

Pierce

A RAVEN IN CHARGE

Franklin Pierce
University President
Kim Mooney '83, Ph.D.,
Reflects on a Year
at the Helm

ARTISTRY IN
ACTION: ARON
LEAMAN '07

RICKY DAVIDSON '93
HELPS BRATTLEBORO
YOUTH SUCCEED

THE LADY STAYS IN
THE PICTURE:
GENEVIEVE
MCGILLICUDDY '94





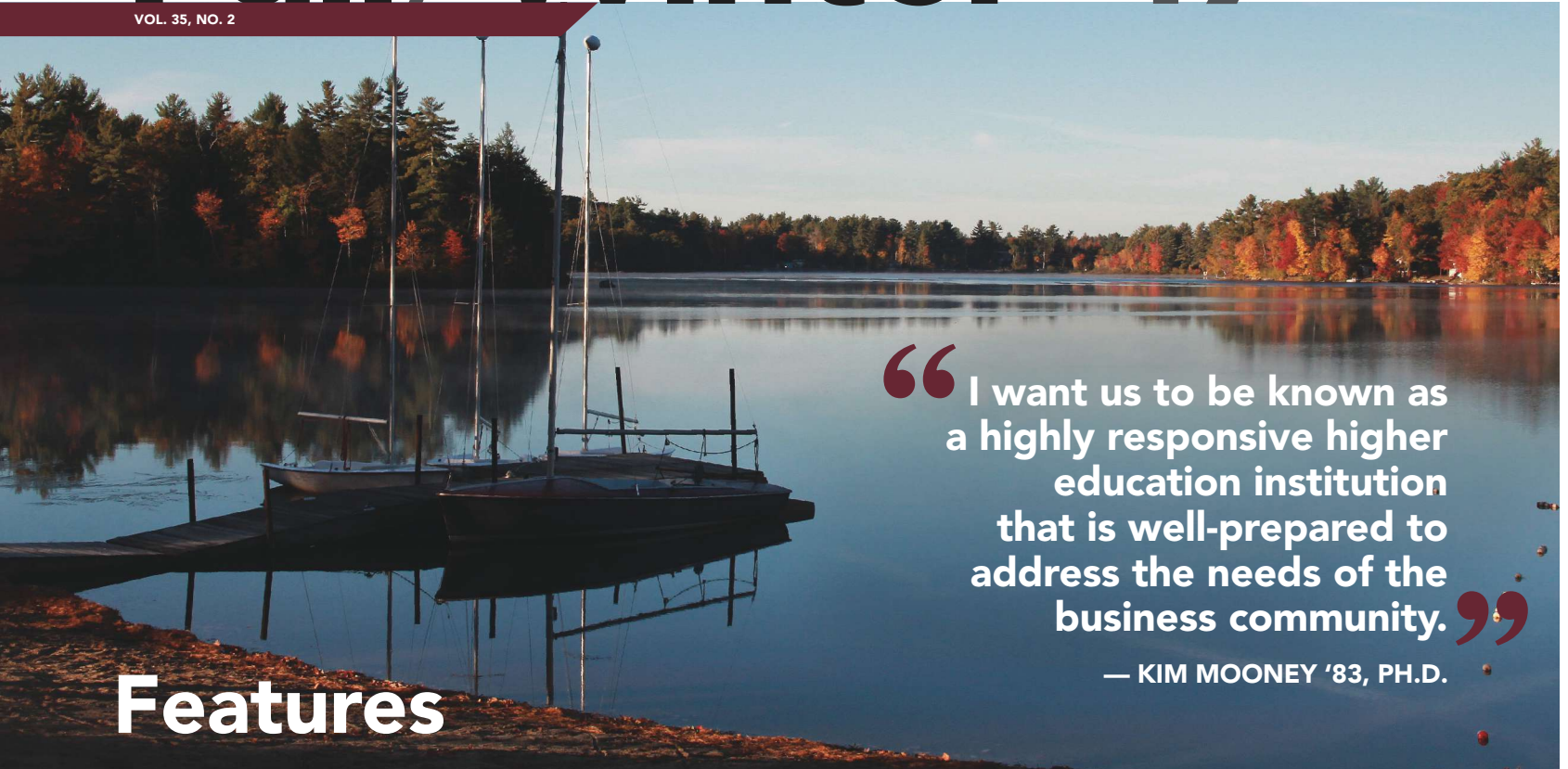


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Fall/Winter '17

VOL. 35, NO. 2



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— KIM MOONEY '83, PH.D.

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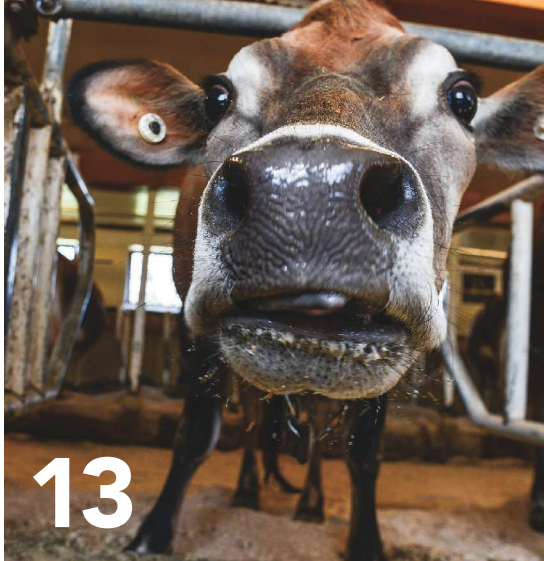
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Franklin Pierce University President Kim Mooney '83, Ph.D.

PHOTOGRAPHER: CHRISTOPHER BEAUCHAMP



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Pierce

FRANKLIN PIERCE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI MAGAZINE
FALL/WINTER 2017 | VOL. 35, NO. 2

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Pierce Magazine is published biannually by Franklin Pierce University. Nonprofit postage paid at Rindge, N.H., and additional entry offices. Issues are mailed to all known Franklin Pierce alumni within the United States. Pierce Alumni Magazine is guided by the principles of freedom of expression and accepted standards of good taste. The views expressed are those of the signed contributors and do not necessarily represent the views or official opinions of Franklin Pierce University. POSTMASTER: Please send address changes, Form 3579, to Franklin Pierce University, Alumni Relations Office, 40 University Dr., Rindge, N.H. 03461.

“ I have remained passionate about my alma mater and dedicated to this institution since the moment I received a Pierce degree, and the potential to follow in my footsteps lies within every Franklin Pierce graduate. ”



Pride in Our Accomplishments

The seasonal shift from the hot and humid days of summer to the crisp, fresh days of fall — more perceptibly felt on our College at Rindge campus and across our New Hampshire centers than for our campus in Goodyear, Ariz. — brings my favorite moment of the year: welcoming the new class of 2021 and our returning students back to their academic home.

This year kicked off with both an old tradition, the Grand Monadnock Climb, and a new tradition, the Pearly Pond Swim. Continuing in the spirit of blending new and old traditions, we are now looking forward to Pierce Pride Weekend, which will comprise Family Day, Homecoming, and my installation as the sixth president of Franklin Pierce University.

I am humbled that my presidential installation will be hosted during Pierce Pride Weekend, when the College at Rindge campus will swell with the enthusiastic energy of myriad members of the Pierce community, including our students and their loved ones, our beloved alumni, our board of trustees, members of the surrounding communities, faculty and staff, as well as members of my own family and friends. It will be a historic moment for Pierce and a weekend to remember.

I share this moment with all of Raven Nation. I have


remained passionate about my alma mater and dedicated to this institution since the moment I received a Pierce degree, and the potential to follow in my footsteps lies within every Franklin Pierce graduate.

This issue represents the Pierce potential well. From a Pierce degree emerged an artist whose very medium embodies the transformational experience so many alumni describe; a film enthusiast who found her calling in a small community that encouraged her to explore and experiment; and a community leader whose inspiration to help young people believe in their own power and aptitude was born from his experience at Pierce; among many others.

I am thrilled to see the synergy between this beautiful printed piece and our dynamic new website, which will enable a spotlight to shine not only on countless more stories of Pierce successes, but also on more current coverage of events, class notes, and our gratitude for the support of the individuals and businesses who believe in and support us.

Every time I learn about another success story born at Franklin Pierce — via this magazine, the website, or my conversations with students and alumni — my belief in the transformational power of Pierce grows, and my appreciation for the opportunity to lead Raven Nation expands along with it.

KIM MOONEY '83, PH.D.
PRESIDENT



Diane Rehm,
former NPR host
and recipient of
a 2017 Fitzwater
Medallion.

“Receiving a
Fitzwater
Medallion and
meeting with him
personally was
another very
special moment...
Having him give
me the award
was indeed a
proud moment.”

— DIANE REHM

RAVENINGS

BY BRANDON BULSECO '16

HONORING LEGENDS

Fitzwater Center Honors Caps Year of Fitz@15 Celebrations

Eager, hardworking students. Dedicated reporters. Tenacious educators. Legendary White House press secretaries. Alumna turned University president.

What do they have in common? They're all part of the fabric that has made the Marlin Fitzwater Center for Communication a nationally acclaimed institution.

"I always have said, and will continue to always say, that the Fitzwater Center is what it is because of the people who have been part of it," said Dr. Kristen Nevios, the center's director. "That includes the administrative assistants; the students, teachers, and the visitors who ask profound questions; Marlin [Fitzwater], who comes to campus; and [visitors like] Diane Rehm," says Nevios. "We have been shaped by many, many people."

Every spring, some of those people who've helped shape the center's legacy are celebrated in the annual Fitzwater Center Honors, a showcase event where exceptional students, educators, and luminaries are awarded the Fitzwater Medallion for their contributions to communications. This year's celebration was the high point in a year spent lauding the Fitzwater Center's 15th anniversary. Past winners include broadcaster Candy Crowley, famous for correcting former governor and presidential candidate Mitt Romney during a presidential debate with then-President Barack Obama ("Can you say that a little louder, Candy?"); Fox News journalist Juan Williams, senior political analyst and

noted author of "Eyes on the Prize: America's Civil Rights Years, 1954–1965;" and Genevieve McGillicuddy '94, the vice president for branding and partnerships at Turner Classic Movies [see story, Page 28].

