com

1977
CLASS REPS
Steve Flynn - sflynn@russell.com
Maurice Hyacinthe - mkhyac59@aol.com
John Murphy - johnjms@verizon.net
Steve Ruggiero - ruggierosteven@yahoo.com

1989
CLASS REPS
Jim Andru ss - jandruss@optonline.net
Vince Buccieri - vincentodayrealty@aol.com
Brendan Neary - breandan.neary@morganstanley.com
Bert Koehler is a Senior Engineer with Target Corp. Angelo Sedacca sent in this update: “I was awarded the rank and status of Honorary Research Professor by the Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Spain’s equivalent of Harvard. In Spain, the status of professor—honorary or otherwise—is comparable to nobility since such is conferred in the name of the Crown, with professors also enjoying certain privileges granted to grandees. Although I did not receive an honorary doctorate, I was also granted the courtesy title of DOCTOR by virtue of said appointment. The courtesy title and professor status is granted for life.”

1978
CLASS REP
John McCaffrey - jfp41@aol.com
Steve Rapillo - steve@tufofoods.com
James Letsen has been appointed to the Board of Trustees of St. John’s Riverside Hospital. He is the Assistant Secretary of the Board.

1980
CLASS REPS
Ramon German - rgerman@hotmail.com
Dario Martinez - dariomartinez@optonline.net
Tim McGrath - tim@mgmconsulting.com
Pat O’Brien - pjbo11@verizon.net

1990
CLASS REP
Eamon Heavey – eph72@hotmail.com
RJ Linehan - rjlinehan@gmail.com
John Montes - johnjoseph.montes@gmail.com

1979
CLASS REPS
Marty Avallone - marty.avollone@workingmegdiagroup.com
Nick Brusco - lucybrusco@msn.com
Michael Cleary - clearfive@hotmail.com

1981
CLASS REP
Paul Lee – paul.lee@timeinc.com
Ed Lenci - elenci@hinshawlaw.com

1982
CLASS REPS
Jim Conforti - cecorp@att.net
Vince DonVito - bigv7@gmail.com

1983
CLASS REPS
Tony DiNota - tony.dinota@gmail.com
Mike Sohr - michael.sohr@alliancebernstein.com
Simon Walsh - simonwalsh11@gmail.com

1984
CLASS REPS
JG Fink - jg.fink@ncm.com
Dan Hickey - admin@ssmg.net

1985
CLASS REPS
Marc Flamino - mflamino@hotmail.com
Michael Trovini - mtrovini@me.com

1986
CLASS REPS
Ramon German – ramongerman@hotmail.com

1987
CLASS REPS
Kevin Fitzpatrick - fitzkevin@yahoo.com
Eric Groepler - egroeplee@fordhamprep.org
Dario Martinez - dariomartinez@optonline.net
Tim McGrath - tim@mgmconsulting.com
Pat O’Brien - pjbo11@verizon.net

1988
CLASS REPS
Tom Andruss - thomas.andruss@ey.com
Pat Deane - deanep@fordhamprep.org
Tony Fletcher - afletcher@aol.com
Kevin Rooney - krooney@cerberuscapital.com

1980
CLASS REPS
JG Fink - jg.fink@ncm.com

1989
CLASS REPS
Angelo Sedacca sent in this update: “I was awarded the rank and status of Honorary Research Professor by the Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Spain’s equivalent of Harvard. In Spain, the status of professor—honorary or otherwise—is comparable to nobility since such is conferred in the name of the Crown, with professors also enjoying certain privileges granted to grandees. Although I did not receive an honorary doctorate, I was also granted the courtesy title of DOCTOR by virtue of said appointment. The courtesy title and professor status is granted for life.”

1991
CLASS REPS
Charlie Andruss – caandruss@gmail.com
Jake Dolce - jake.dolce@jump tap.com

1992
CLASS REPS
Rich DioGuardi - richdio@yahoo.com
Dom Galimi - dgalimi@optonline.net
Art O’Reilly - aoreilly@honigan.com
Luke Sweeney - dcyonkers@gmail.com

1993
CLASS REPS
Mickey Merrigan - mmerrigan@gmail.com

1994
CLASS REPS
David Varenne is looking forward to his 16th year as an NYC Public School teacher in the Bronx (not far from the Prep!), where he is also beginning his 3rd term as UFT Chapter Leader. His proud father of Charles (13), Margaret (12) and Henry (6). His married to Liz (Mazzella, Mt. St. Ursula ’92).
Class Notes

1994
CLASS REPS
Sean Bowden - sbowden76@yahoo.com
Ben Caiola - bcaiola61001@hotmail.com
Charon Darris - charon_darris@yahoo.com
Sean Gregory - sean_gregory@msn.com
Albert Sackey - sackeya@norwalkps.org
Stephen Schwartz – steven.schwartz@sasriskmanagement.com

