

NEUMANN
UNIVERSITY

SUMMER 2024
Vol. 52, No. 2

FRANCISCAN

LEARN

by Doing:

The Franciscan Way

SAVE THESE DATES



To view the latest details about all upcoming events, visit neumann.edu/advancement/events

- ▶ **Knights of the Round Table Reception
September 17**
Recognizing loyal donors who have given consecutively for three or more years.
- ▶ **Homecoming Weekend
New Dates – September 27, 28 & 29**
Have a group of 10 or more alumni attending the festival? Contact alumni@neumann.edu to reserve your table(s).
- ▶ **Designer Bag Bingo
October 18**
Presented by the Cultural Arts Forum
- ▶ **The Rocco and Mary Abessinio Speaker Series
November 12**
Aaron Krause, inventor of the Scrub Daddy sponge, will share his story in the Meagher Theatre.
- ▶ **President's Thanksgiving Reception
November 21**
Recognizing St. Francis Society members and leadership donors of \$1,000.

Immerse yourself in the **ARTS AT NEUMANN**. From symphony performances and professional lectures to our Author's Corner and High Tea events, experience the exceptional arts at Neumann University.



A magazine for
NEUMANN UNIVERSITY
alumni, family and friends

SUMMER 2024 Vol. 52, No. 2

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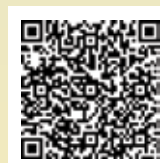
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Neumann University

May 21 at 11:19 AM · 🌐

Big dreams, big city, big new job...

After receiving 7 full-time job offers before graduation, Ava Irwin will be starting her career in the NBA as an account executive with the [Cleveland Cavaliers](#).

Class of 2024 making headlines: <https://chescotimes.com/?p=40361...> See more



“

Every little step has pushed me to go out of my comfort zone. That's where I learn the most.

”

GIVING BACK

MOVING **FORWARD**



Gifts to the Neumann Fund prepare our students for a bright future through real world experiences.

Continue Neumann's commitment to ensuring every student has these opportunities outside the classroom.

MAKE AN IMPACT TODAY.



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Colleges and universities are ranked these days according to every characteristic under the sun. Which are the best and most affordable? Which ones accept the most transfer credits and have the highest graduation rates? I recently read an article that ranked the most beautiful campuses in America.

The “campus beauty” list inspired me to consider the characteristics that make Neumann special. Of course, I think our campus is attractive and welcoming, but that’s not the point of the college experience, is it?

In fact, from the moment that young women and men set foot on campus, our faculty and staff are creating opportunities for them to go beyond our idyllic 133 acres. We want them to test their dreams and goals with internships, clinical rotations, student teaching, community service, and study abroad.

The combination of Franciscan values and the Franciscan intellectual tradition (learn by doing) is what makes Neumann unique.

In this issue of *Accent*, you will discover the ways in which we put that learn-by-doing philosophy into practice — from our new forensics lab and traditional clinical experiences to project-based humanities classes and global engagement. We encourage students to leave their comfort zones, interact with adults, and explore career paths.

You will meet Ava Irwin '24, whose commitment to internships earned her seven job offers before graduation, and Madelyn Tice '24, who consciously built her resume to combine her interest in human resources with her love of the outdoors.

These are our success stories, and I have yet to see a ranking that captures that magic.

Dr. Chris Everett Domes
President

“
We encourage
students
to leave their
comfort zones,
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adults, and
explore career
paths.
”

LEARN
by Doing





THE ARTS GUILD AT NEUMANN UNIVERSITY

was established in 1991 to enhance the high level of cultural enrichment presented to the Delaware Valley Community.



SUPPORT THE ARTS ON CAMPUS

The Fred P. Meagher Theatre Seat Naming Program

www.neumann.edu/thearts/seat-naming-program

Honor or remember a loved one, club, student, or business this year with the purchase of a seat in the Meagher Theatre. This beautiful 300-seat theatre plays a vital role in Neumann's cultural and educational life.

Housed in the Thomas A. Bruder, Jr. Life Center, it is home to The Arts Guild at Neumann University, which serves eight performing arts groups.

Black Box Theater Please consider donating to the Nicholas J. DiMarino Black Box Theater as a celebration of Nick's 40-year commitment to the arts in Delaware County and at Neumann University.



- Center Stage Productions
- Cultural Arts Forum
- Delaware County Symphony
- International Ballet Classique
- Neumann University Art Gallery
- Neumann University Concert Chorale
- Neumann University Jazz Band
- Neumann University Players

These eight member organizations offer performances and seminars in the Fred P. Meagher Theatre in an atmosphere that provides fine acoustics, architectural excellence, and comfortable continental seating. Learn more at www.neumann.edu/arts.

