

Pierce

**Deacon Derek
Scalia '05 builds
communities
for peace and
justice.**







In spite of snowy conditions, about 500 people came to Franklin Pierce's Rindge campus on Monday, February 10, to attend a Bernie Sanders town hall. This event took place the day before New Hampshire's first-in-the-nation primary. Here, members of the press set up behind the audience to film Sanders's speech.

Spring '20

VOL. 38, NO. 1



Features

32

22 | Front Row Seat

From New Hampshire to Iowa (and back), students involved in the Marlin Fitzwater Center gain valuable experience as political journalists.

BY JANA F. BROWN

28 | Brave and Consistent Work

Derek Scalia '05 builds communities for peace and justice.

BY JULIE RIZZO

32 | "As we say in the village"

Gabe Norwood '18 preserves 17th-century history as a first-person educator at Plimoth Plantation.

BY JANA F. BROWN

On the Cover

Derek Scalia '05

PHOTOGRAPHER:
ANDREW CUNNINGHAM



How are we doing? What do you like? What stories do we need to know about?
Let us hear from you: editor@franklinpierce.edu



Departments

5 President's Message

Preparing to thrive

6 Ravenings

Archives go digital, cutting the ribbon at the College of Business, highlighting the Jessica Marulli Scholarship winner, Clothing Closet comes to life, student journalists capture Radically Rural highlights, Hannings documentary in progress, Doria Brown '16 leads sustainability efforts in N.H., University announces formation of the Institute for Climate Action, catching up with Trustees Frederick Pierce and Jonathan Slavin '92, Lori Shabinette M.B.A. '13 confirmed to lead N.H. Department of Health and Human Services, students explore Ecuador on alternative service project.

18 Ravens Roundup

Celebrating Pierce Hall of Fame inductees, placekicker Morgan Smith '22 is a pioneer in NCAA football, double duty for coach Brittany Fleck, freshman golfer Jinnapat Rittawee captures Northeast-10 championship, recapping the Ravens' inaugural football season in Division II.

36 Pearly House Events

Family Day and Homecoming Parents Reception, Alumni Speakers Lunch, Faculty/Staff Holiday Party, ALANA Reception, Winter Lights Celebration.

38 Events

Grand Monadnock Hike, Day of Giving, Men's Ice Hockey Alumni, President's Tent on Raven Row, Family Day and Homecoming, Alumni Speaker Series, Founder's Day, Martha Pappas visit.

40 Spotlight

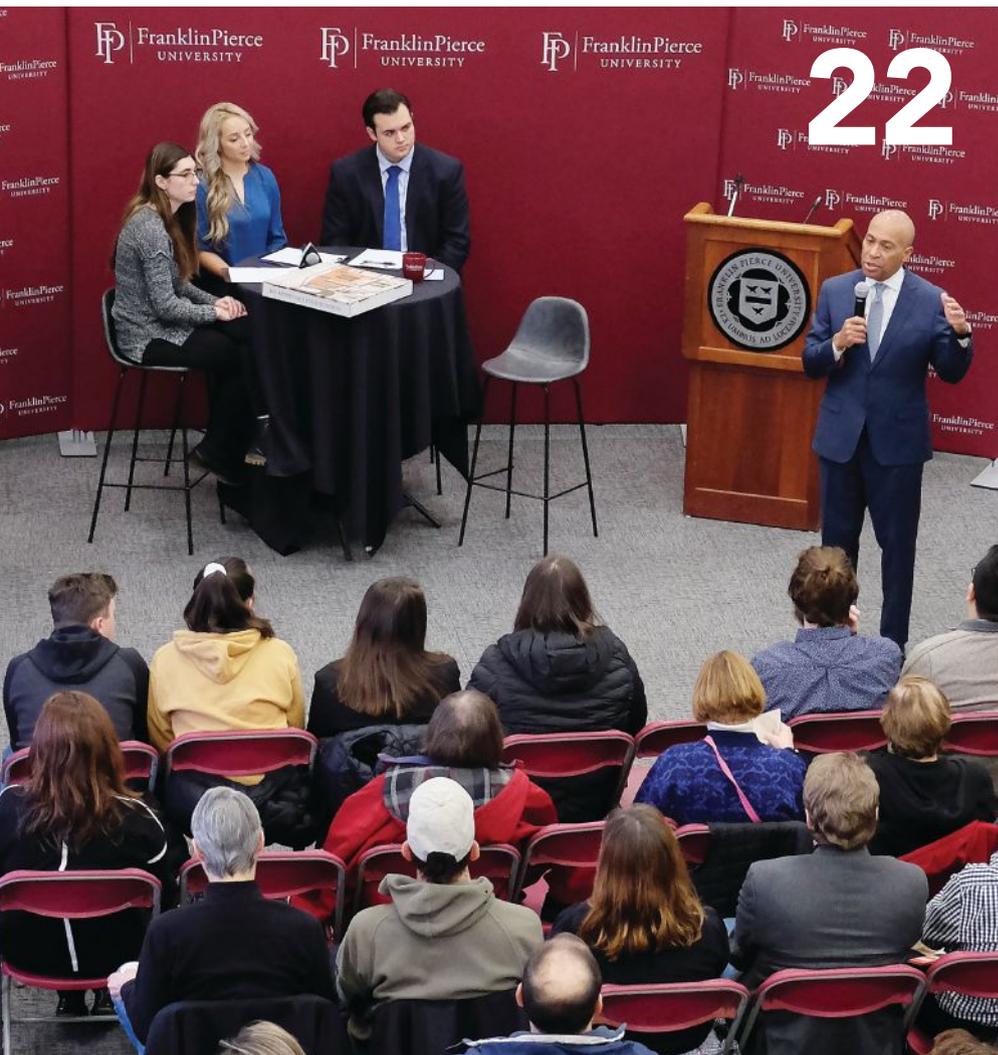
Carleen Farrell '71 has given back to Franklin Pierce through tireless service for nearly 50 years.

42 In Memoriam

Remembering David Treat Wilson '77 and John Henry Eason '67.

44 Archives

New Hampshire Primary Tradition.



Pierce

FRANKLIN PIERCE UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE
SPRING 2020 | VOL. 38, NO. 1

UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT

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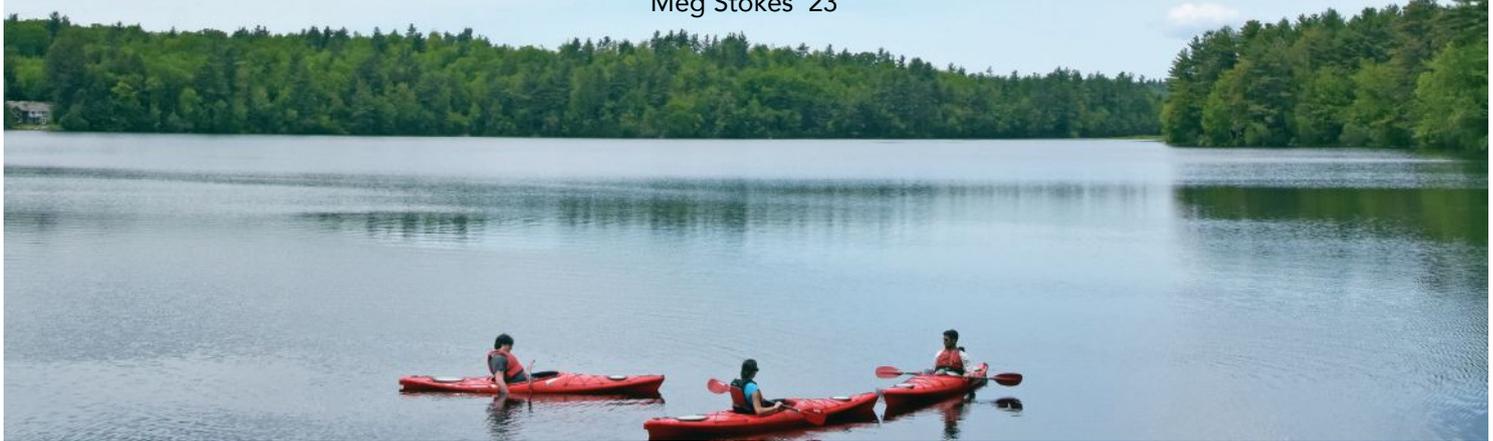
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Pierce Magazine is published biannually by Franklin Pierce University. Nonprofit postage paid at Rindge, N.H., and additional entry offices. *Pierce Magazine* is guided by the principles of freedom of expression and accepted standards of good taste. The views expressed are those of the signed contributors and do not necessarily represent the views or official opinions of Franklin Pierce University.

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Kim Mooney '83 and friends at Homecoming in September.

Preparing to Thrive

In early January, I had the opportunity to attend the Council of Independent Colleges 2020 Presidents Institute with 360 other college presidents who are all grappling with the “new normal” that lies ahead for higher education. By 2029, demographers project a significant decrease in college-going students in the U.S. The trend is inescapable – but how we respond to this shifting paradigm will determine whether we simply *adapt*, or whether we *thrive* in the new normal.

I want to assure you that we intend to thrive at Franklin Pierce University. Our continued preparation for the future includes a comprehensive review of our programs and operations – and how to achieve the most with them – as well as planning that draws on the exceptional deans, directors, faculty, and staff who hold the University’s best interests in their hearts. Our new academic structure offers today’s career-focused students choices of undergraduate and graduate programs in colleges that create seamless pathways for students to pursue internships, advanced education, and employment in their field of study. To further enrich opportunities for our students and increase enrollment through local employers, we also hired two key new staff members: Heather LaDue, our first executive director of professional programs and partnerships, and Pierre Morton, executive director of career development. Both bring great energy and enthusiasm to their roles and already have made an impact.

To thrive in the new normal, to attract and retain our share of students who look to their university experience to help them discover, harness, and unleash their potential, we must also remain true to our authentic identity – where we came from and what we do best. To

this end, we are working with The Thorburn Group, a marketing firm known for its work in higher education and with iconic brands, to express our pride in Franklin Pierce through everything we do and across all of our programs and locations. You will see results of that work in the months to come.

As you explore this issue of *Pierce*, you’ll find stories that illustrate what is unique about Franklin Pierce. You’ll read about faculty who meet students where they are and take them to places they never thought they’d go, in the Fitzwater Center or on a service learning trip to Ecuador. You’ll read about a community that accepts and embraces differences, through the tireless efforts of staff and faculty members such as Derek Scalia ’05, our director of retention and diversity, who was recently honored with a Trendsetter Award for his exceptional work on behalf of communities in New Hampshire.

You will also learn about innovations from a reimagined College of Business to a Career Closet for students who need appropriate attire for interviews. And you’ll read about students and alumni whose opportunities and accomplishments prove the value of a Franklin Pierce education.

I truly believe this is a time of opportunity. When we work together, keeping in mind what we do and have always done best, we can shape our future and *thrive*.

Kim Mooney

KIM MOONEY '83
PRESIDENT



“Our goal is to create a regional center that enables students, faculty, entrepreneurs, and business leaders to create active partnerships that deliver tangible opportunities and benefits.”
—PRESIDENT KIM MOONEY '83





Erin Kelly '20 with Dean Norm Faiola.



ANDREW CUNNINGHAM

RAVENINGS

RIBBON CUTTING

Innovation Hub

Ribbon-cutting ceremony celebrates new home of College of Business.

The Franklin Pierce University Board of Trustees, College of Business Advisory Board, Monadnock Employers Forum, alumni, and special guests convened on the Rindge campus in October 2019 for a ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the new home of the College of Business in historic Monadnock Hall. The celebration marked the first academic year of operation for the newly renovated building.

Dr. Norm Faiola, dean of the College of Business, welcomed guests and introduced President Kim Mooney '83, who recognized the contributions of the College of Business Advisory Board and the creation of the Executive-in-Residence program. She described the University's vision for an innovation hub that serves both students and regional businesses by providing space and integrated technology that promote collaboration.

"Our goal is to create a regional center that enables students, faculty, entrepreneurs, and business leaders to create active partnerships that deliver tangible opportunities and benefits," said President Mooney. "The use of technology to enhance experiential learning, coupled with close collaboration with businesses, will deliver a competitive advantage not only for our students, but for all companies that call New England home."

Distinguished members of the College of Business Advisory Board, some of whom attended the ceremony, include Diane Bono,

vice president of human resources at Mount Auburn Hospital; Mark Fryberger, vice president of finance at C&S Wholesale Grocers; Bill James, CEO at RiverMead; Karl LaPan '86, president and CEO at the Northeast Indiana Innovation Center; Rollin Schuster '82, founder and managing principal at The Schuster Group; and Tom Raffio, president and CEO of Northeast Delta Dental. Raffio, who chairs the advisory board, has seen the College of Business grow from an idea to reality, with a mission of producing professionals who possess the character, experience, and skills required to help their organizations succeed.

"Entrepreneurship and innovation are learned behaviors, and the next generation can get their start at Franklin Pierce," Raffio said. "Together, we are committed to providing students with a learning environment that prepares them to be inquisitive, creative problem-solvers."

Franklin Pierce professors Christine Betts, Andrea McGill-O'Rourke, and Michael Mooiman also sit on the board and provide an important educator's perspective, while student members Erin Kelly '20 and Travis Kumph MBA '20 represent the student body in board activities.

