President Thayne McCulloh offered a University update to both the Spring Faculty Conference and the Spring Open Meeting of the Staff Assembly. Following is a recap of his report.

FALL 2020 ENROLLMENT SUMMARY
7,251 overall enrollment
4,824 undergraduate
1,999 graduate (master’s and doctorate)
413 law
15 post baccalaureate
*228 students withdrew during fall semester, including 52 undergraduate students; however, this is the lowest number (for Fall semester) of the past five years.

EMPLOYEE CENSUS AS OF DECEMBER 2020
1,617 employees (not including student employees)
455 faculty
286 adjunct faculty
876 staff

President Delivers Updates
PLANS FOR A HOPEFUL FUTURE

UNDERGRADUATE COURSES BY MODE
781 (42%) remote synchronous Zoom
599 (32%) hybrid synchronous and Zoom
222 (12%) classroom face-to-face only
160 (9%) online asynchronous only
86 (5%) individualized study
*49% of all graduate students took their courses online asynchronous only, with 19% hybrid synchronous and Zoom.
*Undergraduate student retention from fall 2020 to spring 2021 is 97%, same as last academic year
*Undergraduate fall 2020 GPA was the highest in the last five years, at 3.49

FALL COVID-POSITIVE CASE DATA (AUGUST-DECEMBER)
275 total cases
46 employees
229 students, split almost evenly between on- and off-campus students, November being the highest for new cases
229 students in isolation
515 students in quarantine

COVID
Washington classified education as critical to the state infrastructure last fall. Education employees have been challenged to receive COVID vaccines by the limited number available in our state. Gonzaga is pursuing the possibility of offering vaccines to students, faculty and staff on campus, and to the wider community, McCulloh said. Answers will be forthcoming from the state and Spokane Regional Health District.

“If everyone cannot be vaccinated by the start of fall semester, we will maintain some form of our current approach,” McCulloh said. “We have to be prepared for the reality that this virus will be with us for some time to come. Many years of research teaches us that we won’t know the effectiveness of the vaccines right away. We hope the vaccines are available and people get them, recognizing this will be different for students in different areas of the country. Our hope is that by mid-spring we know more about how this will impact our summer and fall plans.”

SPRING 2021 PRIORITIES
• Continued support of safe campus environment
• Availability of COVID-19 vaccines
• Federal and State funding; continued fundraising from benefactors
• Approach to compensation
• Faculty Handbook revisions
• Continued support of our institutional diversity, equity and inclusion efforts
• Continued support of our mission-based work values
• Creating plans/trajectory for the post-COVID era

BUDGET FORECAST FOR 2021-22
ASSUMPTIONS
• We are able to return to full functioning (i.e., “we are post-COVID”)
• We are able to maintain historic retention rates (e.g., FR to SO at 91%)

President’s Uptates | Continued on Page 6
Behind-the-Scenes
Making Spring Faculty Conference

Broadcast Engineer Josh Boche pushed buttons and flipped switches like the Wizard of Oz, alternating between cameras, graphics and A/V feeds, while Assistant to the Provost MaryAnn Rinderle kept the graphics and slides in order. Associate ITS Director Rick Rasmussen worked his magic to create and feed live Zoom connections from key speakers, and five students manned the cameras, audio and staging in Gonzaga’s broadcast studio, all while Faculty Assembly President Marianne Poxleitner masterfully anchored the Spring Faculty Conference webinar as if it was a local TV newscast.

With COVID restrictions in place, interim Broadcast Studies Director Fr. Bob Lyons, S.J., approached Poxleitner last fall, asking if she would like him to produce the Fall Faculty Conference, which he did with less than one week to prepare. Not everything was perfect, but she received positive feedback from faculty. With that fall trial run, operations ran a lot smoother this time around, Poxleitner says. Fr. Lyons and Boche credit Poxleitner for making this happen, bringing the conference to 320 faculty members, most of them in their homes. But the faculty president is quick to pass credit to Lyons, Boche and department Chair Susan English for their knowledge and encouragement to make it happen. “Their direction to do things the right way is what really made this ‘show’ such a successful production,” Poxleitner says.