Summer Schedule: Center Stage Productions

The Wizard of Oz (children's participatory show)
July 11, 12, and 13

Finding Nemo, Jr. (children's production)
July 25, 26, and 27

Beautiful: The Carole King Musical
August 8, 9, 10, and 11

To purchase tickets, visit www.csptheatre.com/buy.



Historic: Women Launch Flag Football Team

On a chilly weekend this spring, a dozen young women at Neumann made history. They played in the first Atlantic East Conference flag football game on April 13.

In the initial game of a four-team tournament, Immaculata defeated Neumann, 13-7, at Draper Walsh Stadium in Malvern. The Knights regrouped to win the consolation game against Centenary, 32-0, before Marymount won the tournament with a 52-0 victory over Immaculata.

The scores were not as significant, however, as the debut of the sport.

With the endorsement of and financial support from the NFL and RCX Sports, the Atlantic East announced in June 2023 that it would launch flag football as a varsity sport in the spring of 2025, one of the first NCAA conferences at any level to do so.

Flag football was a club sport this year at four Atlantic East schools (Centenary, Immaculata, Marymount, and Neumann), and the April 13 tournament was the first official competition in the sport.

The Knights were led by QB Giovanna "Gia" Santorello, a sophomore physical therapy major.

Others on the roster were Celeste Adjaglo, Courtney Blackney, Victoria Millward, Sydnilah Nahim, Alexis Navarro, Olivia Putting, Yasmailyn



Olivia Putting eludes Immaculata defenders during the first Atlantic East flag football game.

Robles, Hayley Strecker, Ya'Nayshia Thomas, Donyjah Wilson, and Ty'onna Wright.

The four schools will play a non-traditional season in the fall of 2024 before varsity competition begins in the spring of 2025 under the leadership of Nellie Mixon '06, who was named head coach in May. Matt Lawson '18 will serve as assistant coach.

Flag football is similar to the NFL game with some key differences: a shorter field, seven-on-seven play, and no offensive or defensive line players. Instead of tackling, players in

possession of the ball are downed when an opponent removes a breakaway flag from their waist belts.

The popularity of flag football is indicative of the booming interest in women's sports in the U.S. and across the globe. According to an NBC report in December of 2023, it is played by more than 20 million people across more than 100 countries.

Flag football is on track to be an Olympic sport in 2028.

Front row: Ty'onna Wright, Celest Adjaglo, Sydnilah Nahim; Middle row: Donyjah Wilson, Olivia Putting, Yasmailyn Robles; Top row: Courtney Blackney, Giovanna Santorello, Ya'Nayshia Thomas, Hayley Strecker, Victoria Millward, Alexis Navarro, Sir Francis, Matt Lawson '18 (Asst. Coach, Director of Club Sports)



LEARN *by Doing*: The Franciscan Way

A key component of the Franciscan Intellectual Tradition is that people learn by doing.

A quote commonly attributed to St. Francis of Assisi is “Preach the Gospel at all times. If necessary, use words.” The obvious lesson is that one truly understands Christian values by putting them into practice.

This pragmatic philosophy of learning has been embraced by spiritual and cultural icons throughout time, from Confucius and Benjamin Franklin (variations of “I hear and I forget. I see and I remember. I do and I understand.” attributed to each) to John Dewey (“Give the pupils something to do, not something to learn.”).



Makiyah Blackwood, a communications and digital media major, takes full advantage of WNUW, Neumann's radio station.

Dr. Kristen Evans teaches the hands-on experience required of all nursing majors.



New Forensics Lab

In many ways throughout the curriculum, Neumann University embodies this culture of learning. The most recent addition to this hands-on approach is the forensics lab on the first floor of the Rocco Abessinio Building, the result of a yearlong collaboration with the

Delaware County District Attorney's office and the Aston Police Department.

Funded by a federal High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area grant of \$258,000, the lab gives law enforcement throughout the county the tools to investigate crimes

quickly – by analyzing seized digital devices, examining video surveillance recordings at crime scenes, and monitoring live video cameras during real-time crime.

The forensics lab also provides valuable internship opportunities for students who major in cybersecurity.

"The student intern experience is great for resumes," says Detective Joe Walsh, an active member of the Aston Police Department and director of the lab. "They're working on real cases."

