Zag effort makes Opus Prize events resounding success

The Opus Prize presentation at the Fox Theater may have set a record for standing ovations. The three finalists for the million dollar award dazzled the audience of 1,500, including 900 students.

Israel Gollapalli was humble and so appreciative to be considered among the finalists, representing his organization that has helped thousands of India’s lowest caste find a new path. Father Joe Maier from Thailand was self-effacing, downplaying his part in creating a school system that has educated thousands of young people. Each received $100,000 checks to continue that work.

But it was Sister Tesa Fitzgerald from Queens, N.Y., whose Hour Children organization has provided resources to help incarcerated women rebuild broken families, who brought down the house when she received the Opus Prize and a $1 million check. “This incredible gift will fill many, many homes devoid of hope, and fill them with hope as a result of your generosity.”

Then she hammered home the Gonzaga angle: “There is something very special about the student body here (at Gonzaga),” Sr. Tesa remarked. “A friend working with me on a project in Africa described this place as ‘rooms with a soul.’ When thinking about your student body, it’s ‘students with a soul’ that impresses me so. This world needs the young people like you have here, with a spirit of enterprise and compassion.” She added: “I feel a little more secure tonight because I kept my Zag pin on.”

On a lighter note, Sister Amelle Fitzpatrick, who accompanied Sr. Tesa, introduced herself to Gonzaga folks as coming from St. John’s University where she had been given instructions to let the air out of our basketballs. “After getting to know the place she told me that she intended to go back to St. John’s and tell them: ‘They (Gonzaga) don’t just beat you at basketball — they beat you at EVERYTHING!’” said Opus Prize organizer Mike Herzog, chief of staff to the president.

“One of my favorite moments occurred when Sr. Tesa was asked what she is afraid of — and her answer was basically: ‘Not much!’” Herzog said. “That rang absolutely true. She is fearless in a totally understated, matter-of-fact way that carries true power.”

The featured event was highlighted by stirring introductions of the three finalists by Gonzaga students who had visited their work sites and met the people the finalists have served so selflessly; by the performances of student dancers, vocalists and musicians; and by stirring video creations that portrayed the work of these unselfish humanitarians [gonzaga.edu/opus-awards]. Two years ago when Herzog accepted the task of organizing the Opus Prize program, he knew he would need lots of help from the GU community, but he couldn’t have imagined all the extraordinary forms that help often took. Here’s a short list:

- Student Cecilia Vollert with GSBA who personally took the Opus Prize message to hundreds of students, engaging more than 900 to attend – the most ever for an Opus Prize award ceremony
- Meaghan Driscoll and a few other law students organizing the Restorative Justice workshop
- Joe Kinsella, Global Engagement, and David Bouse, Center for Teaching and Advising, and their curriculum subcommittee creating something unprecedented: Opus Nights, drawing an average of 125 community members
- Todd Dunfield and Luisa Gallagher, adding Sr. Tesa’s Hour Children to the list of Mission: Possible sites, beginning in March 2015
- Mary Joan Hahn and Pete Tormey in community and public relations, securing unprecedented levels of national and international attention for the story
- Behind-the-scenes work done by Angela Ruff, special projects coordinator, and Whitney Franklin, assistant stewardship director, to create a flawless award week
- Outgoing Spokane Bishop Blase Cupich acting as juror, presiding over the interfaith service and offering the prayer at the ceremony
- The Kennel Club engaging students in the Opus Prize spirit and warmly welcoming finalists with honorary membership
- Virtual Campus for live-streaming Opus Nights and the award ceremony
- “In two years, not a single member of the GU community I asked to participate in any aspect of the Opus Prize process said no,” Herzog said.

“We have shared with the Opus Prize board perhaps a dozen ideas of how we envision the impact of the Opus Prize continuing on our campus and beyond long after this event,” Herzog said. “Possibilities might include internships with past winners, a mini-Opus Prize on our campus run entirely by students, a consortium of the West Coast Opus hosts (LMU, USF, Seattle U and GU) to further the Opus Prize work, study-abroad possibilities with the finalists, and more.”

