How does this shape our future?

Alfonso says as part of the School of Education’s strategic plan, the creation of a Center for Catholic Education places Gonzaga at the forefront of Catholic education initiatives in the region. “In addition, the CCE will provide opportunities for students, staff and faculty to serve Catholic elementary and secondary school students, families, teachers, administrators and religious. The World Congress and CCE are consonant with the School’s and University’s mission of preparing men and women to serve the greater good,” Alfonso says.

“The CCE is not a brick and mortar building, but a concept whose focus is on Catholic education. The mission of the CCE is to renew and strengthen our 14 Catholic schools so they may flourish through a community that nurtures the heart, mind and soul. This community inspires faith formation and intellectual inquiry within our Catholic tradition,” Alfonso says.

“We will be an international leader in transforming lives through faith formation and intentional inquiry,” he says.

What are we doing?

The School of Education and Business Administration are already assisting the Spokane Catholic Diocese and its schools in myriad ways. For example, the School of Education has hosted the Celebration of Catholic Schools breakfast for more than 12 years and has been hosting professional development days for teachers and administrators the last two years. In addition, Education and the Diocese have created an annual day of reflection that takes place at the Bozarth Mansion. Together with the Business school, Education has been providing services to two Catholic elementary schools, including teacher in-services and professional development, principal consultation. And, financial management guidance and consultation. “We expect these services to expand over time with financial support from donors,” Alfonso says.

In November, Gonzaga Education Dean Chuck Salina & to-go items

Coffee bar, pastries

M-F, 8 am-2:30 pm

MARGIE’S

& to-go items

Hot sandwiches, soup

S-S, 11 am-10 pm

M-F, 7 am-10 pm

MARCH PARK

& to-go items

M-F, 8 am-2:30 pm

RUBY ST.

Coffee bar

M-F, 7 am-10 pm

DAILY BREAD EXPRESS

M-Th, 11 am-1:30 pm

S-S, 11 am-8 pm

M-F, 10:30 am-9 pm

PANDA EXPRESS

Chinese cuisine

S-S, 11 am-8 pm

M-F, 7:30 am-2:30 pm

EINSTEIN BROS BAGELS

Bagels, bagel sandwiches & coffee bar

F, 11 am-2:30 pm

Sub sandwiches, wraps & chips

THE BULLDOG

Open daily at 11 am

Sun, 9 am-8:30 pm

Coffee bar, pastries & coffee bar

M-Th, 11 am-1:30 pm

F/Sat at midnight

S-S, 10 am-3 pm

THE ZAGGIN’ WAGGIN

Sub sandwiches, soups & chips

M-F, 7:30 am-2:30 pm

EINSTEIN BROS BAGELS

Bagels, bagel sandwiches & coffee bar

M-Th, 7:30 am-2:30 pm

S-S, 10 am-7 pm

MARKETPLACE

Open daily at 11 am

Sun, 9 am-7 pm

Coffee bar, pastries & coffee bar

M-Th, 11 am-1:30 pm

F/Sat at midnight

S-S, 10 am-7 pm

COFEE BISTRO

M-F, 7:30 am-2:30 pm

S-S, 10 am-3 pm

M-F, 7 am-2 pm

JEPSON TILFORD

Coffee, bagels, bagel sandwiches & coffee bar

F, 7 am-2 pm

THE BULLDOG

Open daily at 11 am

Coffee bar, pastries & coffee bar

M-Th, 11 am-1:30 pm

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From powerless to powerful

Chuck Salina still gets a little choked up when he thinks about the power of positive relationships and their potential to raise our society to new heights.

In a partnership between Gonzaga, the federal government and the state of Washington, Salina was loaned to the Sunnyside School District as a researcher and then as principal of Sunnyside High School from 2010-12. When he began, the graduation rate was 49 percent in this low-income community. Now, little more than three years later, the Sunnyside graduation rate has reached nearly 60 percent, which leads the Yakima Valley, and continues to grow.

Salina says he brought to the district a belief system founded upon his Jesuit, Catholic, humanistic foundation. Three things helped turn this program around: 1. the power of positive relationships and the trust they build, 2. the use of data to support positive change rather than as punishment, and 3. the creation of systems that support teachers in their work.

“Too often the blame for lack of success falls upon the teachers,” Salina says. “That’s backwards. We need to look at responsibilities differently, and focus on improving systems that better support teachers in their work. Thus, our work becomes more intentional.”

When Salina left Sunnyside High after two years, he noticed a new swagger and a sense of hope. “The students, teachers and administrators had a ‘Together We Will’ attitude. The support they received made them feel powerful to make a difference,” Salina says.

“Students say, ‘The teachers care about us now.’ Of course, the teachers always cared about the students, but it’s more apparent now due to intentional supports given at all levels of the team approach,” says Suzanne Girtz, CJ associate professor. Her research allowed Gonzaga to share lessons learned with the state Superintendent of Public Instruction’s office to scale this work on the state and national levels. Salina, Girtz and then-Assistant Professor Joanie Eppinga wrote one book on the turn around, “Powerless to Powerful,” and a second book is in the works.