"It is our sincere hope that by deepening Franklin Pierce students' commitment to the Monadnock region," President Mooney said, "they will choose to pursue their careers and entrepreneurial opportunities here, around the state, and in the region."

—Julie Rizzo



Paul Jenkins and Rebecca Saunders work with the archives in the library.

UPDATING THE ARCHIVES

Digitizing History

Digital archives project helps to preserve the University's past.

One of the first things University Librarian Paul O. Jenkins discovered when he started working at Franklin Pierce in August 2016 was how interested alumni were in the University archives.

Early in his tenure, Jenkins met with John T. Burke '66, Dave Groder '66, Dan Becker '70, and Dave Wilson '77 to begin discussing plans for the digitization of the documents held there. While there was great enthusiasm for the idea, several major roadblocks were identified.

"The institution had no platform on which to store digitized materials," says Jenkins, "and no archivist to move the project forward. Perhaps most significantly, no funds existed to transform this vague notion into something more concrete."

Jenkins identified ContentDM as a suitable platform and reallocated items from the library's budget to find money to add this resource. After consulting with the members of his working group, Jenkins chose the following collections to digitize first – editions of the *Pierce Arrow*, issues of *Pierce Magazine*, and many decades of yearbooks. It soon became apparent that purchasing the proper equipment to scan these materials was cost prohibitive, but Jenkins found a regional vendor that was able to

digitize these collections at an affordable price. The money for this portion of the initiative came from Burke, Groder, Becker, and Wilson, along with Harry McMahon '67 and Dan Snell '67.

With the platform identified – and funds now available, Jenkins moved forward with the project. He began mounting the digitized materials onto ContentDM, and by the time the Class of 1969 gathered for its 50th reunion in June 2019, Jenkins was able to demonstrate the nascent digital archive at a special session.

In October 2019, Technical Services Librarian Rebecca Saunders joined the FPU library staff. A trained archivist, Saunders has transformed the initial project into a more robust product. Alumni and other interested researchers can search the FPU digital archives from the alumni link on the University's main webpage or directly at contentdm.oclc.org/digital.

"Thanks to these efforts," says McMahon, "archival information is now accessible to anyone, and provides an opportunity to revisit individual and collective memories of Pierce's development and continual growth."

—Paul O. Jenkins

DRESSED FOR SUCCESS

Career Preparation

Students stand out from the crowd with skills and polish.

How do you prepare today's undergraduates for the many jobs they will hold over a lifetime?

It's a question College of Business Dean Norm Faiola and Executive Director of Career Development Pierre Morton grapple with every day. For many students and their parents, career readiness is the prized payoff to their four-year investment in higher education.

"As times have changed, so has the focus of the college career services office," says Morton. "Crafting a résumé and an elevator speech in the 50s and 60s gave way to identifying interests and aptitudes in the 70s and 80s. Today, we help students think of themselves as a business with an inventory of skills that serve a purpose across multiple jobs and careers."

In the College of Business, adds Faiola, faculty assign projects and other experiential learning opportunities in every class, so when an employer wants to see examples of that experience, students have an inventory of projects and formal interactions that demonstrate the skills they've acquired.

"We listen to employers to identify skill sets they actually need," says Faiola, "and help them appreciate the skill sets our students have."

Morton works with Rindge undergraduates to understand what differentiates a candidate from an employer's perspective, both in terms of skills and polish. He helps them develop self-awareness, so they can articulate what they have done and what they want to do. He also gives them tips for improving the quality of their interactions with potential employers, including phone and e-mail etiquette, social media presence, and face-to-face interviews.

"We offer a risk-free environment where students can practice presenting themselves to the outside world, make mistakes, recover, and try again," says Morton. "We want them to make the best possible impression. Employers make judgments about who you are by how you look, how you act, your manners, even the care and fit of your clothes."

For students who may not own clothing appropriate for interviews, the Lloyd and Helen Ament Astmann '69 Career Development Center has partnered with the Franklin Pierce Student Government Association to establish the new FPU Professional Career Closet, located in the Career Development Center on the fifth floor of DiPietro Library. There, Pierce students have access to free business attire appropriate for interviews, networking events, and the workplace.

—Julie Rizzo

The Career Closet is supported by Targett Dry Cleaners and Miller Brothers-Newton in Keene. Donations of new and gently used business clothing are gratefully accepted in the Career Services Office on the Rindge campus and in the Manchester Center. For more information, contact Pierre Morton at mortonp@franklinpierce.edu or 603-899-4045.



Before-and-after shots of Brendan McLaughlin '21, who has undergone a wardrobe transformation courtesy of the Career Closet.

LOCAL SUMMIT

Radically Rural

Two-day summit demonstrates how collaboration stimulates success.

The second annual Radically Rural Summit in Keene, N.H., centered around themes of unity, growth, community, and entrepreneurship.

The two-day event drew more than 500 people from 24 states to Keene in an effort to spur collaboration among dwindling populations of rural communities. (New Hampshire is one of the few states with a growing – albeit slowly – rural population.) Franklin Pierce has sponsored Radically Rural for the past two years. President Kim Mooney '83 leads the board of directors for the Hannah Grimes Center for Entrepreneurship, which organizes the summit along with *The Keene Sentinel*. Student journalists Tyler Aragao '20, Christopher Bastien '20, Madison Leslie '22, Kendra Syphers '17, Magnolia McComish '23, Casey Eldred '21, Paul Lambert '22, and Jacklyn O'Toole '21 contributed news articles to *The Keene Sentinel* covering the event.

The goal of Radically Rural is to highlight ideas and opportunities that may make small towns desirable places to live. Summit sessions addressed entrepreneurship, community journalism, working lands, Main Street, renewable energy, and arts and culture.

Entrepreneurship (contributors Bastien and Leslie): Six successful entrepreneurs discussed the unique challenges of running a business in rural areas. Hiring locally and giving back to the community foster goodwill toward businesses, which in turn helps companies succeed.

Community journalism (contributors Syphers and Aragao): Managers from the Solutions Journalism Network encouraged local newsrooms to focus on problem-solving rather than simply reporting negative events. Solutions journalism covers the people taking the initiative to create change, which inspires hope. Speakers also highlighted the need for collaboration among journalists statewide to tackle larger issues individual newsrooms can't handle alone.

Working lands (contributor McComish): Agriculture experts offered creative ideas for farmers trying to counteract climate change. Heavy downpours and long stretches of dry weather have taken a toll on crops. To reduce the effects, experts recommended raising crop beds to protect against excessively heavy rain and to avoid costly drainage systems.

Main Street (contributor Eldred): Even small-town community activists can create positive change, Laconia barbershop owner Breanna Neal told attendees. As proof, she described her success in getting two solar-

powered benches installed downtown as well as her current effort to redesign the city's flag with citizens' input.

Renewable energy (contributor Lambert): Electric cars and energy efficiency are topics of particular concern for rural communities. Experts outlined the cost savings for rural drivers who switch to electric cars – sometimes more than \$1,000 yearly – and the financial benefits of making homes more energy efficient.

Arts and culture (contributor O'Toole): Local sign painter Peter Poanessa recounted his experience with Walldogs, a group of artists that came to Keene last summer. The artists painted 16 murals – chosen by residents – of events that have shaped Keene. The project brought together hundreds of volunteers and inspired the community to embrace its history.

CONNECT 2019: This annual event drew 350 people to network and explore what the future may hold. Summit awards were announced, including winners of the PitchFork Challenge, a *Shark Tank*-style contest that gave prizes to two startup companies for their innovative ideas. The \$10,000 prize went to Suzanna Kamphuis of TotumVos, which makes chewable collagen supplements. Rebecca Dixon claimed the \$1,000 prize for Ojoche Tostada, a superfood coffee alternative. —Ashley Festa



Clockwise from top left: Small business networking event; Casey Eldred '21 covering an event; "Under Those" event in Keene; President Mooney '83 talks with event attendees; Tyler Aragao '20 discusses coverage with Kristen Nevius at the *Keene Sentinel*; Paul Lambert '22 and Christopher Bastien '21 collaborate on a piece; Magnolia McComish '23 writing at the *Keene Sentinel*.



ANDREW CUNNINGHAM



SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Community Leader

Doria Brown '16 is one of only three city energy managers in New Hampshire.



Doria Brown '16 embraced her family legacy and became a Raven, following in the footsteps of her parents, Daryl Brown '86 and Daphne Leon '86, MBA '17. During her time as an undergraduate, she excelled in the classroom and on the newly formed cross country and track and field teams. She was honored with her selection as an Academic All-American for women's cross country in both 2013 and 2014.

As an environmental science major, Brown focused on hydrology, the science of water, and water systems. Her degree laid the foundation for her internship with the Army Corps of Engineers, where she served as a park ranger in 2015 at Edward MacDowell Lake, located on an earthen dam in Peterborough, N.H. There, her duties included educating students about environmental stewardship, maintaining the grounds, and recording changes in the weather, temperature, and water level of the lake.

Upon graduating with her B.S., Brown joined the team at Worthen Industries in Nashua, N.H., as a sustainability specialist. She was then appointed to the City of Nashua's Environment and Energy Committee by Mayor Jim Donchess, serving as chairwoman. Brown excelled in this volunteer role, and Donchess soon named her to yet another new role, city energy manager. Nashua is one of few communities in New Hampshire who employ an energy manager – others include Lebanon and Manchester.

"My work in sustainability is extremely important," says Brown, "because every day I get to wake up and stand on the front lines of the fight against climate change by helping an entire city reduce its carbon emissions."

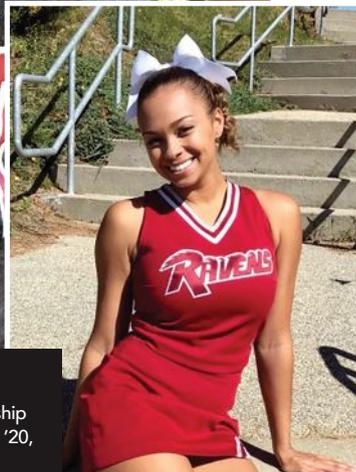
Managing the city's energy portfolio is no easy task. On a daily basis, Brown negotiates with third-party suppliers on power rates for municipal buildings, works with the manager of Nashua's two hydro facilities, and hopes to lead the effort for community choice power in Nashua, which will result in cost savings on Nashua residents' monthly energy bills.

Brown also keeps a keen eye on expanding renewable energy options. When municipalities purchase power for their communities, renewable options decrease the carbon footprints of those communities. Brown's mission for her career is to help create more energy efficiency, invest in renewable energy, and pass those savings on to the community laying the groundwork for a greener and more sustainable future for all.

"This is an opportunity for which I will forever be grateful," she says, "and I do not take it lightly."

—Marissa Colcord





The 2019–20 scholarship recipient, Jaelyn Blair '20, on campus.

MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Boundless Spirit

Scholarship keeps memory of Jessica Marulli alive.

Jessica Marulli was 39 when she died February 7, 2016, after a battle with pancreatic cancer. Jessica loved life. She was a respected real estate broker in Palm Beach, Fla., where she lived with her husband, John Criddle. She was also a loyal friend, who loved her family, ballet, piano, skiing, skydiving, boating, and animals (with a special affection for canines, including her rescue dog, Perla).

Her obituary in the *Hartford Courant* read, “Jessica’s memory will become our treasure. Her overwhelming love of others will sustain us all.”

Shortly after her death, Jessica’s parents, trustee Al Marulli ’69 and his wife, Barbara, honored their daughter’s memory by establishing the Jessica Marulli Scholarship at Franklin Pierce, designed to support a Franklin Pierce student who exhibits the self-motivation and passion for the arts, science, athletics, and business that characterized the boundless spirit of the scholarship’s namesake.

The 2019–20 scholarship recipient, Jaelyn Blair ’20, shares the energy and passion that distinguished Jessica’s life. Blair is pursuing a major in health science and minors in both management and Spanish. She hopes to enter the physical therapy doctoral program at Franklin Pierce. She is an active member of the Spanish Club and a cheerleader and choreographer for the Raven Thunder Dance Team.

Blair is an enthusiastic ambassador for the small and inclusive environment at Franklin Pierce. She works in the Admissions Office as a student assistant and in the Athletic Training Department, where she is gaining experience relevant to her physical therapy career goals. She has been accepted to serve after her graduation for City Year in Providence, R.I., an opportunity she discovered at a Franklin Pierce career fair.

“I am so thankful for the opportunities I’ve had at Franklin Pierce,” says Blair. “Receiving the Jessica Marulli Scholarship was not only meaningful, but it has truly helped me financially for my last year here.” —Julie Rizzo

Jessica Marulli’s family and friends established a scholarship in her name to keep alive the memory of her energy and enthusiasm for life. Each year, a committed student in good academic standing is selected to receive this generous support. Anyone interested in contributing to the scholarship fund can do so by contacting Vice President for University Advancement Julie Zahn at 603-899-1159 or zahnj@franklinperce.edu.



Brianna Gilman '20 and Bailey Matteson '21 film Rob Hannings.

HANNINGS DOCUMENTARY

Film Study

Students plan documentary featuring beloved campus figure Rob Hannings.

The first person Brianna Gilman '20 met at Franklin Pierce was Rob Hannings, the school's longtime electrician and supervisor of its grounds crew. It was the spring of 2016 and Gilman, who grew up in Connecticut, was visiting FPU with her mom. The two had never been to campus and they were lost.