Herzog concluded the ceremony succinctly and poignantly, speaking to the finalists: “I hope we will make the most of the gifts you have given to us.”
**Higher retention offsets lower freshman enrollment**

The final numbers are in, and while overall fall enrollment dropped by 268 students over last year’s enrollment, the University’s $255.5 million operating budget was met due, in part, to a decline in financial aid expense with fewer students.

Undergraduate enrollment dropped by 59 students this fall, but higher-than-normal retention rates among upperclassmen helped support a healthy fall enrollment, said Christina Turner, associate director of institutional research.

Thus, a new website will aim to create a more personalized experience for visitors through a combination of storytelling, better integration with video and social media, and more consistent, intuitive navigation.

To help deliver this, a new content management system is being evaluated that could present personalized information to each visitor based on interests they have shared with GU or other pages they’ve visited.

Using technology similar to that used by sites like Amazon.com, the new system will recommend pages a viewer might like based on other things they’ve viewed. This means a prospective student might be shown information about a degree program they’ve indicated interest in when they visit the home page, as opposed to trying to find their way through layers of navigation.

A lot of work will be done over the next year to develop new stories and other information that brings the GU experience to life, while also paring down outdated information. In addition, plans for an Intranet site are in the works that would help reduce clutter on the external website by providing a better place to put information for internal audiences.

“We need help from all areas of the University evaluating existing content, finding stories and writing content. We are creating a task force to do this critical work, and there will be perks for those involved,” said Heimbigner. Anyone who’d like to participate may contact Heimbigner at ext. 6091 or heimbigner@gonzaga.edu.

**Around Campus**

- The Nursing Department successfully met all four standards in the CCNE Accreditation Site Visit for the Doctorate of Nursing Practice. School of Nursing and Human Physiology Dean Brenda Stevenson Marshall gave special thanks to past and present department chairs Lin Murphy and Neva Crogan for their coordination in the certification process.
- The School of Business Administration presents “Doing Good,” a public forum on business models with a social commitment, Nov. 17, 4:30 p.m. in the Jagion Center’s Wolff Auditorium. The event features representatives from organizations that leverage business for social good.
- “PrettyFaces” is a film celebrating women who thrive in the snow. The film concept was created by professional big mountain skier and SheJumps co-founder Lynsey Dyer with the objective of giving women and girls their time to shine. Sponsored by Gonzaga Outdoors, the film will show Nov. 6-7, 7:30-9 p.m. in Jagion’s Wolff Auditorium. Admission is $10 for the public, $5 for students.
- Gonzaga will observe the annual International Day of Tolerance with a presentation, Nov. 14, noon-12:45 p.m., Crosby steps.
- The 2014 Timothy J. O’Leary, S.J., Lecture will twice feature Ronald D. Vale, professor of the University of California, San Francisco Department of Cellular and Molecular Pharmacology, first Nov. 17, 7-9 p.m. in Cataldo Hall, and Nov. 18, 12:10-1:10 p.m. in Wolff Auditorium at Jagion Center.
- Author and English Assistant Professor at University of Colorado, Denver, Joanna Luloff, will read at the Visiting Writers Series, Nov. 20, 7-9 p.m. in Cataldo Hall. She served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Sri Lanka before publishing her first collection of short stories, “The Beach at Galle Road” (2012). Her short stories have appeared in The Missouri Review, Confrontation, Memoriaux and New South.

**Putting the You in Gonzaga.edu**

“We all have a hand in creating the ever-changing stories of Gonzaga. It’s created when a professor illuminates a difficult subject for a student. Or when a staff member greets the family of a prospective student and points them in the direction of the building they seek,” said Kurt Heimbigner, senior Web and integrated marketing director who is overseeing complete website reconstruction.

“But through research last spring, it was clear the current website doesn’t convey the rich, personal experience many associate with GU. As the first place that students, families and others go to get a sense of Gonzaga, not translating this experience to the Web is an opportunity missed,” Heimbigner said.

