EXPERIENCE THE WORLD WITH THE ALUMNI TRAVEL PROGRAM!

The Arcadia University Alumni Travel Program offers alumni the opportunity to participate in unique group travel experiences. We have partnered with experienced travel providers to offer Arcadia alumni a variety of educational excursions.

Visit [www.arcadia.edu/alumitravel](http://www.arcadia.edu/alumitravel) or call 215-572-2160 to find out more and reserve your spot today!
ON THE INSIDE

Sustaining Hope
Two recent graduates lay groundwork for a school in the Dominican Republic.

LENDing Families a Hand
CHOP fellowship provides genetic counseling students with insight on neurodevelopmental disorders.

Commencement 2015
Congratulations to our graduates!
FROM THE PRESIDENT

LEADING OFF

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Photography
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Our alumni personify an Arcadia education.

Our alumni are in many ways the most visible representatives of this University, the ones who personify an Arcadia education. They carry the banner of Arcadia University in their personal lives and in the extraordinary work they do, be it establishing a sustainable school in the Dominican Republic, helping families with children who struggle with neurodevelopmental disabilities, running their own physical therapy practices, selecting front-page stories as managing editor of The Philadelphia Inquirer, or working with the governor in establishing education priorities for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

The stories in this issue of Arcadia magazine are but a microcosm of the impactful work that Arcadia alumni are doing in the region, across the country, and around the world. Their great work is a point of pride for Arcadia University, and we know that our alumni carry a similar pride in representing their alma mater.

Looking forward,

Nicolette DeVille Christensen, Ph.D.
President

WE’VE LAUNCHED ARCADIA.EDU

Following 18 months of community collaboration, discovery, content migration, design, and development, Arcadia University has launched the new and responsive arcadia.edu. Enjoy clicking through the new functionality and innovative tools that showcase the breadth of what Arcadia offers.

TURTLE FINISHES FIRST

Last issue’s “Racing to Save the Snapping Turtle” story was awarded first place in the Society of Professional Journalists Keystone Chapter’s annual Spotlight Contest in the Environmental Reporting: Non-Daily category. The judges said the story, written by former Inquirer reporter Lini Kadaba, “was set apart by the depth of its examination of the subject, as well as the number of voices represented.”

BY the NUMBERS

4 MOUNTAIN PEAKS SCALED

17.5 TONS OF PAPER SHREDDED AT THIS YEAR’S MLK DAY OF SERVICE

30 TONS OF SALT USED DURING WINTER STORMS
DPT Commencement

Arcadia’s Doctor of Physical Therapy program awarded degrees to 107 students at the Jan. 17 DPT Commencement. Of the class, 38 participated in the department’s international experiences through a stroke camp in Jamaica, the Kevin O’Halloran Center of Rehabilitation in Guatemala, Medical Ministry International in Peru, and a clinical experience in London. Forty-one students participated in faculty-student research, much of which was presented at the 2015 Combined Sections Meeting of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) in February, while 51 of the graduates were enrolled in the Transitional DPT program for working physical therapists. (And, according to a low estimate by Dr. Philip McClure, chair of Physical Therapy, they viewed more than 18,000 PowerPoint slides and answered more than 3,300 test questions.)

The class enters a field that the U.S. Department of Labor projects will see a 36 percent employment increase through 2022, due in part to an aging population and a rise in conditions such as diabetes and obesity. Arcadia graduates will begin or continue employment at Good Shepherd Penn Partners, Penn Medicine at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, and private practices, among other locations.

Thomas Fliss ’13DPT and Matthew Senese ’10, ’13DPT became the first graduates of the department’s Orthopaedic Resident program, which prepares residents to sit for the APTA’s orthopaedic clinical specialization examination. Rebecca Adams ’15DPT was selected by her classmates to serve as class speaker.

P.A. STUDENTS RECEIVE WHITE COATS

Before receiving their Master of Medical Science degrees in the Graduate Commencement on May 14 (see pg. 24), physician assistant students were recognized in the Physician Assistant White Coat ceremony in the Kuch Center Alumni Gymnasium. During the ceremony, which is common to many health care programs, students receive a traditional white coat used by health professionals.

Honorary Degree recipient Dr. Daystar Niyonzima addressed the soon-to-be-graduates, drawing from his experience leading an organization that provides health care in Burundi.
Archer Visits Washington
In November, Arcadia University’s Hillel, a chapter of the international Jewish campus organization, spent a weekend in Washington, D.C., where they met with the American University Hillel and visited the Holocaust Memorial Museum. The experience was funded through a generous donation by Trustee Lyanne Wasserman ’61 and her husband, Barry.

Scholarship Recipients Thank Donors
As guests entered the Commons Great Room on Nov. 14, they were met with words displayed on a large metal sculpture, reading: Transform, Grateful, Create, Fulfill, Change—sentiments that aptly described the second annual Evening of Appreciation.

“I know that I wouldn’t be here without some sort of financial aid and scholarship money,” said Kathryn Couture ’18, an anthropology major from central Pennsylvania and recipient of the Paul J. Zullo Scholarship, created by Adeline Frichione ’53. “I love it here, and I can’t see myself anywhere else.”

While the evening also highlighted Arcadia’s gifted performers and showcased their artistic and musical talents, the focus remained on the students and the magnanimity of the donors.

“I really appreciate everything [they] have done,” said Christina Karnavas ’16, a psychology major who came to the U.S. for the first time from her home on the Greek island of Samos to study at Arcadia. Karnavas is the recipient of a scholarship founded in 1970 by William S. Cornell, father of Anne Cornell Swan ’55, in honor of his wife and Anne’s mother, Mable Kahn Cornell. “This is really helping me stay in college…so I’m very grateful.”

Before the doors opened into the Great Room, a separate event on the second floor of the Commons celebrated the success of the Physical Therapy department’s Changing Lives, Teaching Student campaign. At the PT event, Gerri Aaron ’14 announced a $200,000 donation to be used at the discretion of Dean Rebecca Craik.

An Elevator Trumbauer Would Appreciate
Any renovation project to a building such as Grey Towers Castle, which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places, is a delicate process. Builders want to adhere to its heritage while modernizing it for 21st-century usage. So when Arcadia was constructing an elevator for the Castle, the designers thought back to the building’s original architect.

“We asked ourselves, ‘What would [Horace] Trumbauer have done if he built an elevator?’” said Associate Vice President for Facilities Management and Capital Planning Tom Macchi.

Constructed by Delran Builders, the new elevator stops at all three floors of the Castle, offers beautiful views of the front grounds, and incorporates elements of the original architecture, such as the light fixtures on the second and third floors, to match the elegant staircases, sophisticated interiors, and intricate woodwork of the Castle. The decorative woodwork restoration was made possible by the Class of 1964’s 50th Reunion gift.
Music Theater in May. In a ceremony honoring in a ceremony Recipients were and create a positive students, collaborate who motivate school teachers, the Philadelphia high School, also earned the award. May ‘06 instructor at The U awarded. Given annually to an English teacher at Parkway Northwest High School, also earned the award.

Alumni Meet with President During Regional Events

Beginning in fall 2014, President Nicolette DeVille Christensen met with alumni and shared her vision for Arcadia during a series of “Meet Our Presidents” events at various venues in Pennsylvania, New York, Florida, and Arizona.

“It was great to see young alumni and older alumni gather and learn about the future of the institution that we all love,” said Robert Migliaccio ’13, who attended the fall event at the Pyramid Club in Philadelphia. “I am excited to see what President Christensen has planned for Arcadia, and I can’t wait to see how she is going to incorporate the alumni.” At each event, President DeVille Christensen detailed her five-pillar vision, in which “fostering alumni engagement” and “strengthening Arcadia’s infrastructure” are at the top of the priority list. “Our alumni are the foundation upon which we stand, and we must strive to keep them connected to the life of our University,” said President DeVille Christensen.

We’re Number One—Again

For the fifth consecutive year, Arcadia is ranked first in the U.S. in study abroad, according to the Institute of International Education’s Open Doors Report. This marks the sixth time in the past seven years that Arcadia has been No. 1 in its respective category for study abroad participation. Arcadia earned the recognition based on the percentage of undergraduates participating in a study abroad experience at a master’s level college or university, as determined by the Institute of International Education, with support from the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

“It is crucial for colleges and universities today to offer more than just study abroad and to address global issues in their curriculum,” said President Nicolette DeVille Christensen.

“We are proud of our ranking and, as a leader in international education, are committed to creating rigorous academic and co-curricular opportunities that engage students in transformative educational experiences. These courses of study begin with Arcadia’s signature and pioneering programs during a student’s first year.”

Arcadia Named to President’s Community Service Honor Roll

Arcadia has been named to the President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll by the Corporation for National and Community Service. It is the highest federal recognition a university can receive for volunteering, civic engagement, and service learning.

During the past year, Arcadia students completed more than 25,000 hours of service with nearly 100 nonprofit and community organizations, some of which sent them abroad for international service projects. Students participated in more than 130 community and civic engagement activities that addressed a multitude of issues, including disaster relief, hunger, women’s rights, educational needs, and homelessness.

Eight New Members Elected to Board of Trustees

Arcadia has elected eight new members to its Board of Trustees: Lawrence R. Catuzzi, J. Wesley Hardin, Thomas S. Johnston ’96, David A. Plastino, Sidney Rosenblatt, Ellen Toplin, and William U. Westerfield. John A. Doherty ’14 was elected to serve as a recent graduate alumni trustee.

