During the fall semester, we welcomed the largest incoming first-year class ever, received approval on the revised core (see story, p. 4), saw progress on the development of new facilities, (particularly regarding design of the new residence for the Jesuit Community and the performing arts center), and launched a capital campaign. President Thayne McCulloh and AVP Patricia Killen reflected on what’s to come in 2016 during talks before the faculty and staff in January.

“Excellent teaching and learning”
Strategic planning by the College and the schools will make it easier to raise funds to support their initiatives, said Killen. Academic innovation is a central part of the capital campaign, and many people are working to tell stories about our outstanding faculty, innovative programs and academic success in ways that resonate, clarify and inspire those around us. “We have excellent teaching and learning going on,” Killen noted, urging us to improve our storytelling to increase perceptions of academic quality.

Also a central focus for academics is nurturing and exploring Catholic intellectual thought. From the work-around the Pope’s encyclical on caring for the Earth, and the new grant supporting a theology institute for high-schoolers, to new opportunities to explore women in Catholicism, great things are taking place, Killen said. “We need to find ways to bring this gift (of being Catholic) forward.”

“It’s as essential as electricity”
While many of us took vacation time around the holidays, the ITS team continued intense work to address the challenges our campus has experienced in data storage and network reliability and connectivity. ITS implemented upgrades and installed new equipment, as well as researched what new investments are necessary to preserve our network capacity and stability, said McCulloh, because, “it’s as essential as electricity and water.”

New facilities in the plans
The president outlined four building projects on the drawing board: the Jesuit Residence architectural plan is completed, and ground will be broken for this project – provided adequate benefactor support – this summer on the northwest corner of Boone and Astor. The Myrtle Woldson Performing Arts Center is currently being designed. It will be located on the south portion of the Jepson parking lot, west of Jepson and directly across the quad from Jundt Art Center and Museum. Work will begin this spring on the design phase of a new science and engineering building, west of Paccar Center. That project is necessitated by the growing interest in those two areas of study, and the upswing in nursing education. However, it will not advance until funding is in place. Plans for the Center for Athletic Achievement, south of Martin Centre, are ongoing, and fundraising is going well.

The Purple & Gold
McCulloh said conversations around medical education and potential for partnership with the University of Washington’s School of Medicine continue.

Student Enrollment
Shifts in enrollment over the last five years show that while undergraduate enrollment has increased slightly, graduate enrollment has decreased by about 15 percent. We’re also seeing changes in preferred undergraduate areas of study, with an increase in sciences, notably engineering, and decreases in the humanities. Significantly, more students are arriving with a declared major, rather than opting to explore majors before choosing one.

“One definition of a prestigious institution,” said McCulloh, “is one that has total control over its enrollment. We need to know exactly how many (students) we’ll accept, particularly in certain programs, because vacillations in enrollment create year over year challenges in the budget.”

Caring for One Another
There have been many losses in our family recently – friends like Paula Foster and Marguerite Sladich – three students lost their fathers over Christmas, and we have faculty/staff members mourning the passing of spouses and loved ones. McCulloh said these “underscore that ours is not an artificial community, but a community of real people with real burdens and challenges. More often than not, these remain private. Sometimes making a positive impact requires only an email or a call. Sometimes it requires more.

“But if there’s one belief that I truly hold about Gonzaga, it is that this is a place where, when the going gets tough, people are really there for one another,” McCulloh said. “Thank you for modeling for our students, and for each other, what it means to be a community.”

Gonzaga will look to enroll 1,150 new freshmen in fall 2016.
Our fourth annual Gonzaga Day 2016 will feature:

- A halftime presentation emceed by Suzanne Ostersmith at the women’s basketball game vs. Portland in the Kennel, Feb. 13, 2 p.m., highlighting academic innovation and featuring a chance for a faculty, staff, student or fan to win an expense-paid trip to the WCC men’s and women’s basketball tournament, March 3-8 in Las Vegas. To enter, simply share a photo of you in Zag Gear using #GonzagaDayWBB by Feb. 7.