"He took us where we needed to go and told us stories about the campus," recalls Gilman. "He was so polite and willing to help."

A few months later, Gilman was back in Rindge for the start of the school year. She ran into Hannings again. "He came right up to me, remembered my name, asked how my mom was," she says. "It was incredible."

Over the next three years, Gilman, a communications major with a concentration in media production, saw firsthand just how central Hannings was to FPU life; fixing broken lights, making sure the grounds looked pretty, removing snow, announcing basketball games, overseeing the logistics of graduation. "He's the

heartbeat of the campus," says Gilman.

Last fall, when Gilman and fellow student Bailey Matteson '21, a communications major with a minor in English, began exploring topics for a film to make for the Documentary Studies Certificate program, the collaborators quickly landed on Hannings. The pair began filming in October, shadowing Hannings around campus as he made his rounds, and plan to conclude the field work on graduation day. They'll spend the summer editing the documentary, which they estimate will clock in at around 60 minutes, and debut it late fall to the FPU community.

The nearly yearlong endeavor is a capstone project that serves as the heart of Pierce's imaginative Documentary Studies program.

“He’s the heartbeat of the campus.”

—BRIANNA GILMAN '20

Founded a little less than a decade ago by Dr. Douglas Challenger, professor of sociology, the program allows students to navigate the opportunities and challenges that come with executing any ambitious media project, from exploring storytelling approaches to interviewing people to working with archived material.

For both Gilman and Matteson, however, their film isn't just an academic exercise. It's also a chance for them to shine a spotlight on a person they both greatly admire.

"Too often we see someone in passing who's fixing something we need repaired and we don't stop to wonder who they really are or what their backstory is," says Gilman. "Rob is so central to what happens at Pierce. But he's also more than just what he does. He's the kind of person we should all aspire to be. He's kind, respectful, and goes out of his way to help people. We wanted to make sure people see just how important a guy he is to the Pierce community."

—Ian Aldrich

INSTITUTE FOR CLIMATE ACTION

A Call to Action

Franklin Pierce Institute for Climate Action to promote sustainable practices.

Franklin Pierce is stepping up to the challenge of climate change. In November, the University announced the formation of the Franklin Pierce Institute for Climate Action, a successor to its Monadnock Institute of Nature, Place, and Culture. The new organization will sponsor educational programming, create internship opportunities for students, promote sustainable practices in campus operations, and partner with other schools and organizations in the local region – all with a view to reduce the human causes of global warming.

The institute's launch comes in the wake of a spate of new reports about the growing crisis around climate change, including a 2018 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report that warned we have only 12 years to take the action needed to prevent irreversible and potentially catastrophic damage to our environment. In many areas of the world, the impact of global warming is already a very tangible fear.

"Franklin Pierce is committed to making these important years count," says President Kim Mooney '83. "Our university has a long history of preserving and protecting the natural environment around us and for decades has played a key role in convening conversations about regional sustainability. By establishing the new Institute for Climate Action, we hope to focus our efforts on finding and implementing solutions that address the climate crisis."

Dr. Gerald Burns and Dr. Catherine Owen Koning – both authors and distinguished members of FPU's faculty – will be instrumental in the institute's initiatives. Burns will take a lead position in working with external organizations, while Koning, who co-authored the recent book *Wading Right In: Discovering the Nature of Wetlands*, will collaborate with campus leaders to plan and carry out community actions, such as events and changes in school operations.

By harnessing FPU's long legacy of creating collaborations between its students and outside groups, Burns and Koning believe the institute can help foster the kind of partnerships that will be key in the fight against climate change.

"We would like to be instrumental in taking actions that reduce the local and regional production of greenhouse gases through green energy sources and energy conservation," says Koning, "as well as help local groups understand the threat of climate change and take action to mitigate its effects."

Individuals and organizations interested in participating in the institute's programs or contributing to its efforts can learn more by contacting Burns (burnsgr@franklinperce.edu) and Koning (koningc@franklinperce.edu).

—Ian Aldrich



Top: President Mooney at the first meeting of the CA Committee. Four middle images: The Sustainability - Farmer's Market & Climate Action Event in Spagnuolo Hall featuring crafts, locally grown produce, locally produced crafts & bread, student artwork and ceramics, and our own Business Minds Club's Top of the 'Nock maple syrup. Laurel Branco '20 (wearing the brown fleece) initiated the fair. Bottom: A legislation review hosted by the Franklin Pierce Institute for Climate Action.





TRUSTEE LEADERSHIP

Family Roots

Trustees Pierce and Slavin '92 lead Pierce into a new decade.

The Franklin Pierce University Board of Trustees began the new decade under new board leadership

Chair Frederick W. Pierce IV and Vice Chair Jonathan Slavin '92 have deep connections to Franklin Pierce; Slavin is an alumnus and Pierce is a distant relative of the University's namesake.

Frederick Pierce joined the Board of Trustees in 2017. As founder, president, and CEO of Pierce Education Properties (PEP), a top 15 national student housing company, he is a celebrated business leader, entrepreneur, and recipient of numerous awards and honors. He was named to the Inc. 5000 list of fastest-growing private companies in America in 2018 and 2019, is a past recipient of Ernst and Young's Entrepreneur of the Year Award, and was recognized by Real Estate Forum as one of 24 pioneers of the student housing industry. Pierce is also widely known for his work and significant contributions to higher education. He is a trustee emeritus of the 23-campus California State University system.

Prior to founding PEP, Pierce served as the western regional director of real estate consulting for Price Waterhouse as well as director of real estate consulting for KPMG Peat Marwick/Goodkin Group. He completed real estate finance studies in the M.B.A. program at San Diego State University, where he also earned a bachelor's in finance, *cum laude*.

"As the self-appointed genealogist of my family," says Pierce, "when I learned of Franklin Pierce University, I immediately felt a connection. As I have spent the better part of my adult life as a

volunteer and philanthropist for higher education, I reached out to the University several years ago to see if they might consider my involvement with the Board of Trustees. The rest, as they say, is history."

Fred Pierce's research revealed that President Franklin Pierce was the second great-grandnephew of Fred Pierce's eighth great-grandmother, Elizabeth Peirce. Interestingly, records also showed that President Pierce was the first in the family line to change the spelling of the last name from Peirce to Pierce, as it is known today.

Jonathan Slavin '92 joined the board in 2019. He earned his B.A. in economics, *cum laude*, from Franklin Pierce, and went on to serve in the U.S. Army. He later attended Harvard University, where he completed a professional program on negotiation and coursework toward a master's degree in East European studies.

Slavin is the global head of equity trading at Morgan Stanley Investment Management in N.Y. City. Prior to his current role, he served as the head of U.S. equities, cash, and derivatives trading at PIMCO. Earlier in his career, Slavin was a senior trader at George Weiss Associates. He previously held a role with Mission, an organization committed to helping those battling cancer, and currently serves on the Economic Development Commission for the town of Fairfield, Conn.

"I want to make sure," says Slavin, "that the opportunities I had at Franklin Pierce continue for others to experience."

—Marissa Colcord



Frederick W. Pierce IV

"I want to make sure that the opportunities I had at Franklin Pierce continue for others to experience."

— JONATHAN SLAVIN '92



Jonathan Slavin '92



ANDREW CUNNINGHAM



DPT students working onsite in various environments on their trip to Ecuador.



DPT IN ECUADOR

Life-changing Experiences

Making a difference goes both ways.

On the first clinic day of an eight-day service trip to Cuenca, Ecuador, Doctor of Physical Therapy students from Goodyear, Ariz., met an 11-year-old boy who hadn't walked since suffering a head injury on a playground months before. It left him paralyzed from the neck down.

The boy's parents had driven for hours from a remote mountain village to seek help at the free physical therapy clinic in the city. There, FPU students evaluated his condition and movement and, to his parents' astonishment, helped the boy stand, take 15 steps with support, and four steps on his own. The students showed the boy's parents how to catch their son safely if he fell, so he could continue making progress at home. Adam Greenberg DPT '21, who is fluent in Spanish, helped translate the emotional moments to the family.

"The last provider had told them this would be their son's life now," Greenberg recalls. "His parents were over the moon."

Every day in Ecuador brought life-changing experiences to the 14 DPT students, who joined an international medical team through HEARTFIRE missions to provide acute care to the local population and a rapidly growing number of Venezuelan refugees in Cuenca. Under the supervision of Dr. Jeff Dyer, surgeon and co-founder of HEARTFIRE, and Dr. Sheri Donaldson, assistant professor of physical therapy at FPU, the students divided their time between the hospital and surrounding villages. They evaluated patients, visited families and children in homes and local schools, delivered supplies, assisted in surgery,

and taught caregivers games and strategies for helping loved ones gain strength and mobility.

Derek Valdez DPT '21 and Brian Malone DPT '21 assessed a husband and wife who had sustained serious injuries in a motorcycle accident. Both were wheelchair-bound and shared a rickety cart to get around. Concerned by their findings during a screen of the man's paralyzed arm, Valdez and Malone consulted with Donaldson, who requested diagnostic imaging. Within a couple of hours, Dyer confirmed the patient needed surgery on his brachial plexus, the bundle of nerves connecting his neck and arm. Two days later, the students assisted Dyer in the surgery. Before leaving Ecuador, they were able to leave the couple with a wheelchair.

FPU students also met and treated refugees from Venezuela who had fled their country due to serious civil unrest. Donaldson shared that 78 percent of these refugees are college-educated. Despite education, skill, and professional expertise, most are not able to find work without their records.

"Our students were fortunate to attend a small group run by a refugee named Amelia," Donaldson says, "a specialist in a unique niche of occupational medicine."

Amber Majeskie DPT '21 was deeply touched by a visit to a village school for children with special needs, where games of musical chairs and soccer got the kids moving.

"Many of them just wanted love and attention – you'd hug one child and 10 more lined up to get theirs," says Majeskie. "It fills you up in such a good way. I hope this trip continues to be an option for FPU students." —Julie Rizzo

“Lori Shibinette is an exceptional executive with a proven and profound ability not only to lead, but also to energize and motivate those around her.”

—PRESIDENT KIM MOONEY '83

Lori Shibinette
M.B.A. '13,
photographed at
New Hampshire
Hospital.

HEALTHCARE LEADER

On the Front Lines

Lori Shibinette M.B.A. '13 to lead the N.H. Department of Health and Human Services.

In announcing her appointment as commissioner of the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Governor Chris Sununu says he picked Lori Shibinette M.B.A. '13 because of her “unmatched operational experience.”

A nurse by training, Shibinette was confirmed to her new post in February 2020. She most recently served as CEO of New Hampshire Hospital, the state's inpatient psychiatric facility in Concord. Before that, she was CEO of the Merrimack County Nursing Home.

As Commissioner of DHHS, Shibinette will oversee 3,000 employees and a \$2 billion budget that accounts for nearly half of total state spending. Her immediate priority is to work with senior leadership to develop a comprehensive strategic plan that will establish goals and measures of success for quality of care and accountability.

“Our big challenge is navigating the different communities in different parts of the state that have different needs,” says Shibinette. “We need to create a system that addresses the lived experience of people in different geographical areas so they get what they need, when they need it, in the way they need it.”

Shibinette's ties to Franklin Pierce University run deep. A graduate of the M.B.A. program with a concentration in healthcare administration,

she was an adjunct professor teaching business and organizational behavior from 2013 to 2017. Until recently, she also served on the College of Business Advisory Board.