Catuzzi has held the positions of vice president of Morgan Guaranty Trust Co. of New York, senior vice president of brokerage firm Rauscher Pierce Refines, Inc., and director of Financial Security Assurance. Hardin is president of Electronic Instruments at AMETEK, Inc., a manufacturer of technology-based global aerospace products with nearly $2 billion in annual revenue. He previously served as vice president, senior vice president, and general manager of AMETEK’s Aerospace and Defense division.

Johnston is an executive officer of Mucios, a vaccine development company in the Netherlands. Prior to his work leading Mucios, Johnston served as vice president of Strategy at Novavax, Inc.

Plastino most recently served as senior vice president of Private Banking at UBS Financial Services, Inc. in Philadelphia. Prior to that, he was a vice president at Goldman, Sachs and Co. in Philadelphia.

Rosenblatt has more than 25 years of experience in technology development and management positions with publicly traded companies. Since 1995, he has served as executive vice president, chief financial officer, treasurer, and secretary of Universal Display Corporation, a leader in the organic light-emitting diode field.

Westerfield is a recognized expert in financial management controls and auditing. He has served for more than 20 years on the boards of directors of publicly owned international corporations, including Lifetime Brands, a provider of kitchenware, tableware, and home decor products; Gymboree, a retailer of children’s apparel; and West Marine, a retailer of boating products.

Toplin served as president of StarToplin, managing partner of The Star Group, and president and founder of Toplin & Associates, Inc., which was ranked among the Philadelphia area’s top marketing and public relations firms.

Doherty has worked with the American Civil Liberties Union, as a legislative assistant for State Representative Brendan Boyle, and as a member of boating products.

Arcadia Joins World Trade Center Council

Arcadia and the World Trade Center of Greater Philadelphia (WTCGP) are pleased to announce that the University has joined the WTCGP’s Leadership Council. The WTCGP will work with the School of Global Business at Arcadia to allow students to learn more about the WTCGP and its partners and members by participating in meetings and events, WTCGP site visits to businesses, and classroom visits by WTCGP trade specialists.

In addition, Arcadia will again host the WTCGP’s day-long, one-on-one meetings between international companies located in Southeastern Pennsylvania and the state’s Authorized Trade Representatives. Pennsylvania’s ATRs provide in-country assistance and market intelligence and work closely with WTCGP trade specialists to identify overseas partners and help grow business for international companies. The ATRs cover 55 markets from 19 foreign offices.
ALUMNI NEWS

Students Connect at Career Fair

Hundreds of students attended the March 31 Career Fair in the Koch Center Alumni Gymnasium. Nearly 100 organizations participated, including employers and graduate schools, representing education, nonprofit, financial, accounting, consulting, marketing, media, and government sectors.  

ALUMNI GET AND GIVE CAREER ADVICE

The Alumni Association, in partnership with the Office of Career Education (OCE), offers alumni opportunities for enrichment well past Commencement. In addition to career counseling, seminars, cover letter and resume guidance, and access to Arcadia job portal, KnightLink, OCE hosts a Professional Destinations Expo in the fall and an internship and job fair in the spring. "If you're a career changer or have yet not found your professional footing, as alumni, you are always welcome to stop by the [OCE]," said Marissa Deitch, who joined Arcadia as director of Career Education in February. The Alumni Association also encourages more veteran professionals to return to their alma mater to volunteer as mock interview coaches or share knowledge in their field through job talks on campus, webinars, or as a mentor in the Alumni Mentor Program (see pg. 15), which connects alumni from various professions to other alumni and students. The program currently boasts 124 student mentees and 122 alumni mentors. Last fall, Dr. Jim Capolupo '76M, superintendent of Delaware County's Springfield School District and 2014 National Association of School Superintendents' Superintendent of the Year, led a workshop on education. This was just one example of the alumni events held last year.  

HAPS Alumni Return to Speak on Careers

On March 2, nine recent alumni of the Historical and Political Studies department returned to campus to speak to more than 60 students and graduating seniors about working in the field. The alumni also shared strategies they felt helped them land a career, such as networking, speaking with employers even when they weren’t hiring, and attending events held last year.

Alumni Relations Welcomes New Leadership

Nested in the quaint and recently renovated Blankley Alumni House, the Office of Alumni Relations has added some new faces to its bustling operation, providing Arcadia University and Beaver College alumni with a comprehensive offering of programs, events, volunteer opportunities, benefits, and services. Arriving in April 2014 after more than 11 years in the Office of Alumni Relations at Drexel University, Jeff Spence, director of Alumni Relations, kicked off his first year at Arcadia with the "Meet Our President" receptions (see pg. 8). Other initiatives he has implemented at Arcadia include the development of Alumni Career Services and lifelong learning programs, the re-launch of the Alumni Travel Program, and the creation of a partnership with Liberty Mutual Insurance to offer discounts to alumni. "We’ve also launched the new alumni website and are working on improving our social media channels," explained Spence. "I want alumni to know that we are here; our office, their ideas are welcome. Alumni can help us by letting us know what they’re interested in, sharing their feedback on what we’ve been doing so far, coming to an event, and connecting with what Arcadia is today. “Whether they participate as a career mentor for a student or another graduate, join Knights and Squires—our young alumni program that connects recent grads with incoming students in one-on-one communication—or volunteer for a leadership position on the Steering Committee or Leadership Council, there are numerous ways for alumni to get involved,” added Spence.  

ELLEN AUGUST BOOTH NAMED PRESIDENT OF ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

On June 1, the Alumni Association welcomed Ellen August Booth ’78, ’85M as its next president. Booth had led the Alumni Association as president from 1998 to 2001 and is excited to reconnect with Arcadia. “It’s a good time in my life to come back and see some of the alumni and faculty members I so admire,” said Booth. With plans to work closely with Spence and the members of the Steering Committee to develop a strategic plan for the Alumni Association, Booth will follow the lead of outgoing president Grace Wainwright Taylor ’10—the first president to serve in the post since the Association’s restructuring in 2012. “Grace really steered the ship,” said Spence. She engaged a lot of people and spearheaded the launch of Knights and Squires. She also helped to stabilize the Alumni Association after its transition. She and the other members of the Steering Committee have laid the groundwork for us to expand our alumni services.”

Booth’s appointment as president was announced at the annual Alumni Association General Membership Meeting on May 2, along with the election of Anthony Champi ’99 to serve as representative-at-large. Booth and Champi will serve three-year terms, which began on June 1. The Alumni Association works with various sectors of the University to look for opportunities to benefit and enhance the lives of alumni.

To find out how you can get involved with the Alumni Association, visit arcadia.edu/alumni or call 215-572-2160.
On Top of the World
By Jasmine Henderson '15

Brady O’Mara ‘97M stared at the Alaskan wilderness from 20,320 feet, a razor-sharp wind cutting through him. He was one of four who made it to the summit of Denali, North America’s highest mountain, out of an expedition team of eight. The others had given up. Trudging through below-zero temperatures with 100 pounds between his backpack and sled, O’Mara was in agony for much of the climb. At 16,000 feet, a wind storm charged through, bringing frostbite with it and halting the expedition. As the team crammed into emergency tents, O’Mara almost lost hope of reaching the summit. “If you can’t climb Denali today, you can never climb it,” their guide said the next day. With that in mind, O’Mara committed to reaching the peak. “Knowing the suffering involved in reaching that summit,” said O’Mara, “is something that brings a grown man to tears.”

O’Mara and his companions never climb it,” their guide said the next day. With that in mind, O’Mara committed to reaching the peak. “Knowing the suffering involved in reaching that summit,” said O’Mara, “is something that brings a grown man to tears.”

O’Mara ran his first marathon in 1992. Seven years, eight marathons, and one triathlon later, he shattered his tibia into 12 pieces while skiing in Utah. After three surgeries to repair the knee, he was advised to give up his marathon career. Determined not to become a couch potato, O’Mara switched gears to hiking. In 2010, he hiked Tanzania’s Mt. Kilimanjaro with six of his friends. After reaching that top, O’Mara set his sights on the rest of the world’s highest mountains, collectively called the Seven Summits. Throughout the years, he has trained six days a week with a combination of running, hiking, biking, lifting with the P90X regimen, and bikram yoga to reach his goals. 

The Seven Summits Therapy & Fitness in Wayne, Pa., hosts the Turkey Trot, a November fundraising race. Every year, O’Mara’s physical therapy practice, Seven Summits Therapy & Fitness in Wayne, Pa., hosts the Turkey Trot, a November fundraising race. Inspired by a video on Arcadia’s Physical Therapy department’s Stroke Camp in Jamaica, Guatemala, and Peru, O’Mara decided that the proceeds of the 2014 Turkey Trot would assist the PT International Pro-Bono program. Despite a few inches of snow the day before, the event raised $13,450, money that will help send students and faculty abroad. O’Mara and his sights on the rest of the world’s highest mountains, collectively called the Seven Summits. Throughout the years, he has trained six days a week with a combination of running, hiking, biking, lifting with the P90X regimen, and bikram yoga to reach his goals.