Meanwhile, the same Sunnyside leadership team is in place. Salina’s associate principal Ryan Manessell is now the principal, who, by the way, was just named Washington state’s Principal of the Year. But he wouldn’t let the district hire from outside and mess up what we had begun,” Salina says.

Salina also passed on kudos to AJP Vatricka Killen, former Education Dean Dan Sunderland and Gonzalo Alfonso for their support of the program.

For more information on the CCE, visit the Center at www.gonzaga.edu/education/CCE
ARMORED HUT Design makes military safe

When Hank Thurston served in combat outposts of Afghanistan and other middle Eastern sites as U.S. Marine, he seldom saw more than dirt. Worked deep in the dirt. But on occasion, his troop would find itself in “bigger” places. Large metal containers, called “sheds,” provided space for kitchens, latrinas and even sleeping quarters.

So when it was time for the senior engineering student and his teammates to design a senior project, Thurston and fellow senior Justin J. Roder came up with an idea to armor these combat shelters to make them safer for our country’s service men and women.

It was sheer coincidence that Berg Co. in Spokane was one of the top choices of the combat shelters. Berg made contact, and Berg was “very gracious and willing to take on this project with us,” Thurston said.

The five-student team has been working diligently to prepare design drawings after compiling research and targeting from a myriad of sources. “Our drawings are 90 percent complete. We’ve already had two issues to solve, create a better ballistic panel, and determine how best to attach it to the shelter.” The students have worked under the supervision of adjunct faculty members Anthony Schoen (‘12) and Aaron Zwanzig.

The students will present their project during the public’s Senior Design Expo, April 27, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and in and around Herzik Center. More than 40 teams will display their efforts at this public exhibition.

Neighborhood Café links faculty, community April 23

An idea that hatched during Gonzaga’s 125th anniversary celebration three years ago is continuing under different nomenclature this month. The Gonzaga Neighborhood Café, formerly Transformation Café, features four presentations, open to the Spokane community, engaging area residents in conversation with Gonzaga faculty. Assistant Physics Professor Adam Fritsch presents Secrets of the Atomic Nucleus and Communications Professor Tony Osborne discusses Focus and High Performance, both sessions at 9:30 a.m. on April 23.

Students present original research April 23

The Spokane Intercollegiate Research Conference April 23 at Whitworth University, will feature a number of original research projects by students from Gonzaga and other area colleges.

For example, Assistant Professor Suzanne Dernstern is leading a session featuring interdisciplinary student researchers and 11 additional students: Diana Fischer (engineering design and choreographic process), presenting research on engineering as well as a piece of choreography she presented at a regional dance conference at University of Wyoming in March called; Kaitlyn Anson (writing and choreography), presenting research in creating a dance called “Driving the Pastoral” from a creative writing text log presented at Wyoming, as well; and Miranda Heckman (biology, education and dance), sharing research on choreographed lesson plan and performance that uses dance to teach Spokane River science.

Many of Gonzaga’s professors present their research in creating an analysis that would be able to predict which reactions may possess non-stationary behavior, which would allow the scientific community to bypass expensive dynamic calculations.

COMMENCEMENT 2016

Saturday, May 7 (Ceremonies at McCarthy) 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Undergraduate Ceremony Reception at Lawrence Hall 11:30 a.m. Noon-2 p.m. Graduate Ceremony Reception on McCarthy South Lawn until 5 p.m. 3:30-5 p.m. Commencement Mass Reception on McCarthy South Lawn until 6 p.m.

Sunday, May 8 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Undergraduate Ceremonies at Spokane Arena Reception on McCarthy South Lawn until 3 p.m.

Best-selling New York Times author Famed Organizational Leadership Studies symposium last week featuring Hoover lauded founding members for creating a distinctive catalyst toward reaching of these distinctive contributions through presentations and publications,” Hoover says. “Ultimately, we want to empower students and faculty on issues related to understanding the capacity to dehumanize others and interventions to combat those capacities in our communities today.”

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Assistant Physics Professor Adam Fritsch presents Secrets of the Protons and Neutrons. His presentation will be held from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m.

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For example, Assistant Professor Suzanne Dementruch is leading a session featuring interdisciplinary student researchers and 11 additional students: Diana Fisher (engineering design and choreographic process), presenting her research in creating a dance called Rooftop Piano; Thea Westfall, a Gonzaga first-year student, discussing her research on the benefits of music and dance; and Megan Davis, a Gonzaga student, discussing her research on the benefits of music and dance.

Armed Hut Design makes military safety

When Hank Thurston served in combat outposts of Afghanistan and other middle Eastern sites as a U.S. Marine, he seldom saw more than two or three meals a day, slept on the dirt. But on occasion, his troop would find itself in “bigger” places. Large metal containers, called “cisterns,” would provide space for kitchens, lavatories and even sleeping quarters.