Veteran journalist Diane Rehm, known for her decadeslong program, "The Diane Rehm Show," on NPR, received the 2017 Fitzwater Medallion for Leadership in Public Communications. A lauded writer and reporter, she recently retired from news to launch a podcast. Rehm says coming to Pierce and meeting not only the University's students and faculty, but also meeting Marlin Fitzwater himself, was a meaningful milestone for her career. "I had wonderful encounters with each person I met while I was there in New Hampshire," says Rehm. "Receiving a Fitzwater Medallion and meeting with him personally was another very special moment ... Having him give me the award was indeed a proud moment."

Nevios is proud of the center's growth over the last decade and a half [see story, Pierce magazine, Spring 2017], and she looks forward to its continued growth as a resource for students, faculty and the community. "We will continue to explore how to create new opportunities for our students," says Nevios. The Fitzwater Center will also continue to take full advantage of its prime location in the Granite State, giving more attention to the New Hampshire State House. "We have an incredible opportunity, going forward, for expansion," she says. "It'll never get old." — *Katricia Lang*

2017 FITZWATER MEDALLION RECIPIENTS:

Leadership in Public Communication by an Alumnus: **Trent Spiner '07, executive editor, New Hampshire Union-Leader**

Leadership in Public Communication for Contributions to the Public Discourse by a K-12 Teacher: **Adam Theriault, English/media arts teacher, Souhegan High School**

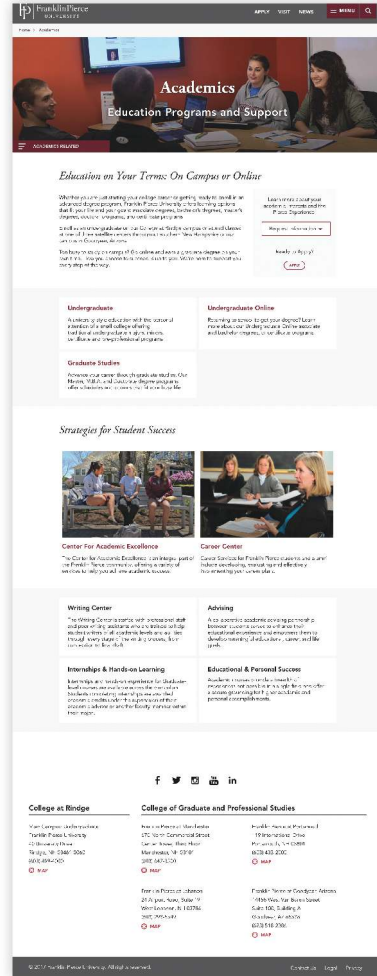
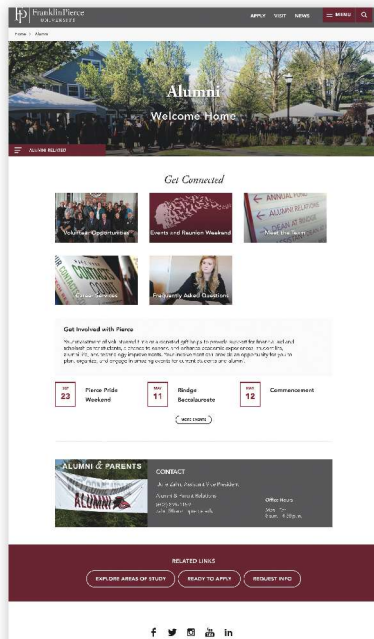
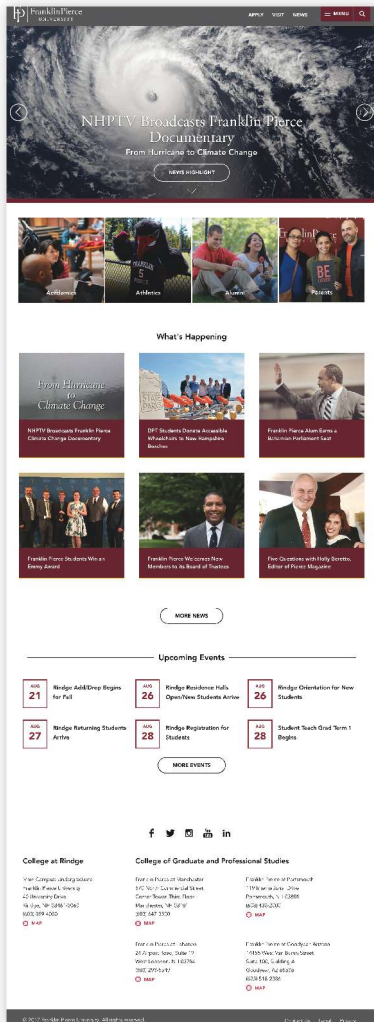
Contributions to Public Discourse by a Graduating Senior: **Alyssa Borelli '15, '17 (MBA)**

Out With the Old, in With the New

Summer visitors to franklinpierce.edu may have noticed some pretty big changes in its design and functionality, as Pierce launched a new mobile-friendly website that introduces a responsive and more intuitive user experience. Trends show a steady increase in mobile users, particularly among high school students and millennials, and search engines like Google rank mobile-friendly sites higher in their search results. Incorporating dynamic video and photography, the new website is designed to acknowledge and celebrate the success stories of current students, alumni, faculty, staff, and communities across the University's campuses and centers. "We are better poised than ever to represent the potential of Raven Nation," said Franklin Pierce University Director of Communications Brianna Graves.

"With new, interesting content constantly published on franklinpierce.edu, we will be able to give our community and the public an ongoing look behind-the-scenes and share the latest, most exciting news coming out of Franklin Pierce." The website will also feature a new magazine section, and longtime readers of the magazine will find that some sections that have historically been published in print will now move online. It is a move that is strategically based on environmental goals to "go green" with less being printed on paper, and to ensure that this content is available to a wider audience through the internet. Visit www.franklinpierce.edu/magazine for Class Notes, the Honor Roll of Giving, additional event coverage, and more.

The new design introduces a responsive user experience that is mobile friendly, with enticing images and video.



ANDREW CUNNINGHAM (DUMOND AND EMS PROGRAM)

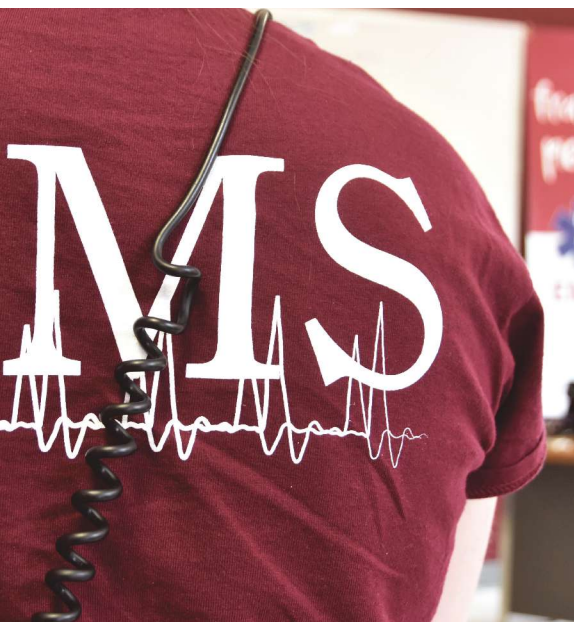


ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP

New Provost for Pierce

Dr. James DuMond Jr. traded New York’s Hudson Valley for New Hampshire’s Monadnock Region when he accepted the position of provost and vice president for academic affairs.

Prior to arriving on the College at Rindge campus, he was dean of the School of Science at Marist College in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., and before that served as the associate dean of academic affairs for the College of Science and Technology at Texas Southern University. DuMond holds a bachelor’s degree from Eastern Montana College, a master’s degree from Montana College of Mineral Science and Technology, and a Ph.D. from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. His career in higher education and academic administration spans more than 30 years.



NEW ACADEMIC OFFERINGS

Franklin Pierce Launches EMS Program

Launching a new academic initiative is no easy task. Franklin Pierce’s Emergency Medical Services (EMS) program was approved Dec. 15, 2016, with a term start date of Jan. 23, 2017. That meant the University had a five-week window to publicize the program and recruit students. In those five weeks, more than 60 inquiries and 12 applications were received, and the program enrolled six students.

The EMS program features two degrees, a Bachelor of Science, with a management focus, and a Bachelor of Arts, with a social sciences focus; both are nonclinical and offered fully online.

“We identified a need to prepare emergency medical services personnel for the next step in their careers,” says Franklin Pierce University Dean of the College of Graduate and Professional Studies Dr. Maria Altobello. “Those professionals bring extensive experience to the table, and our EMS programs are designed to recognize that experience and give them college credit for it.”

GIVING BACK

DPT Students Exceed Fundraising Goal for Beach Wheelchairs

Their mission: Make floating beach wheelchairs available for use throughout the state.

Their goal: Raise \$10,000 to purchase the chairs.

Their result: Students in Franklin Pierce's Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) program in Manchester, N.H., raised \$10,730, exceeding their fundraising goal in a record six weeks.

Adrienne Olney '18, the DPT student who spearheaded this project, says she came up with the fundraising idea because some of her favorite summer memories are of taking her daughter to the beach. She wanted others to have that opportunity.

On June 6, Olney represented the University and her classmates at Hampton Beach State Park, as she and the organization she partnered with to procure the chairs, SMILE Mass, donated five chairs to Governor Chris Sununu. Each wheelchair has special wheels that can easily navigate the sand, and the chair is capable of floating, allowing beachgoers with disabilities to enjoy the water. Three of the chairs will remain at Hampton Beach; one will go to Mount Sunapee State Park and one to Wellington State Park.

Olney is now in her clinical rotations at Freedom in Motion Physical Therapy in Concord, N.H., as a student physical therapist.

Each wheelchair has special wheels that can easily navigate the sand, and the chair is capable of floating, allowing beachgoers with disabilities to enjoy the water.



New Hampshire Gov. Chris Sununu, DPT student Adrienne Olney, New Hampshire State Parks officials, and co-founders of SMILE Mass, Lotte Diomedes and Susan Brown.

RAVENS ABROAD

Two Students Intern in Japan

Carolyn Wiley '19 and Elizabeth "Izzy" Jurgilewicz '20, both anthropology majors, spent six weeks this summer at Tokyo City University's (TCU) Yokohama campus, serving as English assistants at the university.