O’Mara has trained six days a week with a combination of running, hiking, biking, lifting with the P90X regimen, and bikram yoga to reach his goals. Having sustained his own life-altering injury, he can sympathize. “Prior to that injury, I still had the feeling of invincibility that many in their 20s and early 30s may feel,” said O’Mara, who earned a master’s degree in physical therapy from Arcadia in 1997. O’Mara encourages everyone to remain active. He recently ran 8 Tuff Miles, a race in the Virgin Islands that begins and ends at sea level and has an elevation of 1,000 feet, alongside adults in their 70s and 80s and children as young as 7.

“You can do amazing things through the power of the human spirit,” said O’Mara, “but it won’t happen if you’re on your couch.”

TSA Takes Clifford ’07 Around the World
By Raven Eckman ’16

Each year, millions of tons of cargo are shipped through airports in the United States. Timothy Clifford ’07, an inspector in the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) Office of Global Strategies, is among those responsible for ensuring the cargo meets the extensive security measures.

In 2004, he hiked Tanzania’s Mt. Kilimanjaro with six of his friends. After reaching that top, O’Mara set his sights on the rest of the world’s highest mountains, collectively called the Seven Summits. Throughout the years, he has trained six days a week with a combination of running, hiking, biking, lifting with the P90X regimen, and bikram yoga to reach his goals. Having sustained his own life-altering injury, he can sympathize. “Prior to that injury, I still had the feeling of invincibility that many in their 20s and early 30s may feel,” said O’Mara, who earned a master’s degree in physical therapy from Arcadia in 1997. O’Mara encourages everyone to remain active. He recently ran 8 Tuff Miles, a race in the Virgin Islands that begins and ends at sea level and has an elevation of 1,000 feet, alongside adults in their 70s and 80s and children as young as 7.

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The TSA’s international office of Global Strategies has inspectors and industry and government liaisons based in embassies and consulates worldwide. While TSA officials are not recognized as law enforcement, they play an integral role in the safety of cargo and travelers.

“We have a difficult mission of protecting the persons and goods that move through the transportation system,” said Clifford. “I’ve been fortunate enough to see and do things the public never gets to, like going behind the scenes at major U.S. and international airports, covertly test screening operations in the U.S., and interacting with foreign governments as an official U.S. government representative.”

Clifford follows right into photo, resides in the Washington, D.C., area. His sister Madeline is a junior studying history and education at Arcadia University.
Searching for the Story
By Jen Rutter '16

Eye-catching covers from The Philadelphia Inquirer’s Features sections greet visitors entering Sandra Clark’s office in the historic former Strawbridge’s building at 8th and Market Streets, which now houses the Inquirer, Philadelphia Daily News, and Philly.com. A ceiling-to-floor print from her revamped Arts & Entertainment section hangs on the opposite wall.

As managing editor of the Inquirer, Sandra Clark ’14 MBA oversees print and online content for 10 arts, entertainment, and lifestyle sections a week. Leading nearly half of the newsroom of 200, she also manages the paper’s digital operations and all of the production departments, which include the copy desk, news desk, graphics and design, and photo.

And, of course, she’s always after a great story.

An accidental journalist
Clark’s first venture into journalism started with a high school writing workshop at the University of Kansas, where she was assigned to interview the family of a collegiate basketball star who died unexpectedly. That prompted a shift for Clark, who always loved writing but had intended to become a doctor.

“I’m an accidental journalist,” said Clark, who thinks “great stories are those that impact our lives in ways that people don’t even realize. Part of our job [as journalist] is to connect dots for readers.”

While studying at the University of Kansas, Clark was recruited for a copy-editing internship by the Inquirer’s Acel Moore, a Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter and one of Philadelphia’s most venerable columnists, who championed opportunities for minority journalists.

As an intern, Clark learned that while journalism has always been and will remain about telling a captivating story, a successful newspaper requires several moving parts.

With nearly three decades of newspaper experience, Clark helps to chart the budgetary, personnel, and editorial course for the Inquirer and represents the newspaper in determining company-wide strategies.

“What she finds most gratifying is working with every part of the company outside the newspaper as well, from advertising and marketing to systems, customer service, and circulation.

“When you’re in management, you have to understand the business side as much as you understand the editorial side,” Clark explained. “I think my MBA experience at Arcadia gave me the tools to not only understand all parts of my company, but also to make meaningful contributions.”

Changing cultures of readers
Clark had left the Inquirer in 1990 for six years to serve as a Peace Corps volunteer in Guinea-Bissau, West Africa. After her tour, she worked as a microenterprise consultant for African in Guinea-Bissau and as an acting country representative and administrator for a development agency in Mozambique. It was Arcadia’s global mission and international education components that convinced her to enroll in the University’s Global MBA program, through which she traveled to Prague and Panama with her cohort before earning an MBA in 2014.

Clark’s focus now is on tackling the changing culture of readers. Those who consume information more than ever but via different vehicles. While print is hardly dead—the Inquirer reaches more than a million readers each week—the shrinking newspaper industry faces a barrage of challenges as readers continue to shift to social media, blogs, and other digital sources for news.

“Our industry has gone through such rapid transformation, and that has put big demands on our newsroom leaders as we reinvent the business model,” said Stan Wischniowski, vice president for news operations at Philadelphia Media Network, parent company of the Inquirer, Daily News, and Philly.com. “Sandy’s ability to balance the journalism with the business needs has been nothing short of extraordinary. It is no coincidence that her department won a coveted Pulitzer Prize last year, while also launching one of our most successful new sections—’Love, Life, Lore’—in the Sunday Inquirer.”

While the news industry must adapt, Clark believes many traditional traits of top-notch journalists—such as an ability to step outside one’s comfort zone—are necessary for success in many fields.

“The skills you learn in journalism will serve you well regardless of the profession that you’re in,” said Clark. “The idea that you can walk into a completely foreign space, observe your surroundings, figure out the people you should talk to and the questions you should ask, and organize your ideas without making assumptions and present them well are important skills to have no matter what you do.”

Program Builds Bridges to Bright Futures
By Jeanine Henderson ’15

Before Jessica Sillaman ’14 joined the Alumni Mentor program as a mentor, she saw firsthand the long-term benefit of participating as a student. Now that she has graduated with a bachelor’s degree in international studies, she has seen how the advice provided by her mentor, Lisa Sandler ’99, has proved prescient.

“I recall her telling me that I didn’t yet know how my Arcadia experiences would affect everything I did thereafter,” said Sillaman.

A year after completing the program, Sillaman is now a resident hall director at Indiana University as an international studies major and plans to pursue a master’s in international higher education leadership. Her Arcadia experiences as vice president, Philanthropy; coordinator, and AU ambassador, as well as her semesters abroad, contributed to the career goals she has now, Sillaman said. However, as a student, it was hard to link those experiences to a substantial future. Through the program, she was able to fill the gap.

Several alumni mentors connected with Sillaman, sharing advice on professional development and academic study abroad experiences. She aims to do the same for her mentees. First-year students want to discuss aspects of their newfound campus and academic life, while in the future they might need assistance finding internships or applying for leadership positions on campus.

“It’s an interesting position for me because first-year students view me as a professional, college-educated adult while their older classmates still see me as a fun-loving RA in swag-topped in Heinz Lounge,” said Sillaman. “I still understand what it’s like to be a student, so who better to serve as a mentor than someone who remembers what it’s like to be a mentor?”

International studies major Kayla Somar ’18 appreciates Sillaman’s accessibility as “someone who has been through what I am going through, academically and otherwise,” Somar said. She is able to contact her via email, phone, and Facebook whenever she needs advice or just wants to chat.

“Jessica studied what I am studying, and she was involved in some of the same activities that I am involved in,” said Somar, who plans to travel abroad. “I hope to gain a friend, a good resource for information, and a glimpse into what life after Arcadia could be like.”

For more information, www.arcadia.edu/alumnimentor
The College of Global Studies Appoints Law as Dean

Dr. Andrew Law has been appointed as academic dean of The College of Global Studies. Dr. Law, who assumed his duties as academic dean in January, brings more than 20 years of experience in education abroad and a national profile and reputation for contributing to the growth of the field of international education and best practice. His work has encouraged the importance of thoughtful international education opportunities for students and faculty. Dr. Law previously served as director of Off-Campus Study at Denison University in Ohio. Prior to his position at Denison, he held positions at Lawrence University, Macalaster College, and the University of Minnesota. Dr. Law earned an AB in American Studies from Georgetown University and a Ph.D. in American Studies from the University of Minnesota.

REMEMBERING ARLENE SNYDER

Arlene Snyder ’13M, who for the past 25 years helped to ensure the health, safety, and security of thousands of students studying abroad, passed away on March 5. Snyder joined Arcadia in 1990. She monitored and assessed international health and safety data, served on various national boards, reviewed appropriate emergency plans for all overseas sites, and kept students, parents, and home school advisors informed of situations as they arose. In 2008, she was promoted to director of Health, Safety, and Security at The College of Global Studies. Snyder collaborated frequently and used her extensive background and knowledge on safety in studying abroad for NAFSA: Association of International Educators. She was a number of the NAFSA Trainer Corps, helped revise the curriculum for NAFSA’S “Health and Safety in Education Abroad” workshop, was lead trainer for the 2009 workshop at NAFA’S national conference, and served on the association’s Health and Safety Subcommittee and on the Inter-associational Advisory Committee on Health and Safety. She also wrote and edited publications and was quoted as an expert on study abroad for several outlets and organizations. Snyder earned a bachelor’s degree from Cook College at Rutgers University, a master’s degree from Pennsylvania State University, and a master’s degree in counseling from Arcadia.