So when it was time for the senior engineering student and his teammates to design a senior project, Thurston and Navy vet J.T. Bower came up with an idea to armor these cisterns to make them safer for our country’s service men and women.

It was sheer coincidence that Berg Co. in Spokane was one of the first companies to win bids on some of the projects. Bower made contact, and Berg was “very gracious and willing to take on this project with us,” Thurston said.

The five-student team has been working diligently to prepare design drawings after completing research and taking direction from a myriad of sources. “Our drawings are 90 percent complete. We’ve really had two issues to solve: create a better ballistic panel, and determine how best to attach it to the shelter.” The students have worked under the supervision of adjunct faculty members Anthony Schoon (#12) and Aaron Ziwanz.

The students will present their project during the public’s Senior Design Expo, April 27, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., in and around Herschel Center. More than 40 teams will display their efforts at this public exhibition.

A screenshot of the “Living With Kelvin: From the 80s to Now” poster at Gonzaga University’s “Living With Kelvin: from the 80s to Now” event on April 27. The event featured presentations by former students and faculty members who were involved with the series “Gonzaga Writes!”

NOTEWORTHY

New positions/Promotions
Jennifer Puplifting, project research analyst, University Advancement; Pruitt, senior director of strategic projects, University Advancement; Krista Fuller, enrollment specialist. Virtual Campus; Debra Louden, assistant director; Student Accounts; Cathy Carter, project management specialist, Virtual Campus; Sia Solomon; Eric McFall, financial aid; Dori Sonntag, assistant vice president, University Advancement; Kim Bras, assistant director of donor relations, University Advancement; Frank Cass, S.J., vice president of University Advancement, Gonzaga University; and the winners of the 2016 Award for Excellence in Philanthropy.

Newcomers to Gonzaga present April 27

Rayanna Smith, CEO of Vesta Coufal, and Kimiko Hirota, Storied Park, Rayanna Smith, Mead and four from western Washington.

The program supports diverse, community-minded individuals and inspires them to be the next generation of community leaders.

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Idea for Center for Catholic Education gaining steam

In November, Gonzaga Education Dean Vincent Alfonso walked the streets of Rome where leaders of the Catholic Church have passed for centuries, and he couldn’t help but be inspired. Then he attended the World Congress on Catholic Education, which included a session with Pope Francis, and he came away more convinced than ever that Gonzaga can fill a niche in providing multiple education experiences for teachers and administrators who work or aspire to work in Catholic schools.

The Gonzaga Center for Catholic Education is still in concept stage. But at its root is building an educational foundation to support teachers who want to teach in Catholic schools, kindergarten through high school.

“We need to address a number of issues for Catholic schools, including low salaries and a shortage of teachers that are entering the pipeline,” Alfonso says. “We need to help fund teachers working in Catholic schools, provide teacher development opportunities and work directly with children – many who need counseling and academic intervention.”

“We need to look at responsibilities differently, and focus on building the teachers,” Salina says. “That’s backwards. We need to address a number of issues for Catholic education. The mission of the CCE is to renew and strengthen our Catholic elementary and secondary schools so they may flourish through high school. The CCE is not a brick and mortar building, but a foundation. Three things helped turn this program into a community that nurtures the heart, mind and soul. This community inspires faith formation and intellectual inquiry within our Catholic tradition,” Alfonso says.

What are we doing?

The School of Education and Business Administration are already assisting the Spokane Catholic Diocese and its schools in myriad ways. For example, the School of Education has hosted the Celebration of Catholic Schools breakfast for more than 12 years and has been hosting professional development days for teachers and administrators the past two years. In addition, Education has been providing on-campus in-services and professional development, principal consultation, and financial management guidance and consultation. “We expect these services to expand over time with financial support from donors,” Alfonso says.

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Meanwhile, the same Sunnyside leadership team is in place. Salina’s associate principal Ryan Nance is now the principal, who, by the way, majored just in Washington State’s Principal of the Year last fall wouldn’t let the district hire from outside and mess up what we had begun,” Salina says.

Salina also passed on knowledge to AJP Victoria Killen, former Education Dean Jon Bundeland and Dean Vincent Alfonso for their support of the program.

More than 34 percent of Gonzaga graduates who received their bachelor’s degrees between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015 were employed, while nearly a quarter (23.7 percent) either were continuing their education (17.9 percent), performing volunteer service (5.5 percent) or serving in the military (2.4 percent). A total of 6.5 percent of the graduates were still seeking employment or acceptance into graduate or professional school.

The report includes data from 1,103 of the 1,135 undergraduates (97.5 percent) who received their bachelor’s degrees between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015. The report was developed by Gonzaga’s Career and Professional Development Center using guidelines developed by the National Association of Colleges and Employers.