By the Numbers

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<tr>
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<th>2013-14</th>
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<td>Total Enrollment</td>
<td>7,423</td>
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<td>Students of color</td>
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**All asked to sign up for ZagAlert**

As a result of the Sept. 25 bomb threat, employees can expect more training and department-based discussions to ensure everyone pays attention to emergency response to keep the campus community safe. Technical glitches with Gonzaga’s emergency communications system ZagAlert, specifically that voice mail and emails did not match, were resolved before the second Alert was issued; the source of that original problem has been tracked and addressed.

A ZagAlert Task Force has been formed to look at all elements of the tool, including when and how it’s used. Additionally, training for emergency response is in the works so people will know what to do—what specific terms mean, such as “all clear” or “shelter in place.” Updates have been made to the software and a series of tests are scheduled later this fall to address identified concerns around the speed/capability of the system.

One of the most important projects under way is to get all members of the campus community signed up for ZagAlert. From now through Thanksgiving, Campus Security and Risk Management are asking the campus community to step up efforts to be informed and stay safe by enrolling in ZagAlert. By providing both an email address and a mobile phone number, community members will increase ways to be informed in case of crisis.

Visit zagweb.gonzaga.edu to enroll in ZagAlert or to update contact information to include a mobile phone number. It should only take 2 minutes. Visit zagona.edu/zagalert to see Sign Up, Gear Up, Zag Up campaign progress.

**Benefits online enrollment – here’s the deal**

With more than 1,200 employees who have benefits and beneficiaries recorded on paper forms, it’s time to streamline. All employees are asked to update their information in the new online system. “An important reason for handling the transfer of that information in this fashion is to ensure accuracy,” said Benefits Manager Lisa Schwartzenburg. “The update should take less than 10 minutes. Your information and current selected benefits will prepopulate in the enrollment tool. If you have spouses and dependents, Gonzaga is required by the Affordable Health Care law to report their Social Security numbers and addresses starting in January 2016. We do not currently have that information on file.”

This process will reduce administrative cost and streamline access to benefits. Go online to benefits.gonzaga.edu to access the portal to complete your benefit elections. For answers to questions, or additional training, HR representatives are available in College Hall D12 daily through Nov. 14, from 9-10 a.m. and 2-3 p.m., or call Schwartzenburg at ext. 5861.
Noteworthy

**New Hires:**

David Armstrong, lecturer-AI, English; Karie Brouillard, research coordinator, Chemistry, Biology; Bee Burnm, lecturer-AI, Sport & Physical Education; Richard Cangelosi, assistant professor, Mathematics; Meagan Ciesla, assistant professor, English; Emily Clark, assistant professor, Religious Studies; Steven Cowen, lecturer-AI, Physics; Brian Dunn, lecturer-AI, Biology; Chuck Faulkember, director of the Hammington Center, Campus Services; Kem Gambrell, assistant professor, Leadership Studies; Kimberly Griffin, lecturer-AI, Chemistry; Peter Hamlin, assistant professor, Music; A poly Hughes, assistant professor, Religious Studies; Mary Kearney, assistant professor, Mathematics; Frederick Koch, lecturer-AI, Physics; Danielle Layne, assistant professor, Philosophy; Kelly Lepo, lecturer-AI, Physics; Kevin Mcsor, lecturer-AI, Biology; Timothy Olsen, assistant professor, Business MIS; Charles Pepiton, assistant professor, Theatre & Dance; Mathew Rude, assistant professor, Art; Allan Scruggs, lecturer-AI, Chemistry; Lisa Silvestri, assistant professor, Communication Studies; Shaun Sorensen, lecturer-AI, Theatre & Dance; Leslie Stanavalia, lecturer-AI, Theatre & Dance; Jason Tate, lecturer-AI, Physics; Ashley Sundin, reference/research librarian, Law Library; Mark Thomas, lecturer-AI, Philosophy; Xiofeli Zhang, lecturer-AI, Chemistry; Heather Dores, women’s basketball video coordinator, Athletics; Megan Pitzen, program manager, University Advancement; Kyle Scholzen, assistant sports information director 2, Athletics; Holly Bradshaw, custodian, Plant Services; Luanna Fields, lecturer-AI, Chemistry; Timmy Hiltstrom, lecturer-AI, Electrical Engineering & Computer Science; Todd Zeidler, director of communications/SID, Athletics; Corinne Hahn, assistant ticket manager, Athletics; Jasmine Linane-Boney, admissions counselor; Admissions; Kari Elgee Sanders, office assistant, Controller’s Office; Hugh Bell, custodian, Plant Services