GLOBAL PATHWAYS INSTITUTE SET FOR FIRST CLASSES

A new strategic academic alliance with Global Pathways Institute (GPI) in Mumbai, India, will provide a pathway for students in India to begin their college career in their home country and finish it at Arcadia University or at other U.S. universities. The alliance, announced on Dec. 3 during a press conference in Mumbai, will deliver a two-year program of Arcadia undergraduate courses. After completion of two years of study, qualified students will have the option to matriculate to the University’s Glenside campus to complete their undergraduate education and earn a baccalaureate degree. Students also may use their Arcadia transcript to apply to another university to complete a baccalaureate degree or to study abroad at one of Arcadia’s many international centers.

The first day of classes at GPI is set for Aug. 19. The initial cohort of 13 students will be registered for classes offered in the fall, including courses in biology, mathematics, composition, international studies, and first-year seminars. Dr. Sandra Crenshaw has been named associate dean of the GPI program. GPI is hiring faculty and developing curricular activities, including a “Reverse Preview” in which GPI students will visit Philadelphia and the Arcadia campus during their spring break in 2016 as part of a class that explores food traditions and economies in the U.S. and India.

Visitng Scholars Discuss Chinese Business Trends

On March 19, the School of Global Business invited its Visiting Scholars to “China—Challenges and Viewpoints,” where scholars led presentations on Chinese contract law, accounting practices of Chinese businesses, and market competition. The presentations were followed by a roundtable discussion on regulatory trends led by representatives of White and Williams LLP. The meeting offered CEOs of China-affiliated companies an opportunity to learn more about Chinese business operations. The Visiting Scholars were Dr. Lei Huang, associate professor at Jiangxi University of Finance and Economics; Dr. Xiao Jinhua, associate professor at Jiangxi University of Finance and Economics; Dr. Yong Pan, associate professor at Shandong University of Technology; Dr. Haiyan Ma, lecturer at Qilu University of Technology; and Dr. Yong Pan, associate professor at Qilu University of Technology.
Canfield, Shotwell Named Capital One Academic All-America® Selections

Kim Canfield ’15 (at far right) and Jessica Shotwell ’15 (left) were named to the All- Commonwealth Conference Softball Team, with Jessica Shotwell ’15 and Nicki Larro ’16 picking up Second-Team honors and Sara Boydjdi ’16 receiving Honorable Mention.

Women’s tennis player Vinda Sawyer ’15 was named a First-Team All-Freedom Conference and MAC Academic All-Conference selection, while men’s lacrosse freshman Danny Wiley ’18 was named a Second-Team All-Freedom Conference Selection.

Men’s basketball players Joe Brown ’15 and Jose Figueroa ’15 (left) were honored by the Philadelphia Area Small College Coaches Association this season with the organization’s Sam Coxen Award, which is presented to seniors in recognition of their performance on the court and in the classroom.

A game-winning, buzzer-beating overtime shot from beyond halfcourt by guard Travis Salus ’15, which gave the men’s basketball team an 82-81 victory over Hood College in November, was featured on ESPN’s SportsCenter. With the Knights trailing 81-79, Salus took the inbound pass before tossing up a 60-foot shot as time expired.

Arcadia University’s nearly 300 student-athletes once again proved their prowess in the classroom in the Spring 2015 semester, earning a 3.33 combined GPA and six programs exceeding 3.40. Arcadia had 11 programs above a 3.20 combined GPA and six programs exceeding 3.40. Arcadia’s Directors of Athletics and Sports Information Directors of America, based on combined performance in academics and athletics.

In the spring, Shotwell was named a 2015 Third-Team Capital One NCAC Division III Women’s Soccer Academic All-America® selection. A biology/ pre-physician assistant major with a 3.83 cumulative GPA through the fall 2014 semester, Canfield finished second on the team in scoring with seven goals and a school-record 16 assists for 30 points. Her 16 assists were the most in the Commonwealth Conference and fifth-most in the nation.

In the spring, Showell was named a 2015 Third-Team Capital One NCAC Division III Softball Academic All-America® selection. A psychology major with a 3.60 cumulative GPA, Shotwell registered a career-best .431 batting average this season with career-high totals of 44 hits and 35 runs scored. She led the team and ranked second in the conference in batting average, while her 44 hits were second-most on the team and ranked her seventh in the conference.

Brief Hits

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Arcadia University’s nearly 300 student-athletes once again proved their prowess in the classroom in the Spring 2015 semester, earning a 3.33 combined grade point average (GPA), with 15 of the Knights’ 16 novelty programs earning a combined GPA of at least 3.0. Arcadia had 11 programs above a 3.20 combined GPA and six programs exceeding 3.40. A total of 82 Arcadia student-athletes earned a spot on the Dean’s Honor List, which recognizes students with a semester GPA of 3.67 or higher. That group included 40 student-athletes who earned Dean’s Distinguished Honor List distinction for having a semester GPA between 3.90 and 4.0, with 21 earning a 4.0 for the semester.

The men’s basketball team finished the season with an overall record of 16-13, the second-most wins in the NCAA Division III era of the program. The team made its first Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) tournament appearance in the 2015 ECAC Division III South Championship Tournament, falling to Stevenson University 83-73 in the title game.

The women’s basketball team made its first appearance in the Commonwealth Conference tournament and its second conference tournament as a Division III program. The team concluded its season with the second-most wins in program history (12), while their eight conference wins tied for most in a season in program history.

Baseball finished 20-15-1 and qualified for the ECAC Championship Tournament for the first time in program history, advancing to the semifinals. A total of four Knights were named to the All- Commonwealth Conference Team: Justin Czajkowicz ’17 (right), Michael Nessel ’16, Nick Tedeschi ’16, and Andonis Yiantsos ’15.

Boeckel finished her career as the program’s all-time leading scorer as the MAC Championships and All-MAC honors.

The women’s swimming team also had an extraordinary performance at the 2015 MAC Championships. In the spring, Canfield was named a 2014 Second-Team All- Commonwealth Conference Softball Team, with six programs exceeding 3.40. Arcadia’s Directors of Athletics and Sports Information Directors of America, based on combined performance in academics and athletics.

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Constance Teage ’14M published “LibriEn’s Youth Unemployment Program” in The Bush Chicken, a website covering the country’s current events. She writes on Dr. Brasof’s influence on Ramos-Reynoso’s nonprofit, Schools for Sustainability (see pg. 6).

Sierra Leone’s Akofo newspaper reported that donations collected during Arcadia’s Ebola relief drive last semester arrived in Sierra Leone and Fodeba Danube ’11, graduate of Arcadia University’s International Peace and Conflict Resolution Program and founder of the HEAL Initiative Sierra Leone, presented packages of personal protective equipment to the Ministry of Social Welfare.

International studies major Natalie Marshall ’16 wrote “Viewpoint: Why Students Should Not Worry About Studying in Paris,” for USA College. The piece questions why violence carried out by extremists had not discouraged her from studying in Paris for the semester and how other students should not be discouraged from studying there either.

Courtney Schiff ’15, Kiara Baccellato ’15, Erin Moran ’15, Jessica Shortell ’15, and Meaghan Drumm ’15 presented research at the SEPCHE Southeastern Pennsylvania Consortium for Higher Education Summer Undergraduate Research Poster Session at Gwynedd Mercy University. Schiff’s research led her to isolate and name an unidentified bacterial virus after Arcadia.

Dr. Kira Baker-Doyle, assistant professor of education and director of the Literacies, Technologies, and Citizenship Studies program, was quoted on PhillyVoice.com in “Concerns rising over Pearson, the company behind PARCC and other tests,” an article that discusses the growing concern about U.S. standardized testing and other educational practices being monopolized by one company.

The Book of the Month magazine reported on a study conducted last year by Dr. Christina Brown, assistant professor of psychology, that found that women generally feel more threatened than men when their partner receives a compliment on physical appearance from the opposite sex. The Benefits Mississippi reported that Jason Biles ’15DPT, who earned a Transitional Doctor of Physical Therapy, was named head athletic trainer for the NBA’s Houston Rockets. Biles is in his third season with the Rockets.

A May 17 front-page story in The Philadelphia Inquirer highlighted Arcadia’s study abroad programs and opportunities in Cuba. Janelle Crellin ’16 and Jessica Perez ’16 and staff members Tim Barton and Dr. Elena Morano Angulda, director of student services and resident director of Cuba programs for the College of Global Studies, respectively, also were featured in the piece.

Dr. Doreen Louny, assistant professor of sociology, anthropology, and criminal justice, was quoted in several media outlets, including CNN, The Philadelphia Inquirer, and The Philadelphia Tribune, as an expert throughout the academic year on a variety of issues.

Earlier this year, Juan Pacheco ’02 appeared as a CIA deputy episode of ABC’s television drama Scandal. After earning a B.F.A. in Acting, Pacheco performed in various theater productions and won an American College Theater Festival National Certificate of Merit Award for his portrayal of Othello. He has worked as a voice artist on films such as The Hunger Games: Catching Fire and Paranormal Activity: The Marked Ones and has appeared in national commercials for Toyota, Best Buy, and McDonald’s, among others. To prepare for the Sundance, Pacheco “tapped into his experience of hearing Dr. Steven Robbins at pool in the Chat” and “defeating his adviser (Bruce Keller) on the basketball courts of the Kuch Center,” he said.