Cutting-edge technology in the new facility includes a \$15,000 Sumuri computer that is custom-made for forensics; a Faraday box to isolate and preserve seized cell phones and laptops; license plate reader software; and three large monitors (one measuring 65 inches) to view video feeds.

Four students interned in the forensics lab during its construction, including Robert Licciardello '24, a senior who discovered a vehicle theft while he was reviewing a video surveillance recording during his first day in the lab.

Continued on page 8



Sandra Vijayan, a cybersecurity major, is an intern in the new forensics lab.

LEARN *by Doing:* The Franciscan Way Continued from page 7

"I saw this van drive by very slow in front of a U-Haul lot. It stopped at the corner. Then guys came walking into the lot, and I saw them steal trucks," he explains.

Licciardello documented what he saw and alerted Walsh. Police handled the investigation from that point, identifying the van's license plate, tracking down the suspect, and getting an arrest warrant.

"I felt like a pioneer," says Licciardello. "I'm the first one to help solve a case at the forensics lab."

Of course, Neumann has emphasized experiential learning long before the opening of the forensics lab on May 2. Education majors complete student-teaching placements in local school districts, business majors serve internships at corporations and organizations

from New York City to Washington, D.C., and nursing students learn the ropes through a series of clinical rotations at area hospitals. An internship is now a graduation requirement across the curriculum.

A Hands-On Tradition

"Students actually learn by doing," says Ann Zahner, an assistant professor of nursing, who has been a faculty member at Neumann for six years. "They cannot translate what you're explaining until they do it. In our Health Assessment course, students have classroom theory and a lab. I hear time and time again when they get into that lab and do an assessment on someone, when they practice a skill, that is when the light switch goes on."

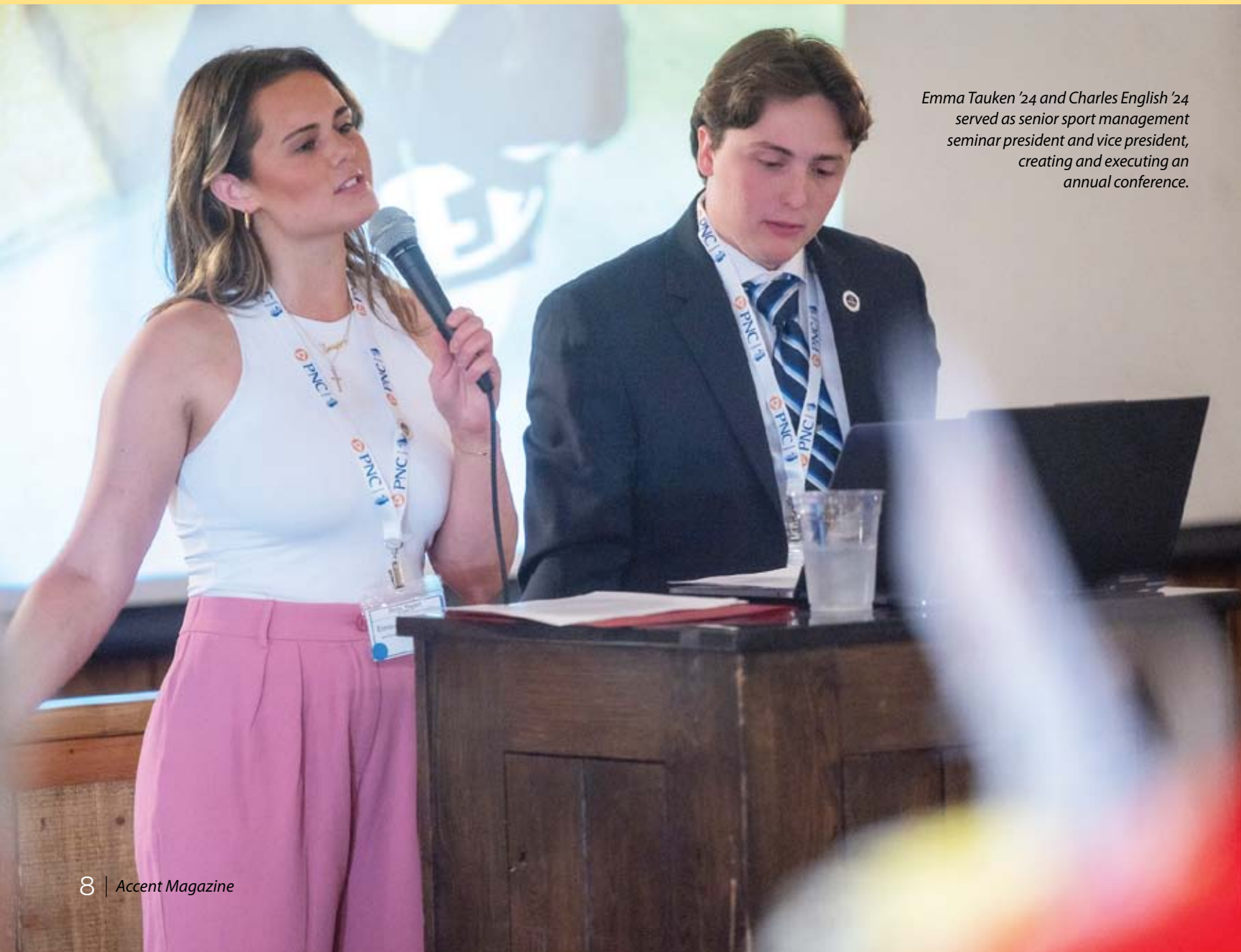
Zahner sees similar results in her role as chair of the Nursing Social Justice Committee,