- Watch the men’s basketball team take on Southern Methodist on the big screen in the Hemmingson Center ballroom. Snacks will be provided, and enjoy dinner in the COG for just $5 after 6 p.m. Tip goes up at 7 p.m. This event provides a chance for students, alumni, faculty and staff to mix and enjoy the Zags while taking advantage of all that the Hemmingson Center has to offer.

- “ZAGTalk,” patterned after the popular TED Talks, premiers in Seattle at 5 p.m. at the W Hotel, featuring two short presentations: one by Deborah Nieding, chair of Gonzaga’s teacher education program, on “Turning What If into What Next,” and one by John Naekel (’99), formerly with adidas and Nike and current owner of two highly popular bars in Portland (The Old Gold and Paydirt), on “The Power of Risk.” Meanwhile, alumni and many GU students.

- United Way internships: For years GU students have served internships for United Way.

- Day of Action (September 2015): On United Way’s annual service day members of GU’s soccer team volunteered in the East Central Neighborhood Project, an assessment effort to identify neighborhood priorities that build on strengths and define opportunities for collective action.

Zag supporters will gather for a game watch at the W.

Gonzaga Day is an opportunity for alumni and friends worldwide to celebrate those things that bring together this Zag Nation: community, desire to help others, and make this world a better place. For more info, visit www.gonzaga.edu/gonzagaday.
NOTEWORTHY

New Hires
Sasha Gibson, social justice & outreach program coordinator; Maria Morales Sanchez, student leadership & engagement program coordinator, UMEC; Gregory Onofrio, coordinator of Liturgy & Music, University Ministry; Diane Smith, project manager/business analyst, ITS; Kevin DeLaune, computer lab web & distance education specialist, Education; Cole Kelly, program coordinator, Hogan Program, Business; Andrea Kathrens, program assistant II, Learning Strategies; Molly Anderson, admissions counselor, Admissions; David Tagnani, lecturer-AT, English; Paul Emigh, lecturer-IR, Physics; Sanna Lehtonen, counselor, Health & Counseling Services; Josiah Bird, manager on duty, Hemmingson Center; Laura Van Horne, program coordinator, Sponsored Research; Maggie Crabtree, lecturer-IR, Integrated Media; Rachel Tamura, program assistant, Communication Arts, Theatre and Integrated Media; Samantha Howell, summer sessions & data production coordinator, AVP; Crisco Moua, custodian, Plant; Mayra Villalobos, senior program assistant, Education; Casey Nowacki, custodian, Plant

New Positions/Promotions
Brian Best, crime prevention & education officer, Security; Matthew Gerdes, parking enforcement & transit officer, Security; Dan Harris, lead concierge, GUEST; Kathleen Burrow, concierge & reservation coordinator; Duran Paash, event operations specialist, GUEST; Anna Creed, moderate means data program coordinator, Law; Drew Rieder, director, Regional Alumni Chapters; Renea Howat, program assistant II, Athletic Development; Elizabeth Rowe, academic advisor, Integrated Media; Valerie Shayman, academic adviser, Academic Advising and Course Enrollment; Darren Owseley, chief technology officer, ITS; Colleen Vandenboom, assistant dean, Student Involvement & Leadership; Jim Jones, associate chief info officer; Andrew Main, operations manager; Hemmingson Center; Vivi Windsor, event manager-events, Hemmingson Center

Goodbyes
Leslie Hebert, director marketing & recruitment, Virtual Campus; Mike Herzog, chief of staff to president; Chris Bingley, associate vice president, University Advancement; Vickie Williams, professor, Law; George Morris, assistant to the VP for mission; Mark Wilson, professor/supervising attorney, Legal Foundation; Scott Boyd, director annual giving, Athletics; Monica Stenzel, lecturer-IR, History; Teri Eveland, administrative assistant to VP, Administration & Planning; Lisa Bridston, admissions counselor, Virtual Campus; Jacob Nitkin-Raymond, custodian, Plant