Master of Science in Forensic Science student Jaksh Khotbi ’15M and Dr. Karen Scott, director and associate professor of forensic science, presented research on “supported liquid extraction,” a method of drug abuse detection through hair, at the 67th Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences in February. “Supported Liquid Extraction as a New Technique for the Clean-up of Hair Extracts Containing Drug of Abuse” concluded that “[supported liquid extraction] was ... a suitable alternative clean-up method for hair extracts containing drugs of abuse compared to traditional [solid phase extraction] methods.”

Dr. Maryann Z. Defilippo, assistant professor of political science, published “Will ABC/RCS’s Ebola response be watershed moment for international action on humanitarian security?” in The Washington Post. In March, President Nieleottie DeVille Christensen joined a panel discussion at the 97th Annual Meeting of the American Council on Education, where she shared insights on innovative curriculum initiatives and strategies for fostering intercultural experiences on campus. “Global Learning for All: Modern Budgets and Creative Strategies,” addressed the challenges of providing opportunities to develop global competence to students who cannot study abroad for extended periods of time.

Art Gallery Assistant Jamar Nicholas appeared on an episode of the WHYY Newsworks podcast Trouble Nation to discuss his work and give listeners a sneak peek at his upcoming graphic novel, Lean: Protector of the Playground. Nicholas was one of four African-American comic book creators interviewed by MTV.com on Feb. 25, speaking on diversity in comic books and the future of the superhero. Nicholas is a Philadelphia-based artist and educator who has won recognition for his illustrations in the graphic novel Fist Stick Knife Gun, adapted from Geoffrey Canada’s memoir by the same name.
Pedro Rivera, Secretary of Education, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

In January, Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf appointed Pedro Rivera to serve as secretary of education. Rivera, who earned his Superintendent’s Letter of Eligibility at Arcadia in 2005, previously served as superintendent of the School District of Lancaster and in varying capacities for several Philadelphia schools for more than 15 years. Rivera spoke with Arcadia magazine about his goals as education secretary, the challenges facing education in Pennsylvania, and how colleges and universities can better prepare students.

Q. What are your goals as education secretary?
A. I see my role as secretary of education as lead educator for the Commonwealth—working with educators, elected officials, and community members to ensure that every student has an opportunity to succeed and every educator an opportunity to serve our children with distinction.

Q. What are the biggest challenges facing education in Pennsylvania?
A. Our schools have suffered from reductions in classroom funding, making it more difficult for students to get a strong education. Establishing a fair funding formula for schools is a priority. We need to examine how we fund our schools and provide relief for those paying property taxes. There are huge disparities between property tax rates in this state, and school districts in the poorest areas are demanding property tax relief for those paying property taxes. There are huge disparities between property tax rates in this state, and school districts in the poorest areas are demanding property tax relief for those paying property taxes.

Q. What is the highest property tax rate in your state?
A. There is no greater service to a community than educating children. It can be a thankless job, but you have the opportunity to impact hundreds, if not thousands, of lives during the course of a career.

Q. How can schools, from the elementary level to higher education, work around budget cuts and reduced funding to provide a quality education?
A. Gov. Wolf is committed to restoring funding to public education institutions that have seen a reduction in state funding over the past several years. His priority is to direct more money to schools includes a severance tax on natural gas extraction. (Pennsylvania is the only major gas-producing state that does not have a severance tax.) Beyond funding, I know from experience that collaboration between education institutions and businesses not only enhances learning experiences for students, but can also be invaluable in helping them navigate pathways to a desired career. However, we must go beyond hosting a career day or arranging a job fair—it takes public-private partnerships. Relevant and timely curriculum also is an important component of any career education. If we can connect classroom instruction with real-world applications, we will hold the interest of students and give their education a deeper purpose.

Q. How can PA’s colleges and universities better prepare students for post-graduate success?
A. Colleges and universities must ensure that they are preparing students for 21st-century jobs and providing them skills to compete in a more global economy. Our focus needs to be on high-demand occupations, many of which require skills in science, technology, engineering, and math. Support for STEM education should include targeted guidance counseling, instructional curriculum support, and opportunities for students to connect with STEM work-study programs and internships.

Q. What advice would you give to a recent education graduate heading into the field?
A. There is no greater service to a community than teaching children. It can be a thankless job, but you have the opportunity to impact hundreds, if not thousands, of lives during the course of a career. No matter how long you’re an educator, you can never stop learning and growing. Embrace new technologies, use best practices, and do not fear change. While it is important to push your students to succeed, it is more important to push yourself to be a champion for their success. Wherever your career may take you, always remember the children—they are the reason you became an educator.

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Q. What are your goals as education secretary?
A. I believe in greater accountability for programs and services that are run out of the Department of Education. The oversight of charter schools in this state is a great concern for us as we work to ensure that all of Pennsylvania’s public schools are held to the same high standards. I am conducting a thorough review of the operation and regulation of charter schools throughout the Commonwealth and will make recommendations on how to improve the process in a way that best serves the needs of students and local school communities.

Arcadia values high standards and that is an essential component in best serving the needs of our children.
At Arcadia’s 2015 Commencement, nearly 500 students earned baccalaureate degrees and approximately 400 graduate students earned master’s and doctoral degrees. Deogratias Niyizonkiza, founder of Village Health Works in the East African country of Burundi, received an Honorary Doctor of Humanities at Undergraduate Commencement on May 15. Francis G. Vitetta, retired CEO of the architectural firm VITETTA, received an Honorary Doctor of Fine Arts at Graduate Commencement on May 14.
Deogratias Niyizonkiza
Honorary Doctor of Humanities

A leading advocate and key voice in global health, Niyizonkiza is founder and CEO of Village Health Works, a nonprofit that provides compassionate health care to more than 150,000 vulnerable community members in Burundi.

Niyizonkiza attended grade school and part of medical school there before surviving a massacre at a hospital. In 1994, he fled war-torn Burundi for New York, arriving penniless and without speaking a word of English. He attended Columbia University, Harvard, and Dartmouth Medical School. At Harvard School of Public Health, he met Dr. Paul Farmer and began working for the medical nonprofit Partners In Health, assisting in the strategic planning and implementation of the organization’s project in Rwanda. After finishing his education, Niyizonkiza returned to Burundi to establish Village Health Works in 2007.

Niyizonkiza has received multiple awards, including the 2014 Dalai Lama’s Unsung Heroes Award, 2014 Wheaton College Otis Social Justice Award, 2013 People to People International’s Eisenhower Medal Award, 2013 International Medal Award of St. John’s University, and 2010 Women’s Refugee Commission’s Voices of Courage Award. In 2011, Tracy Kidder’s Strength in What Remains, the New York Times bestselling biography of Niyizonkiza, was selected as summer reading for new students at Arcadia. Niyizonkiza visited campus that year to address first-year students, inspiring the Class of 2015 to reflect on and discuss such topics as global health, genocide, and ethnicity.

Francis G. Vitetta
Honorary Doctor of Fine Arts

In his address, Niyizonkiza emphasized the importance of strangers’ kindness in his own life and the need to show that compassion to everyone.

“We have an opportunity to serve, to give back, to empower, to reach, to inspire others, and to pursue sustainable acts of kindness and compassion,” said Niyizonkiza. “We have an opportunity to do this for those near to us and for those we call strangers, with whom we have little in common but our shared humanity.”

In her undergraduate address, President Nicolette DeVille Christensen emphasized the various factors that have contributed to graduates’ growth and success at Arcadia. She noted that study abroad experiences, student organization involvement, intellectual re-search, and family support have led the graduates’ growth and success at Arcadia. She noted that study abroad experiences, student organization involvement, intellectual research, and family support have led the graduates to develop “new ways of thinking” and “to think critically and independently while adapting to changing realities.”

“You are poised to accomplish whatever you wish and to serve greater humanity,” said President DeVille Christensen. At the Graduate Commencement, Vitetta, a trustee emeritus, reminded graduates of the responsibility they hold as thinkers, scholars, and practitioners.

“As you move on from Arcadia, whatever your chosen profession, be resilient and be aware of the important responsibility you assume in directing the future of this country,” he said.

During the graduate ceremony, President DeVille Christensen noted that the graduates “have done more than simply enhance [their] professional lives. By completing this degree, [they] have grown personally, professionally, and intellectually.”

Stephen Doolittle, president of the Class of 2015, presented the Class Gift of new Adirondack chairs and picnic tables to add to “one of the most beautiful campuses in the world.”

In addition to those receiving baccalaureate, master’s, doctoral, and honorary degrees, Arcadia recognized three students who earned the Raising Expectations for Academic Excellence Award, 2015 International Medal Award of St. John’s University, and 2010 Women’s Refugee Commission’s Voices of Courage Award. In 2011, Tracy Kidder’s Strength in What Remains, the New York Times bestselling biography of Niyizonkiza, was selected as summer reading for new students at Arcadia. Niyizonkiza visited campus that year to address first-year students, inspiring the Class of 2015 to reflect on and discuss such topics as global health, genocide, and ethnicity.

Francis G. Vitetta received the Senior Golden Disc award, presented annually by the Alumni Association to a student with the highest standards of leadership in activities that enhance the quality of student life and demonstrate a lasting commitment to the welfare of the University.

Katherine DiMaria received the Ira R. Kraybill Award for Full-Time Study for the highest academic achievement in at least three years of full-time study at Arcadia, and Janet Quallet received the Ira Kraybill Award for Part-Time Study.