1995
CLASS REPS
Brian Duffy – briduffy4@gmail.com
Brad Serton - bserton@gmail.com

1996
CLASS REPS
Chris Celentano - christophercelentano@hotmail.com
Paul DiSenso - pdisenso@hotmail.com
Conan Dolce - dolce_co@willis.com
Bill McNamara - wmcmamara@oppenheimerfunds.com
Nelson Ritter - rittern@fordhamprep.org
Rob Weitzman - robert.weitzman@gmail.com

1997
CLASS REP
Position Available

1998
CLASS REPS
John Alli - john.alli@gmail.com
Niall Henry - nhenry@hvbank.com

1999
CLASS REPS
Jon Bagwell - jbagwell@mac.com
Anthony Chiodi - anthonychiodi@gmail.com
Peter Kilpatrick - peter.kilpatrick1@gmail.com
Colin Reilly - colin.reilly@gmail.com
Deric Zaphire - dericz@chateauequity.com

2000
CLASS REPS
Frank Lively - francisively@gmail.com
Joe Neckles - jneckles@kp.com
Sean O'Keefe - sean.k.okeefe@hotmail.com
John Schwartz - j.schwartz@yahoo.com
Doug Serton - douglas.serton@gmail.com

2001
CLASS REPS
Blaise Goswami - blaise.goswami@gmail.com
Mark Hannigan - hannigan.m@gmail.com
Bob Lynch - rtlynch@gmail.com
Michael Murray - michael.g.murray@morganstanley.com
Kevin Phipps - mistaphipps@gmail.com
Matt Rinklin - matthew.rinklin@gmail.com
Michael Sangobowale - msangobowale@gmail.com
Dan Sherman - dsherman54@gmail.com
Mike Viele - vielem@fordhamprep.org

2002
CLASS REPS
Chris Cavanagh - ccavanag@gmail.com
Joe Donat - joseph.donat@gmail.com
Joe FitzSimons - joseph.fitzsimons@gmail.com
Jared Kildare - jared.kildare@gmail.com

2003
CLASS REPS
Charles Beale - cebf16@aol.com
Rich Berretta - pianoman051@yahoo.com
Jay Feighery - jeighpeayh@gmail.com
Ravi Kantha works at Leslie J. Garfield Real Estate, a boutique real estate firm renowned for its expertise in townhouse and small building sales. He specializes in the sales of townhouses in Brooklyn and Downtown Manhattan. On July 7th, "CBS This Morning" had a report about the three co-founders of Sweetgreen, one of whom is Nicolas Jammet. Paul Chianese has started a healthy fast casual stir fry restaurant called Stirlicious. You can see what they have to offer at www.stirlicious.com.

2004
CLASS REPS
Joe Altenau - joealtenau@gmail.com
Vijay DaCosta - vijaydacosta@gmail.com
Vijay DaCosta was recently engaged to Erin Casey of North Attleboro, MA. The couple will be married July 2016.

2005
CLASS REPS
Christopher Doyle - Christopher.j.doyle@jpmorgan.com
Joe Hallinan - joseph.hallinan@yahoo.com
Jim Lundy - jmlundy@yahu.co.com
Joe Migliaccio – jnmigliaccio@gmail.com
John Murtagh - jmurtagh155@gmail.com
Steve Tesoro - steven.tesoro@gmail.com

2006
CLASS REPS
Eric Collazo - collazoe88@aol.com
Sean Connolly - cumecclesia@gmail.com
Ramon DeLaCruz - theinfamousdc@aol.com
Geoff DeSoye - gdesoye@gmail.com
John Dinee - dinee@gmail.com
Travis Long - travis45@gmail.com
Hal Mackenzie - hockeysme@optonline.net
Connor Nugent - nugent.connor@gmail.com
Patrick Schramm – ps@ridgetopresearch.com
Sean Connolly was ordained to the priesthood on Saturday, May 23, 2015.