“During a normal semester, we’d use students at every position,” Boche says. “So the five students who worked this production loved it. They told me afterward that they were enlightened to see what faculty have to go through to prepare for the next semester. And they liked knowing every faculty member was watching their work.”

“Our goal was not to make this just another Zoom meeting with faces in boxes,” she says. “We’re all experiencing Zoom overload. After the BSU Zoom bombing event, I wanted to focus this faculty conference on diversity, equity and inclusion. Our faculty had pushed administration to take specific action on some items, but I thought that rather than telling administration what we want, why not focus on what we can do.”

It all came together, with inspiring words from keynote speaker and educator Erin Jones from Olympia, and an outline of work ahead from Associate Chief Diversity Officer Robin Kelley.

Some speakers supplied pre-recorded messages, while others appeared on camera in studio. Provost Deena González’s message was pre-recorded, but through the magic of Zoom was able to banter with Poxleitner and answer faculty questions live.

So how were Poxleitner’s nerves anchoring a three-hour program, having never anchored a TV production prior to this year? “I had no idea what to be nervous about it,” she quipped, deflecting credit for a job well done.

COLLEAGUES RECOGNIZED FOR MISSION, INNOVATION

The Staff Assembly bestowed its Mission and Innovation Awards at the December Open Meeting, honoring colleagues for their dedication to, and support of, mission, and for the innovative ways they enhance their work processes.

MISSION AWARD RECIPIENTS

Julia Bjordahl
President’s Office
Gonzaga has been her career, serving since 1985 in Campus Printing, University Advancement and the President’s office. She is the face of, and energy for, her office, but defers credit to others. She’s empathetic, friendly and efficient. Her common sense and direction to others is invaluable. The glue that holds the office together, she works extremely hard, and a 10-hour day is par for the course. She is the poster child for what it means to be a Zag, nominators said.

Shannon Zaranski
Nursing and Human Physiology
Described as the go-to person on how to navigate a policy or procedure, or to help with innovation and improvements, she is the joyful leader of the Christmas decorations team for the Tilford lobby, and also implemented “5 Minutes of Fun” activity for staff meetings that included a hula hooping contest. She lowers the temperature with her quick wit and humor.

INNOVATION AWARD RECIPIENTS

Lisa Owens
Housing & Residence Life
She leveraged the housing portal, Zag Living, and the housing application, StarRez, to build forms to collect valuable information from Gonzaga students related to their needs and plans for campus life during the current COVID-19 season.

Laura Hutton, Claire Laska, Molly McFadden, Shanae Hennagir-Barkas
Foley Center
This team developed a rapid response process that supported faculty and students needing immediate access to online course materials during the COVID emergency.
Brian Cooney, Law’s Jason Gillmer and a team of campus colleagues committed to social justice are staging Gonzaga’s annual Race and Racism lecture Feb. 10, 6 p.m., featuring An Evening with Claudia Rankine, a poet, playwright and Yale professor. Registration for the free public event is available at https://bit.ly/2LUofBD.

Rankine will discuss mounting racial aggressions and their impact on contemporary society which are addressed in her book of poetry, “Citizen: An American Lyric,” for which she earned numerous literary awards. She’ll also address students and faculty the same day in a noon presentation.

“Her book addresses racial imagery, our assumptions, and to what degree all Americans are able to imagine themselves as truly equal,” Cooney says. “The book outlines a number of microaggressions that are so familiar, yet so jarring, that it reveals how deeply racial inequality has become ingrained in our social fabric.”

Rankine is the fourth notable national speaker in this annual lecture series, following activist, author and academic Angela Davis, critical race theorist and civil rights advocate Kimberlé Crenshaw, and co-founder of the Black Lives Matter movement Patrisse Cullors.