which provides volunteer community service to St. Francis Inn (serving the homeless and needy in the Kensington section of Philadelphia), City Team in Chester, Save Your Soles (diabetes care for people who don't have access to healthcare), and Project Cure (sorting medical supplies for mission trips).

The committee also offers free health screenings for the Aston community on Election Day and organizes clothing drives throughout the year.

In addition to the opportunity to practice their chosen profession, the community service experience also results in improved social skills, Zahner says.

"Students come out of their shells, and it's beautiful to watch that," she explains. "They feel success knowing that they can do something, and that's incredible to witness. It gives them confidence."



Emma Tauken '24 and Charles English '24 served as senior sport management seminar president and vice president, creating and executing an annual conference.

Project-Based Humanities

That same success is felt by students in liberal arts and humanities courses. Jim Kain, assistant professor of English and director of the liberal arts program, notes that research is supporting project-based learning.

"It's been on my mind since before COVID," he says, "and then COVID intensified the need to make what I'm teaching relevant."

He admits that it's tougher to see how this teaching approach applies to humanities, but he discovered a winning concept last year.

"Linking interest in sustainability studies and climate change to its impact has added a sense of urgency to what we teach. Education is about preparation for the future and being engaged in that preparation."

The most significant impact he saw was in the Nature Writing class he taught in the fall of 2023. He told the class that their assignments would not be for him but for the public. They would launch a website and create blogs for the site with the purpose of educating those beyond the boundaries of campus.

"Once they got engaged," Kain recalls, "they all had a role — proofreaders, editors, designers, content creators. It was a three-hour class, and the students were already in their groups and working when I got there. They were collaborating with one another, telling me what they needed, and requesting more time. Flipping the classroom put them in a situation where they felt like what they were doing had value and a real audience."

Erin Donovan, a senior in Kain's class, prepared a presentation about the experience for the university's annual LEAD Conference, which uses TED Talks as its model.

In the summary of her talk, she wrote: "Our hope with the website was to engage others in the importance of protecting the natural world and to showcase how nature gives us the opportunity to find peace, be curious, be adventurous, and be an explorer of both beauty and knowledge."

Kain is now considering how he can apply this model to other classes.

John Dewey, the American philosopher and educator who advocated that practical problem-solving and theoretical teaching should go hand in hand, would be proud. He believed that democracy and education are two sides of the same coin. Both involve and foster self-determination, self-development and participating in the common good, enlightened by intelligent understanding and a scientific spirit.

“
Education
is about preparation
for the future and
being engaged in
that preparation.
”



Ava Irwin '24

Senior Collects Seven Job Offers

Ava Irwin, a Class of 2024 sport management major, is the face of hands-on experience.

She received seven job offers before graduation and accepted a position as an account executive with the Cleveland Cavaliers of the National Basketball Association on March 8, more than two months before commencement.

She started her career on June 3, choosing the Cavs over competitive offers from the Detroit Pistons (NBA), Sporting Kansas City (MLS), Colorado Rapids (MLS), Chicago Fire (MLS), and others.

The journey to a job in her chosen field of study, however, began years ago. Irwin has a resume filled with volunteer and internship experience.

As a sophomore, she started selling 50/50 tickets for the Philadelphia Union and later landed an internship with the Union Foundation. She then began an affiliation with the Philadelphia Flyers and moved from handling marketing giveaways to being on the game-day staff to an internship with the corporate partnerships team.