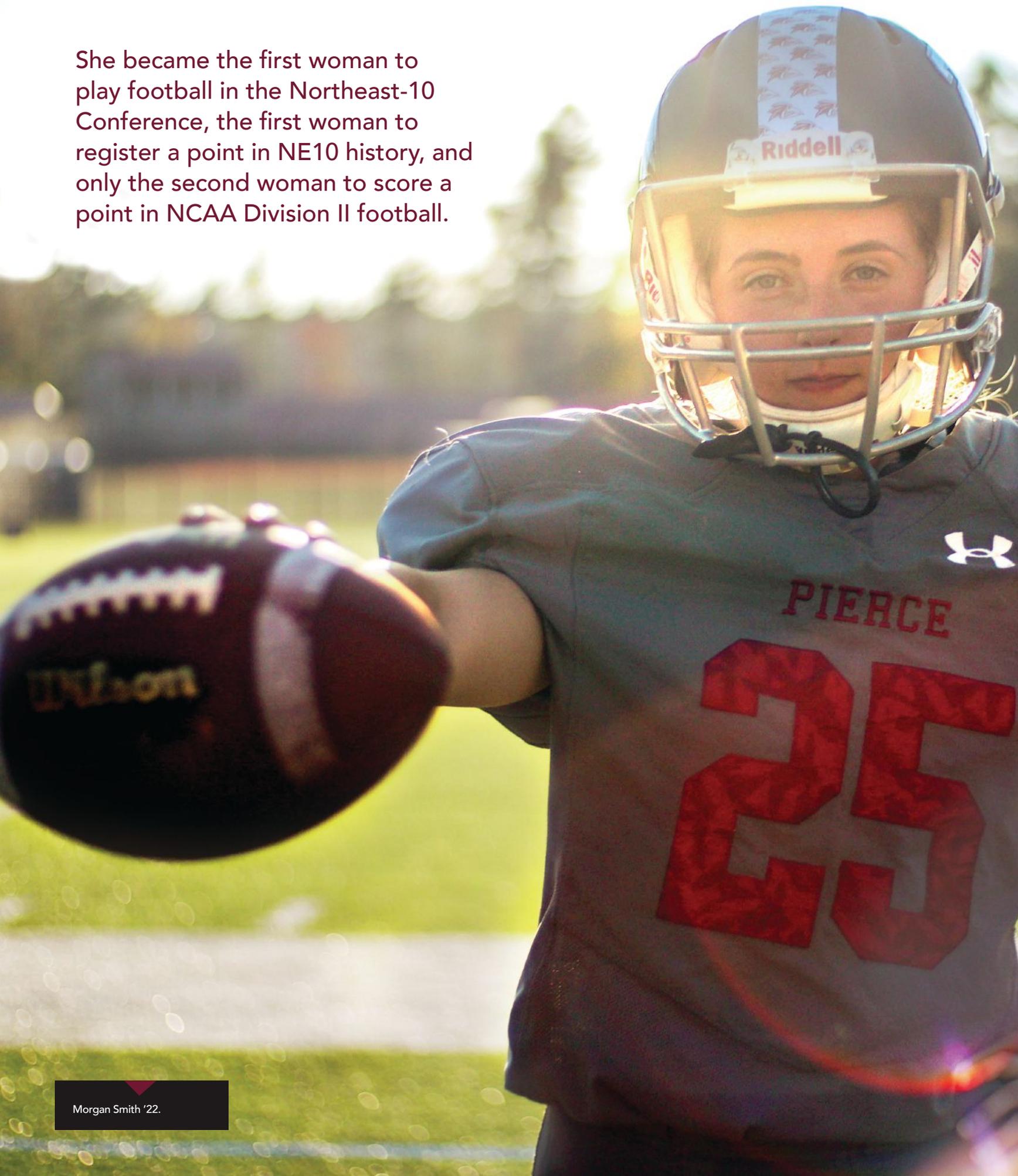
“Lori Shibinette is an exceptional executive with a proven and profound ability not only to lead, but also to energize and motivate those around her,” says President Kim Mooney '83. “The citizens of New Hampshire will benefit greatly from the passion and expertise she brings to her new role.”

Shibinette says she sees great potential for Franklin Pierce graduate students to contribute to DHHS through research and internship opportunities, particularly in the area of community-based care, with peer-reviewed, evidence-based research and data. When asked what she feels she can contribute to her new role, Shibinette speaks of her experience on the front lines of creating and executing client-facing programs.

“I need to see it, feel it, hear it, from the perspective of the person using the system,” she says. “I really try to show each person the value they bring to the organization. I talk to people and answer every e-mail and phone call. It's critical for clients to develop trust in the department and trust in their government.”

—Julie Rizzo

She became the first woman to play football in the Northeast-10 Conference, the first woman to register a point in NE10 history, and only the second woman to score a point in NCAA Division II football.



Morgan Smith '22.

RAVENS ROUNDUP

GRIDIRON TRAILBLAZER

Right Where She Belongs

Following Morgan Smith '22's journey from soccer to football.

The ball sailed through the uprights cleanly, a 20-yard chip shot off the foot of then-high school senior Morgan Smith '22. Smith, along with some friends, was down at the empty football field after school when she attempted her first-ever field goal for fun. But for Smith – a five-year varsity soccer player – the idea of playing football was initially a joke. Then, ironically, it wasn't. Smith soon earned a spot as kicker for the South Glens Falls High School Bulldogs in upstate New York.

Smith handled field goals and extra points for the Bulldogs, while also playing soccer. The dual-sport life treated her well; her football teammates were regulars at her soccer games, while her soccer teammates cheered her on at football games. Once she got to Franklin Pierce in fall 2018, Smith's sole focus returned to soccer.

Believing she could make a greater impact playing football than soccer, Smith found herself at a crossroads. After consulting with her parents, she reached out to Franklin Pierce football coach Russell Gaskamp in May 2019, and he offered her a tryout.

"I didn't want to embarrass myself," says Smith, who recalls that she botched her first two kicks in front of the entire coaching staff. But she didn't let that rattle her. Instead, she regrouped, lined back up, and drilled a much better kick through the uprights from about 30 yards out. Smith impressed the coaches with her leg power and kick height, and Gaskamp soon informed her that she had made the Ravens' roster.

"My dad and I danced in the parking lot after I was named to the team," Smith says.

"It was such an exciting feeling."

The Ravens' inaugural game at the Division II level came against Wesley on September 7, 2019. In that contest, Smith was needed only once for the second-half kickoff. The following week, with the Ravens up 8-7 against Pace, freshman Nathan Selby caught a 10-yard touchdown pass, paving the way for Smith's first extra-point attempt. She made her way onto the field, lined up, and delivered a solid kick through the uprights. In the eventual 29-27 victory for the Ravens, Smith was a perfect 3-for-3 on extra points. In doing so, she became the first woman to play football in the Northeast-10 Conference, the first woman to register a point in NE10 history, and only the second woman to score a point in NCAA Division II football. In 1997, DIII Willamette University kicker Liz Heaston became the first woman to score a point in a college football game, while Ashley Martin of DI Jacksonville State scored an extra point in 2001, and Katie Hnida of the University of New Mexico accomplished the same feat in a Division I-A game in 2003.

In her first season, Smith proved reliable on kickoffs and extra-point attempts (she also made her lone field-goal attempt, a 31-yard strike), and has shown she's up to the physical tasks the game imposes. Women have traditionally been either a minority or nonexistent in football, but Smith is proving the gridiron is exactly where she belongs.

"Morgan is a Ravens' football player first," says Gaskamp. "She is an athlete who competes, works hard, and has earned respect from her teammates." —Tyler Aragao '20

Building Blocks

First season at NCAA Division II is in the books.

Though the Franklin Pierce football team finished its inaugural season at the NCAA Division II level with a 1-10 record, the program celebrated its first-ever win in DII at home September 14, when the Ravens beat Curry, 29-27.

Triumph in that game came behind 142 rushing yards as a team, complemented by 184 yards and two touchdowns through the air by quarterback Drew Campanale '23. It also marked the first season of Northeast-10 Conference play for Franklin Pierce, which welcomed opponents Pace, Stonehill, Saint Anselm, and Bentley to Sodexo Field for league contests.

While acknowledging that there is certainly room for growth in the win/loss column, head coach Russell Gaskamp sees promise in the building blocks being laid, both on the field and off.

"I was extremely proud of the foundation that our first recruiting class helped lay for our football program," says Gaskamp. "The results

were not always desirable, but the effort and positive mindset of our players was."

For Gaskamp, his staff, and his players, the attention now turns to the program's second campaign in fall 2020, beginning with the football team's first full off-season. The coach expects that time in the weight room and reps in spring ball will prove valuable heading into the summer and next season.

In the fall, those who have been on campus training all spring will be joined by the program's second recruiting class, which was already taking shape over the winter. In its infancy, one of the biggest goals for the Ravens is building out the program's depth.

"We are excited about our second recruiting class," says Gaskamp. "Those players will provide immediate depth and competition at all positions, which also will lead to much better special teams play in the fall. It is an exciting time to be part of the Ravens football family." —*Matt Janik*

The 2020 season is scheduled to open on September 5 at Wesley. The home opener is set for 6 p.m. on September 19 vs. American International.



The Ravens take the field vs. Saint Anselm on Oct. 19.



Volleyball captains Abigail Garnhart '22 and Jocelyn Moody '20; Britt Fleck; and field hockey captains Allison Collins '20 and Jessica Strassburg '20.

GOING THE EXTRA MILE

Double Duty

Brittany Fleck coaches two teams at once.

Coaching at the NCAA level is a tough job. Hours of film, practice and game prep, and travel, ensure that a team is not only performing well, but also happy. This fall, Brittany Fleck took on a nearly impossible job, serving as field hockey assistant coach and volunteering to fill a vacancy with the Ravens' volleyball team.

In 2017, fresh off a four-year stint coaching Division I field hockey at the University of Maine, Fleck joined former University of Maine teammate and Ravens head field hockey coach Zoe Adkins at Franklin Pierce as an assistant coach. Shortly thereafter, a last-minute assistant volleyball coach opening came a week into the 2019 preseason.

Head volleyball coach Stephanie Dragan found herself scrambling to fill the spot. Fleck, a former high school volleyball player, with a strong playing background, was the obvious choice. Despite admitting that she often has trouble keeping track of which team is playing which opponent on which day (there were 39 game days between both teams in the fall), Fleck has earned positive accolades and respect from players on each of the teams.

"She is an awesome coach and brings so much energy," says field hockey co-captain Jessica Strassburg '20. "Having a coach who helps multiple sports is a cool bridge."

Strassburg's field hockey teammate Julianne Sacco '22 added that Fleck is one of the most committed coaches she has ever had, and pointed to that same incredible energy that drives everything she does.

While the players praise Fleck's contagious energy, Adkins goes deeper into what her assistant brings to the table, calling Fleck an incredibly passionate and competitive individual who brings insight to the program every day.

"She is someone I know I can trust and rely on to work with [assistant coach] Danielle [Harris '18] and me to continue to push the standards and expectations of the Franklin Pierce University field hockey program," says Adkins.

With the 2019 field hockey and volleyball seasons in the books (both teams advanced to the NE10 quarterfinals), Fleck will have some much-deserved time off. But she notes that she enjoys coaching so much, she would even consider adding a third sport to the mix.

—*Ezra Gennello '22*

HALL OF FAMERS

Honoring Athletic Standouts

Pierce honors four exceptional Ravens.

On November 8, 2019, the Franklin Pierce University Department of Athletics honored its 2019 Hall of Fame Class in a formal ceremony in Spagnuolo Hall.

Inductees included Mike Adams '09, MBA '11 (baseball), Kim Jaksina '12 (field hockey and women's lacrosse), Christopher Joyce MBA '06 (men's soccer) and Roscoe Sweeney '13 (men's ice hockey). At the ceremony, the inductees were honored in brief speeches from President Kim Mooney '83, Director of Athletics Rachel Bureson, and women's lacrosse player Ella Brownson '20, who spoke on behalf of the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.

Adams was the 2008 National Pitcher of the Year, a two-time All-Region selection, and a three-time All-NE10 pick, who helped the Ravens to three NCAA regional titles during his career. He is the program's all-time leader in innings pitched (294) and ranks second in

strikeouts (261), ERA (1.78), and wins (25).

Jaksina was a two-time All-America selection in field hockey, and is one of only two athletes in program history to earn All-America accolades. She was a three-time All-NE10 Conference selection and ranks in the top 10 in program history in goals (20), points (49), assists (9), and defensive saves (14). In lacrosse, Jaksina is still the school's all-time leader in ground balls (237) and caused turnovers (126).

Joyce was the 2005 National Player of the Year, capping a season in which he scored 29 goals, which is a tie for the most goals in a season in program history. He led the NE10 in scoring in both 2004 and 2005, was a two-time All-America selection, and a two-time All-Region pick, in addition to two selections to the All-NE10 First Team. Joyce ranks in the top 10 in program history in both points (119) and goals (51).

Sweeney still stands as the men's ice hockey



Clockwise from top left: President Mooney with Mike Adams '09 MBA '11, Marco Koolman (on behalf of Christopher Joyce '06), Rachel Bureson and President Mooney present Hall of Fame awards to Kim Jaksina '12 and Roscoe Sweeney '13.

program's all-time leading scorer with 92 points, including a program-best 37 career assists. He also ranks second in school history in goals (37). He was a two-time All-NE10 selection, including First Team honors in his sophomore season. His 25-point senior season helped lead the 2012–13 team to the program's first-ever appearance in the NE10 title game.

—Matt Janik

LEADER ON THE COURSE

First-Year Excellence

Rittawee '23 leads the Ravens to NE10 championship

For the second time in three years, the Franklin Pierce women's golf team earned the Northeast-10 Conference title.

The Ravens took home the championship by 27 strokes over second-place Assumption at the NE10 Championship, which was held in October. As a team, Franklin Pierce shot a 622 over two rounds of play. As a result of the victory, the Ravens received an automatic bid to the NCAA Championship East Super Regional.

The Ravens last claimed the NE10 crown in 2017, when they rode a runner-up finish from then-senior Camden Morrison '18 to the program's first league title. This time around though, Franklin Pierce was led by a newcomer in Jinnapat Rittawee '23.

Rittawee took the NE10 golf world by storm this fall. In her first two weeks as a college golfer,

she was twice named both NE10 women's golf player of the week and rookie of the week. And, Rittawee won four of the five tournaments she competed in, and tied for second in the only one she did not win. The Kanchanaburi, Thailand, native capped the fall portion of her season by taking the individual title – and scoring the program's first-ever hole-in-one – at the NE10 Championship. While leading the Ravens to the team victory at Shenandoah Golf Course at Turning Stone in Verona, N.Y., Rittawee's two-round total of 148 (+4) gave her a two-shot victory over Bianca Cruz-Hernandez of Le Moyne.

"Jinnapat has the best short game I have ever coached," says head coach Tyler Bishop '08 MBA '10, "and that is what really separates her from everyone else. She is our anchor that we can depend on to put up a solid score in every tournament." —Matt Janik



Jinnapat Rittawee '23 after her hole-in-one.