As part of the event’s umbrella, Gonzaga faculty members and some of their students will visit classrooms and club meetings at six area high schools to discuss “Citizen” and its implications with students and their teachers. Faculty include Jeff Dodd, Heather Easterling, John Eliason, Tod Marshall, Jessica Maucione, Jeff Miller, Kris Morehouse, Shalon Parker, Karen Petruska, Katey Roden and Leslie Stamoolis.

“Going out on behalf of Gonzaga to spread our educational mission and work with kids all across Spokane represents the best of what we can do for our community.”

Gonzaga sponsors for this event include the centers for Public Humanities and Civil and Human Rights at Gonzaga Law, Gonzaga’s Visiting Writers Series, Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, the Powers Chair of Humanities, Unity Multicultural Education Center, Black Student Union and the President’s Office.

This event is part of the University’s celebration of Black History Month, which includes the William L. Davis, S.J., Lecture by Ariela Gross, professor of law and history at USC, Feb. 17 at noon. She’ll discuss her book, “Becoming Free, Becoming Black,” which tells the story of enslaved and free people of color who used law to claim freedom and citizenship for themselves and loved ones. This event is sponsored by GU’s History Department and the Center for Human and Civil Rights. Registration for the free public event is available at http://bit.ly/ zaglawbecomingfree.
Working from home with kids

Working from home during the pandemic, with kids of your own, is like, well, we’ll let six colleagues fill in the blanks.

Melissa Click

Associate professor, Communications Studies

“My tendency when faced with chaos is to make schedules and lists. My partner also teaches at Gonzaga, so we are both somewhat flexible,” Click says. They have a master calendar for what needs to be done each day for themselves, her 9th grade son and her twin 5th grade girls.

“My partner and I have decided one of us should be outside the house every day for our own sanity. I teach communications, so I realize how important it is in our house.”

Click decided to learn Spanish during the pandemic to keep her mind active and off more depressing issues. She and her children also picked people they knew to write handwritten letters to, one each week. And they’ve found great excitement in checking the mailbox for letters back from their friends and family.

Holly Jones

Communications specialist, University Advancement

For Jones’ three kiddos, sons in 7th and 6th grade, and a daughter in kindergarten, the realization that remote school probably means no more snow days was devastating. So, Jones is counselor, as well as IT specialist, teacher’s aide, lunch lady and recess supervisor. In order to accomplish these essential functions, as well as her Gonzaga work, “I stretch my day out quite a lot. It’s no longer an 8-hour work day with two breaks and an hour lunch. I have to be far more intentional with claiming personal time for myself. Being on duty 24-7 can eat you up,” she has found.

When the pandemic took root and everyone worked from home in those early stages, “the workload became much heavier and we had to get things done quicker,” she explains. “A lot of initiatives had to be funded, and work accelerated. In the beginning, it was overwhelming and a big adjustment, but I understood it. I didn’t have the rhythm and stability I have now. Initially, I felt a need to prove that I was working from home, and overcome society’s perception that if you’re working from home you’re not really working.”

“But I’ve had an opportunity to try new things, have had good conversations with my supervisors and other department leaders, and the clarity about expectations is much better now. I realized I don’t need to over-produce to feel like I’m meeting expectations. Having good supervisors created an environment where my work and time is respected, and they understand my time pressures with kids at home. I’m very grateful.”

One of the things Jones misses most is hot coffee at any time of the day, explaining the coffee in the office is always hot, but not so in her own kitchen.

Of course, Zoom has become our primary communication link with colleagues. Jones was on a Zoom meeting when she heard a clatter downstairs. There was laughing and squealing. “I tried to listen intently to my meeting, but my attention was drawn to the increasing noise from my house. I yelled to my kids, ‘Please quiet down’ at the top of my lungs. I went back to my meeting, and found everyone’s eyes so big. I realized as they laughed that I had muted my speakers, not my microphone.”
The pandemic has made this couple realize the importance of childcare. They have managed caring for their 4-year-old son, but many are not that fortunate.