She even worked at Super Bowl LVII (2023) with Living Sports and competed in the National Collegiate Sports Sales Championship in Atlanta in February of 2024.

The learn-by-doing experiences made her resume a compelling document.

LEARN *by Doing:*

Global Engagement

At Neumann University, our commitment to fostering global learning and engagement is deeply rooted in the Franciscan Intellectual Tradition. This summer's issue of *Accent* magazine, themed "Learn by Doing," perfectly encapsulates our philosophy that true education transcends the classroom. It is through practical, real-world experiences that students develop the intercultural competencies and career readiness essential in today's interconnected world.

Global Learning and Career Readiness

Employers today seek individuals who can complement their academic qualifications with cultural awareness, adaptability, and global competency. These are attributes that can be honed only through immersive experiences and active engagement with diverse cultures and ideas. Our global engagement initiatives provide students with opportunities to study abroad, participate in international internships, and engage in service-learning projects across the globe. These experiences not only broaden their horizons but also enhance their professional profiles. Students return with a deeper understanding of global issues, improved language skills, and a new-found confidence in their ability to work in diverse environments.

The Franciscan Tradition and Understanding the Other

The Franciscan tradition, emphasizing humility, respect for all creation, and service to others, provides a unique framework for global learning and engagement. St. Francis of Assisi's historic meeting with Sultan al-Malik al-Kamil in 1219 during the Fifth Crusade, marked by mutual respect and dialogue, underscores our commitment to understanding and embracing the other.

St. Francis did not approach the Sultan with hostility or a desire to convert, but with an open heart and mind, seeking



Eric Kenny '24 (black shirt, white hat) spent an entire semester in Thailand.



A communications and digital media class visited the newspaper El Pais in Madrid.

and the Franciscan Tradition

By Victor Betancourt,
Associate Provost for Global Engagement

dialogue and common ground. This encounter is a powerful reminder of the importance of intercultural dialogue and the potential for peace and understanding that comes from genuine engagement with those who are different from us.

Learn by Doing: The Franciscan Intellectual Tradition in Action

St. Francis and his followers emphasized the importance of living out their values through action. They believed that knowledge gained through experience is more profound and transformative than that gained solely through study. At Neumann University, we strive to embody this spirit of openness and dialogue in our global engagement efforts. Our students are encouraged to approach other cultures with curiosity and respect, to seek out opportunities for meaningful interactions, and to learn from those who have different perspectives and experiences. This approach not only enriches their educational journey but also prepares them to be compassionate and effective leaders in a diverse world.

Our global engagement programs are a testament to the power of learning by doing. By immersing themselves in different cultures and contexts, students develop a deeper understanding of global issues, enhance their intercultural competencies, and become more prepared for their future careers. They learn not just by observing, but by actively participating in and contributing to the global community.

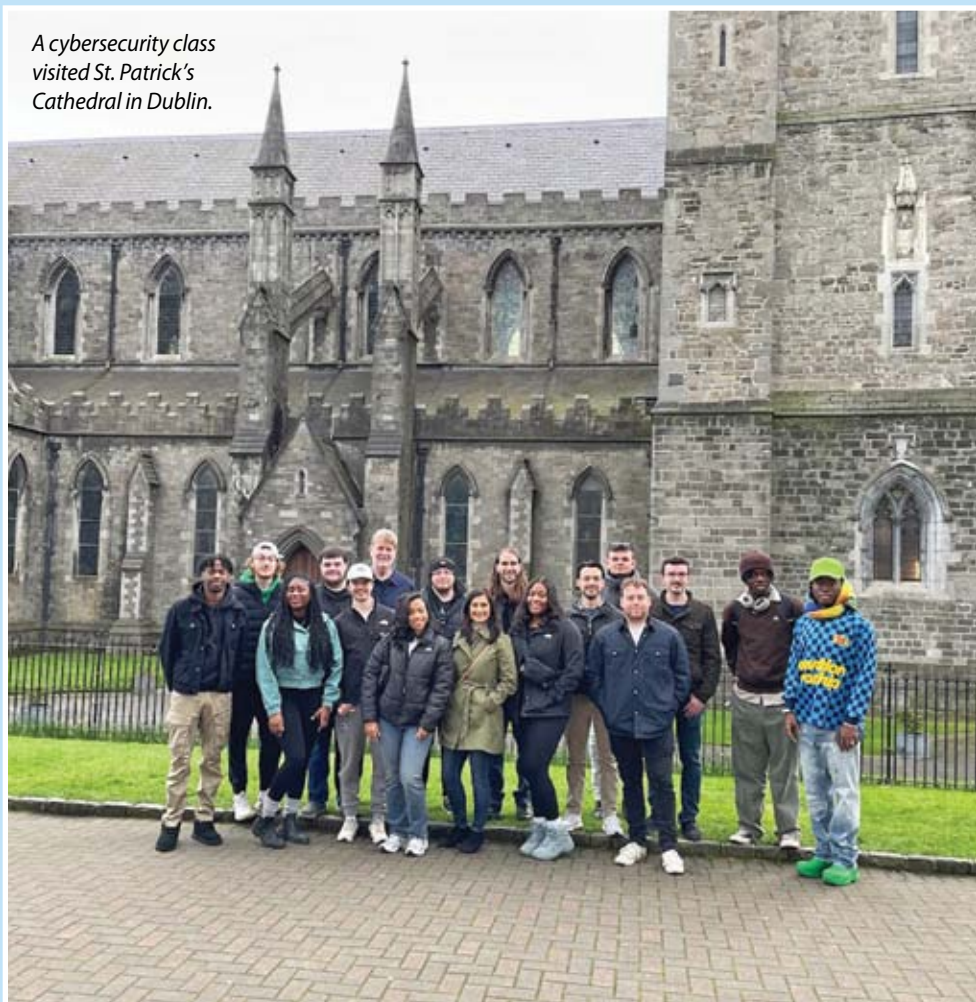
Neumann University Global Engagement Initiatives