De. Peter Siskind, assistant professor of history and chair of the Historical and Political Studies department, earned the Lloyd M. Abernethy Faculty Outstanding Service Award, presented every two years to a full-time faculty member or professional librarian for service to Arcadia.

Chantal Matthias of the International Peace and Conflict Resolution program received the A. Richard Polis Graduate Scholarship Award for full-time students on the Graduate Dean’s Distinguished Honor List, distinguishing herself as “a fantastic example of a 21st-century peace and community builder.”

“Be resilient and be aware of the important responsibility you assume in directing the future of this country.”

~Deogratias Niyizonkiza

Arms Emeritus Vitetta is the retired chairman and CEO of VITETTA, a Philadelphia-based architectural, engineering, and planning firm with offices in eight cities. VITETTA’s projects have won numerous design awards from organizations such as the American Institute of Architects, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and Progressive Architecture magazine. The firm’s projects include work on Philadelphia City Hall, the Philadelphia Criminal Justice Center, the Pennsylvania Capitol Building, St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children, the Liacouras Center at Temple University, Mariner East (now Jefferson) Station, and the National Zoological Park in Washington, D.C.

In 1995, Vitetta and his wife, Dollie, established an endowed research fund in memory of their daughter, Stacy Anne Vitetta ’82. Eleven faculty members have been named to the Stacy Anne Vitetta Professorship, a biannual award that assists young, non-tenured faculty who are starting their teaching careers, have limited resources, and exhibit a passion for pursuing independent research. Vitetta served on the University’s Board of Trustees for 25 years, retiring in 2010. He chaired the University’s Building and Grounds Committee, taking a leadership role in guiding the Landman Library project and the planning of the Commons. He also assisted with Knight Hall projects, the expansion of the Dining Hall, renovations to Murphy Hall, and the design and construction of the Health Sciences Center and the Kuch Athletic and Recreation Center.

“Be resilient and be aware of the important responsibility you assume in directing the future of this country.”

~Francis G. Vitetta
LENDing Families a Hand

Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia Fellowship Provides Genetic Counseling Students with Insight on Neurodevelopmental Disorders

Elizabeth Hillaker Downs

Samantha Everhart ‘12M watched as the 13-year-old girl with Down syndrome clinked miniature tea cups in her suburban home outside Philadelphia. Simultaneously, a gastrostomy tube whirred, connecting the teenager to a feeding machine—a stark juxtaposition of normal childhood with the domestic realities of living with a genetic disorder.
Empowering the vulnerable

Similarly, Everhart sought to shift health care practices back toward the patient with her LEND advocacy project, in which she worked to educate homeless women and children about the importance of family history taking. In an effort to bridge the trust gap between this population and medical providers, she gave presentations in homeless shelters and encouraged them to tell her their stories. “I wanted to help them to have their histories and questions written down before they go to a medical provider because not all of them will give patients enough space to tell their stories,” Everhart said. “While building rapport is important in the field of genetic counseling, many doctors don’t value that. By having everything ready, they can be more active participants in their own health care.”

The way that Everhart was able to capture the attention of the women and children in homeless shelters and turn a period of intense difficulty into an opportunity to focus on the future remains with Livija Medne, M.S., LCGC, senior genetic counselor and co-director of the Individualized Medical Genetics Center at CHOP. Facilitating opportunities to build the skills necessary to engage with the community and patients around neurodevelopmental disorders distinguishes the LEND program from other comparable clinical fellowships. “While learning from physical therapists, audiologists, and others is a crucial part of the LEND program, the truly unique part of this experience is what falls outside the typical medical experience,” said Medne, who also serves as LEND’s genetic counseling discipline director. “They get to see what it is like to live in the community with a neurodevelopmental disorder, and they get to see how policy gets shaped.”

These experiences beyond the classroom have not only encouraged the fellows to network more frequently with other medical providers and community advocates to help steer patients to important resources, but it also has prepared them for some of the difficulties of being a practicing genetic counselor, including the sweeping range in patient populations and the real-world emotional turmoil that can accompany diagnosis and treatment. “Being able to help them navigate through that experience with medical and community resources is special,” reflected Everhart. “LEND taught me how I can play a role in empowering families.”

LEND really added to my knowledge base with new perspectives.

“The program really aligns with the Arcadia experience,” said Kathleen January ’15, a pediatric genetic counselor at the University of Virginia. So, she used her LEND research component as a springboard for proposing a solution: bringing together all 21 specialists, what comes next,” said January, who started the fellowship in July. “That’s where LEND really added to my knowledge base with new perspectives.”

From theory to practice

Everhart’s experience with the teenager’s tea party also was perspective-shifting because it brought to light statistics in her textbook. The family she visited had two children with Down syndrome, which happens in less than one percent of cases. Often times, families with one child diagnosed with Down syndrome are told they have about a one percent risk of having another with the disorder.

“We talk about it a lot in a theoretical way,” said Everhart about her genetic counseling education. “This made it real to me. It’s not just something in a book—that one percent does happen. I think that has really helped me feel more prepared to speak to families who are learning for the first time that their child isn’t going to learn like other children or their child may have multiple health problems. I can empower them to understand what they can do to help their children be the best they can be.”

The pursuit of care and resources necessary to help their children, however, can quickly mount for families. One particular instance stood out in the memory of Erica Schindewolf ’14, the third Arcadia LEND fellow. Every six months, a family she knew through LEND saw 21 different specialists to help address their children’s life-limiting, serious condition. The condition caused the children to be hyperactive, making waiting rooms difficult, and the lack of coordination between doctors made conversations daunting and repetitive. On top of that, each visit included a two-hour car trip.

“I remember thinking, ‘To me, that just doesn’t make any sense,’” said Schindewolf, now a pediatric genetic counselor at Cooper University Hospital in Camden, N.J. “A genetic counseling student, this experience painted a picture for me that, even though life with a neurodevelopmental disorder is complex and it’s not easy, it doesn’t have to be all bad. I walked away with a whole new perspective.”

This home visit in 2011 was part of Everhart’s year-long fellowship with the Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (LEND) program at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP). Each year, a genetic counseling fellow is selected from Arcadia University to be part of an interdisciplinary team at CHOP, including various medical professionals, family members, researchers, and advocacy group members, with the goal of learning more about neurodevelopmental disorders, many of which have genetic predispositions or causes, such as autism and Down syndrome. The program, supported by a grant from the federal Maternal and Child Health Bureau, aims to provide fellows with the skills and insight to make them thought leaders in the management of these complex, lifelong disorders.

“The program really aligns with the Arcadia experience,” said Kathleen Valverde, M.S., C.G.C, director of Arcadia’s Genetic Counseling program. “It’s meant to give students new perspectives, equip them to engage in new situations, and bridge the classroom with their professional roles.”

The LEND curriculum consists of five main components: coursework, a research project, an advocacy project, a family experience, and a series of roundtable discussions called case conferences to gain exposure to what each professional—and family member—can bring to bear on neurodevelopmental disorders.

For instance, current LEND Fellow Kathleen January ’15 gained insight into the experiences of those diagnosed with Williams syndrome, a genetic disorder where approximately 26 genes are deleted from chromosome 7. During one of the interdisciplinary case conferences, the LEND audiologist fellow presented on the types of hearing difficulties that can be associated with Williams syndrome, since they often have extraordinarily sensitive ears. With this sensitivity often comes the ability to hear perfect pitch, a strength in music, and speak issues early in life.

“I know how to perform a genetic test to diagnose it, but I was left wondering, what comes next,” said January, who started the fellowship in July. “That’s where LEND really added to my knowledge base with new perspectives.”

LEND taught me how I can play a role in empowering families.
Two recent graduates lay groundwork for a school in the Dominican Republic.

Story and Photography by Christopher Sarachilli '14.
The road to Monte Plata is at times smooth, bumpy, paved, or dirt-ridden.

One of the Dominican Republic’s two major highways, it is bordered by farmings technology known as aquaponics; under their guidance, half of the Arcadia students orient the group to the next few days.

Travel by bus to Monte Plata from Santo Domingo, the nation’s capital, takes a little under an hour. The road winds as it heads north, leaving the sea behind. The landscape is now open and rural. Mountains border the far-off distance.

It is March 13, the first day of Preview Crowds on the bus are nearly 20 first-year students from Arcadia, as well as others from Drexel University and the Art Institute of Illinois—students, educators, a construction worker, and an environmental scientist. They point outside, take photos behind glass windows, and make excited remarks over the 1-2-3-4 rhythms of bumptous playing on the radio.

It is still half an hour away from Monte Plata, the capital city of one of the country’s poorest and most rural provinces (also called Monte Plata). Two women at the front of the bus orient the group to the next few days. Under their guidance, half of the Arcadia students will build a system that uses sustainable farming technology known as aquaponics; another group will travel into a peripheral town to interview and build rapport with the local community.

“…the aquaponics unit is the first step in a process that ultimately will lead to the building of a school in Monte Plata, with a curriculum developed and managed by Schools for Sustainability (S4S), the nonprofit run by Alyssa Ramos-Reynoso ‘12 and Jacquelyn Crutchley ’13.

Ramos-Reynoso, the organization’s founder and CEO, laughs as she speaks, emphasizing building words with touches of excitement. She details adjustments students have to make while in the community: throwing out, rather than flushing, toilet paper; adapting to the more flexible “Dominican time,” during which a 15-minute task can easily take an hour; and prepping for the emotional and physical toll that service trips take.