Anniversaries
Kathleen Allen, interim dean, Foley Library; Akbar Ansari, professor, Mechanical Engineering; Valerie Kitt, circulation supervisor, Foley Library
Hugh Lefort, professor, Biology
Erin Dorsey, senior lecturer-AT, Integrated Media; Terence McClure, clerk, Mail Services; Sergey Tsuyukalo, painter, Plant
Samuel Anderson, groundkeeper, Plant; Julius Claffa, associate professor, Philosophy; Jana Clarry, payroll specialist; Todd Coleman, groundkeeper, Plant; Robert Hardie, technical support specialist, Athletics; Laurie Hitchcock, senior faculty assistant, Art; Daniel Stewart, professor, Entrepreneurship
LeAnn Blair, elder law paralegal, Law Clinic; Aaron Collins, custodial specialist, Plant; Scott Davis, custodial specialist, Plant-Arena; Jill Herbert, academic curriculum specialist, Registrar; Brian Krenn, lead investigator, Title IX/EEO; Brain Michaelson, assistant men's basketball coach; Laurie Powers, director, Center for Professional Development, Law

Cradle Call
Andrew Brajcich, assistant professor, Accounting, and his wife Alexandra had a baby boy, Henry. Amy Smith, admissions counselor, Virtual Campus, and husband Channing had a baby girl, Lilly Dre. Todd Coleman, groundkeeper, Plant, and wife Krista had a baby girl, Ella. Travis had a baby boy, Rowan. Jacob Nitkin-Raymond, custodian, Plant, and husband Todd had a baby girl, Lilly Dre.

Tod Marshall peers out the opening of his tent on a sun-kissed summer morning, somewhere in Glacier Park, and breathes in the simple grandeur of his mountainous surroundings. In that moment the world becomes much smaller, and the focus much more elemental. Nothing else matters but the task at hand.

Back to urban life, things aren't so different for the man who has set high standards for himself, and who'd do anything for his students. Nine years ago he developed the Visiting Writers Series, and today it stands resolute as one of the literary treasures of the Pacific Northwest, bringing both regional and nationally acclaimed poets, nonfiction writers, and novelists to Spokane.

“But what most might not see is a man bustling behind the scenes, the one lobbying for money to keep the program strong, building relationships, and the one setting up chairs. He doesn't have to do that. He has a full plate," says faculty colleague J.D. Thayer. "But he does that because he’s devoted to Gonzaga. He is always willing to give his students time and attention, and takes a real interest in trying to help them realize their potential as writers, scholars and human beings."

Marshall sees himself as squirrel-like and friendly. But those close to him call him genuine; a powerhouse. He's an ardent advocate for the humanities and their importance in our society.

BUDGET PROCESS CHANGES
Gonzaga President Thayne McCullough announced that Gonzaga is preparing to initiate a two-year budget process to create a smoother resource allocation experience, particularly in periods of fluctuating enrollment. Under the current proposal, the first two-year budget would be approved in April.

Gonzaga’s FY 2016-17 draft budget is approximately $283 million. Of that, 85 percent is derived from tuition and fees. McCullough said overall enrollment has decreased over the past five years, largely from downturns in graduate enrollment offset by a steady trend in undergrad enrollment. Administration is budgeting for a fall 2016 freshmen class of 1,150, with total on-campus undergraduate headcount similar to the current year (4,740). Trustees approved an undergraduate tuition increase of 4 percent. Among other expense changes, the draft budget proposes a salary pool of 3.5 percent of FY 15/16 salaries to fund various changes to overall compensation, including annual increases, re-evaluations, sabbaticals and new positions.
AT THE CORE

Heart of mission shines through

Political Virtue, Beauty, and Spartacus: Fact or Fiction, are three courses offered last fall as a preview of Gonzaga’s new First-Year Seminar (FYS), part of the revised University Core Curriculum. Feedback was summed up by this freshman’s response: “I have never learned so much about the dynamic levels of one topic in a class. Thank you for giving us this opportunity to grow as students, to grow as friends, and to become a group that was able to take a classroom topic and apply it to our own lives. I am unbelievably grateful for the impact this class has had on me.”