During the 2023-24 academic year, our students participated in various enriching programs around the globe. They engaged in semester-long programs in Thailand, language learning courses in Ecuador, and internships in Sevilla, Spain. Nursing students traveled to the Dominican Republic for a community-based learning program, working alongside the local community to serve the underserved. Cybersecurity students gained insights into global IT and cybersecurity business practices during a week-long field experience in Dublin, Ireland. Communication and Digital Media students explored issues of race and diversity in Madrid, Spain, using the city itself as their classroom.

As Associate Provost for Global Engagement, I am proud of the strides Neumann University has made in integrating global learning into our educational framework. By embracing the Franciscan tradition of understanding and respecting the other, we provide our students with the tools they need to thrive in a diverse and ever-changing world. Our commitment to "Learn by Doing" ensures that our graduates are not only academically accomplished but also globally competent and ready to make a positive impact wherever their careers may take them.

In the spirit of St. Francis, let us continue to foster an environment of openness, dialogue, and mutual respect, and inspire our students to be lifelong learners and global citizens.

A cybersecurity class visited St. Patrick's Cathedral in Dublin.



Carlos Wylde-Gladbach spent a summer discovering his roots in Ecuador.



LEARN *by Doing:* The Ed Snider Model

At its May 18 undergraduate commencement ceremony, Neumann University awarded a posthumous honorary degree to Ed Snider, a man who believed in learning by doing.

Snider's accomplishments in the sports and entertainment industries certainly qualify him for recognition with an honorary doctorate. His emergence as a leader in the Philadelphia sports market started in 1964 as vice president with the Philadelphia Eagles.

Two years later, he transformed sports in the city when he mortgaged his home to establish a National Hockey League franchise. The Philadelphia Flyers became the first expansion team to capture the coveted Stanley Cup when they won it in 1974 and again in 1975.

Snider went on to become the driving force behind essential components of Philadelphia sports: the Spectrum, PRISM, Comcast Spectacor, and the Wells Fargo Center.

Dr. Chris Domes, Neumann's president, described Snider as "a Philadelphia icon, an entrepreneur, a passionate philanthropist, and a risk-taker for the greater good ... no one embodied the Philadelphia spirit better or loved the city more."

His business acumen, however, is not the reason why Neumann bestowed the award that his grandson Garrett accepted on his behalf. Snider's proudest accomplishment was the creation of Ed Snider Youth Hockey & Education in 2005. This foundation provides underserved children from urban neighborhoods in Philadelphia and Camden with the opportunity to learn ice hockey, academics, and life lessons.

The program combines educational enrichment initiatives, life skills, career exploration, and service learning with a first-rate hockey program. Hockey is just the "hook" used to foster academic success, personal development, and citizenship.

By every measure, this program seems to be the perfect application of the "learn by doing" theory to the unvarnished, challenging life of inner-city youngsters.