Wiley learned of the opportunity through the continuation of an exchange program that began when TCU students visited Franklin Pierce last February in a class taught by Dr. Verna Delauer, assistant professor of environmental studies.

"By traveling abroad, Franklin Pierce students experience other cultures, languages, and landscapes," said Delauer. "As a result, they attain knowledge and skills that help them succeed in the classroom and as graduates." Wiley lived one train stop from campus in a share house with students from around the world. She took the famously packed rush-hour train to get back and forth to campus.

The internship was Wiley's first trip abroad, and she says the food was one of the best things about her experience. "In a broader sense, my favorite thing about Japan is that it was so huge and full of people," she says. "Everyone spoke a language foreign to us, and we were just along for the ride. It was exciting and a little intimidating, but we loved our stay in Japan."



Above, Carolyn Wiley '19 in a flowered kimono, and Elizabeth Jurgilewicz '20 wearing a red and white kimono.



PROUD ALUMNI, NEW TRUSTEES

Board of Trustees Welcomes Three New Members

John T. Burke Jr. '66, Robert "Bob" Riley '82, and Terrell Boston Smith '05 are the newest members on the University's board of trustees, the governing body of the institution.

"We're extremely pleased to have three Franklin Pierce alumni with such depth and breadth of talent and experience join the board of trustees," says board chairman Steve Camerino. "Bob, John and Terrell have all been closely involved with Franklin Pierce, its students and alumni over the years, and we look forward to their contributions."

Burke, owner and founder of American Legal Investigative Services, received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Franklin Pierce in 1966, and later his Master of Science in criminal justice from Fitchburg State University. Prior to joining the board, he led the alumni association for one term, and served on the board of trustees from 1996–2000. He is

also the recipient of the Alumni Participation Award, Power of the Raven Award, and the Dr. Frank S. DiPietro Founder's Award.

Riley, a senior analyst at Care New England, graduated from Pierce in 1982 and received his MBA in global leadership from Johnson and Wales University. He married Kim (Lewis) Riley '83 and both have remained active alumni. Riley served as the alumni association's president before taking on the trustee role.

Smith, a founding partner at the Tidmore Group, a management and public affairs firm, graduated from Pierce in 2005 and received his Master of Public Administration from Baruch College. He is also a managing partner of Marshall & Lafayette Real Estate Services, and before that, served in Maryland's Office of the Attorney General. Smith and his wife, Amy, live in Baltimore's Mount Vernon neighborhood with their daughter, Caroline.



Top: Bob Riley '82 (left) and Terrell Smith '05 (right)
Bottom: John Burke Jr. '66.

COLLABORATION IS KEY

Franklin Pierce Dedicates New Kinesiology and Exercise Physiology Lab

These days, Franklin Pierce health sciences students will likely be found in Pappas 212, a new lab that fosters student-faculty collaboration and experiential learning.

Franklin Pierce University officially dedicated the facility last spring during the Academic Showcase [see “Celebrating Accomplishments,” Page 16] as the Dr. Martha R. Pappas Kinesiology and Exercise Physiology Lab.

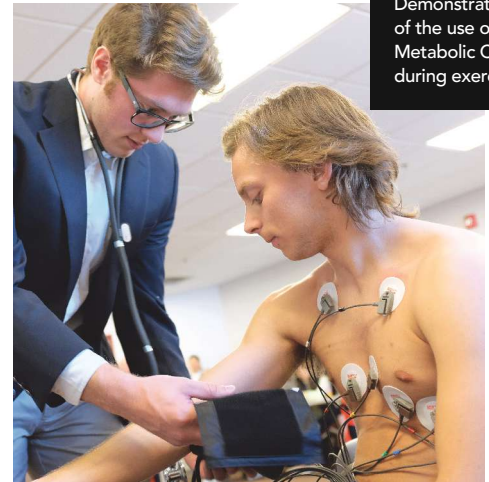
Headed by Dr. Rodrigo Villar, associate professor of natural sciences at Franklin Pierce, this lab features a research-grade treadmill, exercise bike, and two metabolic carts, among other pieces of research equipment.

Located on the second floor of the Dr. Arthur and Martha Pappas Health Science and Athletic Training Center, the facility is a place where students can get hands-on learning experiences.

“There is no substitution for that,” said Dr. Kerry McKeever, dean of the College at Rindge. “Any student who goes through Dr. Villar’s lab, as well as those participating in internships, is going to be a student who is far more attractive to potential employers because of that experience.”

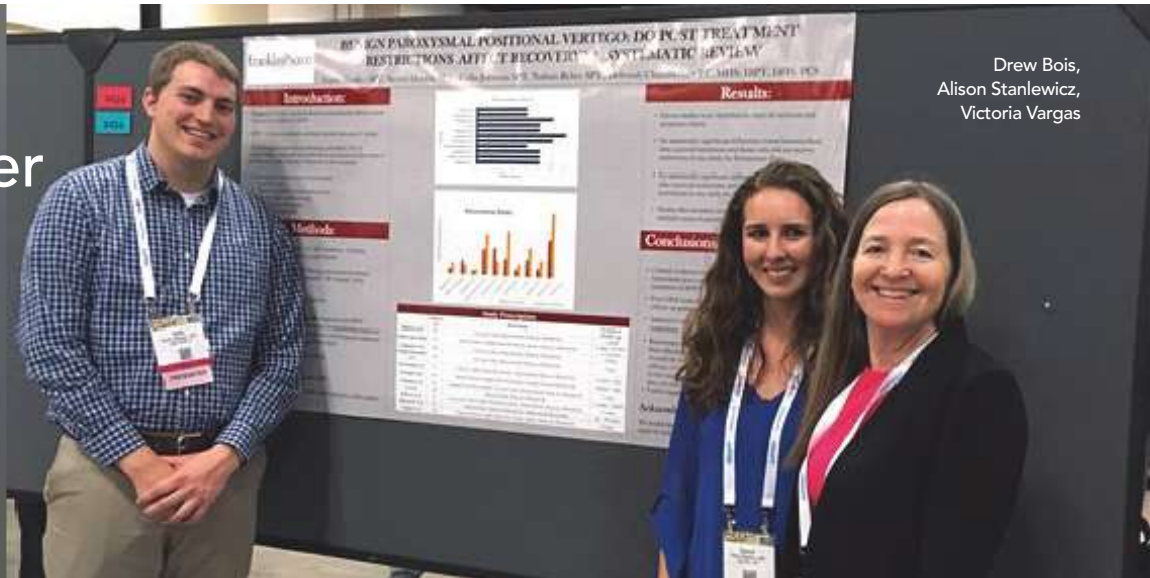


Top: Kim Mooney '83, Ph.D., with Dr. Martha R. Pappas. Lower: Demonstration of the use of a Metabolic Cart during exercise.



PRESENTING IN TEXAS

Record Number of Abstracts Accepted to Combined Sections Meeting



Drew Bois, Alison Stanlewicz, Victoria Vargas

Students and faculty from Franklin Pierce’s Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) Programs in Goodyear, Ariz., and Manchester, N.H., had a lot to celebrate last February as a record number of abstracts were accepted to the American Physical Therapy Association’s (APTA) combined sections meeting held in San Antonio.

Thirteen abstracts were accepted and 15 students from the Arizona and New Hampshire programs joined 11,000 professionals at the country’s largest physical therapy conference.

Dr. Kim Kruchowsky, assistant professor in the Arizona DPT Program,

was recognized at the opening ceremony by the American Board of Physical Therapy Specialists as an orthopedic clinical specialist.

“The major conferences provide an opportunity for students to network with their peers, as well as leading experts in the field of physical therapy,” said Stephanie Johnson, director of the DPT Program. “With more than 11,000 attendees in San Antonio in 2016, the energy and excitement generated [was] contagious. Students [returned] energized about their choice of study, the profession, and future practice.”

ANDREW CUNNINGHAM (TOP)



GAMERS VS. COW FARMERS

Tom Remp '12 Challenges Nintendo to Milk-Off

Tom Remp '12, director of marketing at Billings Farm and Museum in Woodstock, Vt., has a mission — to do one crazy thing a week. So, when Remp learned that Nintendo had released “Milk,” a virtual cow-milking minigame for the new Nintendo Switch console, he decided to challenge the gamers to a milk-off.

The virtual milk-off was held in March in the museum’s milking barn. It was closed to the public, but there were plenty of media on hand to witness the epic battle between gamers and farmers. The video quickly went viral (view it at billingsfarm.org/4824-2/). Nintendo’s gamers won the milk-off, but Remp says Billings Farm came off with a win of its own — educating staffers at the video game giant about the work involved in milking a real cow.

Billings Farm came off with a win of its own — educating staffers at the video game giant about the work involved in milking a real cow.





Kristen Nevious, Amanda Tapparo '16, Morgan Baker '16, Thomas Dynan '17, and Jill Bassett.

IT'S ON THEM

Students Take Home New England Emmy for Sexual Assault PSA

In the making of a 91-second video, the students of Professor Heather Weibel Tullio's Media Production class managed to unite the Franklin Pierce community.

The blissful bonus came when the resulting public service announcement (PSA), encouraging bystanders to take action to prevent and report sexual assault on campus, was recognized in June with a student Emmy by the New England chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences. The Pierce version of the national "It's On Us" campaign involved more than 100 student, faculty, and staff volunteers; two filming locations (The Marlin Fitzwater Center for Communication and the Peterson Manor); and immeasurable awareness of a vital topic.

"We were making the video as a University project," explained audio technician Thomas Dynan '17. "The Emmy part was secondary — and kind of surreal."

"It's On Us" brought Franklin Pierce its second Emmy in the last three years. In 2015, Carlo Falitico '15 and Lauren Caduto '16, with help from "It's On Us" faculty adviser Dr. Kristen Nevios, received the PSA Emmy for "Can Collaboration." The trio also earned two runner-up honors.

Once 2015–16 class members elected to join the national "It's On Us" campaign, launched in 2014 by President Obama and the White House Council on Women and Girls, they quickly got behind the message. "It was important for us, as part of the Franklin Pierce community, to raise awareness and bring our community together to pledge, recognize, identify, and intervene in situations where consent has not and cannot be given," said talent coordinator Amanda Tapparo '16. "It is on us to put an end to sexual assault, and I think this project brings awareness to that fact."

