All-Out Zagapalooza

This fall brings about Gonzaga’s second all-class reunion, appropriately named “Zagapalooza.” The first was held three years ago and hosted over 2,000 Zags. Bringing it back this year, Zagapalooza will be October 15-18, 2015. Zags from all graduation years are invited to return to campus for a weekend to remember.

The reunion will start on Thursday, October 15 with alumni gathering with the community to hear the new vision for Gonzaga’s future. On Friday, part of that future will be realized as the ribbon is cut and the doors are opened to the new John J. Hemmingson Center. Alumni are invited to explore and enjoy this world-class facility that will be a campus game-changer and house a number of student groups, resources and restaurants.

To round out the weekend, alumni can attend various campus activities, lectures, and class gatherings. Zagapalooza will come to a close on Sunday with a mass at Saint Aloysius Church.

You don’t want to miss out on the celebration of this unprecedented time to be a Zag!

For more information about Zagapalooza 2015, visit zagsonline.org or contact the Alumni Office at (509) 313-5999 / alumni@gonzaga.edu.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Classes Begin
August 31, 2015

Fall Family Weekend
October 9-11, 2015
Join your GU student on campus for a fun-filled weekend of activities for mind, body and spirit.

John J. Hemmingson Center Dedication
October 16, 2015
Join us for the ribbon-cutting and opening of the new and innovative center of campus.

Zagapalooza All-Zag Reunion
October 15-18, 2015
All classes are invited back to campus for a weekend of celebrating and reminiscing.

Please remember Gonzaga University in your will or estate plan. You are our Heritage. Your Legacy is our future.

Gonzaga class of 2015 students celebrate after receiving their diplomas on May 10. Father Greg Boyle, S.J., a Gonzaga alumnus and gang intervention expert, delivered the commencement speech to the 1,132 graduates.

BY THE NUMBERS

SNEAK PEEK
Exploring Hemmingson

SPECIAL HEMMINGSON CENTER EDITION

SCHOLARSHIPS
Fulfilling a promise

Q&A
The power of Zag Nation

Development Office, Gonzaga University, 502 E. Boone Ave., Spokane, WA 99258-0098, (800) 463-6925 gonzaga.edu/supportgu
Opportunity at the cross (continued)

+ for the Cades’ support over the years. Now, the Hemmingson Center and University Ministry have provided an opportunity for another kind of gift. After supporting scholarships for years, the Cades decided to fund the liturgical cross in University Ministry, which further aligns their passions with their philanthropy.

As undergrads, the Cades participated in the Search Retreat several times and assumed leadership roles for the retreat their senior year. The Search Retreats were an important part of their experience at Gonzaga, so giving back through the University Ministry cross resonated with them. “We’ve been tied to University Ministry ever since the time we were there,” said Sharon.

The Cades’ story is just one of the many donor stories at the heart of the Hemmingson Center. Naming opportunities remain for donors to leave their unique mark on the building. Contact Chris Bingley, associate vice president of University Advancement to learn more – (509) 313-6251 / bingley@gonzaga.edu.

Promise progress

At the start of the 2014-15 academic year, President Thayne McCulloh set a goal to fund 500 scholarships. The Zag Scholarship Promise, as it is called, is a commitment to increase accessibility to Jesuit education. The Gonzaga community responded in unbelievable fashion by funding 592 scholarships through the Zag Scholarship Fund this year.

Kathryn Uppendahl ’15 is one of the many students who benefited from the generous financial support for scholarships. The weather may have been frigid when she took her campus tour as a high school senior, but the warmth of community was more than enough to convince her that GU was the school for her. “It has such a welcoming, spirited community,” she said, “I knew it was the perfect fit for me.”

Uppendahl graduated in May 2015, and will be teaching high school biology in the fall. She is intent on sharing the knowledge she gained at Gonzaga with future generations. “I love teaching. I have wanted to be a teacher for a long time,” she said about her future.

As a biology and secondary education major she appreciates the unique opportunities afforded to her. Being able to spend time both student-teaching and doing biology research enhanced her education. “I believe that it will make me a better teacher,” she said, adding, “it certainly helped me grow as a scientist.”

Uppendahl credits donor support for helping her succeed. “Thank you for placing such a high value on education. Without your donations, I would not have been able to have the experiences I did,” she said.

Meet 2014-15 Kennel Club President Sara Wendland and Learn How She Won $30,000 in Scholarships for the University

Sara Wendland ’15, entered a video in the NCAA “Let’s Dance” contest and, thanks to the support of Zag nation, won $30,000 to be donated by the NCAA toward Gonzaga University scholarships.

What inspired you to enter the contest?

Lindsey Lessing from the athletics department encouraged me. Once I looked into it and realized that part of the prize was scholarship money, I thought this would be a great opportunity for Gonzaga.

What did your video production process look like?

I shot the majority of the video in just a day. Dr. McCulloh, Collin Walker, Father Case and Kyle Nakamine were incredible, agreeing to film the day I shot the majority of the video. Dr. McCulloh, Collin Walker, Father Case and Kyle Nakamine were incredible, agreeing to film the day I shot the majority of the video. Dr. McCulloh, Collin Walker, Father Case and Kyle Nakamine were incredible, agreeing to film the day I shot the majority of the video. Dr. McCulloh, Collin Walker, Father Case and Kyle Nakamine were incredible, agreeing to film the day I shot the majority of the video. Dr. McCulloh, Collin Walker, Father Case and Kyle Nakamine were incredible, agreeing to film the day I shot the majority of the video. Dr. McCulloh, Collin Walker, Father Case and Kyle Nakamine were incredible, agreeing to film the day I shot the majority of the video.

How did you work up so many votes?

It was truly a community effort. It was incredible to see Zag Nation come together so quickly. I feel very blessed to have so many people support me in so many ways.

Your video won Gonzaga University $30,000 for scholarships from the NCAA – how does that feel?

I thought it was really cool that the NCAA held this competition to give back to universities in the form of scholarship money, because it shows they’re investing in education. I am excited that everyone who played a role in the video and voting had a hand in raising this money and that we are going to be able to help students out with one of the most important things money can buy: a Gonzaga education.

Watch Sara’s winning video at gonzaga.edu/letsdance2015.