She shifts between excited chatter andgrave explanations of the problems facing the country. Her voice grows solemn as she explains that women in the Dominican Republic typically are fated to become maids, cooks, or prostitutes; that same voice becomes cheerful when she discusses the waterfall and cocoa farm the group will visit tomorrow.

Crutchley, S4S’s chief operating officer, remains quiet, though she will use her fluent Spanish over the next week to connect with a group of locals. After Ramos-Reynoso’s orientation, Crutchley reassures the group that they are safe in Monte Plata.

“Everyone knows you’re coming,” she says. “They ask, ‘When are the Americans getting here?’”

“...it be doing this kind of work. These types of [experiences] prepare future leaders.”
-Alyssa Ramos-Reynoso ‘12

October, through connections with former Dominican president Leonel Fernandez, they entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with Cesar Fernandez, an engineer who worked closely with the president during his time in office, granting them 22 acres of land.

While Ramos-Reynoso and Crutchley originally hoped to build a school in the Philadelphia area, state-side legal and financial barriers made progress difficult. Once they developed the connection with President Fernandez, the choice to build in the Dominican Republic seemed obvious: Ramos-Reynoso is half-Dominican on her mother’s side, and she had lived there for periods as a child.

By 2020, they hope to have the school operating. But first, there is a list of projects to complete: more aquaponics systems, vermiculite units that grow worms and compost, anaerobic digesters (which transforms biodegradable waste into usable fuel), and student dormitories. Green technology will be a focus of the school’s curriculum, and S4S wants students to learn through project-based education. By building these systems now, they ensure that the curriculum will be in place once the classrooms are built.

They hope to bring future groups from Arcadia and other organizations to complete the rest of the projects and begin construction of the school.

The school’s curriculum will focus on practical, eco-friendly skills that apply to people in Monte Plata farming techniques, animal husbandry, and land cultivation. Years—possibly decades—from now, Crutchley and Ramos-Reynoso hope to open schools in Philadelphia, Tanzania, and wherever else they can make a difference.

Ramos-Reynoso has the school’s tenets, created by the group’s curriculum development team, written on a piece of paper with a clock face scrawled on it.

Community, democracy, identity, and action represent the 12, 3, 6, and 9 hour marks. Between them are more than a dozen other words and phrases that the curriculum development team has chosen to define the school’s ethos: “cultural relevance,” for instance; “accountability,” “self-awareness,” “experiential learning,” “service,” and “collaboration,” beginning with this gathering of local input years before breaking ground.

“We can dream all we want, but we can’t build the curriculum if we don’t know what people want,” says Rockelle Peterson, adjunct professor of education, who teaches the Preview course with Erica Davila, associate professor of education. Both serve on S4S’s curriculum development team.

The bus arrives in Monte Plata at the Hotel El Toro, which has a labyrinthine layout that claims three stories. Locals dine and drink at a restaurant on the ground floor, and guests wait telephones and local news on
At 6:40 in the morning, Monte Plata wakes with the sunrise, which gives brilliance to pastel walls and glinters off of sheet metal rooftops. Roosters crow, dogs search for scraps, church bells ring over the prerecorded sound of a preacher, and the smell of empanadas and chicharrón (fried pork rinds with fatty flavor and fatty texture) emanates from street corner displays.

A few miles away, the 22-acre aquaponics site offers little protection from the sun, making work difficult. About a dozen students begin constructing the aquaponics unit. A man named Jose manages the land, living there with his wife and toddler-aged child. Aside from his house, two water troughs, a bathroom without running water, and a pig pen, the land is a hilly collage of barbed wire, palm trees, running water, and a pig pen, the land is a hilly collage of barbed wire, palm trees, and yuca and banana plants. It is suitable for this aquaponics unit, but because the land lacks foundation, it isn’t ideal for traditional construction, says Jody Lema, associate professor of interior design at the Illinois Institute of Art–Schumacher, who has run an environmental design firm since 2007. Even further vegetation units will need alternative methods, such as building up the land or installing Earthsheds, a construction method that uses recycled tires to build into the earth from the side of a hill.

Constructing a school requires a more in-depth strategy. Grant money could provide the most obvious solution of hiring landscapers to flatten or build up the land, but cheaper options exist. Recycled shipping containers, for instance, are an unconventional form of affordable, sturdy dormitories and facilities. Though these issues are still a few years away, they are present on Ramos-Reynoso’s and Crunchley’s minds.

The aquaponics system is an exercise in problem solving, beginning with transporting supplies. PVC pipes and connectors, solar panels, pumps, plastic caps, rock dust, styrofoam boards, screwdrivers, drills, power saws, paint and brushes, sponges and cleaning supplies, and other assorted tools were scattered among suitcases and carry-ons or purchased locally. Transporting solar panels and a 75-pound battery presented a larger challenge, landing the S4S team in the interrogation room at Las Americas International Airport. The connection to President Fernandez got them through unscathed, and, according to Ramos-Reynoso, customs officials were energized by the group’s idea.

Intermediate bulk container (IBC) totes, which transport anything from chemical solvents to molasses to land, are needed in order to be recycled for use as water tanks. The IBC routes were particularly difficult for S4S to acquire; by the day before construction, the group was still without those critical parts. Ramos-Reynoso mentioned the troubles to Voigt, S4S’s most treasured local asset. Living in Monte Plata, she knows the town and how to get things done. Hearing the IBC totes...
College is even less common. Altugrâcia, a community leader in her mid-20s, is an exception. She balances studying at a university with a university with a large saw in his backyard, a friend of a friend owns a farm and would be happy to supply tilapia; someone has a contact with a large saw in his backyard, a friend of a friend owns a farm and would be happy to supply tilapia; someone has a contact who can secure used shipping containers coated in coagulated chicken fat that clogs the drain plug. A few miles away, in a small, one-school community outside the town of Sabana Grande de Boya, the rest of the Arcadia students, along with Ramos-Reynoso and Crutchley, assess the needs of the locals. As the bus drivers pass the village school, elementary students run alongside, laughing, waving, and pointing. When school lets out around two o’clock, they rush toward the group of Americans to take pictures, play games, blow bubbles, and brand otherworldly straight blonde hair. After the fifth grade, these students will have the option to continue on to high school. But the school is miles away, and there is work to be done at home. Few leave the village for high school.

“My vision is that they don’t have to commute over an hour for a hospital or die on the way there,” she says. “They don’t have to travel for water, because the pump built for that purpose will work. My vision is one where the youth have the skills and opportunities to build a community for themselves and that these opportunities are afforded to them—that they aren’t neglected by their country.”

By Wednesday afternoon, the group at the aquaponics site is finishing up the system. PVC pipes snake from one tank to the next. Tilapia swim in the trough. Seed beds sit in a styrofoam board floating in an IBC tote. The final step involves attaching the solar panel to the roof of the fish tank and connecting it to the sump pump. As students connect nodes on the battery, a bus arrives carrying the surveying group. They’ve just shared tearful goodbyes with the townspeople, assuring them that, yes, they will travel. At Altugrâcia noted, too often, in this land so far removed from the rest of the country, people are told that help is coming, that their voices are being heard; too often, they are left without assistance by a group that has failed us last interest.

Ramos-Reynoso and Crutchley will return in November with members of Women International Leaders of Greater Philadelphia, which connects women from diverse backgrounds to empower people in developing countries. They will bring gifts—vitamin, school supplies, shoes, Spanish-to-English dictionaries—that address immediate needs.

“They’re really used to organizations coming in and getting their hopes up and then abandoning them,” says Ramos-Reynoso. “We want to show them that we’re still partners in this and that we’re committed.”

The sight of the finished unit sofists thoughts of healing for the Arcadia students, who have grown close to the townpeople. With the flip of a switch, running water begins to flow, bringing to fruition days of manual labor in 90-degree weather. Water from the fish tank travels through the waste tank into the sump tank, up a pipe to the grow bed, and back into the fish tank. The system is complete, self-contained, and operating.

On Thursday, Ramos-Reynoso and Crutchley attend a ceremony held by the Baty Relief Alliance (BRA) at the Radisson Hotel in Santo Domingo. BRA, named one of the best nongovernmental organizations in developing countries by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, aims to improve self-sufficiency in the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Peru, and the United States. The Alliance has worked with President Bill Clinton through the Clinton Global Initiative and, in December 2014, signed an agreement with the mayor of Sabana Grande de Boya with the goal of expanding critical health services and food security for thousands of vulnerable and impoverished families struggling in the country’s rural areas, according to the agency. Recognition from one nonprofit is not only an affirmation of S4S’s progress; it is necessary for the shared resources and respect that comes with such recognition. S4S needs nonprofit credibility, proof to investors and supporters that they are the real deal.

When pitching the school, S4S invariably receives one or two responses, says Crutchley: “How can we help?” or “Good luck.”

“It’s hard when people can’t visualize the scope if they don’t already believe in this kind of change,” she says. “We know that after this first school is built, people are going to want to buy in.”

A lack of funds is the most daunting obstacle that S4S has faced at every step of its journey—not only because money can provide supplies and travel costs, but because it would allow Ramos-Reynoso and Crutchley to work at the nonprofit full time. As it is, both work 40-hour weeks—Ramos-Reynoso for a travel agency, Crutchley for a food tour company in Philadelphia. Both estimate that, with their jobs and the nonprofit, they put in an average of 80 hours every week, leading to stress, exhaustion, and sickness. For S4S, money is time.