2007
CLASS REPS
Will Ferguson - wbff4th@gmail.com
Mo Kanu - M.Kanu@aol.com
Jim Lipscomb - jameslipscomb89@gmail.com
Luke Malone – lukemalone2@gmail.com
Jim Moore - jmoore43@fordham.edu

2008
CLASS REPS
Dan Altenau - danaltenau@gmail.com
Kenny Hyacinthe - kennyhyacinthe@gmail.com
Jan-Michael Llanes - jllanes.jml@gmail.com
Chris Luboja - cluboja@gmail.com
Chuck Mackenzie - crmack12@holycross.edu
Calvin McCoy - mcco@holycross.edu
Mike Wrotniak - michael.wrotniak@gmail.com

2009
CLASS REPS
Connor Brown - cbrrown@students.colgate.edu
Adrian Mansyalla - alm236@georgetown.edu
John O’Shea - jco2118@columbia.edu
Mike Troiano - mtroiano@fordham.edu

2010
CLASS REPS
James Catuogno - jcatuogno1@gmail.com
Eric Lynch - eric.lynch@student.fairfield.edu
Gavin Reidy - gtreid14@holycross.edu
Brendan Siebecker - bsiebecker@holycross.edu
2011
CLASS REPS
Max Kinder - thedevilman31@yahoo.com
Kyle O’Keefe - kfokeefe@umail.ucsb.edu
Mike Santeramo - msanteramo8@aol.com

2012
CLASS REP
Position Available

2013
Class Reps
Tyrik LaCruise –
tlcruise@college.harvard.edu
Daniel McLaughlin – 58mclaughlin@cardinalmail.cua.edu

2014
CLASS REPS
Position Available

2015
Class Rep
Position Available
James Letsen is a New York State Certified
EMT and is working for Empress Ambulance

Fordham Prep Baseball Alumni Diamond Club Reunion – Saturday, June 20, 2015

Thirty Fordham Prep Baseball Alumni attended the First Annual Diamond Club Reunion on Saturday, June 20, 2015 on the Rowen Athletic Field at the Prep. Fordham University Athletic Hall of Fame member and star Prep pitcher Salvatore Chairamonte ‘48 threw out the first pitch at this inaugural event.

Organizers varsity baseball coach Pat Deane ’88 and alumni coordinator and junior varsity coach John Mercorella ’07 organized the alumni into two teams for a very competitive game of softball. The game was played despite cloudy skies giving way to a steady rain.

After seven innings and a few home runs that landed on the Leonard Theatre roof and in Mentor’s Court, the players gathered in the Hall of Honor for a barbecue and shared many memories.

For further information on the Diamond Club, you can contact John Mercorella – mercorej@fordhamprep.org.

Weddings
1964 Robert Reid and Dr. Jennifer I. Downey
1988 Aidan, to J.J. and Liz Gilmartin
1994 Benjamin, to Sean and Eva Bowden
2000 Vivian Margaret, to James and Angelina Lewis

Births/Adoptions
1988 Aidan, to J.J. and Liz Gilmartin
1994 Benjamin, to Sean and Eva Bowden
2000 Vivian Margaret, to James and Angelina Lewis

In Memoriam
Ronald T. Donnelly ’43
Charles O. Theisen ’43
William J. O’Connell ’48
Peter J. Clark ’49
Michael P. Gately ’52
Sherman G. Pratt ’53
John T. Williams ’55
Michael J. Hayes, Jr. ’56
Mario R. Mannarino ’56
Michael J. Naughton ’58
Denis J. Cleary ’59
Gerald T. McLaughlin ’59
Dennis M. Nugent ’62
John G. Riverso ’73
Thomas F. Maher ’74
Christopher J. Brande ’79
William E. Ghost ’81, brother of Stephen ’78
Edmund P. Murray ’82
Sprio G. Catechis ’84
Frances Murray, mother of James ’63, the late Robert ’64, the late Peter ’68, grandmother of Daniel Murray ’09, Salvatore Tavolilla ’04
Leila Buccellato, wife of Drew ’64
Mary Ellen Rivello, wife of James Rivello ’66
Ida Zambetti, mother of George ’68, Edward ’83
Joseph C. Pizzurro, father of Joseph ’69
Mary Pat Bell, mother of John ’71, Stephen ’73, Thomas ’76
Peter Arabia, father of Brian ’73 and the late Rev. Peter K. Arabia, SJ
Eleanor Mullen, mother of Jack ’74
Hon. Mario Biaggi, father of Mario ’76, grandfather of Justin ’98
Frank Mondrone, father of Artie ’86, Michael ’93
Andres Cayanan, father of Christopher ’90
Olivia Benito, mother of Eric ’92, grandmother of Eric ’10
Stephen Quigley, father of David ’10
Valia Caruncho, father of Prep Administrative Assistant Tina Porco and grandfather of Alex Porco ’13
Ronald Santucci, father of John ’16
Patrick Carney, brother of Prep Principal Brian Carney
Dennis Junjulas, brother of Debra DiDomizio of the Prep’s Business Office
Julia Laurino, mother of Math Department member Suzanne Henry and former Math Department member Armand Laurino
Lawrence Murphy, father of Prep Business Manager Michele Gedeiko
William Smith, father of Prep Registrar Joseph Kohler
Domitila Rosario, mother of Nick Quinones of the Prep’s Physical Plant Staff