The Oosterhuises created a fairly complicated spreadsheet – imagine the football coach on the sideline with every play typed on a laminated card – laying out their schedules for the week.

“It has required us to be really creative and flexible in how we do our jobs and care for, and educate, our son,” says Phoebe. “I find myself asking, ‘How can we go for a walk and work in some math?’ or ‘How can we do an art project and mix in language skills?’”

“It feels like (son) Jack is a football we pass off to each other during the day, each of us trying to do our job well and still be a good parent, working with him to practice his numbers and letters, and all that he’s supposed to be doing,” David says.

David teaches classes remotely, creating materials to fully engage his students and recording his lectures so that class time can be spent on discussion. He video tapes himself grading tests and explains incorrect answers so that students can learn.

Phoebe’s job is split between the office and home, often stretching her work week to nights and weekends to fit it all in.

Perhaps the biggest challenge is finding personal time. If either aren’t working, they’re caring for Jack. There just isn’t time for each other, or for themselves. But all this has made them feel lucky. “We both have jobs and we are able to work remotely and keep our family safe,” David says.

Shannon Dunn
Associate professor, Religious Studies

Spirit caught up with Dunn as she and her husband were pulling through a McDonald’s drive-through to grab dinner to take back to their hotel room, where they were stationed during the windstorm that knocked out their power for several days. Par for the coronavirus course, eh!

While Dunn teaches remotely, she likes to get away to her in-laws’ basement, or to campus where she won’t be interrupted. She and her husband have a high school daughter and a 3rd-grade son. She finds the pandemic is more manageable now than in those early days. “I know what to expect, and so do my students and my own kids,” she says. “I do miss the energy of the in-person classroom, but my students have been great, really intentional about using our online platform well. At the same time, it takes a lot of energy to support the emotional wellbeing of my students and my kids.”

She misses having time for herself, to read and to think. She does try to walk every day, and “my dogs are great about forcing me out of the house,” she says. “I have so much planned out long range, but it’s been tough to put any plans in place right now. But I’m hopeful.”

“We have so much to be grateful for, the resources to deal with the pandemic, and our kids have access to online schools. Initially, the pandemic brought us closer as a family unit, and it, along with our social justice, economic and political issues, has reminded me of the importance of my work and that of the academy. We’re teaching students to ask critical questions about the good life, and what it means to flourish. It has given me a renewed commitment to my job,” Dunn says.

Andrew Brajcich
Associate accounting professor/director, Graduate Accounting

“It’s total chaos at home, which can be taxing. (Get it? I teach tax... don’t worry, I’ll be here all semester.)” Brajcich is a morning guy, so he’s up at 5:30 a.m. when his youngest of two boys, ages 2 and 5, awakes. He’s on kid duty until 9 when he leaves for the office, and works until 4 or 5 before heading home. He calls his wife ‘amazing.’

“It’s difficult for me to work from home in our 1,200-square-foot house. If daddy is in sight, he’s available. Plus, we have a small pre-school pod in our basement which took up any potential home office space. So once every few weeks I go to bed as soon as we put our boys down and head into the office about 3 a.m. to catch up on my backlog of work. I picked a bad year to stop drinking coffee,” Brajcich says.

He worries that his boys are missing social development when they rarely see facial expressions of anyone outside the family or on TV. He’s grateful for his wife and his colleagues, both providing him with a growth experience and confidence builder. His in-laws chipped in, getting him a reclining office chair so he can take a nap if he needs it during the day.