FRONT ROW SEAT

From New Hampshire to Iowa (and back), students involved in the Marlin Fitzwater Center gain valuable experience as political journalists.

BY JANA F. BROWN

PHOTOGRAPHS BY ANDREW CUNNINGHAM

Situated on radio row at the DoubleTree Hotel in Downtown Manchester, N.H., Paul Lambert '22 saw a familiar face.

It was Democratic presidential candidate Tulsi Gabbard, and the congresswoman from Hawaii greeted Lambert like an old friend. The two had met on campus in Rindge in October at a Pizza & Politics event hosted in DiPietro Library, and here they were, reuniting on the eve of the New Hampshire presidential primary.

"She remembered me," says Lambert, a Fitzwater Scholar from Worcester, Mass., who serves as PoliticsFitzU director. "I asked her about the support Libertarian Gary Johnson threw behind her, and whether she thought his support would be good for the campaign."

Lambert was in Manchester in the second week of February with other members of the PoliticsFitzU news team, covering the buzz surrounding the state's first-in-the-nation primary. On radio row, the Franklin Pierce students worked alongside Boston Herald Radio founder Tom Shattuck, editor of the *Lowell Sun*, who offered tips on conducting interviews. George Capalbo of Backbone Radio helped the Pierce students set up their equipment and test that it was in working order. Lambert and Co. also interviewed candidate Andrew Yang over the phone, finding him "personable and smart." That night, a group of students, including Lambert, was on hand for the midnight vote tallies at Dixville Notch, 200 miles north of the Rindge campus.



A crowd gathers at Franklin Pierce to hear Bernie Sanders speak on February 10.



The New Hampshire presidential primary capped several months of tireless work by Lambert, fellow Fitzwater Scholar Kaitlyn Acciardo '23, and the other students who make up the news team at Franklin Pierce. In all, the Fitzwater Center reports involvement from 42 students in 13 different majors and minors during the current election cycle. They are charged with covering all that happens from the primaries through the inauguration. Abundant opportunities to interact with presidential candidates and witness firsthand the process of civic engagement is what drew some, including Lambert and Acciardo, to Franklin Pierce in the first place.

The University was not even on Acciardo's radar until a plan to look at colleges in Washington, D.C., coincided with Kaitlyn watching a film on autism expert Temple Grandin '70. By coincidence, the following day, a Franklin Pierce admission representative visited her high school in Hampden, Mass. Knowing little about the school, but feeling some good karma, Acciardo decided to apply. Once accepted, she met Marlin Fitzwater Center for Communication Director Kristen Nevious.

"I have always had a passion for politics and chasing stories," Acciardo says, "and when I heard I would have the opportunity to go to Iowa and be in New Hampshire during the primary, I knew it was for me. The Fitzwater Center was 99.9 percent why I chose Franklin Pierce."

A year later, Acciardo, a political science major, was part of a six-student contingent (along with Lambert, Casey Eldred '21, Violet Schuttler '21, Dante Camacho '20, and Ryan McCombs '21) that traveled to Iowa in February for four days of chaos and coverage of the state's presidential caucus. Stationed primarily in Des Moines, the Pierce students covered rallies for candidates Yang, Pete Buttigieg, Amy Klobuchar, Bernie Sanders, Joe Biden, and William Weld. They interviewed Iowa's voters, created news packages for Pierce partner NBC10-Boston, and crammed themselves into their rented

van to meet a 5 p.m. filing deadline for the *Boston Herald*. They also found themselves as guests at a Bernie Sanders field office in Des Moines, located in a small house that smelled of fresh brownies and soup bubbling on the stove.

"Everyone was cramped into a tiny living room," says Lambert. "Politics is very personal in Iowa."

As the caucus got underway, the PoliticsFitzU team members took the advice of faculty adviser and Associate Professor of Journalism and Digital Media Paul Bush, who had traveled with them, and set up shop in the cafeteria of Indian Hills Junior High School, located in Windsor Heights in the third precinct of West Des Moines. There they found supporters of Massachusetts Senator Elizabeth Warren singing original songs about their candidate; encountered diehard Pete Buttigieg fans wearing earrings bearing the former South Bend, Ind., mayor's likeness; and watched as those caucusing for Minnesota Senator Amy Klobuchar shouted her name, clad in green gear. It was, notes Nevious, a real-life civics lesson for the college journalists.

Camacho interviewed a Yang supporter who had traveled to Des Moines from Ho Chi Minh City in Vietnam to be part of the action. And at an Amy Klobuchar event, McCombs recognized the candidate's husband, John Bessler, and he and Lambert requested – and were granted – an interview with him.

"We talked to hundreds of voters," says Acciardo. "The voters in Iowa are so passionate, just like in New Hampshire. They think it's their job to vet the candidates and make sure the nation has strong candidates to vote for." In fact, the similarities between voters in the two states was the subject of one of two articles Acciardo published in the *Boston Herald* from the Hawkeye State (the other was about Republican alternatives to Donald Trump).

In Iowa, the students witnessed the ultimate Democratic process, voters expressing their political opinions and

This page, clockwise from left: Tulsi Gabbard at a Pizza & Politics event; Bailey Matteson '21 behind the scenes at an event with William Weld; President Mooney and students at the Mock Election in Manchester Center; students hold political signs at the Candidates Fair at Franklin Pierce in the fall. Facing page: Alexa Asta '20 interviews William Weld while Sophia Venezia '20 films them.



“When I heard I would have the opportunity to go to Iowa and be in New Hampshire during the primary, I knew it was for me. The Fitzwater Center was 99.9 percent why I chose Franklin Pierce.”

—KAITLYN ACCIARDO '23

preferences out in the open rather than behind a curtained polling booth. Though the Iowa caucus results were delayed and widely reported as a debacle, that's not what the students saw in the dedicated Iowans who came out in the cold to fulfill their civic duty.

“Just getting out and using your voice based on your unique lived experiences,” says Pierce student videographer Violet Schuttler, “and combining forces with the rest of the country to come up with the best leader is the most important thing for people to do.”

The direct experience in Iowa was the first in a two-week culmination of months of preparation for prime time. (“I didn't see anyone out on the campaign trail doing what our students were doing,” notes Bush.). Through the Fitzwater Center, students interested in politics and journalism are able to merge the two. And there is no better time to do that than during presidential primary season. During the past year, as candidates of both parties have declared their intentions to

seek the U.S. presidency, PoliticsFitzU has sponsored a series of events. Lambert, John Gerke '22, and Madison Leslie '22 participated in a pair of WMUR Young Voter Panels in spring 2019 and fall 2020. Programming has also included Pizza & Politics discussions, which provide attendees a chance to see candidates up-close and in a personal way that even reveals the visitors' choice of pizza.

According to Nevious, Democratic candidate Deval Patrick chose a half-sausage, half-cheese pizza, while Republican Mark Sanford, the former governor of South Carolina, requested a pizza with no pork (i.e. no extra spending bills). Former Illinois Rep. Joe Walsh asked for everything on his pie, saying he was “all in.” Joe Biden surrogate and former N.H. Governor John Lynch asked that his pizza spell out “Joe” in pepperonis. Over the last year, the Fitzwater Center also has arranged Pizza & Politics events with Gabbard, Marianne Williamson, and William Weld, and an Ice Cream & Politics event with Bernie Sanders surrogates Ben Cohen and Jerry Greenfield (yes, the Vermont-based ice cream gurus).

This general election cycle marks the fourth for PoliticsFitzU, which earned its initial set of press credentials in 2008. Nevious recalls the student journalists at the time encountering then-Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick at Denver International Airport ahead of the Democratic National Convention.

“Eric Jackman ['09] recognized the governor and interviewed him, right there in the airport,” says Nevious. “That was probably our first interview at the convention. All these years later, we are thriving. That illustrates how strong and deep our roots are.”

A dozen years later, Nevious now identifies that 2008 presidential primary coverage as the moment the Fitzwater Center began to morph into its current prominence. Founded in 2005, YouTube was also in its infancy at the time. The



video-sharing platform was giving away handheld digital “Flip” cameras to groups who were then charged with covering political events and posting the videos on social media.

Under the guidance of Nevious, a group of Franklin Pierce students was in Manchester, N.H., to cover the 2008 primary. Using the Flip cams, the students were able to post their coverage immediately to social media platforms, producing more detailed reports than had been possible in previous years. Later on, when the students checked the metrics on what they had posted, they found the only outlet that outranked them on coverage of the New Hampshire primary was the state’s ABC affiliate, WMUR-TV in Manchester.

“They were inspiring a conversation around the world, and it was about the content,” says Nevious. “They found their voices that year, and it has taken off since.”

One former student who has taken advantage of the opportunities – as a student and as a graduate – provided by the Fitzwater Center is Trent Spiner ’07. The 2007 recipient of the Fitzwater Medallion for contributions to public discourse, Spiner is now a national reporter at Politico after several years as executive editor at the New Hampshire *Union Leader* and stints at WMUR and the *Concord Monitor*. Spiner recalls a moment in the 2016 presidential campaign, during his time at the *Union Leader*, when he sat in an editorial board meeting with Donald Trump and was able to pose some important questions to the future U.S. president. His preparation for the moment could be traced back to his days at Franklin Pierce.

“The thing that’s different about the Fitzwater Center,” says Spiner, who served as editor-in-chief of the *Pierce Arrow* as an FPU senior, “is that it has the facilities to really help you get hands-on right from the beginning of your college career.”

Under the leadership of Nevious and others, the opportunities for students involved with the Fitzwater Center have expanded over the years. That includes partnerships

“The thing that’s different about the Fitzwater Center is that it has the facilities to really help you get hands-on right from the beginning of your college career.”

—TRENT SPINER ’07

with NBC10 Boston and the *Boston Herald*, which most notably teamed up with Franklin Pierce to conduct political polling for the 2020 New Hampshire primary (the Fitzwater Center’s Political Polling Program began in 1999). Four polls conducted between January 13 and February 9, 2020, followed the rise of Bernie Sanders as the presumptive winner of the New Hampshire Primary. They were published in the *Boston Herald* – with students providing written analysis – and reported on national news outlets from CBS to CNN.

Though students do not conduct the polling research, they are instrumental in forming the questions asked of potential voters, according to Nevious. In addition, Lambert has appeared on New England Cable News, along with Assistant Professor of Political Science Christina Cliff, to offer analysis and breakdown of the results.

“Getting our polls on all the networks and sending students out to cover historic moments is great exposure for Franklin Pierce,” says Lambert. “We also provided on-site coverage in Iowa, so we got our names in print and the *Herald* got reporting from Iowa that they otherwise wouldn’t have had.”

February 5 was another big day for Franklin Pierce student



broadcasters, as they livestreamed the New Hampshire Primary Mock Election from the University’s Manchester campus. The event registered the votes of more than 4,000 K-12 students in the Granite State (Sanders beat Buttigieg, 720-480, with Yang finishing third). Pierce journalists provided live updates throughout the day. Established in 2000, the mock election, sponsored by New Hampshire PBS, has correctly predicted the winner of the New Hampshire presidential primary in every general election cycle, with the exception of 2000, when Al Gore edged George W. Bush.

On primary day in New Hampshire, February 11, Lambert, Acciardo, and others from Franklin Pierce were fanned out across the state, providing coverage primarily through the PoliticsFitzU YouTube channel, which boasted more than 13,000 unique views for the team’s coverage in Iowa the previous week. Junior Ryan McCombs, a cameraman, manages the channel, and takes great pride in monitoring the number of new subscribers it attracts. Acciardo, 18, was thrilled to have voted for the first time that day, and followed it up by covering the election-night rally for Buttigieg in Nashua. There, she snapped hundreds of photos, while interviewing voters and campaign volunteers. The previous night, Acciardo was one of four members of the FPU team that reported on the Trump campaign rally in Manchester. The freshman called the experience of witnessing the president’s supporters vying for entry into SNHU Arena “eye-opening” and something she could not have grasped without seeing it firsthand.

“I don’t know of any school that has the same experience we do,” says Nevius. “Ours is a real experience. The students *earn* their credentials. It is a lot of hard work, and the University has invested in the Fitzwater Center and this experience.”

On the day of the primary, Lambert interviewed South Carolina Senator Lindsey Graham, and was impressed by the Republican lawmaker’s praise of his friend, Democratic candidate Joe Biden, whom he called “a very good man,” says

Lambert. “It was nice to see someone could be more even-keeled on the day of the primary.”