Though the Emmy judges applauded the final product, the road was not without its bumps for Tullio's 10 students. Filming in two separate

locations in fall 2015 proved to be a challenge, as distinctions in sound and lighting (and one ragged, off-white backdrop) required adjustments during the editing and color correction processes.

"We tried to make the two filming locations as perfect as possible," said Morgan Baker '16, who served with Luke Walsky '18 as a lighting technician/audio assistant. "They both looked and sounded a little different, so making them into one video turned out to be difficult."

Long before the PSA became an Emmy winner, the students, most of them mass communication majors, had to select a topic, script it, coordinate volunteers, and manage everything in between, from Tapparo reciting sections of the script for volunteers to repeat on camera, to 2016 graduate Cat Purdy's hours of editing, to Dynan and fellow audio technician Dimitry Legagneur '16 equalizing the discordant sound. Glitches in both audio and video required more than one re-start in the editing process, before the project was finally complete and shared in spring 2016.

Winning an Emmy is a career hallmark for Dynan, Baker, Walsky, Tapparo, Purdy and Legagneur; directors Samantha Hulme '16 and Claire Dew '16; and cinematographers Jasmyne Fogle '17 and Scott DeLaura '17. At the June 24 ceremony, the students were surprised to receive personalized Emmy statues, engraved with their names.

Baker's Emmy currently resides at his Mansfield, Conn., home, the centerpiece of a busy desk, bookended by a Franklin Pierce mug and a piggy bank. Tapparo's shares a shelf with family photos and athletic trophies. And Dynan is still looking for the perfect spot for his physical award, but for the time being has found a productive place for it.

"I'm looking for work right now," he said, "and an Emmy is certainly a great thing to put on my résumé." — *Jana F. Brown*





CELEBRATING ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Excelling in the Classroom and on the Court

Regardless of where or what time of day it is, Jemma Thacker '18 can talk as fluently about a pick and roll on the basketball court as a chi-square test that produces a statistical analysis of variance or ANOVA.

Thacker, a rising senior on the Ravens women's basketball team, was one of dozens of students who participated this past April in the University's Academic Showcase, an annual event designed to share the best scholarly and creative work of Franklin Pierce students with the campus community and the public. Her poster, "Influence of Leading Questions on Eyewitness Accuracy and Confidence," reflects the criminal justice and forensics psychology minors she is pursuing in addition to majoring in psychology. "It made sense to me because they all go hand in hand," she says of her multiple interests.

Thacker handles such a heavy course load because she sat out her freshman year, a common college athletics practice known as redshirting. Thus, as she entered her fourth academic year during 2016–2017, she decided to take advantage of the opportunity to advance her education

even further. A class taught by Associate Professor of Psychology Dr. Jennie Brown, a former Central Intelligence Agency employee, piqued Thacker's interest in criminal justice.

"It was a great class, really interesting," says Thacker, who decided to pursue the two minors. That led to her working with former psychology faculty member Mitchell Speaks to create a poster she presented at several regional conferences, including the New Hampshire Psychology Association earlier this year at the University of New Hampshire, which she then repurposed for the Academic Showcase.

Thacker was pursued by several prominent Division I and II basketball programs in the United States, and also had been accepted to universities in her native Australia where women's basketball is quite popular. But she had heard about Pierce several years earlier, when former Franklin Pierce coach Mark Swasey coached her at a hoops camp while she was playing in a professional league. After a series of Skype conversations and a scholarship offer from then-coach Jen Leedham '09, she was convinced that the mountains of



Facing page:
Jemma Thacker '18 on the court.
This page:
the Academic Showcase. Inset:
Thacker and Kim Mooney '83, Ph.D.



Regardless of where or what time of day it is, Jemma Thacker can talk as fluently about a pick and roll on the basketball court as a chi-square test that produces a statistical analysis of variance or ANOVA.

southwestern New Hampshire and the intimate campus — more than 6,000 miles from home — was where she would thrive both on and off the court.

“Sure it’s small, but it really helps having such great relationships with my coaches and professors,” says Thacker, whose hometown of Nairne in South Australia is similar in size to Rindge. “It was something I couldn’t pass up. Coming to the States has been such a great opportunity.”

Not that it’s been easy. During the off season, she has four hours daily of practices and video review. Then there’s contending with a grueling schedule during the basketball

season — it’s not unusual for her to have 17-hour days going back and forth for away games, and getting up for an 8 a.m. class the following day on five hours of sleep. Despite that, she has maintained a 3.85 GPA.

The 2016–2017 season was an uncharacteristically down year, with the team winning just three games as the players adjusted to first-year coach Jeanette Wedo, a new offense and defensive strategies, and a slate of injuries that sidelined many starters for much of the year. That meant the 5-foot-11-inch guard often was playing more than 35 minutes a game, which led to her posting career highs in points, rebounds, and steals. She’s confident the Ravens can return to their accustomed success and compete for the Northeast-10 Conference title next year and even make it back to the NCAA Tournament.

Thacker is uncertain about her future. Following graduation, she may return to Australia to jump back into the professional league or spend a few months traveling. Staying stateside might be a possibility, too. But if you run into her around campus, don’t forget to ask her about those ANOVA results. She’ll be more than happy to explain. — *John Shaw*

RAVENS ROUNDUP

BY MATT JANIK

PIERCE'S FASTEST

Blazin' Bermudan

Dage Minors '17 is faster than you.

The senior, a native of Bermuda, has a strong case as the fastest man to ever attend Franklin Pierce, and he spent the entire year showing people just how fast he can be.

During both the indoor and outdoor seasons, Minors qualified for the NCAA Championships in the 800-meter, where he finished fourth during the indoor season and eighth to cap the outdoor campaign. Those accomplishments were just the latest along a careerlong string of successes for the most-decorated student-athlete on campus.

During his time at Franklin Pierce, Minors was a five-time All-American and has represented the Ravens at NCAA Championships on nine occasions. Also at the national level, he has earned All-Academic honors from the USTFCCCA three times.

At the regional level, Minors is a three-time selection as USTFCCCA East Region Athlete of the Year, has piled up 15 All-East Region selections and has earned All-New England honors on seven occasions. Within the Northeast-10 Conference, he has captured 18 championships and claimed 22 All-Conference awards.

There may still be more to come, as Minors still has one season of eligibility left in outdoor track and field, which he intends to use in spring 2018.

Dage Minors '17 has spent the entire year showing people just how fast he can be.



Dage Minors '17
at the 2015
Sean Collier
Invitational,
which was
hosted by the
Massachusetts
Institute of
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SPECTACULAR SEASON

Tearing Up the Links

Since we featured her in the Spring 2017 Pierce magazine, junior women's golfer Camden Morrison '19 wound up with six wins, three second-place finishes, and 10 top-10 performances between the fall and spring seasons.

The spectacular season led to a string of firsts for the women's golf program. Though the team narrowly missed an NCAA Championship selection, Morrison qualified for the NCAA East Super Regional as an individual. She became the first NCAA Championship competitor in the history of the women's program and lit up the leaderboard after she got there. Morrison finished second at the East Super Regional, making her the first Ravens golfer, man or woman, to advance to the NCAA National Championship, where she finished 47th in a field of 72.

Morrison led a haul of Northeast-10 Conference awards for Ravens women's golf, which picked up major conference awards for the first time in program annals. In fact, the crimson and grey swept the major awards, as Morrison earned Player of the Year honors, Zoe Yamamoto '20 was named Rookie of the Year, and head coach Tyler Bishop took home Coach of the Year accolades.

Not to be overlooked, the Ravens men's golf team also turned in a strong season. The squad qualified for the NCAA Championship East/Atlantic Regional for just the second time in school history. Led by freshman Sam Myers, who finished in a tie for seventh, the Ravens finished 16th out of 20 teams at the regional tournament.

Tyler Bishop and Camden Morrison '19.



Caitlin Sweeney '19

MAKING HISTORY

Lax Attack

It was a spring full of firsts for the Franklin Pierce women's lacrosse team. Away from the field, at the Department of Athletics annual year-end banquet, Lauren Stille '11 became the program's first inductee into the Franklin Pierce Athletics Hall of Fame. She is the program's all-time leader in points, goals, and shots on goal.

Meanwhile, on the field, junior midfielder Caitlin Sweeney '19 was putting together one of the most impressive seasons in program annals. Sweeney finished in the top 10 in the country in free-position goals per game, as well as goals per game, on the way to earning a selection to the All-America Third Team

by the Intercollegiate Women's Lacrosse Coaches Association. It marked the first All-America selection in the history of the program.

Sweeney also picked up All-East Region and All-Northeast-10 accolades for her work this spring. She finished the 16-game campaign with 72 points on 60 goals and 12 assists, and collected a team best 70 draw controls along the way. Her point and goal totals each stand as the third-most in a season in program history, trailing Stille's 2008 and 2009 seasons in each category.

It marked the first All-America selection in the history of the program.



BURLESON IN CHARGE

Under New Management

On July 1, Rachel Burleson took the helm as director of athletics, ushering in a new era for the division at Franklin Pierce. She takes over for Bruce Kirsh '71 [see story, Pierce magazine, Spring 2017], who retired in June after 45 years heading the university's athletics department.

Burleson comes to Rindge with more than a decade of Division II experience as an administrator and coach. She served as associate athletic director for compliance and administration at Missouri

Southern State University. Burleson was previously an assistant athletic director at Western State Colorado University. She holds a bachelor's degree from Tarleton State University and a master's degree from Northwest Missouri State University.

Burleson kicked off her tenure at Raven Nation in June, representing Franklin Pierce at the annual Northeast-10 Conference meetings, an annual gathering of athletic directors and administrators from around the league, with the primary purpose being conference governance.

PLAYER SHINES

Smart Bird

Tanner Bird '16 experienced ups and downs throughout his career as a member of the baseball team's pitching staff. In his senior season a year ago, he earned All-American honors, consensus All-East Region First-Team accolades and an All-Northeast-10 Conference First-Team selection, while helping the Ravens to their seventh NCAA regional title. Earlier in his career, he lost a season, when he had to take time away from the team to fight, and beat, cancer.

Through it all, while turning himself into an All-American threat on the field, he continued to excel in the classroom as well. Bird graduated in May 2016 with a 3.62 GPA earning his degree in marketing. Competing as a graduate student this season, he currently owns a 3.84 GPA.