“That’s about as crazy as we get in accounting.”
While people around the world struggle to connect with each other in physical ways during the pandemic, Gonzaga in Florence created a virtual program to connect alumni, prospective GIF participants, other students, faculty, staff and friends with the Florentine culture. Presented live from Italy. Beginning Jan. 27 and running every Wednesday through spring semester, 10-11 a.m. Pacific time, GIF In Piazza shares guest speakers on a variety of topics pertinent to Florence. Each program includes a vlog segment Food for Florentine featuring Italian culture through street food, such as trippa alla Fiorentina, schiacciata, and other tasty specialties. And an Italian Identity Interrogation offers Florence trivia questions and prizes for weekly winners. Special guests include GIF all-stars, the likes of Mercedes Carrara, Henry Batterman, former Dean Pat Burke and Manola Gelli from Manola’s House/Nazionale Pensione. GIF staff are on every show and happy to answer questions and partake in conversation with their audience. They’ll even have a conversation in Italian with anyone who wants to practice their foreign language skills.

“We want to reconnect with our community, and offer a chance for our community to reconnect with us,” says Dean Jason Houston. “Join the staff anytime during the Zoom session and listen to or share stories. “There is a pent-up desire to re-engage among students who haven’t been able to come here, and friends who have been here and want to experience Florence again. So, we’ve created a space where people can come and virtually enjoy Florence, take part in the life of the city, and see what happens in the Piazza,” Houston says.

“We hope to attract alumni, friends, and Gonzaga University staff and faculty from the main campus who may have taught here or those who want to study or teach here in the future. Everyone is welcome here.”

The GIF In Piazza Zoom link is the same every week: [https://gonzaga.zoom.us/j/94803633950](https://gonzaga.zoom.us/j/94803633950).

Check GIF Facebook for a preview of what’s in store for the next program. And add GIF Instagram to your social media accounts.

The GIF study abroad program has been unable to host students in person for almost a year due to the COVID-19 outbreak, but GIF faculty have continued to teach Gonzaga University students via remote instruction. Houston says Italy is doing well to mitigate the spread of the virus, and is hopeful to restart the program with the summer session, beginning in May. Progress on welcoming students back to Florence is another feature you’ll find on GIF In Piazza.
ZRM streamlines processes, unifies communication effort

The Zag Relationship Management (ZRM) project continues to improve the student, staff and faculty experience, as is evidenced by two recent launches. In both cases, common themes of cooperation and increased efficiencies emerged from the milestones.

“Congratulations to staff for their dedicated work that went into delivering this significant change for the University community,” says Vice President for Administration Jim Angelosante. “Recent significant milestones were reached by cross-department teams: Graduate Enrollment Management (GEM), Academic Advising and Assistance (AAA), Center for Curia Personalis (CCP), Marketing and Communications (MarCom), each collaborating with Information Technology Services (ITS), and our vendor Anthology, to build a strong foundation for ongoing success and improvements.”

The GEM team went live with key functionality in November. GEM’s work was a big component of the overall project to better connect systems and people at Gonzaga.

“The new ZRM allows an excellent team of professionals to be even better at their work, in support of graduate programs at Gonzaga. By making data more accessible, reporting and tracking efforts allow us to recognize where best to spend the resources of time and money to assist prospective and current graduate students,” says Associate Provost, Enrollment Management Julie McCulloh. “In the first few weeks since ‘go live,’ the team is just scratching the surface of what is possible. It will be fun to keep improving.”

The immediate benefits realized within GEM will include streamlined processes, enhanced data analysis, elimination of manual work, and more personalized communications to prospective students. Benefits will continue to filter through the admissions process, to general marketing approaches, and student support.

Associate Director of Recruitment Luke Cairney said the GEM launch has simplified dozens of tasks which involved copying information from one system into others. That staff time savings allows GEM to better identify and engage with prospective graduate students.

The AAA and CCP teams also recently launched a new solution for the REFER form, used to identify students who may be at risk, both academically and/or for whom campus constituents have emotional, social or behavioral concerns. The teams previously had been hampered by siloed data sources and manual processes, but their recent ZRM launch connected multiple systems and has people working more collaboratively to ensure students receive vital wrap-around support services in a timely manner.

“The AAA and CCP teams have stepped up to the challenges and obstacles and have fully embraced the new ZRM for the REFER system. REFER was an ideal choice for the student success pilot as it not only promises to streamline our work but also serves as a model of how teams from different divisions under the Provost’s office can work more effectively together – providing a better experience for students,” says Associate Provost of Educational Effectiveness Ron Large.