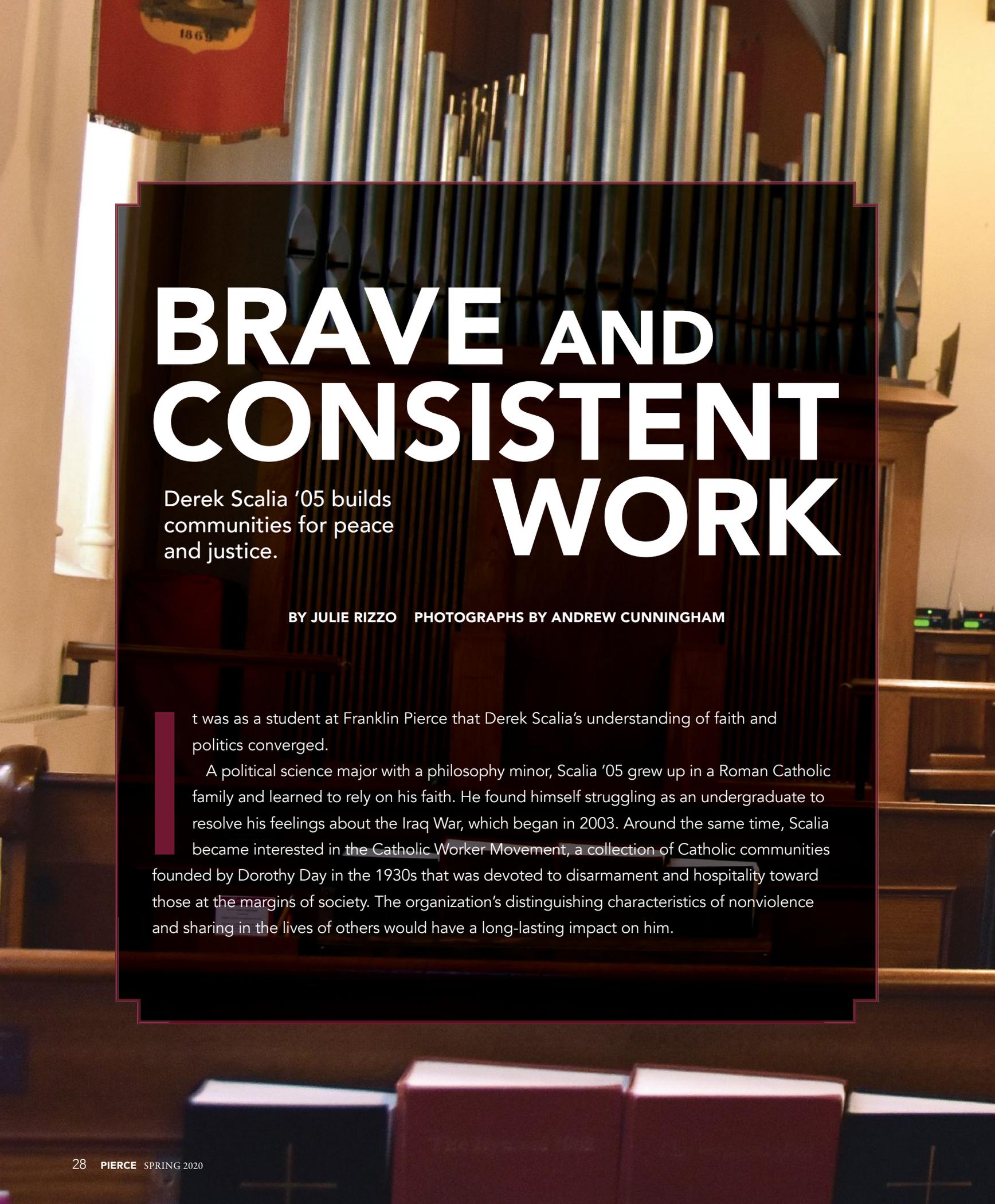
That night, Lambert and McCombs were stationed at the Bernie Sanders rally at SNHU Field House in Manchester. The duo interviewed voters, noting their initial enthusiasm as Sanders jumped out to an early lead, which eventually narrowed in a tight race with Buttigieg, creating a more tense atmosphere. The concern was soon replaced with supporters’ elation as the first media outlet projected a Sanders victory in New Hampshire, fulfilling the prophecy of the mock election.

“Suddenly, we see people running across the press section of the room with relieved grins,” recalls Lambert. “It was electric to be there. I think the most idealistic moment of an election process is when you see a candidate win.”

For Acciardo, the experience for which she chose Franklin Pierce could not be more positive. Campaign posters line the walls of her college dormitory room, proof of her eyewitness perspective on the 2020 election cycle. In the last year, she says she learned about using love as a form of unifying the country from Marianne Williamson; came to admire the fervent support of Andrew Yang faithfuls; was told by Tulsi Gabbard that she was proud of her; and had a casual conversation with Tom Steyer when she ran into him at a hotel in Manchester. In the lead-up to the N.H. primary, Acciardo interviewed hard-hitters, from MSNBC host Chris Matthews to Bill Clinton strategist and political commentator James Carville. Opportunities such as those provided by the Fitzwater Center are rare for college students, as evidenced by the lack of other student news teams the PoliticsFitzU group has encountered on the campaign trail.

“I love politics,” says Acciardo, who hopes to earn her press credentials to the Democratic and Republican National Conventions this summer. “The Fitzwater Center is amazing; we have opportunities you don’t get anywhere else. I am living my dream every single day.” 

Facing page, from left: Alisha SaintCiel '19 interviews James Pappas; Bernie Sanders speaks to the crowd. This page, left to right: Deval Patrick checks out some pizza after addressing the audience; Marianne Williamson at the Pizza & Politics series; John Lynch in a lighthearted moment.



BRAVE AND CONSISTENT WORK

Derek Scalia '05 builds communities for peace and justice.

BY JULIE RIZZO PHOTOGRAPHS BY ANDREW CUNNINGHAM

It was as a student at Franklin Pierce that Derek Scalia's understanding of faith and politics converged.

A political science major with a philosophy minor, Scalia '05 grew up in a Roman Catholic family and learned to rely on his faith. He found himself struggling as an undergraduate to resolve his feelings about the Iraq War, which began in 2003. Around the same time, Scalia became interested in the Catholic Worker Movement, a collection of Catholic communities founded by Dorothy Day in the 1930s that was devoted to disarmament and hospitality toward those at the margins of society. The organization's distinguishing characteristics of nonviolence and sharing in the lives of others would have a long-lasting impact on him.



Derek Scalia '05 was ordained a deacon in 2019 and serves as an archdeacon of the Episcopal Church of New Hampshire.

At Franklin Pierce, Scalia found mentors who helped him in his efforts to reconcile his faith. He recalls that Professor of Anthropology Dr. Robert Goodby gave him a copy of Murray Polner's *Disarmed and Dangerous*, a portrait of brothers and Catholic priests Daniel and Philip Berrigan, whose public protests helped shape the tactics of opposition to the Vietnam War 40 years earlier. Although the brothers' bold acts of civil disobedience were out of his comfort zone, Scalia was intrigued. Bill Beardslee, then associate director of student involvement and spiritual life at Pierce, shared contact information for Daniel Berrigan with Scalia. He wrote the priest an eight-page letter, describing his struggle to resolve his faith with the lead-up to a major war.

To his amazement, Scalia received a handwritten note back from Berrigan, one he keeps with him to this day. In the letter, Berrigan advised, "Peace work demands community if it is to be brave and consistent." That thought sustains Scalia in everything he does. He understands that, in questions of peace and justice, no single person holds the answer. The work itself necessitates community.

Although they never met in person, Scalia and Daniel Berrigan struck up a correspondence and friendship that lasted until Berrigan's death in 2016. "He was a person who engaged in work even when it was scary and he didn't know what would happen," says Scalia, who named his son Daniel after his friend.

Now the director of retention and diversity at Franklin Pierce, Scalia is doing bold work to advance the causes of peace and justice, both at Franklin Pierce and in the Greater Monadnock region. He was ordained a deacon in 2019 and serves as an archdeacon of the Episcopal Church of New Hampshire. He is a member of the clergy at St. James Episcopal Church in Keene. Scalia's work for social justice is fueled by his faith and a radical desire to see each member of his community as a neighbor. He says his young children, Daniel (18 months) and Natalie (8), inspire him to work for the kind of world he wants them to inherit.

Scalia's efforts have not gone unnoticed. In March 2020, he was one of 12 young leaders honored with a Trendsetter Award from *The Keene Sentinel*, *The Business Journal* and the Keene Young Professionals, recognizing the positive difference they are making in their communities. His kind, humble demeanor – and Mr. Rogers socks – belie the fierce determination Scalia brings to his work of building communities that respect the dignity of every member and welcome neighbors of diverse backgrounds.

"I believe in the radical message of Mr. Rogers," says Scalia, flashing white socks that feature the face of the legendary children's TV host. "Just who you are is worthy of respect and dignity."



Scalia has worked in student involvement at Franklin Pierce for 12 years. As director of retention and diversity, he ensures that faculty, staff, and the University's programs contribute to a student experience that leads to academic and personal success. He plays a key role on the Pierce Council of Diversity and Inclusion, hosting speakers, book discussions, films, and training sessions that help the community address and overcome perceived differences due to race, sexual orientation, gender identification, religious beliefs, or political affiliations. Scalia also coordinates the Peer Leader program, a group of more than 60 students who support first-year and transfer students as they adjust to campus life.

"We can only support our students when we understand who they are, where they've come from, and where they want to go," Scalia says, noting that college students today are different from their peers of even a decade ago. He sees them as more open about their experiences and struggles, with a wonderful honesty about challenges that other generations would have held close. To be entrusted with these confidences is a sacred gift, Scalia believes, and one that is empowering for the student.

"Our students are some of the most resilient people I've known," he says. "From an early age, they've endured endless school shooting drills, and yet they still go to school. They are under pressure from day one of elementary school to do well on this test, to get a good grade, to get into a good school, and yet they still show up and they still engage. It's on us to help students live into a lifestyle rooted in wellness. We try to show them they don't have to do it alone and that they are accepted as they are."

Scalia grew up in Windsor Locks, Conn., in a two-income family that always had a sense of being connected to something larger. His father worked at a grocery warehouse, where he





Facing page, top: Scalia and President Mooney at the Diversity and Inclusion Committee meeting; bottom: Serving ethnic food at ALANA lunch with Scott Ansevin-Allen, assistant dean of student involvement. This page: Handing out Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Coretta Scott King Service Award to Shinel Nicholas '19.

was a proud member of the Teamsters union. As a teenager, Scalia was a self-described political junkie, who volunteered on political campaigns, attended school board meetings, and advocated for funding for the arts. When he came to Franklin Pierce, he was struck by the beauty of the campus and the friendliness of the people. He also wanted to be at ground zero for New Hampshire's first-in-the-nation primary.

In Rindge, Scalia found an outlet for his desire to serve by volunteering in a special education classroom at a nearby high school. The relationships he built ignited his passion for bringing together people who don't automatically connect in their communities. Upon graduation, he became a statewide coordinator for Best Buddies in New Haven, Conn. In that capacity, he managed a program matching volunteer "buddies" with adults with intellectual disabilities and traumatic brain injuries. It was through that organization that he met his wife, Alison, who served in a similar capacity with high school youth. The couple returned to New Hampshire in 2008 to pursue careers that focus on inclusion and appreciation of people with differences. Alison Scalia currently serves as supervisor of adult service coordinators at Monadnock Developmental Services in Keene.

Using his days effectively, Derek Scalia somehow manages to bring the same loving attention to the students, faculty, and staff at Franklin Pierce, the congregants of St. James Episcopal Church, and diverse groups of vulnerable people in the region, all of whom he calls neighbors. Scalia recently was named an archdeacon in the Episcopal Church of New Hampshire by Bishop Robert Hirschfeld. Priests and deacons are equal orders in the Episcopal Church. What distinguishes their roles is that priests are put in charge of a congregation, while deacons are said to have "one foot in church and one foot in the world,"

with the expectation that they will hold a secular job and bring the concerns of the world to the church.

Under Scalia's leadership and mission of bringing those concerns to the religious setting, the congregants at St. James have taken on an urgently needed ministry as an overflow facility for the Hundred Nights homeless shelter in Keene. During the unseasonably cold evenings of November 2019, Hundred Nights had already seen surging demand for its 26 beds. St. James brought a proposal to the Keene City Council to offer 12 additional beds in the basement of the church. The St. James congregation did its homework – they prepared their fire alarms, sprinklers, and emergency lights and obtained the necessary permits in advance of the meeting. Staff members and volunteers from the church pledged to be on the premises to welcome guests and get them settled for the night. In a surprise action, the City Council suspended its rules and voted that same night to grant St. James its lodging license. Church and shelter advocates, including Scalia, erupted in joyous applause.

Scalia also has been instrumental in founding the Keene-based initiative Project Home, a grassroots effort to support asylum seekers while their legal cases are pending. The group is currently supporting two families by providing a host family to house them and teams of volunteers to help with transportation, interpretation, legal aid, English language instruction, healthcare, and more.

"There is no cookie-cutter model for this," says Scalia. "Each family's needs are different, and our goal is to provide bold and consistent support. We hope to support five families in Keene and then expand town by town, state by state. Our initial group of nine core members has now grown to over 200 volunteers, who want to mitigate the hopelessness we feel living with an immigration system that has been broken for generations."

Years after he first contacted a man who would become his longtime friend, Scalia holds himself to a high standard of brave and consistent work for justice, as Daniel Berrigan advised. He still turns to his friend's example for courage and inspiration. In a letter written before his death, Berrigan confided to Scalia that his "heart still beats about 1,000 times a minute when I'm in front of a crowd or being arrested."

Scalia uses that admission to quell his own fears when faced with opportunities that challenge the community to engage in self-reflection and change. Recently, he attended a Zoning Board meeting in Keene, where discussion centered on restrictions that make it more difficult for homeless shelters to operate in the city.