The classroom proficiency allowed Bird to cap his Ravens career with one more accolade in June, as he earned CoSIDA Academic All-American honors for the second straight year, with a selection to the Third Team. The CoSIDA Academic All-America program is the nation's premier awards program combining both athletic and academic pursuits. To be nominated, student-athletes must possess at least a 3.30 GPA and serve as a starter or significant contributor to the team.

Bird was one of just three Northeast-10 Conference baseball players to earn Academic All-American honors, but was not the only Raven recognized by CoSIDA this spring. Earlier, Bird had been named to the Academic All-District First Team, where he was joined by junior pitcher John Amendola '19.



Tanner Bird '16

Kim Mooney '83, Ph.D.,
Leads the University
That Shaped Her Life

future intertwined

BY HOLLY BERETTO '93 PHOTOGRAPHS BY CHRISTOPHER BEAUCHAMP

As the sun sank over Mount Monadnock on a balmy June evening, Kim Mooney '83 and her husband, Greg Walsh, sat in Keene's historic Colonial Theatre on Main Street grooving to Another Tequila Sunrise, an Eagles tribute band. Outside, the temperature was in the low 80s but inside the cool theater, surrounded by art nouveau motifs and the soundtrack of her high school days, Mooney suddenly felt the full force of her first year as president of her alma mater sink in, and all at once, she was overcome by a wave of excitement and gratitude.



President Kim Mooney '83, Ph.D., on the College at Rindge campus.

Exactly one year earlier, the board of trustees asked Mooney if she would take on the position of university president, following the departure of Andrew Card. On that June evening in the Colonial Theatre, Mooney reflected on both the end of the semester and the day's events. She'd led a board of trustees meeting earlier that day, the third of her presidential tenure. She readily admits that she's too busy working to get overly sentimental, but says, "The music that night brought me back to my 17 or 18-year-old self. I realized how that girl absolutely never could have predicted that not only would I be a college president, but that I would lead my alma mater, a place that I just love so much and was so defining for me. It was — " she searches for a word — "It was so powerful."

Mooney is the sixth president of the University, and her presidency marks multiple milestones for Franklin Pierce. She is both the first woman and the first alumna to lead the school. She's also the only president of the University who can say that she has known or worked with each of her predecessors.

Her deep involvement with Franklin Pierce since her graduation also gives her a unique perspective on the institution's past, present, and future. During the last year alone, the school has enhanced its academics, solidified its financial resources, and strengthened its commitment to the Monadnock Region and the state of New Hampshire. To Mooney, Pierce's future is bright.

A Day for Sensible Shoes

If anyone understands the power of Franklin Pierce, it's Mooney. She arrived on campus in fall 1979, moved into Mount Washington Hall and spent the next four years exploring a deep, liberal arts curriculum. A self-professed independent thinker who knew she wanted to major in psychology, Mooney was, like many Ravens before — and after — her, a first-generation college student. Other than knowing her major, she wasn't quite sure what to expect, either in terms of what she'd do for a career, or about this tiny school tucked into the woods of southwestern New Hampshire.

"People came to Franklin Pierce with very different strengths," she remembers. "I'd meet people in class or at a party or in the dorm and somebody would be a great guitar player, somebody else could really sing or blow glass, or was a great athlete. The people I went to school with were smart, talented, and funny, and I enjoyed their company so much."

After concluding her first year at the helm, Mooney recognizes that while the times may have changed, Pierce's

I realized how that girl absolutely never could have predicted that not only would I be a college president, but that I would lead my alma mater, a place that I just love so much and was so defining for me. It was — " she searches for a word — "It was so powerful."

ability to attract students of all kinds of talents and abilities hasn't dimmed. The University held the 8th Annual Academic Showcase in April [see story, Page 16]. The event is designed to show off the scholarship and research of Pierce students and faculty, as well as creative endeavors in music or visual arts.

"This was the first year that we suspended classes on the Rindge campus for an entire day to focus on the Showcase," says Mooney. "There were concurrent presentations and panels and performances, all day long, all over campus. I had my sneakers on and when the community gathered in the morning to start the Showcase, I warned the crowd that this was a day for sensible shoes."

Mooney recalls walking into sessions that were standing room only, with audiences of students filling the room to cheer on and support their friends and classmates, asking what she calls probing questions about the presentation or performance. For the university president, it was an affirmation that Franklin Pierce is a place that transforms lives.





The Road to Transformation

Mooney herself blossomed as a Raven. In addition to her psychology major, she picked up a double major in English. As a student, she says she took classes from all across Pierce's broad curriculum, including oil painting, photography, and dance, uncovering a love of dance that inspired her to take as many classes as she could. She matriculated knowing she wanted to double major, and selected English because of her love of literature. She served as a resident adviser in Mount Washington Hall. Upon graduating, she worked at Crooked Mountain for a year, then went on to get her Ph.D. in psychology from the University of New Hampshire in 1989, writing a dissertation on how the cardiovascular system responds to the stress of social situations.

She became a faculty member at St. Lawrence University in Canton, N.Y., teaching psychology, and it was at St. Lawrence that she began taking on leadership roles in higher education. After earning tenure, Mooney served as the associate dean for faculty affairs and was the founding director of the Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL),

a multipurpose space designed to provide ongoing faculty development and promote innovative teaching and course design. The center hosted new faculty orientation sessions as well as provided first- and second-year faculty with mentors to help them build their careers. She authored multiple pieces in peer-reviewed publications, and wrote several successfully funded grant proposals. In 2006, she was appointed special assistant to the president for assessment, working to support all of the academic departments as they identified learning goals for their majors and how to best assess student learning in those areas.

Throughout her career, Mooney maintained strong ties to Franklin Pierce. She served on the Alumni Association Board of Directors and was a member of the board of trustees from 2001 to 2008, serving as the chair of the Academic Affairs Committee, when she was appointed provost. In that position, Mooney was integral to the school's transition from a college to a university [see "The University at 10," Pierce magazine, Spring 2017]. Before the transition, the undergraduate College at Rindge and the centers for Graduate and Professional Studies across New Hampshire and in Arizona operated as separate

entities. Mooney integrated the academic programs under one unified university umbrella, and was an early leader in understanding how both a high-quality curriculum and the pathways from undergraduate to graduate programs were selling points for the school.

“Our graduate programs are pivotal to our success as a university,” she says. “We can now recruit freshmen on the appeal of those programs. A student can come in here at 18 and in four or five years earn a master’s or even go on to the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program. This once small, traditional, exclusively undergraduate college now has a significant academic portfolio.”

That significant portfolio is due in part to Mooney’s success as a leader. During her tenure as provost, which included six months as interim president in 2009, Pierce introduced a new general and liberal education curriculum, replacing the former Individual and the Community model; created a health sciences major (now the largest major in the school); and seven other undergraduate degrees, including accelerated business degrees known as the Business PLUS Accelerated Programs.

“As provost, I looked through the lens of how to create change for the future of the institution,” says Mooney. “And a lot of that effort was centered around generating educational experiences for our students. As president, my lens is even broader: how do we build on our shared sense of community, our university identity, our role in higher education in New Hampshire, and our successes to continue to enhance our strong reputation?”

Mooney isn’t surprised by the University’s success. As an alumna, she understands innately that the school provides students with experiences — like the Academic Showcase and Division II athletics — where they can indulge their passions and draw confidence from their experiences. And she sees success as being something that has its own domino effect: the more there is, the more excited people are to be part of the institution.

Successes come from all corners, whether it’s students winning national awards or faculty receiving grants and accolades for their research. There have also been increased opportunities for experiential learning. That’s a transformation that delights her.

“I think there is a tremendous benefit to faculty scholarship and creative work,” she says. “Not only does it allow individual faculty members to continue to fuel their passion for their disciplines, it almost inevitably informs their teaching and pedagogy. Faculty scholarship can create opportunities for student projects, and it’s so valuable for students to have learning experiences and options outside of the standard traditional classroom experience.”

In addition to the experience students gain working

alongside faculty on research projects, which has enabled them to conduct experiments that result in articles published in peer-reviewed journals, Franklin Pierce has provided students with other opportunities, as well. Pierce’s Lloyd and Helen Ament Astmann ’69 Career Center, relocated during Mooney’s first year as president to partner with the Alumni and Parent Relations Office, has been a springboard to help students seek out both internships and jobs.

Being an Institution for the Future

Over the last year, it has become clear that Mooney is firmly in charge of a new era for Franklin Pierce. By the time she drives up University Drive every morning, she has already met with members of a local chamber of commerce



“ I am always looking at how we might better articulate the substance and the value of the education we offer, and make sure that we provide the kind of learning opportunities that help students thrive while they are here with us and into their futures. ”

or sent emails and texts to start the work day. Ten- or 12-hour days are not uncommon, and some days she's in constant motion, going from meeting to meeting, making presentations, returning calls and responding to emails, maybe taking in a student performance or an athletic event. If she's lucky, she manages to catch a Zumba class on the way home once or twice a week.

Mooney's priority is clear: ensuring Pierce has a sustainable future. Last fall, the school unveiled a new strategic plan, which will define Pierce's priorities for the next four years and continue to embody the school's belief in every student's potential, as well as holding tightly to strong fiscal management. Pierce recently closed its third-straight year of financial surpluses, which Mooney funneled back into the institution's endowment to better ensure Pierce's future. Investments to address the technology infrastructure, needed facilities, and funding strategic plan initiatives are spending priorities. Health sciences are a top program, with nearly a third of the student body — undergraduate and graduates — taking coursework in those disciplines.

“We have much to celebrate, and we have abundant opportunities to build on our achievements,” she says.

Driven by her vision for the University, Mooney keeps her eyes on the horizon. Her goal is to give Franklin Pierce a reputation for being a leader and innovator in the ever-changing higher education and career prospect landscapes, and producing a community of scholars who can take on whatever challenges they face. She wants the Monadnock community and the state of New Hampshire to view the school as a resource and a partner, and has worked steadily to build relationships with employers and stakeholders not only in Rindge, but throughout the Monadnock Region. Earlier this spring, Franklin Pierce was named the 2016 Nonprofit of the Year by the Jaffrey Chamber of Commerce, in part because of the school's student, faculty and staff engagement with the surrounding community, serving as volunteers with local organizations and tutors

in elementary and middle schools. Mooney also intends for the University to connect in more meaningful ways with business sectors in the broader Goodyear, Ariz., community, where Pierce has had a graduate center since 2007.