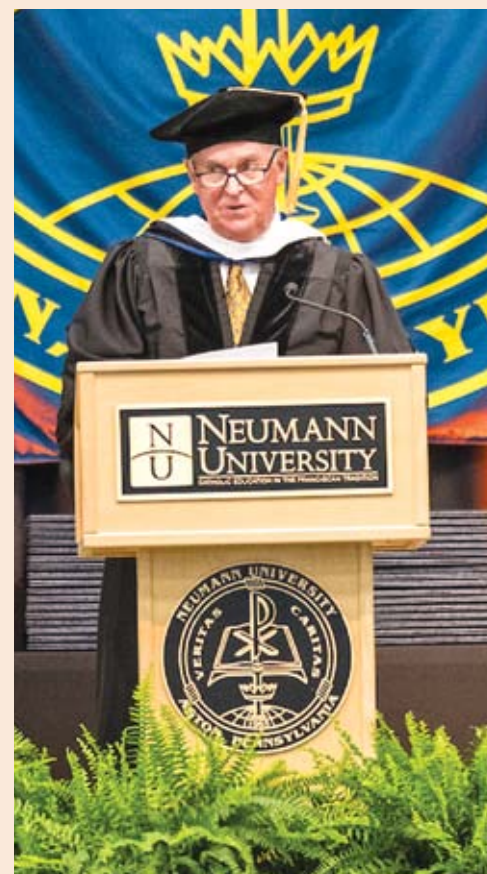
It now funds and administers programming for more than 3,000 boys and girls at nine inner-city sites.

"Snider was definitely more than just the hockey program," recalls Jasmine Martinez '22, '23. "They provided after-school programs and homework help, and we did all this before we got on the ice."

“
They taught
me life lessons and
life skills, how to be
professional, how to
write a resume.
”



Dr. Chris Domes and Scott Tharp, president and CEO of Ed Snider Youth Hockey & Education, announced the Ed Snider Ice Arena challenge grant in October 2023. Tharp and William Whitmore, Jr., chairman of the board of Snider Hockey, also received honorary degrees at commencement.



William Whitmore, chairman of the board of Snider Hockey, addressed the graduates.

They taught me life lessons and life skills, how to be professional, how to write a resume. They taught me so much that I can use in life.”

Martinez was the beneficiary of a grant provided by the Goals & Assists Foundation, another Snider-related nonprofit. The scholarship allowed her to graduate from Neumann without debt.

In October of 2023, Neumann solidified its partnership with Snider, receiving a challenge grant of \$15 million from Ed Snider Youth Hockey & Education to support the construction of the Ed Snider Ice Arena on campus. The university has two years to match the fundraising challenge.

The building will include two ice rinks, one serving as the home for Neumann’s ice hockey teams and another designated as the official home for expanded Snider programming and outreach into Delaware County. The rinks will have seating for 750 and 300 spectators, respectively. Two classrooms and dedicated office space will support Snider’s educational programs in the arena.

To learn more about the arena challenge, visit www.neumann.edu/challenge.



Valedictorian Madelyn Tice '24

Internship Launches Career

Madelyn Tice has a head for business, but her heart pulled her to the outdoors.

So, she decided to solve the problem. What else would you expect from a valedictorian who earned her degree in just three years? On June 6, she began her career as a human resources coordinator at Utah’s Bryce Canyon National Park.

Her path to the job began with an internship where she learned to blend her interests.

Tice began building that career blueprint more than a year ago, searching for HR internships connected to national parks. She hit the jackpot as a summer 2023 intern with the Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation in Medora, North Dakota.

The foundation supports Theodore Roosevelt National Park.

“It was an amazing summer,” she recalls. “I got to meet people from all over the world, and the experience grew my passion for HR and the outdoors.”

She learned by doing and now has a job she loves.

“
It was an
amazing summer,
I got to meet
people from all
over the world.
”



Garrett Snider, grandson of Ed Snider, accepts the honorary degree on his behalf at Neumann’s May 18 commencement ceremony.

Alumni Association Honors 13 Exceptional Individuals

The Alumni Association presented awards at its annual recognition ceremony on March 12.

The winners and their full stories can be found at www.neumann.edu/accent.



John Neumann Award

Edith Anne Burnham Maletsky '76, '95



Edith Maletsky was honored for a lifetime of professional development and service to the university and the community. Edith received her bachelor's degree in nursing in 1976 at Our Lady of Angels College and her MS in pastoral counseling 19 years later. She admitted the first patient to the Crozer Burn Center, developed numerous fire and burn protection programs, and worked with producers of *Sesame Street TV* to develop fire safety measures for children. Now 90, she has been retired for years but keeps her nursing license up to date and still provides health training to members of her parish.