The result of MarCom’s ZRM project provides a unified communication platform across multiple channels, including email marketing, social media, texting and events. Their work will foster collaborative and coordinated outreach to improve constituent engagement at any point of interaction with the University.

The ITS ZRM team provided leadership in this project through a focus on shaping the ZRM system to maximize the value of future rollouts – both to current teams and to teams across campus. An internal infrastructure is now in place to support the University’s information systems through the next decade, including a central hub for data integration that will improve all data management processes.

“The level of technical skill and persistence in this project is remarkable, especially in light of the complications of COVID,” says Angelosante. “Our knowledge of the importance of targeted and personal communication tools and strategies has increased because of this project. We are looking forward to the next phases of the project and further celebrations in the coming months.”

The ZRM project keeps moving forward with the GEM application review process beginning in March and other key launches throughout 2021. For more information about ZRM, visit www.gonzaga.edu/about-zrm.

Around Campus

Gonzaga’s Spring Flannery Webinar will feature a panel discussion titled, “COVID-19: Perspectives from Theology, Bioethics and Population Health,” Feb. 8, 5 p.m. The virtual public event is free; registration is required at http://bit.ly/guwebinarFeb8

Dr. Mary Lamb, M.D. ’77, who leads the CDC’s epidemiologic research team supporting elimination and control of neglected tropical diseases, will speak Feb. 12 at noon via webinar on her journey from GU chemistry major to global public health research. Register here https://gonzaga.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_jXu-63x58yXrg_DZp6lMw

HR’s Kari Elgee Sanders and Heather Graham authored an article in CUPA’s Higher Ed Magazine, 2020-21 volume, titled, “Opening Doors for Strategic Partnerships with Academic Leadership.”

Dancer, director and Emmy Award-winning choreographer Julianne Hough will present Dance with Curia Personalis, Feb. 12, 7 p.m., sponsored by GU’s Dance Program and Leadership Studies. To register for this webinar, go to https://securelb.imodules.com/s/829/17-match/index.aspx?sid=829&gid=16&pid=7063&cid=13024

The Black History Month Celebration Concert, Feb. 27, 7-8:30 p.m., will be live streamed from the Myrtle Woldson Performing Arts Center. For more info, email music@gonzaga.edu.

Sodexo has replaced Wolfgang Puck’s with HandCrafted, a sandwich shop along Main Street in the Hemmingson Center. HandCrafted is developed by Sodexo chefs, allowing guests sandwich customization.
NOTEWORTHY

NEW HIRES
Kirsten Hunt, environmental health & safety manager, Risk Management; Carissa Gwerder, academic coordinator, Athletics; Megan Farley, accommodations specialist, Disability Support Services; Nikki Karmou, operations specialist I, Admission; Derek Pierce, custodian, Plant; Jack Guth, clinical experience asst, Education; Stephanie Doe, program asst III, Arts & Sciences; Anshuman Bhatia, lecturer, Dance & Theater Arts; Laura Williams, custodian, Plant; Anne-Marie VanRiper, learning specialist, Learning Strategies; Nathan Albano, custodian, Plant; Tracy Culp, administrative asst to assoc VP, Marketing & Communications; Jazmine Jackson, program asst, Music; Tammie Maples, business/administrative services manager, Health Center.

POSITION CHANGES/PROMOTIONS
Cheryl Johnston, director of event services, GUEST; Geneva Finley, manager of travel & expense, Controller’s; Lacey Skalsky, manager, Campus Card Services; Zinzi Zodwa Batyashe, asst director, Community Engagement; Gunner Bailey, custodian lead, Plant; Jennifer DiMaio, office asst, Health & Counseling Center; Kimberly Vyetz, program asst III, Modern Languages; Alissa Lucas, learning specialist, Learning Strategies; Rina Clark, lead, Mail Services; Cameron Vullies, custodial shift supervisor, Plant.