**Goodyes:**

Oliver Pierce, sports information director, Athletics; Kristen Paul, graduate & marketing recruit specialist, Business; Cindy Arit, program assistant III, Nursing, Constance Scarpelli, library technician III, Library Services; Carol Bonino, development officer, Leadership Gifts; Heather Simpson, assistant director of recruitment & retention, Virtual Campus; Monica Holland, adjunct professor, Law School; Amy Cangany, program assistant 2, Admissions Visit Office; Sarah Henrikson, retreat center coordinator, Campus Services; Jamie Kelp, program assistant II, Student Wellness Resource Center

**Position Changes/Promotions:**

Jessica Maucione, associate professor, English; Justin Morscheck, assistant professor, Finance; Vinai Norasakunkt, associate professor, Psychology; Ann Ostendorf, associate professor, History; Frank Slak, senior lecturer-AI, Communication Studies; Christopher Stevens, associate professor, Entrepreneurship; Jane Tiedt, associate professor, Nursing; Colleen McMahon, associate professor, Integrated Media; Brad Reynolds, assistant director, University Ministry; John Nelson, staff accountant, Athletics; Debra Offill, lecturer-AI, Mechanical Engineering; Raymond Rast, lecturer-AI, History; Matthew Bell, lecturer-AI, Computer Science; Patrick Metoyer, lecturer-AI, Psychology; Thomas Trotter, lecturer-AI, Counselor Education; Michael Herzog, senior faculty advisor, President’s Office; Shannon Sanders, custodial lead, Plant Services; Claudio Talarico, professor, Electrical Engineering

**Rest in Peace:**

Eileen Bell-Garrison, dean, Library Services

**Anniversaries:**

- **35 Years:** Dwight Smith, lead security officer, Security
- **15 Years:** Jason Kissing, custodial lead, Plant
- **10 Years:** John King, HVAC technician II, Plant; Clarice Moser, assignments coordinator, Housing & Residential Life; Gale Snyder, program assistant III, Teach & Education
- **5 Years:** Andrey Cherni, custodian, Plant; Sara Update, financial aid counselor, Financial Aid

**Cradle Call:**

Jim Simon, director of sustainability, and spouse Beth had a baby boy, Porter was born on Sept. 4. Rebecca Bell Sachler, associate professor, Management, and spouse Aaron had a baby boy. James was born Sept. 9. Janice Huston, program specialist, Graduate Admissions, and spouse Jeffrey had a baby boy. Jacob was born Sept. 20. Seanna Meade, custodian, and spouse Leigh-Ann had a baby girl. Amelia was born Sept. 21. John Barnard, regional development officer, and spouse Shannon had a baby girl. Callan was born Oct. 2.

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**FOCUS ON . . . Baldwin’s healthy life**

Eric Baldwin took a huge leap of faith to come to Gonzaga last summer to become the University’s first dean of Student Well-Being and Healthy Living. He was one of more than 30 new hires or position changes in Student Development over the past year.

It was a huge leap of faith because he had never been west of the Appalachian Mountains on the western border of North Carolina. And he had a wife and two teenagers to consider. But it was his 15-year-old daughter Harper who called him to authenticity when she said, “If this is where you are being called, it’s OK. Let’s go do it.” That tipped the scale.

It didn’t take long for Eric, wife Liesel, Harper and 13-year-old son Reese to feel at home.