“I want to further establish Franklin Pierce as a highly responsive higher education institution that is well-prepared to address the needs of the business community,” she says. “So I am always looking at how we might better articulate the substance and the value of the education we offer, and make sure that we provide the kind of learning opportunities that help students thrive while they are here with us and into their futures.”

Her commitment to the region extends beyond her role at Pierce. Mooney serves on the board of directors of The Hannah Grimes Center for Entrepreneurship in Keene, an organization that provides the space, tools, and connections that innovative entrepreneurs need to build strong businesses, thriving local economies, and vibrant communities in the Monadnock Region. She also serves and supports Linda's Closet, a Keene-based clothing resource dedicated to the success and quality of life for women in the Monadnock Region who are entering or re-entering the work force.

Mooney's mission is not only professional, but personal. She sees her work as president as a way of giving back to the school that gave her so much.

“The day I was asked to be president was humbling,” she says. “After a year, I am even more engaged by, and committed to, the work. I have a better and deeper understanding of how much other people love the University. I've always known my own feelings about it, but being president has exposed me to new layers of affection others have for Franklin Pierce. It makes me much more determined for the University and success of our students. I am humbled to be in this position of leadership knowing how much Pierce means to students, alumni, trustees, employees, families, and friends. We are all Raven Nation!” **P**



Tomorrow is Another Day

Genevieve
McGillicuddy '94
Innovates Ways to
Bring Classic Film to
Broad Audiences

BY GREGORY DL MORRIS
PHOTOGRAPHS BY GREGORY HARRIS

Film is as accessible as the multiplex, yet as elusive as a complete print of Fritz Lang's "Metropolis." Classic lines range from the ridiculous, "So I jump ship in Nepal ..." to the sublime, "We'll always have Paris." Some film geeks show their passion arguing about aspect ratio. Some show their passion by introducing audiences who are content with the multiplex to the magic and mystery of "Metropolis."

Genevieve
McGillicuddy '94
on the set at
TCM in Atlanta.



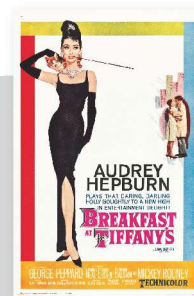
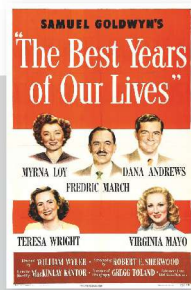
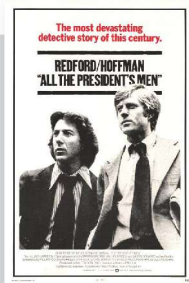
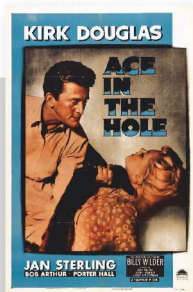
One of those film geeks took her love of history and reading to Franklin Pierce, where a semester abroad led her to the London Film Festival. Today she is vice president of enterprises and strategic partnerships for Turner Classic Movies (TCM).

Genevieve McGillicuddy was born in the Boston area and grew up in Nashua, N.H. “I always focused on history and reading in school, so [I] thought of a career in anthropology or archaeology,” she says. “But I always had a broad interest in lots of subjects. That is what I liked about Pierce: it had a small environment but options to explore and experiment that usually only much bigger schools have. I also really liked the burgeoning study abroad program that enabled me to spend a semester in London. I have

always been omnivorous and Pierce gave me what I was looking for.”

It was in London that McGillicuddy’s manifold interests coalesced into celluloid. “I did not think of film as a career until attending the London Film Festival. I didn’t even realize it could be a career. But by my senior year, a lot of factors were pointing that way. I was afraid that my English major would be a detriment, but I found that learning to think critically about art was the most important skill.”

“Time and time again,” McGillicuddy adds, “I am reminded that the need for basic writing and communication skills, combined with critical thinking, is incredibly relevant in today’s world.”



In the Screening Room With Genevieve

Favorite Classic Films

I have some favorites that I return to. Anything by Billy Wilder, but especially “**Ace in the Hole**.” The story is about a reporter (Kirk Douglas), who finds the scoop of a lifetime, covering the story of a hapless man trapped in cave. It is one of the most cynical scripts ever written. Douglas’ raw energy is on full display and none of the characters in this film escapes unscathed from this dark take on human nature.

A lot of people recommend “**The Red Shoes**,” a Powell/Pressburger production (Martin Scorsese cites it as a top pick), but I recommend it for the performance by Viennese-born

actor Anton Walbrook. He is a ballet impresario who romances a ballerina who joins the company. His old-world charm, and sharp, leading-man elegance simply doesn’t exist in today’s movies.

Best Historical Films

I am passionate about both history and film. Here are a couple of films that I love that combine both. “**The Best Years of Our Lives**” is a very realistic portrayal of men returning home from war. Remarkably, the film seems as timeless and relevant today as it was in 1946. The cast is incredible, and it’s beautifully shot by Gregg Toland.

“**All the President’s Men**,” which TCM did a screening of

several years ago in conjunction with a conversation that included Carl Bernstein and [Tom McCarthy,] the writer and director of “Spotlight.” Not knowing how relevant the film was going to become, it felt very historic to hear those involved talk about how to translate real-life investigative journalism into a cinematic story. It’s still gripping to watch, even though the events and outcome are well known.

One Classic Film That Is Overrated

“**Breakfast at Tiffany’s**” — I include this because, frankly, Mickey Rooney simply ruins this film for me, as his character is a racist caricature.



“The need for basic writing and communication skills, combined with critical thinking, is incredibly relevant in today’s world.”

“ I wish that story,
not spectacle,
drove more of
what Hollywood
would produce
these days. ”



A Career in Film is Born

McGillicuddy's only previous experience with film was prosaic: "From age 14 through college I was a page at the local library. I was also involved in the multimedia program, so I helped with public screenings."

Her library experience attuned her to the yin and yang of focused research and serendipity. "I loved the card catalogs and reading the stacks. The skill set of the research librarian is becoming a lost art in this age of instant internet searches.

Each book had its card and its place, but there was also the delight of looking at the next card or the next shelf and making a delightful discovery of something you didn't know you were looking for."

From Pierce, McGillicuddy went to Atlanta's Emory University to earn a master's degree in film history and theory. While at Emory, she landed a paid internship at the 1996 Summer Olympics with an organization from Los Angeles that handled all of the entertainment. Based on that experience, she got in touch with a nonprofit organization that supported independent local film by connecting with another Emory grad.

"I stayed there five and a half years," McGillicuddy recalls, "wearing many hats. I ran events and festivals, did programming, public relations, and marketing. I advanced to head programmer, but knew it was not a long-term career for me. I wanted to focus on finding great films and putting together programs and screenings to promote them."

She left the nonprofit, and worked through several freelance positions, one of which she collaborated with TCM. "It was good timing and a good fit," McGillicuddy says. "TCM was looking for ways to connect with their fan community, to extend its name into a lifestyle brand." Now she develops brand extensions from the core business of network affiliates and cable TV companies.



At left, McGillicuddy at the TCM Classic Film Festival, and above, with Sidney Poitier and Walter Mirisch.

A Global Career With New Hampshire Roots

McGillicuddy and her husband, a freelance journalist, live in Grant Park, one of the oldest neighborhoods in Atlanta. "My house is across from a park that was once part of the Confederate defenses during the Battle of Atlanta," she notes. "The park is home to the zoo, and I can actually hear lions roar from my porch. My husband and I have restored a 1910 house over the last 14 years, which we share with our four cats."

Travel is a big part of McGillicuddy's life. "Recently, we have spent time in Japan and Russia, and have spent a lot of time exploring Eastern Europe, including Poland, Romania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, and Hungary. Our next trip will be to South Africa."

Having not been a communications major, McGillicuddy was a little surprised, but deeply honored to have been awarded the Fitzwater Medallion in 2015. "I want to credit Phyllis Zrzavy, professor of communication, who taught a course in understanding film and assisted me in developing material that I could use to submit to graduate school for film studies."

Film is still an incredibly relevant medium, McGillicuddy states emphatically. "While television has become a haven for today's storytellers, the art of film, of creating a story for the big screen, is a unique and important craft. I wish that story, not spectacle, drove more of what Hollywood would produce these days." **P**



Young at Heart

Ricky Davidson '93 Works to Make the Lives Better for New England Youth

BY LIZ MASSEY PHOTOGRAPHS BY ANDREW CUNNINGHAM

A single glance at Ricky Davidson's '93 resume makes it plain to see that his passion is advocating for children and adolescents. Each of the jobs he's held since graduating from Franklin Pierce University has focused on helping youth heal from adverse childhood experiences or to better themselves in some way. His overarching professional goal, he says, is to ensure that the children under his care discover that "the world has a place for them."

Ricky Davidson '93 with young members of the Boys and Girls Club of Brattleboro.



Davidson became the executive director of the Boys and Girls Club of Brattleboro, Vt., in October 2016, but his connection to the city dates back to 1995, when he came to work at the Brattleboro Retreat, a residential treatment center and alternative school for children, adolescents, and adults. He joined the Boys and Girls Club in 2004, initially to manage career and other youth programming for the organization.

“It was never my intent to stay in Brattleboro, but here I am 22 years later,” he chuckles. “It’s a tight-knit community, yet one that’s very creative and open to seeing the world in a new way — it’s very similar to Pierce in that regard.”

Becoming ‘the Adult I Had Wanted to Have in My Life’

Davidson’s path to becoming a Raven was rocky, as he tells it. After a childhood growing up in “rough” neighborhoods and a struggle with substance abuse as an adolescent, he became the first person in his family to pursue a college education. He was accepted at several art schools, where he had applied to study interior design; but after taking some time off to raise funds for his schooling, he realized he wanted to help kids with backgrounds similar to his own.

“I decided I wanted to do more than decorate people’s houses,” he says. “I wanted to be the adult that I had wanted to have in my life as a kid.”

At Franklin Pierce, Davidson majored in psychology with concentrations in special education psychology and clinical counseling. He says that faculty members like Craig Platt helped him model the approach with youth that he now utilizes.

“I was Craig’s first advisee, so we figured out our process as we went,” he remembers. “He wasn’t afraid to tell me when he didn’t know the answer to a question.”