School of Business Distinguished Alumni Award

Magogodi Makhene '08



Magogodi Makhene earned her master's degree in social entrepreneurship at New York University, where her studies focused on African society and business for social change. While there, she co-founded Zenzele Circle, which links African entrepreneurs with global angel capital, and co-founded the Society for Innovation in Africa. Her work won the Elie Wiesel Prize in Ethics. She won the David Relin Prize for Fiction in 2016, and her work has appeared in *Ploughshares*, the *Harvard Review*, and *Guernica*. In 2023, she published *Innards*, a collection of short stories inspired by her Soweto hometown.

Volunteer of the Year Award

Mark Bennett '16



Mark Bennett completed his master's degree in sport and entertainment management in 2016 and currently serves as the assistant athletic director for compliance and internal operations at Lincoln University. Since graduation, Mark has loyally notified the university when internships or job opportunities became available, hired Neumann students as interns, served the sport management program as an adjunct professor, and mentored students in the sport management program.

Athletics Hall of Fame

Samantha (Lafferty) Zdun '06, '17



As a member of the women's lacrosse team from 2003-2006, Samantha played in 58 games, scoring 200 goals and notching 83 assists. In team history, she ranks fifth in goals, third in assists, third in points (283), and third in caused turnovers (126). With a BS and MS in education, she taught in the Upper Darby School District for years and is currently a kindergarten teacher at Primos Elementary School. She was nominated for the 2016 Delaware County Excellence in Teaching Award.

Dear Neumann University Alumni,

As we journey through the ever-changing landscape of higher education, the importance of our alumni community becomes increasingly apparent. Each one of us holds a piece of the Neumann University story, and together, we have the power to shape its future.



Neumann University has always been more than just a place of learning; it is a community built on shared experiences, values, and aspirations. Whether you graduated last year or decades ago, your connection to Neumann is enduring. Now is the time to harness that connection and channel it into meaningful action.

There are countless ways for you to get involved and make a difference. Whether you volunteer your time, share your expertise, mentor current students, or contribute financially, your support is invaluable. By engaging with Neumann in whatever capacity you can, you are helping to strengthen our community and ensure that future generations of students have access to the same transformative opportunities that shaped our lives.

On the last page of this magazine, you'll find more information on how you can get involved and make a difference in the Neumann University community. Let's turn the page together and embrace the spirit of the Sisters of Saint Francis.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bryan J. DeFoney, Jr.".

Bryan J. DeFoney, Jr., '13
Neumann University
Alumni Association, President



Class Notes are now online!

WHERE
are you
and
WHAT
are you
doing?

Let us know of
any changes
in your life that
you would like
to share at

www.neumann.edu/alumni/classnotes

For more news about marriages, births, promotions, and advanced degrees, visit www.neumann.edu/accent.



Fred W. Wurster, III, '16, '22

Fred Wurster, III, MS, NRP was recently promoted to Senior Associate with Fitch & Associates, the largest emergency services consulting firm in North America. Fred specializes in working with emergency medical services, fire

agencies, and hospital transfer centers. He directly relates his successes at Fitch to the education and training he received at Neumann.

Dr. Antija M. Allen '02

Dr. Allen's bestselling book, "We're Not OK: Black Faculty Experiences and Higher Education Strategies," has earned a place on the list of Outstanding Academic Titles of 2023. This prestigious list reflects the best scholarly titles reviewed by Choice, a publishing unit of the American Library Association, during the previous calendar year, as chosen by the editors.



Aliyah Shelton '21

Aliyah graduated with her bachelor of science degree and is currently in school for her master's in nursing education. She works at Mainline Health and welcomed baby girl Kennedy into the world 14 months ago with fiancé, Rishaun.

Gabrielle Alfaro '16

Gabrielle said "I do!" to a marriage proposal from Brandon Williams on October 7, 2023, while on a trip to London, England. ▼



▲ **Matt Backert '06**

In August of 2023, Matt was named the head baseball coach at Notre Dame of Maryland University (first coach in school history). In addition to his new role as head coach, he joined Long and Foster Real Estate in October of 2023 as a licensed realtor in the state of Maryland.



Kye Williams '16 ▲

Kye, a Delaware dentist, was featured on CBS3 for using artificial intelligence to accurately assess patients' pain.

ATTENTION NEUMANN ALUMNI!

Get Involved Today!

Are you a proud Neumann University alum looking to reconnect with your alma mater and fellow graduates?
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