“That is such a magical place,” Eric said. “This is the kind of place that if a student comes with an open mind and open heart they will be transformed more than they could have imagined.”

When he arrived May 19 after a 3,000-mile drive across country, alone, he immediately bought a boxful of 2ag gear and sent it home to family still in Virginia, not sure whether that would make him, or those left behind, feel better. The family followed July 30, in 2ag gear, of course. And if there was ever any doubt about the Baldwin’s fitting in here, take a look at Eric’s office — now painted GU blue and red.

“The kids love it here. Spokane is much more relaxed, laid back. Schools are much smaller. We’re really enjoying it. We love to golf! We’re a self-made foursome. Spokane reminds me of my hometown, Asheville, N.C. We’re huge foodies. For my son’s 13th birthday we went out to find escargot. What kid likes to eat snails?”

Baldwin is enrolled in a doctoral program at Virginia Ministerial Seminary, and Liesel is a lay minister at St. John’s Episcopal Church. Both kids are involved in music.

So what about his job at GU?

Here’s the Reader’s Digest version, from Baldwin: “Being responsive to students in need but also developing ways to be involved with students who are not in crisis in helping them develop skills they will need outside the university . . . not forgetting those who are doing what they want and need to do.”

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**Caring service traits of Mission Award winners**

Paula Foster’s husband, Matt Ball (left), received the Mission Award on her behalf, along with Brenda Warrington (center) and Dennis Colestock (right) at October’s Staff Assembly open meeting.

Brenda Warrington and Paula Foster have served Gonzaga for a combined 38 years, and for the last two as a tag team in helping faculty and staff obtain technology information and support. They have been inseparable. But now Foster battles cancer, and Warrington is carrying on. Both are fighting their own battles as best friends. Nominators highlighted their welcoming smiles, can-do attitudes, patience and a high level of approachability. As exemplary women for others, they embody servant leadership and quickly win the trust and respect of those they work with. Likewise, Housing and Residence Life Director Dennis Colestock has shown exemplary service to Gonzaga’s mission. “He has shown passion and skill in mentoring students who are on the margins. He routinely mentors students on issues such as time management, study skills and life choices. Whether that is in a formally volunteered role as an ACT SIX mentor or more informally with a student he has met through the University Conduct System, he develops curriculum to encourage students to reflect on who they are, who they want to be, and then works with students to develop a plan to get there. He is equally encouraging to staff,” one nominator said.
Basketball Bling

Men

RETURNING STARTERS: Kevin Pangos, 6-2 senior; Gary Bell Jr., 6-2 senior; Przemek Karnowski, 7-1 junior

OTHER KEY RETURNERS: Kyle Dranginis, 6-5 junior; Angel Nunez, 6-8 senior

KEY NEWCOMERS: Kyle Wiltjer, 6-10 junior, Kentucky transfer; Byron Wesley, 6-4 senior, USC transfer; Eric McClellan, 6-3 junior, Vanderbilt transfer; and freshmen Domantas Sabonis, 6-10, Lithuania; Bryan Alberts, 6-5, Northridge, Calif.; Silas Melson, 6-4, Portland; Josh Perkins, 6-3, Park Hill, Colo.

LAST YEAR’S RECORD: 29-7

NCAA TOURNAMENT: 16 straight appearances dating back to 1999, 1-1 in 2014 tourney

TV: 15 games on ESPN family of stations; 13 on KHQ/Root Sports

NOTABLE OPPONENTS: SMU, St. Joseph’s, Georgia, No. 5 Arizona, WSU, No. 23 UCLA, No. 13 Memphis

PRESEASON COACHES POLL: ranked 13th nationally

PRESEASON WCC COACHES POLL: picked 1st

STAFF/FACULTY TICKETS: Available 7 a.m. Monday for games that week, two per employee (see distribution schedule at GoZags.com)

Women

RETURNING STARTERS: Shelby Cheslek, 6-5 junior; Sunny Greinacher, 6-4 senior; Keani Alba, 5-10 senior