"I noticed my own heart beating as I stood up to speak," he recalls. "What came out were not my words, and somehow I helped challenge the council members to write ordinances so that these members of our community are seen as people. My days are long, but I am fueled by it. Every area I'm part of – Franklin Pierce, Project Home, the homeless shelter – I get to be part of experiences of hope at every turn." **P**



“AS WE SAY IN THE VILLAGE”

Gabe Norwood '18 preserves 17th-century history as a first-person educator at Plimoth Plantation.

BY JANA F. BROWN PHOTOGRAPHS BY ANDREW CUNNINGHAM

There's a joke in the village, says Gabe Norwood '18, that the more ways a person can arrange letters to come up with different spellings of a word, the smarter they are considered to be.

That is why Plimoth Plantation (aka “the village”), where Norwood recently finished his first season as a historical interpreter, is spelled with an “i” rather than the “y” of its namesake town of Plymouth, Mass.

“Plimoth is the way Governor William Bradford spells it in the document,” explains Norwood, noting that spelling in general was not yet standardized in the 17th century. “It’s also a branding move to differentiate ourselves from the town.”

No matter what the spelling, over the last 12 months, Norwood has become immersed in the life of the original Massachusetts colony, circa 1627, seven years after *The Mayflower* landed in Plymouth Harbor. Though he does not consider himself an actor, Norwood nevertheless plays the role of Edward Doty, an Englishman turned Massachusetts settler. “I am a first-person living history educator,” Norwood says. In fact, Governor Bradford’s historical document, *Of Plimoth Plantation*, serves as the primary source of information about the colony for Norwood and other interpreters at Plimoth today.



Gabe Norwood '18 (left) and Shawn Gray '17 pose in traditional garb on the grounds of Franklin Pierce.

Doty, offers Norwood, was born in London in the Parish of St. Mary's around 1600. At the age of 20, when men of that era were expected to have found a livelihood, young Doty didn't have much to show for himself. With little to lose, Doty decided the New World was his best chance at prosperity, so he boarded *The Mayflower* as a servant to a man named Steven Hopkins. Four years after the ship's arrival in New England, Doty was granted 20 acres of land and eventually settled down in 1635 with his wife, Faith Clark. After working many years as a day laborer, he died in 1655.

It's now Norwood's job to bring Edward Doty back to life on a daily basis, preserving the history of the man and his era – a formative time for America, though a segment of history largely relegated to third grade lessons about the first Thanksgiving, construction paper buckle hats, and the revered (but mythical?) Plymouth Rock.

"Plymouth Rock is a complete fabrication," says Norwood. "There are many rocks in Plymouth, as we say in the village. There are all these things people don't know and we get to talk about them in character."

Norwood grew up in Belchertown, Mass., where he developed an early interest in history. Prior to joining the team at Plimoth Plantation, he engaged in Civil War reenactments for several years and served as an intern at Springfield Armory National Park while a student at Franklin Pierce. He majored in history and graduated from Pierce with a minor in public history. The idea of a career path in the latter appealed to Norwood because of the promise of making personal connections with those with whom he shares accounts of the past.

His initial experience in personal interpretation of the Civil War provided Norwood with valuable insight into what it's like to participate in and experience living history. Professor of History Mary Kelly identifies Norwood as a perfect example for students interested in careers in the field. She praises his high level of intellectual curiosity, his enthusiasm for history, and his desire to share it with others.

"The level of sophistication Gabe reached in his major and public history minor at FPU," says Kelly, "represents an ideal example of student achievement of our program goals. His depth of engagement in classes dovetailed admirably with a virtually seamless entry into public interpretation of historic sites and contexts."

Public history, adds Professor Melinda Jetté, helps those interested in the specialized academic area to connect formal study of the subject with self-directed learning. "It is also about providing people with links to not only their own local pasts, but also to larger questions that shape the world today," Jetté says.

What attracted him to his work at Plimoth Plantation, Norwood says, was exactly that opportunity to provide visitors with links to the past in a more personal way than is possible



“It’s more like a teaching experience. In the village, the different facets for learning are innumerable. The guests determine what experience is best for them, and get the most natural high-quality result.”

— GABE NORWOOD '18

by sorting through books in search of historical facts. When he takes on the persona of Edward Doty, Norwood is able to connect with visitors on an emotional level, welcoming them into a world they have only read about.

To optimally prepare for that experience, Norwood and his cohorts have learned to remain in character five days a week, from February through early December, perpetually bound by the rules and norms of coastal Massachusetts in 1627. That includes maintaining the cadence of Elizabethan dialect and conforming to 17th-century behaviors. The repetition can feel like an Elizabethan version of *Groundhog Day*. Sometimes descendants of his alter ego, Doty, visit Plimoth Plantation, and Norwood finds himself challenged to engage them in only the facts that represent Doty's life as of 1627.

"It's always an interesting experience because there is no social protocol for approaching somebody in this context," he says. "It's like, 'Hey, I'm your 13th grandson.' I have to tell them I'm not even married yet, but I usually try to work them into my context."

What's different about venues of public history as opposed to museums is the chance for visitors to personalize their experiences. The way Norwood sees it, visitors to Plimoth Plantation are there for textural learning opportunities, ones they can touch and feel and sense and that include real people in a real town, recapturing a moment in time. Because they are visitors to his "home," Norwood is able to act as village host



Facing page:
(from left) Sean
McCarrick '17
Jacklyn Flaherty
'17, Gabe
Norwood '18, and
Shawn Gray '17
dressed in
character. This
page: A view
of some of the
structures at
Plimoth
Plantation.

and guide the conversation in a way that ensures his guests are learning through a first-person perspective.

"It's more like a teaching experience," he says. "In the village, the different facets for learning are innumerable. The guests determine what experience is best for them, and get the most natural high-quality result."

While it might seem that the greatest challenge would be getting into character, Norwood says it's actually the opposite. Once he finds a rhythm of telling stories as Edward Doty – about the duel he had over Constance Hopkins or his first winter in New England or why he is at religious odds with the Separatists – it can be jarring to realize in the moment that he is not actually living in the 17th century.

"If I'm in that state of mind, [being in character] is just a layer above my own personality," he says. "Once you get good at it, you can continue story after story without thinking. I'll find myself ranting and raving about how the Separatists are fools, for example."

Public history students such as Norwood, says Kelly, "embrace the more rarefied ability to present historical episodes and narratives in appealing ways to the public. Gabe's capacity to understand and articulate this quality is now reaping anticipated rewards in his career."

As much as he considers himself a teacher, Norwood says he also has learned a great deal from his immersion in the life of the Pilgrims. He has come to understand that their motivations and desires have been largely misrepresented in commonly imparted history. Most Americans are taught to believe that the Pilgrims fled England for the New World seeking religious freedom. It's a misnomer, Norwood asserts, because the Pilgrims were desperately seeking the basic needs

humans have pursued throughout history – a better life for themselves and their families.

"Many forget that people 400 years ago fled to a new country for economic reasons. There is almost no difference between refugees doing the same today," Norwood says. "The Pilgrims were poor in England, where the economy was stagnant, and poor in Holland, where they were strangers. It's just like any other refugee from any other country. Taking us 400 years into the past and trying to connect that idea to people shows us that humans haven't changed that much in their motivations and stories. If you are sympathetic for the Pilgrims, be sympathetic for those of our time seeking opportunity."

As Norwood and the other living history educators prepare for a 400th anniversary celebration of the Pilgrims' arrival at Plymouth, Mass. (*The Mayflower II* will make its return to Plymouth Harbor to commemorate the occasion), he is eager to share some little-known tidbits often oversimplified for the elementary-school curriculum that is the basis for most Americans' knowledge of the 1620 English settlers. First, the Pilgrims did not make their own goods. They did not live a 17th-century version of *Little House on the Prairie*, but instead relied on annual cargo shipments of supplies from England. The settlement at Plymouth was as much a business venture as it was about establishing a new way of life.

"People think the Pilgrims landed and made a town," says Norwood, "but, in truth, it was a complex financial venture with a patent to the land and a contract."

Second, the Pilgrims would never have referred to themselves as Pilgrims, but as English Christians. "Nobody would have called themselves a Pilgrim in 1627," he says.

Third, the first Thanksgiving with the Wampanoag Nation did not resemble modern-day renderings of the holiday. "The idea of Thanksgiving does exist for the English as a day of prayer and fasting, which is the opposite of our Thanksgiving. It was followed by two years of famine," Norwood explains.

Fourth, nobody – yes, nobody – in contemporary 17th-century Plimoth wears a buckle hat. It was simply "not a thing for the Pilgrims," Norwood, says, scoffing at the very idea.

According to Kelly, Norwood's work as an interpreter at Plimoth Plantation offers a rare window into a time when the worldview of the settlers was much different than life as we know it today. That opportunity to experience daily life from another time helps us make connections with our own worldviews. It can serve both as a welcome respite from the stressors of modern life and as a reminder of simpler times.

"Preserving history is the only way to correct the history," says Norwood. "We spend day after day correcting Americans; most people don't know the first thing of what the Pilgrims' lives were like. There is so much to learn from the Pilgrim experience that is completely missed. Schools only touch on it at an age at which you are unable to grasp historical truths versus historical myths. The best we can do at Plimoth Plantation is try to correct those teachings." **P**

PEARLY HOUSE EVENTS



FAMILY DAY AND HOMECOMING PARENTS RECEPTION

President Kim Mooney '83 and Greg Walsh, along with the Alumni Association Board of Directors and alumni volunteers, welcomed Raven parents with a wine and cheese reception at Pearly House before Raven football's inaugural Northeast 10 Conference game.



ALUMNI SPEAKERS LUNCH

In November, Trustee John Slavin '92 and Professor Mack Bean MBA '00 organized a panel of alumni speakers who shared their career experiences with Rindge students and joined President Mooney for lunch at Pearly House. The alumni panel also included Kristen Tracey Jones '10, Justin Wingate '01, Andrew Nawn '92, and Josh Castro '17.

ANDREW CUNNINGHAM; KEN PHILLIPS, MARY CHASE (FACULTY/STAFF HOLIDAY PARTY); MARIA PAPPAS (ALUMNI SPEAKERS LUNCH);



FACULTY/STAFF HOLIDAY PARTY

Rindge faculty and staff gathered at Pearly House for the President's festive holiday party and gift raffle before the winter holidays.



ALANA RECEPTION

Members of ALANA (African American, Latino/a, Native American, Asian American Diversity Initiative) joined President Mooney and Greg Walsh for conversation and light refreshments in advance of the annual ALANA awards ceremony.



WINTER LIGHTS CELEBRATION

The second annual Winter Light Festival took place on the Rindge campus in December. Participants decorated their Lakeview or Tower residences with holiday lights, and students voted for their favorite displays. President Kim Mooney '83 hosted a celebration with holiday treats at Pearly House.



EVENTS



GRAND MONADNOCK HIKE

Students, faculty, and staff were joined by President Kim Mooney '83 for the 49th annual hike up Mount Monadnock. Led by Director of Raven Recreation Doug Carty '06, nearly 200 people participated in this year's hike, making lasting memories at the start of the semester.



FAMILY DAY AND HOMECOMING

Alumni and families came to the Rindge campus to show their Pierce pride for Family Day and Homecoming. There was much to do on campus, from the pep rally on Friday to the fall harvest activities on Saturday. The event was capped with the Raven football team's inaugural NE10 Conference game against Pace.



MEN'S ICE HOCKEY ALUMNI

Former men's hockey players returned to their home rink for a friendly game and to cheer on the Ravens as they defeated Stonehill in overtime.

PRESIDENT'S TENT ON RAVEN ROW

Members of the Franklin Pierce Board of Trustees, alumni, parents, and friends of Franklin Pierce were invited to the president's tent to cheer on the Ravens football team in its inaugural season at the Division II level.





FOUNDER'S DAY

The DiPietro Library hosted Founder's Day on November 14, 2019, the annual recognition of the birthday of University namesake and Fourteenth U.S. President Franklin Pierce. Students, faculty, and staff shared cake and took an online quiz about Pierce's life.



DAY OF GIVING

Pierce's second annual Day of Giving was a wonderful success. The University Advancement Office teamed up with athletes and student volunteers to solicit donations from alumni, parents, and friends. In total, the efforts raised more than \$86,000.

ANDREW CUNNINGHAM, TYLER PETERSON '20 (FAMILY DAY); TREVOR GUAY '20 (PRESIDENT'S TENT).



ALUMNI SPEAKER SERIES

Mark Goodman '71 headed home to the Rindge campus, where he was the guest lecturer in several psychology classes. Students engaged Mark with questions on his time as a clinical psychologist. He shared many tips to help students be successful in their future careers.

DR. MARTHA PAPPAS VISITS RINDGE CAMPUS

Dr. Martha Pappas, trustee of the Arthur M. and Martha R. Pappas Foundation, met with students in the Dr. Arthur and Martha Pappas Health Sciences and Athletic Training Center and had lunch with President Mooney at Pearly House. Dr. Pappas is the recipient of the 2019 Honorable Walter R. Peterson Citizen Leader Award.



Carleen Farrell '71
examines a 'Calming Jar'
during Disabilities Week
on campus.



An Extraordinary Experience

Carleen Farrell '71 has given back to Franklin Pierce through tireless service for nearly 50 years.

If you love me, you love Franklin Pierce.