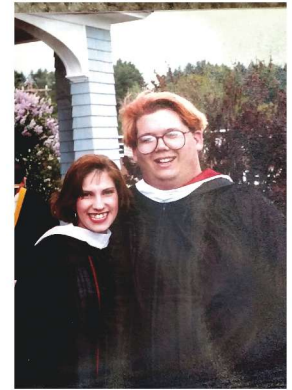
Davidson describes his alma mater as always open to new ideas and welcoming students with multiple talents.

“[Pierce] let me do things I wouldn’t have been able to do at a larger school,” he said. “I was a radio DJ, worked as an RA, and did the newspaper and yearbook. Whatever I wanted to try, they let me.”

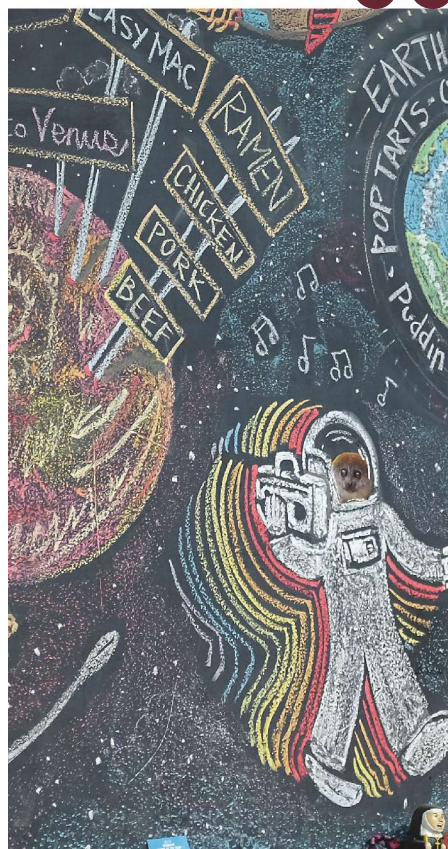
All Together Now

Although Davidson originally came to Brattleboro to get experience providing inpatient treatment to youth at the retreat, his vocational focus has shifted to serving youngsters in a more proactive way at the Boys and Girls Club. The programs that he’s

overseen at the club have offered members recreational opportunities, the chance to learn leadership skills, assistance with college preparation and career development, and even a hot supper six nights a week. The members of the Boys and Girls Club have responded positively to



TONY BERETTO



“It’s a tight-knit community, yet one that’s very creative and open to seeing the world in a new way — it’s very similar to Pierce in that regard.”



Previous page top: Davidson with Holly Beretto '93 at Academic Convocation, May 1993; and listening to concerns. This page: Brattleboro youth enjoying the amenities of the Boys and Girls Club of Brattleboro.

that. He is always willing to share personal stories with anyone to help them through struggles that they may be enduring in their lives.”

Giving Kids What They Need

Davidson says he has just a few rules that he’s followed as he’s worked with youth, the most important of which is not to lie to them.

“So many young people expect grown-ups to lie to them,” Davidson asserts. “Grown-ups will tell the youth what they think they need to hear instead of saying what they really want to say.”

Another guideline he follows is admitting to young people when he doesn’t know the answer to something. When he taught a health class as part of a part-time position with Planned Parenthood, he said, he intentionally created it as the “health class you wished you had in high school,” striving to help students discover the answer to any relevant question, no matter how controversial or sensitive the topic.

Finally, Davidson says, it is important to give youth a sense of what’s possible for them to achieve.

“One hundred percent of our [Boys and Girls Club] kids graduate high school on time with a plan for what’s next,” he says. “We help them articulate what their dream is and work forward from there.”

Tending to the Next Generation

Looking ahead to his future as a professional youth advocate, Davidson says his role is changing as he journeys through middle age.

“As I get older, I’m losing some of my ‘cool’ factor with the kids,” he admits. “It’s better for me to hire people who can be ‘cool’ and handle the day-to-day, and I can take care of the bigger picture.”

Davidson’s commitment to youth doesn’t end when the work day does, either. He was a long-term foster parent for many years, and recently moved into a Brattleboro homeless shelter for youth as its resident manager.

“I’m old enough to be the father or grandfather of the kids in the shelter, so they see me as a parental figure,” he says.

And this intensive lifestyle helping youth achieve their full potential is something he couldn’t have achieved without experiencing Pierce, he says.

“I was challenged a lot at Pierce — it made me a better person and a better problem solver,” he says. “Without those challenges, I wouldn’t have been able to do half of the things I’ve done.” **P**

the services that Davidson has managed and led, with significant drops in teen pregnancy rates and increases in high school graduation rates during his tenure with the organization.

Kella Stone, who met Davidson as a teenager at the club and went on to work alongside him there for nearly 10 years, says he has been able to be an effective leader because he shares his past experiences in a way that helps youth in their present-day struggles.

“I am who I am today because of the relationship I have with Ricky,” says Stone, who began her career as a junior staff member, going on to be the club’s assistant program director and later recreation coordinator. “Because of [the] hardships [he experienced] in his childhood, it makes it easy for him to relate to the hardships of the youth he is surrounded by. He has been there and done



Aron Leaman '07
Shows His
Creative Side

Into the Fire

BY IAN ALDRICH
PHOTOGRAPHS BY
ANDREW CUNNINGHAM

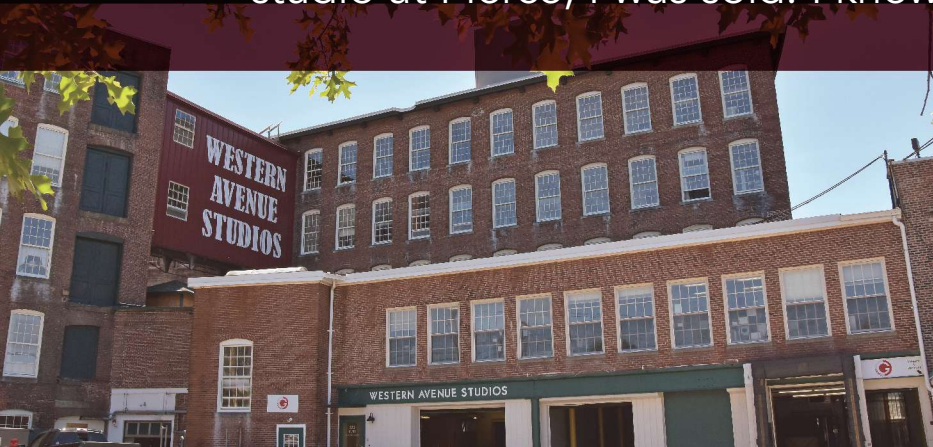
For several summers, not long after school let out, Aron Leaman '07 would pile into the family's Volvo wagon with his parents for the long drive from their home in Gloucester, Mass., to northern Vermont, to take his older sister to camp. It wasn't an especially exciting journey but there was one stop the preteen always looked forward to — the lunch break in Quechee, Vt.

Aron Leaman '07
in the studio.





“I had wanted to be a marine biologist when I was younger and later I got into outdoor education — I was a kayak guide growing up,” says Leaman. “But then came glass and when I saw the studio at Pierce, I was sold. I knew that’s where I wanted to go.”



In the small community in the middle of Vermont, the Leamans would peer at the gorge, grab a couple of sandwiches, and allow enough time to visit the Simon Pearce glassblowing studio. There, Leaman watched in wonder as the blowers, working in teams of two, sometimes three, formed and manipulated the liquid glass into fantastic shapes — goblets and vases,

bowls and wine glasses. From nothing came something. And it came nearly instantaneously. “It’s something I knew I wanted to try,” says Leaman.

Artistic DNA

That he felt this artistic impulse was no great surprise. Creativity imbued his childhood. His father,

Edward, is a painter and antiques dealer, and the family home was decorated with the treasures found at flea markets and yard sales. Art dominated the wall spaces and family conversations. Many of his parents’ friends were artists, and Leaman’s parents enrolled him in private painting and drawing classes.

But the medium of glass captivated him. “It’s unlike anything else,” he says. “It’s hot, it’s molten, it’s challenging,” he says. “It flows. And you have to move fast, but be patient.”

His first taste of working with it came his junior year of high school. A friend’s cousin was a blower by the name of Mark Hursty, who had a studio in nearby Hamilton, Mass. A few lessons with Hursty led to a semesterlong internship and a total immersion into the art form.

Above: Some of Leaman’s creations; left: the mill building where Leaman has his studio.



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“It was a loose situation,” says Leaman, who also did independent studies in cooking and music. “[Mark] didn’t push a lot of rules and allowed me to experiment and be artistic.”

Passion, Freedom, Glass

Leaman graduated high school in spring 2003 and landed at Franklin Pierce that autumn. “I had wanted to be a marine biologist when I was younger and later I got into outdoor education — I was a kayak guide growing up,” says Leaman. “But then came glass and when I saw the studio at Pierce, I was sold. I knew that’s where I wanted to go.”

Over the next four years, Leaman practically made his home at the school’s studio, otherwise known as the “Glass Hut.” He worked closely with longtime Pierce instructor Jordanna Korsen, who, says Leaman, fostered both a passion for the art form with a fierce spirit of artistic independence.

“Pierce was the kind of place where the more you put in, the more you got out,” says Leaman. “If there was an open slot at the studio, anyone could jump right in and get to work. I was there all the time. I learned to refine my process, making cleaner lines, better understanding the material and playing with color.”

Leaman, who graduated with a degree in arts management, also credits Pierce for the freedom it instilled in his education. He pursued a summer internship at the Eugene Glass School in Eugene, Ore., and did

The Walk in Europe [See story, Pierce magazine, Spring/Summer 2017] the semester of his junior year. “It was a real supportive environment,” he says.

A Working Artist

Following his graduation, Leaman kept glassblowing at the center of his life. He worked for a few different artists in New England, then headed back to Eugene, where he taught and made art. It’s there that he eventually met his wife, Maria, who was traveling through the States from her home



Glass Hut History

Franklin Pierce’s Glass Studio was launched in the 1970s by two forward-thinking artists, David MacAllister and Chris Salmon. Its beginnings were humble, its availability, limited. For the first decade of its existence the studio was only open during the month of January, which served as the school’s winter term.

Under the leadership of instructor Peter Ridabock, the studio’s classes became a semesterlong program, developed by Ridabock and under the aegis of the fine arts department. Oversight of the studio was then passed onto Keith Bump, Ridabock’s former student, and Ridabock went on to establish a professional studio in East Kingston, N.H.