GOOBYES
Richard Menard, director, Global Engagement; Adrienne Brovero, debate instructor, Arts & Sciences; Jamie Johnson, lead, Mail Services; Terrence Kelley, custodian, Plant; Katherine Eisenbarth, operations specialist I, Admission; Cody Reeves, groundskeeper, Athletics; Lori VanHook, desktop publishing specialist II, Campus Printing; Mary Watkins, interlibrary loan asst, Foley; Noel Bormann, professor, Civil Engineering; Deb Ellis, program manager, UMEC; Joshua Patino, asst women’s soccer coach; Tessa Greene, clerk, Mail Services; Kenji Lane-Booey, international admission counselor, Admission; Cassandra Albano, custodian, Plant; John Spracklin, interlibrary loan supervisor, Foley.

ANNIVERSARIES:
35 Khyruddin Ansari, professor, Mechanical Engineering
25 Hugh Lefcourt, professor, Biology
20 Sergey Tsukalo, painter, Plant
15 Rob Hardie, technical support specialist, Athletics; Jana Clary, payroll specialist, Controllers Office; Daniel Stewart, professor/director, Hogan Entrepreneurial Leadership Program; Julius Ciaffa, assoc professor, Philosophy; Jeffrey McKernan, vehicle mechanic, Plant
10 Jill Herbst, academic curriculum specialist, Registrar; Aaron Collins, custodian specialist, Plant; Laurie Powers, asst dean, Professional Development; Law; Mary Joan Hahn, sr. director Community & Public Relations, Marketing & Communications
5 Jeff Bunch, web content strategist, Marketing Services; Roger Coston, Enterprise applications admin/SQL supervisor, ITS; Shannon Whitley, web producer, Marketing Services; Margaret Martens, graduate operations specialist II, Admissions Operations; Tara Hiller, counselor, Counseling Center; Casey Nowacki, custodian, Plant; James Smith, program director & assoc professor, Sport & Athletic Admin; David Tagnani, lecturer, English; Mary Mealey, administrative asst III, Provost; Frank Huban, associate general counsel; Samuel Groth, facilities coordinator I, GUEST; Shannon Emrey, clinical placement director, Nursing

GONZAGA FAMILY HAVEN

With a two-and-a-half-month setback from COVID, construction is moving forward on the Gonzaga Family Haven. This permanent supportive housing facility will house 72 families experiencing homelessness. Operated by Catholic Charities Eastern Washington, the center will boast a full-health clinic, kitchen and cafeteria, as well as a community center, outdoor splash pad and a quarter-mile bike trail.

With a tentative completion expected in fall 2021 (weather and pandemic dependent), Gonzaga University’s place based initiative, Opportunity Northeast, has begun working in partnership with Catholic Charities, Gonzaga Prep, Spokane Public Schools and many others to establish supportive enrichment programs for residents. Proposed program offerings include after-school and summer programs for youth, career and workforce development training for adults, wellness programs, leadership development initiatives, legal aid services, and more. Planning is underway to design programs that are informed by future residents and offer opportunities for Gonzaga students, faculty and staff to engage in the implementation and delivery of these programs and initiatives hosted at the Haven.

“Oh Gonzaga is honored to partner with Catholic Charities of Eastern Washington and our local Jesuit Works on the Gonzaga Family Haven partnership. Through the development of rich educational and recreational programs, we hope to contribute to the thriving of youth and families at the Haven,” says Molly Ayers, director of Gonzaga’s Center for Community Engagement.

The Gonzaga Family Haven is one of the many partnerships fostered by Opportunity Northeast, and will embody the commitment to Northeast Spokane.

In February, Gonzaga Family Haven plans to stage a land acknowledgment and ground blessing, followed by a community grand opening late fall.

For more information, click www.cceasterwa.org/gonzaga-family-haven

Gonzaga Family Haven is under construction on the corner of Hamilton and North Foothills Drive.