OTHER KEY RETURNERS: Lindsey Sherbert, 6-0 senior; Kiara Udoro, 6-2 junior; Shaniqua Nilles, 6-0 junior

KEY NEWCOMERS: Emma Wolfram, 6-5 freshman, Kamloops, B.C.; Jill Barta, 6-3 freshman, Fairfield, Mont.; Emma Stach, 5-9 freshman, Germany; Georgia Shorton, 5-8 junior, Melbourne, Australia

LAST YEAR’S RECORD: 29-5

NCAA TOURNAMENT: 6 straight appearances

TV: 6 games on SWX in Spokane

LEAGUE TITLES: 10 straight

NOTABLE OPPONENTS: Dayton, Iowa, WSU, Wyoming, Northwestern

PRESEASON WCC COACHES POLL: picked 1st

STAFF/FACULTY TICKETS: Available 10 a.m.-5 p.m. week of the game for immediate family

Pain part of Garrity’s gain on Pilgrimage across Spain

Last summer Director of Electronic Media Studies Dan Garrity undertook a journey to capture a memorable video reflection on his walk of the Camino de Santiago de Compostela. It is a path believed to have been taken by St. James from the upper east corner of Spain to the western shore, as he spread the word of Jesus Christ. Followers of Christ still make that journey today.

“You get the sense that you are part of a huge family that believes in the same thing as you,” Garrity said.

View a story and the video series at Gonzaga.edu/Spirit. The video series, posted Oct. 21, has already surpassed 3,500 views.

Dan Garrity and benefactor Robert Schiffner stand along the Camino de Santiago de Compostela in Spain on their 62-mile walk from Sarria to Santiago. View Garrity’s five, four-minute videos as he takes you on a spiritual journey that hundreds of thousands of people walk every year. Garrity explains he had lots of time for uninterrupted reflection along the way, but also enjoyed meeting the people.

November Home Games

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Sports/Opponent</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11/6</td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
<td>VB vs Santa Clara</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/8</td>
<td>Noon</td>
<td>VB vs San Francisco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/8</td>
<td>1 p.m.</td>
<td>WSoc vs Portland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/9</td>
<td>1 p.m.</td>
<td>MSoc vs Pacific</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/14</td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
<td>MBx vs Sacramento St.</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/15</td>
<td>1 p.m.</td>
<td>MSoc vs Portland</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/16</td>
<td>2 p.m.</td>
<td>WBx vs Dayton</td>
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<td>11/17</td>
<td>8 p.m.</td>
<td>MBx vs SMU</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/18</td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
<td>WBx vs Idaho St.</td>
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<td>11/19</td>
<td>8 p.m.</td>
<td>MBx vs St. Joseph’s</td>
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<td>11/20</td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
<td>VB vs San Diego</td>
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<td>11/22</td>
<td>Noon</td>
<td>VB vs BYU</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/22</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>MBx vs St. Thomas Aquinas</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/25</td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
<td>VB vs Portland</td>
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Key: MSoc=Men’s Soccer; WSoc=Women’s Soccer; VB=Women’s Volleyball; MBx=Men’s Basketball; WBx=Women’s Basketball

Believe in Zags theme of Gonzaga Day 2015

Believe in Zags theme of Gonzaga Day will be held Jan. 31, 2015, to celebrate all things Gonzaga. This year’s theme is “Believe in Zags.” Think back in your life. Who believed in you? Where would you be without their support? This Gonzaga Day, we celebrate all the Zag families and members of the larger Zag Nation who mentor and hire our students, and provide financial support, as well as faculty and staff.

You may have noticed that the name has now changed to Gonzaga Day. We Zags are all over the world, not just in the United States and the name “Gonzaga Day” is a reflection of this global presence that we embody every day. Like in years past, a special halftime program from McCarthey Athletic Center will be live streamed over the Web and on mobile devices. Alumni chapter celebrations will include game watches of the men taking on Memphis at home (7 p.m. PST, ESPN).

Help spread the word and find ways to celebrate Gonzaga Day with your Gonzaga community and show your Zag pride.