“[Keith] was a pioneer and turned it into something that was better than most other glassblowing programs,” says Jordanna Korsen, a student of Bump’s

who took over from her mentor as lead instructor in January 1995. “He gave students time to blow glass and created an environment that was really inspirational.”

Korsen continued Bump’s legacy and for 22 years led Pierce’s Glass Studio. Under her tutelage, the University churned out hundreds of amateur glassblowers as well as a number of artists who went on to work professionally, including Aron Leaman.

“Pierce is a school known for making glassblowers,” says Korsen, who left the school in 2015 to open a private studio in Marlboro, N.H.

Today the Glass Studio instructors are Eva Goodman and Nanda Soderberg, and the studio equipment is managed by Jean St. Pierre. Semester-long courses are offered in four levels of glassblowing, and it is part of a new visual arts minor, open to all students.



“The patterns, those marks from nature. What a bug leaves behind on a piece of wood it’s eaten, or a leaf, it fascinates me. I like subtleties. I want my pieces to be things where the more people look, the more they will see. I want their mind to wander.”



country of Argentina. The couple moved to Massachusetts in early 2009 and the following year were married. Today the Leamans live in Dracut, Mass., and have two young boys.

Back on the East Coast, Leaman continued to work and teach, moving steadily toward his dream of having his own studio. In October 2014, he opened Mill City Glassworks in an old mill in Lowell, Mass. His work is now displayed in galleries and stores around New England.

Leaman packs a busy schedule. Summer weekends are spent at craft fairs and shows, selling his creations. Evenings and certain days he opens his studio to the public and teaches. His classes run anywhere from one-day sessions to six-week stretches. At the center of his schedule are blocks of time dedicated to creating his own work.

Leaman is both a craftsman and an artist. The bulk of what he sells — wine glasses, goblets, vases and bowls — is utilitarian. The pieces people buy, they buy to use. At the other end is his artwork, ambitious and often abstract. These pieces, which represent a side of his business he’s aiming to make more of, draw heavily from Leaman’s own love of nature. His work packs a certain fluidity, an obvious nod to his Gloucester roots, where the sea and light have inspired so many other artists.

“I’ve always been in love with the tides, what’s left behind after a tide goes out,” he says. “The patterns, those marks from nature. What a bug leaves behind on a piece of wood it’s eaten, or

a leaf, it fascinates me. I like subtleties. I want my pieces to be things where the more people look, the more they will see. I want their mind to wander.”

One Single Thing

Leaman is an enthusiastic ambassador for not just his own work, but glassblowing in general. As such, he’s an evangelist not just for the act of making something, but its impact on how it can change a person’s life. Or, the way they approach their life.

“Glass has this mystery to it,” he says. “It’s hot, you can’t touch it. But it cools quickly so it requires this clear thinking and just being in the moment. There’s no time to be anywhere else. You have to be totally there. It’s why I think so many people are now drawn to glassblowing. Many of my students have stressful jobs. This is a way for them to set that aside and just concentrate on one single thing.”

You can hear it in his voice. That wonder, that burst of excitement that first sparked all those years ago while watching the blowers at Simon Pearce, surfaces. “Every little boy loves fire,” he says. “You get to play with torches. You’re in the heat. It’s amazing. Glassblowing is not for the perfectionist at first. You have to struggle with it to get there. But things happen immediately, and after it cools down you have something the next day. There’s an immediacy to it. I’m always excited to walk into my studio to see what I’ve made.” ■



From Pierce to Parliament

Shanendon Cartwright '98 Brings His New Hampshire Lessons Home to the Bahamas

It was after 9 p.m. on a weekday in mid-June, and the Hon. Shanendon Eugene Cartwright was just returning home after a marathon budget session. As a newly elected Member of Parliament in the Commonwealth of the Bahamas, the Franklin Pierce graduate and his colleagues in the Free National Movement government were scrambling to pass legislation just weeks after a landslide victory swept the party into office for the first time since 2007.

“These are extended but significant days,” he says, “but we’ve got a lot of work to do on behalf of the Bahamian people. They want real change and meaningful transformation for their families and our country. I’m honored to be a part of making that a reality. It’s a great responsibility.”

For Cartwright, it’s a continuation of being invested in communities that started when he was a student at Pierce. He was just 17 years old when he arrived on campus, the latest in a line of Bahamians who came to get an education and play basketball on an athletic scholarship for former coach Arthur Luptowski, who coached for 10 seasons between 1989-90 and 1998-99. While Cartwright is amazed that the nine 3-pointers he made in a game against the University of Bridgeport in 1997 is still a

university record, he’s most proud of his academic and extracurricular activities.

Take Vision 21, for example, the initiative he started at Pierce where he would visit high schools in Rindge, Jaffrey, and other surrounding towns to talk with students about the importance of self-development and contributing to their communities. He was also a New England Collegiate Conference Academic Scholar-

Athlete, chairman of Pierce’s Judicial Board and an active member of the International Club.

“I really wanted my legacy to be more than just athletic success,” says Cartwright, an English major and history minor who received the prestigious President’s Award at his graduation. “No one is going to remember you for how many jump shots you made, but they’ll remember what you did that helped make the University a better place and enrich the lives of the student population. It was important to me to give back.”

Upon returning home, he launched a Bahamian version of Vision 21 and joined other civic and religious organizations. In addition to getting married and raising a family of three girls, Cartwright crafted an 18-year career in corporate development and hospitality and marketing. Over the years, he has spoken to high school students about his alma mater and has occasionally run into former Raven basketball players. “We all have a fond remembrance of Pierce — even of the New England weather,” he says.

Cartwright represents the diverse St. Barnabas Constituency in Nassau, the nation’s capital. It includes portions of the inner city, middle-class neighborhoods, and the University of the Bahamas. But it was his commitment to serving others that began in his teenage years, further stimulated during his undergraduate years at Pierce that finally spurred him to throw his hat into the political ring after almost two decades of working behind the scenes.

“The person I am today, and what I hope to achieve in Parliament,” Cartwright says, “is a direct reflection of the impact of a Franklin Pierce educational experience.”

As of early summer, Cartwright was still settling into his new role of serving his constituents and collaborating with his parliamentary colleagues to implement many of its party’s platform pledges to strengthen government accountability, fiscal prudence, and constitutional reforms that he believes will improve the lives of all citizens.

“Expectations are extremely high. We are carrying the dreams and aspirations of each Bahamian,” Cartwright says. “It’s an obligation and duty that requires a solemn commitment for which I have given to my country.”

— *John Shaw*

“No one is going to remember you for how many jump shots you made, but they’ll remember what you did that helped make the university a better place and enrich the lives of the student population. It was important to me to give back.”



Shanendon Cartwright '98 entering the Parliament Building June 15, 2017, for the Parliamentary Debate on the national budget of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas.

EVENTS



ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETINGS

In March, the Alumni Association Board of Directors (AABOD) met in Manchester to review alumni association scholarships, bylaw changes, Reunion Weekend, and much more! Our AABOD continues to work hard and to be a voice for our alumni body. We are so thankful for their dedication and leadership.

ALUMNI SOCCER GAME

Thanks to Coach Fink for organizing a wonderful alumni soccer game the morning of the Athletic Hall of Fame reception. It was so great to welcome home our soccer Ravens!



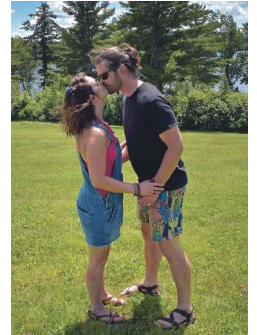
ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME RECEPTION

Over 100 alumni, parents and friends came to celebrate our student and alumni athletes and recipients of the 2017 Athletic Hall of Fame. The following were inducted: Coach Marco Koolman (men's soccer), the 2007 men's soccer team, Coach Steve Hancock (women's basketball), and Lauren Stille '11 (women's lacrosse).



ESPN TOUR

Thank you, again, to our wonderful ESPN alumni for hosting President Kim Mooney '83, Jen Raxter, vice president for institutional advancement, and Julie Zahn, assistant vice president of alumni and parent relations in June. We are Pierce Proud of you — Philip Ryan '82, Erik Barone '95, Jay McCormack '95 (MBA, '13), Doug Paradore '95, Chris Vicente '96, Rich Goode '96, Todd Coleman '96 (MBA, '19), Sean Gelinis '07, Jason Potterton '07, Kevin Rivers '10, James Terry '15 and Erik Michael '17 (MBA)!



ALUMNI REUNION WEEKEND

Over 300 alumni, parents and friends joined us for Reunion Weekend in June! The weather was warm, Pearly was sparkling, and the smiles on our Ravens faces were priceless. Thank you to all of you who came out to celebrate with us.



CLEARWATER RECEPTION

Alumni, parents, and friends traveled to Clearwater, Fla., in March to reminisce and reunite. A great time was had by all. A special "thank you" to Dan Snell '67 and Donna Billich for hosting at their beautiful home.

IN ONE WORD

Awakening

— TIM CURRAN '94

Foundation

— DAVID MASSE '83

Unforgettable

— JON LIEBER '84

Education

— PIA NORRMAN '68

Adventurous

— MANDY MONACO '79

Independence

— JENNIFER BERGSTROM '01

Timeless

— ELENA STORLAZZI '79

Intellectual

— JOHN DALY '95

Home

— NICOLE TORDAY '98

Real

— TARA WILKINSON '97

**Describe your
Franklin Pierce
experience in
one word ...**

Eclectic

— AMANDA KIRBY '08

Awesome

— KAREN HARMS '81

Family

— CALLIE CARLSON '14

Historic

— CRISTAL PINNIX '08

Transformational

— DEEDEE CLOHESSY '93

Transformative

— ALEXA WALLACE '16

Indescribable

— CHERYL CHILDERS '91

Fortifying

— LINDSAY JEAN '09

Enriching

— MERRILL VAUGHAN '12

Growth

— JILLIAN BOLDOC '12

Happiness

— GRACE AMES '12

Opportunistic

— AMANDA HORROCKS '17

Unique

— SHANNON EILEEN '17

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Alumni Reunion Weekend

JUNE 22 - 24

2018

ONE WEEKEND • MULTIPLE EVENTS • PURE FUN



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