Carleen Albonizio Farrell '71 may not have said those exact words to her husband, Dan Farrell, when they fell in love, but he has gotten the message in their more than 30 years of marriage. As an involved student, devoted alumna, enthusiastic volunteer, and two-time trustee, Farrell has spent countless hours in service to her alma mater since she first walked through its doors in 1967.

As a student, she served her classmates in the student government and as a proctor (resident assistant), among other roles. She credits the students who attended Franklin Pierce during its fledgling years – her brother was part of the first freshman class – with helping to shape the University into what it has become.

“Student life is what you make of it,” says Farrell, who graduated with a degree in sociology. “It was a time to find myself, and that’s what I feel I did most at Franklin Pierce. Overall, I felt I contributed to helping new students better adjust to campus life.”

That mindset has never wavered, even as Farrell approaches her 50th class reunion next year. She spent her career working with students at several universities, but her loyalty to Franklin Pierce has always been at the forefront.

She joined the Alumni Association Board the year after she graduated, and shortly after that became the association’s president. Under her leadership, the association created a student scholarship that’s still offered today.

While she’s quick to share credit for accomplishments, Farrell’s service didn’t go unnoticed. Recruited by the chairwoman of the Board of Trustees for her wealth of knowledge about all areas of student life, Farrell spent two stints and more than 20 years as a trustee, rotating off the board last year.

While no longer contributing in an official capacity, Farrell has found a way to bring together two passions: Franklin Pierce and quilting. When she retired, Farrell proposed a retreat for her quilting group in Rindge. After staying in the townhomes that overlook Pearly Pond, the Proper Bostonian Quilters soon fell in love with Franklin Pierce, too. The group has been holding retreats on campus for the past 10 years, and some of the quilters’ grandchildren now attend the University.

Farrell also may have found an eventual home for her large collection of Beatles memorabilia. The collection would be a welcome addition to the course, *The Beatles: Voice of a Generation*, taught by University librarian Paul O. Jenkins, but Farrell isn’t quite ready to part with her treasure trove just yet.

Looking back on the enduring friendships she made with classmates, as well as her strong relationships with administrators and presidents over the years, Farrell says she’s honored to be part of the Franklin Pierce community.

“I had an extraordinary experience,” she says. “I can’t say enough about my experience at Franklin Pierce.”

—Ashley Festa

David Treat Wilson '77



David Treat Wilson '77, a decorated military veteran, died on October 27, 2019, in Rindge, N.H. He was 72. Dave was born in Winston-Salem, N.C., on January 20, 1947, the son of Arnold and Mae Treat Wilson.

He was a loyal and active member of the Franklin Pierce community, who served on the Board of Trustees from 1988 to 1992, and was an ardent supporter of the Archives Project. Dave was a dedicated member and volunteer with the Alumni Association, earning the Alumni Participation Award in 1993 and the Frank S. DiPietro Entrepreneurship Award in 2018.

After graduation, Dave had a very distinguished military career, serving in both active duty and in the Reserves for the U.S. Army. He entered the Army in 1966 and completed Officer Candidate School, Airborne School, and Ranger School at Fort Benning, Ga. He served with the 173rd Airborne and the 10th Special Forces Group. For his service in the Vietnam War, he was awarded the Bronze Star, the Combat Infantry Badge, the Air Medal, the Vietnam Service Ribbon, and the Vietnam Campaign Ribbon. He retired from the Army Reserves in 1997 with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

With his entrepreneurial spirit, Dave established his first business, Quantum Quality Inc., in 1994. Building on this success, he opened his second business in 2004 to assist companies worldwide with quality certification.

Dave possessed an infinitely curious mind, a love of learning, history, and books. He was generous, kind, and lived for adventure. He enjoyed music, fishing, hiking, and boating. He will be greatly missed by his family, including his wife of 25 years, Janice; his daughters, Michelle and Danielle; his son-in-law, Colin; two grandsons; his brother, Peter, and sister-in-law, Sandra; his brother, Terry, and his wife, Sue; several nieces and nephews; his great circle of friends; his communities; and his German Shepherd, Jethro.

John Henry Eason '67



John Henry Eason '67, a longtime supporter of Franklin Pierce and the first African American to graduate from the school, died on September 8, 2019.

Born on March 22, 1944, in East Meadow, N.Y., John earned his B.A. in history from the University. He went on to earn a master's degree from Hofstra University in 1971.

In a long career, John was an educator who impacted many students in the Roosevelt, N.Y., and Lawrence, Mass., school districts, where he ran after-school youth programs, including a competitive basketball program in Roosevelt schools and parks. He also became the Lawrence High School boys varsity basketball coach. Echoing the words of many of his former students and players, John was a powerful life force, who touched more lives than he could have imagined. He also was a loyal and active volunteer for Franklin Pierce, serving on the Board of Trustees from 1975 to 1996. John was a distinguished member of the Alumni Association and recipient of the Alumni Participation award in 2002. A standout basketball player in college, he was inducted into the Franklin Pierce Athletic Hall of Fame in 2007.

For many years, John was instrumental in the talent recruitment process for the Ravens' men's basketball program, creating a pipeline from New York to New Hampshire, in particular. To honor his tireless efforts, this year the school launched a campaign to establish the John H. Eason '67 Endowed Diversity Scholarship in 2016 to provide assistance to students from historically underserved cultures, economic backgrounds, and life experiences.

Besides his love for teaching and social commitments, John was a successful entrepreneur with diverse interests. He loved driving his Corvettes, riding his Honda motorcycles, and watching sporting events. He played basketball and tennis and was a football referee. John will be remembered and missed dearly by his family, friends, and the Long Island community, where he was so beloved.

IN MEMORY OF

- Marion Austin
 Jessica (Birmingham) Bartkus '04
 Philip Batrow '69
 Tad Boyce '69
 Christopher Concannon '03
 Anthony Dascoli '69
 Ryan Doherty '09
 John Eason '67
 Elizabeth Ervin '98
 Jordan Evans '67
 Michael Farrell '07
 Michael Flowers '22
 Alexander Gregory '89
 Albert Isola '68
 Adam Keenan '13
 Dieter Kowalski '12
 Lawrence Krozel '86
 Gloria Maybury
 John McDonald '87
 James Olayos '14
 Keith Orzechowski '86
 Richard Quinn '69
 Ethan Tolman
 Carol Tonkin '79
 Angela Waldron '69
 John Weber '71
 David Whelan '10
 David Wilson '77
 Alan Zeff '69

This list includes updates reported by family members, newspapers, and other sources as of 3/24/2020. If you would like to let the Alumni Office know of a death, please contact alumni@franklinpierce.edu or (603) 899-4030.

Pierce Partners Scholarship Fund



“This year I was awarded a Pierce Partners Scholarship, and I would like to say thank you from the bottom of my heart. This scholarship allowed me to finish my education at Franklin Pierce University. In fact, it provided me a chance to explore what it truly means to experience a living and learning community at Franklin Pierce. The Pierce Partners Scholarship also helped me within my major of environmental science. Over the winter term I had a chance to study tropical forest ecology in Costa Rica. The Pierce Partners Scholarship was a key piece of fully realizing my vision of my senior year. Thank you again to everyone who provided support to the Pierce Partners Scholarship program – you are making dreams come true.”

- Ayodele Ouhuru '20

Our Pierce Partners Scholarship program continues to provide financial assistance to those experiencing unexpected economic challenges. At Franklin Pierce, we believe increasing college access is critical and deliberately ensures that our students are successful once they join our community.

Please partner with us to help our community of talented students bridge their financial gap.

For more information on the Pierce Partners Scholarship program or other giving opportunities, please contact Crystal Neuhauser, *associate vice president for University Advancement*, at (603) 899-4031 or neuhauserc@franklinpierce.edu.

Franklinpierce.edu/giving
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Students at Franklin Pierce enjoy a longstanding, but still growing, tradition of engagement with the New Hampshire primary election.

Last December, MediaNews outlets NECN, Telemundo Boston, and NBC10 Boston announced their collaboration with Franklin Pierce University Polling and the *Boston Herald* to conduct political polling ahead of the 2020 New Hampshire primary. This partnership marks an expansion of profound opportunities for our students to gain real-world educational experiences.

A quick survey of Franklin Pierce history reveals that its students have always tended to engage positively with New Hampshire's exclusive first-in-the-nation primary election – before and after the University's political polling operation began in 1999.

Franklin Pierce students received their first opportunity to contribute substantially to the national conversation around the presidential primary in 1968, when *Time* magazine recruited them for the Choice '68 National Collegiate Presidential Primary. *Pierce Arrow* student contributor Alan Croll described the mock primary election as “an unprecedented opportunity for student involvement in national politics.”

During the 1970s, *Pierce Arrow* student contributors originated their own initiatives to engage with national politics and the presidential primary. In February 1972, Wayne Finkelstein '73 interviewed visiting comedian Pat Paulsen about his satirical campaign for U.S. president. In March 1976, writers for the student newspaper again undertook political reporting by analyzing the results of the 1976 primary for fellow student readers.

Students first conducted political polls at Franklin Pierce in 1984. That January, they had the option to enroll in

an intercession course titled Polling the New Hampshire Primary. The students questioned a sample group of 900 New Hampshire Democratic and Independent voters before and after the Democratic primary debate.

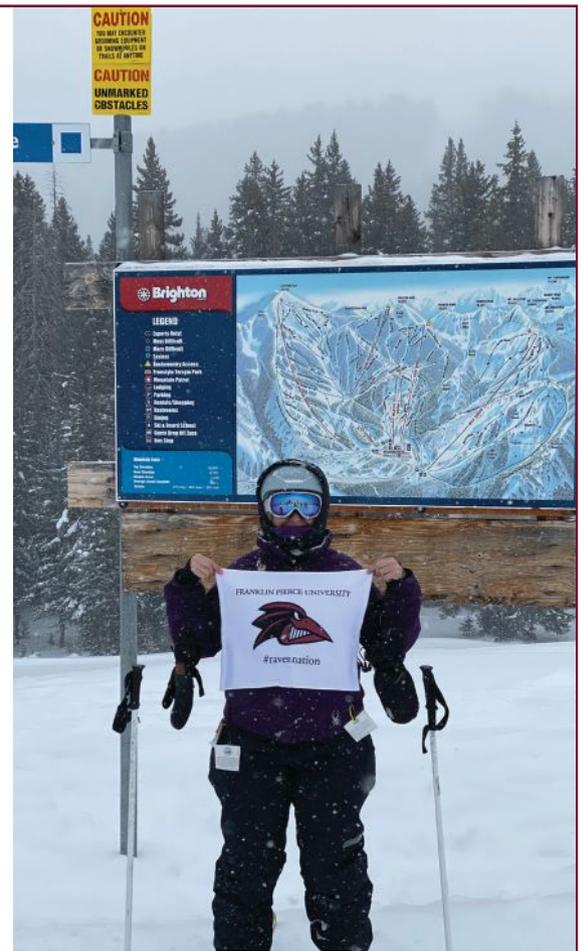
In a savvy 1995 *Pierce Arrow* article criticizing polling methods for the New Hampshire primary, David Weir, associate director of admissions and enrollment, cautioned student readers against invalid polling operations. He advised, “... there are two questions we can ask to help determine which polls to trust. First, is the poll reliable? Second, if it is reliable, is it valid?”

After the founding of the political polling operation, students interested in political engagement with the presidential primary were equipped with necessary resources and professional guidance to conduct sophisticated polling. In 2000, Franklin Pierce partnered with WNDS-TV to conduct polling on the New Hampshire primary, and results of the poll were released to such noteworthy news sources as the *L.A. Times*, *The Washington Post*, and the *Union Leader*.

That year, *Pierce Arrow* student contributor Tanja Pihlblad '01 reported that the Franklin Pierce College/WNDS-TV poll proved “one of the most accurate in the nation, finishing only one point behind *USA Today*, CNN, and Gallup's combined poll in terms of accuracy.”

This survey represents only a fraction of the evidence of concrete student involvement with the New Hampshire primary now accessible in the Franklin Pierce University digital archives at <https://fpu.contentdm.oclc.org/digital>.

—Rebecca Saunders



Ravens Around the World - *Rally for Ravens Map*

The Franklin Pierce community has been sharing some wonderful photos from their travels and hometowns!

The Rally for Ravens interactive map allows you to see how far and wide [#RavenNation](#) truly is. Check out the current map on our website at franklinpierce.edu/alumni.

Would you like a [#RavenNation](#) Rally Towel of your own? Send an e-mail to alumni@franklinpierce.edu with your address and one can be sent to you. Bring it along on your next adventure, snap a photo, and send it to us to add to the map.

We can't wait to see where you go next!

For more information, contact Katie Copeland, *Director of Alumni & Parent Relations* at (603) 899-4030 or copelandk@franklinpierce.edu

franklinpierce.edu/alumni
facebook.com/franklinpiercealumni





FranklinPierce
UNIVERSITY

SAVE THESE DATES

Keep an eye on events at franklinpierce.edu/calendar

MAY

8 Convocation*

16 Commencement*

JUNE

26–28 Alumni Reunion
Weekend

JULY

20 Rocky Classic
Golf Tournament

AUGUST

20 New Student Move-In Day

NOVEMBER

5 Day of Giving

* Event dates are pending based on latest recommendations for COVID-19.

For more information about events, please contact
Katie Copeland at (603) 899-4030 or copelandk@franklinpierce.edu