The revised University Core, approved by Trustees in December, will be introduced to all new Gonzaga students in the fall. Grounded in our Catholic, Jesuit and humanistic heritage and mission, the revised core is organized around one overarching question (see graphic), which is progressively addressed by yearly questions to add cohesiveness and intentionality to the core experience. “The revision also allows for more interdisciplinary connections, expands credits in important areas, and reflects our values by adding designations in writing, global studies and social justice to the curriculum,” says Core Director Molly Kretchmar-Hendricks.

The First-Year Seminar and the Core Integration Seminar are both new. The FYS, intended to introduce new students to university intellectual life and Gonzaga’s mission and heritage, brings an interdisciplinary perspective to a particular topic. The seminar format highlights the participatory character of university life, emphasizing learning as an active, collegial process. Fall 2015 elective sections of the FYS were described as transformative learning and teaching experiences by both students and faculty.

The Core Integration Seminar (CIS) offers students a culminating seminar experience in which they ‘imagine the possible’ by integrating the principles of Jesuit education, prior components of the Core, and their disciplinary expertise. Proposed topics, such as What is Happiness?, Doubt and Faith, and Why People Hate, will be developed by each faculty member in ways that draw on multiple disciplinary perspectives and connect to students’ future roles in the world.

Describing the basic goals of the Jesuit educational tradition, John O’Malley, S.J. writes: “What the tradition is meant to do is to allow students to escape from the confines of their experience up to the present... To help them escape from the bondage of unexamined assumptions and prejudices. To help them expand their consciousness and the areas in which they can dare to ask questions, not only in the areas in which their trade, discipline or profession moves, but about life itself.”

“Reflecting this tradition, the re-envisioned Core Curriculum is designed to keep the dynamic heart of Catholic, Jesuit, humanistic education alive for new students in a changing world,” says Kretchmar-Hendricks.

CORE ESSENCE

As students of a Catholic, Jesuit, and Humanistic University, how do we educate ourselves to become women and men for a more just and humane global community?

| Year 1: Understanding and creating: |
| How do we pursue knowledge and cultivate understanding? |
| First-Year Seminar • Writing • Reasoning • Communication & Speech • Math • Scientific Inquiry |
| Year 2: Being and becoming: Who are we and what does it mean to be human? |
| Philosophy of Human Nature • Christianity & Catholic Traditions |
| Year 3: Caring and doing: What principles characterize a well lived life? |
| Ethics • World or Comparative Religion |
| Year 4: Imagining the possible: What is our role in the world? |
| Core Integration Seminar |

Broadening courses: Fine Arts & Design, History, Literature, Social & Behavioral Science
Designations: Writing Enriched (3); Global Studies (2); Social Justice (1)

TV has all WCC tourney games covered

It’s a different place at WCC basketball midpoint than either Zag team has found itself in recent years; neither team sitting atop league standings. But when it comes down to NCAA tournament consideration, nothing speaks more clearly than a WCC Tournament championship and an automatic bid into the Big Dance.

Following is the schedule for all games, played for the eighth consecutive year at the Orleans Arena in Las Vegas.

**Friday, March 4**
- **Women #1 vs. #8/9** Noon BW
- **Women #2 vs. #7/10** 2 p.m. BW
- **Men #8 vs. #9** 6 p.m. BW

**Saturday, March 5**
- **Men #3 vs. #6** 1 p.m. BW
- **Men #4 vs. #5** 3 p.m. BW
- **Men #1 vs. #8/9** 7 p.m. ESPN2
- **Men #2 vs. #7** 9 p.m. ESPN2

**Monday, March 7**
- **Women Semi-final** Noon BW
- **Women Semi-final** 2 p.m. ESPN
- **Men Semi-final** 6 p.m. ESPN
- **Men Semi-final** 8:30 p.m. ESPN2

**Tuesday, March 8**
- **Women Final** 1 p.m. ESPNU
- **Men Final** 6 p.m. ESPN

* BW = Television broadcast on BYUtv and online at TheW.tv

Senior Kyle Wiltjer is leading the WCC in scoring, and securing a master’s degree at GU.

**VIEW ONLINE AT:** www.gonzaga.edu/spirit