In April, they learned that, after making it to the top 15 percent of applicants, they were not named finalists for a $50,000 grant that would have afforded them the opportunity to work on the nonprofit full time. Despite the setback, they are undeterred. “I don’t think I would ever give up on S4S,” Ramos-Reynoso says. “This is what I want to do with my life, and for the past 10 years I’ve known that I want to do it. I’m not going to stop.”

After leaving the BRA meeting, Ramos-Reynoso and Crutchley join the Preview group in downtown Santo Domingo for a street fair showcasing cuisine and goods local to each region of the Dominican Republic. Two large tents run by the Ministry of Agriculture display sustainable and agricultural exhibits. Despite abuse by large-scale agricultural corporations, failing education and health care systems, and scant opportunity for work, the exhibits reveal that sustainability is a priority in a country that doesn’t guarantee running water.

On a Sunday in late April, Ramos-Reynoso comes to Arcadia to collect posters that the Preview students presented at Global Expo to hang on her wall as reminders of the trip.

“It’s surreal,” she says. “Jackie and I were two of those first-year students not that long ago. I would have never pictured us putting a Preview class together.”

When asked how the aquaponics system is operating in the Dominican Republic, she smiles. “It’s running it, she explains, and the first seedlings have sprouted. •

Students enrolled in the first School for Sustainability will learn through projects based on green technology. •

“We know that after this first school is built, people are going to want to buy in.”

Jacquelyn Crutchley ’13

The completed aquaponics unit will initially provide tilapia, asparagus, beans, and celery.
Rings and Baby Things

1943
On Feb. 7, the Red Dragon Canoe Club in Edgewater Park, N.J., was the setting for the celebration of a century.

Carol Roland Ranger
121 Timberline Trail
Ormond Beach, FL 32174

Carolyn Gagnon Carver
1954

Ruth Twelve Nevergole, sent her usual creative card—this time with a theme of music, which she knows how she does it every year. I treasure all of them.

1939

A note from Patty Darling Kile '56:

Ruth Twelve Nevergole, sent her usual creative card—this time with a theme of music, which she knows how she does it every year. I treasure all of them.
I begin with sad news. Patti Bothwell Beatty ... Aronson Kardon '56 and her husband, Don, pose with one of the sculptures they donated to the University.

Colin Uff Linfield and George discovered the California coast (Carmel, La Jolla, and Big Sur). We visited our daughter and son-in-law. Their dog-in-law is running a nursery school in suburban Philadelphia. Carol and George passed their Christmas card with a "very old" photo of them as young mariners, you know how old that photo is! Harriet Swyer Baisch and we were blessed with all the family at Christmas 2014 (for their wedding anniversary) before they headed for three or four months to Florida for golfing and sun.

Barbara Dillan Kaplan: "Because we have been in Florida since January, we have felt the bitter cold winter only in our news of Cape Cod and family in unlamenting cold places. I was happy to attend the alumnae gathering again since it always brings us up to date: "We were introduced to the daily temperature ranged from 73-80. Our daughter and her family live close enough to come together every weekend."

My dear classmates, my family is doing well, with plans to have plenty of animals to care for: for some, fun and frolicking. Day weekend will be the time for them to visit. Their daughter, Jill, spoke at Christmas 2014 (and for their wedding anniversary). She and her husband, Lou, made the move. Their granddaughter, Jill, spoke at "Beaver girls are we.""

As to our family, our married grandchildren and his family have recently moved from Norfolk to Richmond, which is much closer for them to visit. Their daughter is approaching her second birthday and will have a new baby brother or sister in July. We will have two great-grandchildren!

We have news from Andrea's Ti/Gand Adams: who begins: "No snow stories from me..., have been in Maui for three weeks! Spent Christmas in Brooklyn with my own Christian family. He is head of the MPA program at Pratt and teaches poetry and creative writing. He will also teach German translation, busy fellow! And a two-year-old who is just a beauty! My clothing boutique in Ashland keeps me busy during the rest of the time. Anyone traveling through Ashland, Oregon, this summer? Would love to see them."

Along the same lines, Kay Lanning Winters (pictured right) brings us up to date: "We were lucky enough to spend February in Palm Springs, Calif., while the daily temperature ranged from 73-80. Our daughter and her family live close enough to come together every weekend."

Kay's book, "Colonial Voices: Hear Them Speak," was published in paperback in March. She headed to the Lancaster, Pa., area for a historic dance weekend. She is looking for the arrival of her book. Congratulations, Kay, on your continued success!

More sunshine news from "Bunny" Green Culley: "Because we have been in Florida since January, we have felt the bitter cold winter only in our news of Cape Cod and family in unlamenting cold places. I was happy to attend the alumnae gathering again since it always brings us up to date: "We were introduced to the daily temperature ranged from 73-80. Our daughter and her family live close enough to come together every weekend."

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In Memorium
Retired professor Melanie Craig Cohen, 81, died at home, Jan. 24 of lung cancer. At Arcadia, she taught German, served as advisor to international students, and was from 2004 until 2008 as associate director for the Center for International Studies and Study Abroad. During this time, she planned programs in Austria and Ireland and led study travel to countries such as Austria, USSR, Venn, Turkey, Romania, Bulgaria, Greece, the Balkan states, and Yugoslavia, a who was the first to attend her after her formal retirement from the University in 2000.
Riverside on the Danube in October instead. The cruise took us to Prague, Vienna, and Budapest, ending with a week in Rome. We are fortunate to have friends in these areas and took advantage of our trip to connect with them. We arrived early in Prague to spend time with our friend, Iva. She showed us much of the non-tourist highlights. In April 2014, we traveled to Tasmania, Australia, and Iceland. This spring included a trip to the Andalucia region of Spain, with trips planned to Andorra, southern Peru, and Bolivia. I say hello to Gill Labes Schwartz and Ilene Gartenberg Bliener on a regular basis. She is also in touch with Sara Michelson Aylon and Lili Bernardo Wasserman ’61. Mimi has a great pleasure in doing so.

Several Kadets of Covington, La., reports taking a wonderful trip to Russia. They visited the Hermitage and saw the Winter Palace. They also visited the St. Petersburg Cathedral bridge games. She has four grandchildren whom volunteers who want to adopt rescue animals and feels anyone interested in a lender a hand in the party planning should contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 215-572-2100 or enroll@acadia.edu.

his wife, and two grandchildren. The eldest is a 17-year-old girl qualifying in the Ogney airmarine for the Marconi Company, as well as getting married. Her oldest granddaughter is flying F18 Hornet for the Navy and just bought her first house. My newest grandson, Joe, are looking forward to join Navy’s Fraternat Order of Underwater Swimmers reunion in Panama City, Fla., this May.

Linda Mann: “I escaped Boston’s record-breaking 110 degree heat, winter snow with a trip to Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands in March; the heat and sun a welcome change! Giant tortoises, sea lions, marine iguanas, blue-footed boobies, frigate birds, pelicans, and more delighted us every day.”

In December, Bonnie McDowell Lady said with Jane Maloney, director of Annual Giving at Arcadia, who said the plaque noting our Class Gift had arrived, and they were in the process of storing the wood to match where it will be installed in the new elevator at Grey Towers Castle. The decorative steps at the three floors of the Castle, offers beautiful views of the grounds and incorporates elements of the original architecture, such as the library’s second and third floors to match the elephant, staircase, and intricate woodwork of the historic landmark building. The decorative woodwork restoration was made possible by the Class of 1964’s 50th Reunion gift.

Bonnie also wrote that she had cataracts in both eyes recently, and everything is brighter and clearer than before, though she still reads novels. Sound familiar?

Sandra Kebo Hiroshi wrote that she had dinner at the Castaway, attended the 25th anniversary of the Christmas song, “Moments to Remember,” and took some classes at the Moravian College in Loganville, Pa. Their daughter in law is now a teacher at Moravian College and sang in the choir for the Vesper services.

Janice Comstock Murray wrote that she and Barrie got to see their 12th grandchild, and spent 10 days in the Hawaiian Islands in December. They also went on a whale watch out of Bar Harbor, Maine.

Phyllis St. John Skok continues to travel. Phyllis, an aunt, and a cousin traveled to Lebanon, Beirut, and to Syria; in November, they went to see the Terra Cotta Warriors, pandas, and so much more. We looked out in Beijing. We were there at the same time as the Asia-Pacific Summit last November, with 125,000 Visitors. Factories were closed and traffic restricted so pollution was greatly decreased. They concluded their trip in Hong Kong just as the police were taking down the students’ barriers from the harbor.

Also traveling was Karen Holmes MacIntyre. She made a 10-day trip in March with Rich Schad, including the border of Pakistan, Afghanistan, and India; air travel on the Taj Mahal, the second and third Flowers are for the elderly, and lunch on the Titanic. She learned life-long love of travel. I was able to change! Giant tortoises, sea lions, marine iguanas, blue-footed boobies, frigate birds, pelicans, and more delighted us every day.”

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Lynda Johnston Austin had an occasion to celebrate her son and Kelly welcomed them to our house in Phoenix, Arizona. Susan and her brother’s name, Annie, and her husband, Bill Wright, had a daughter, Eleanor Joan Wright. She was born on Sept. 1, 2015.

Helen R. Mack wrote that, although she was at Beaver for only a year-and-a-half, she still remembers many things and how to write to us. She reads the reunion, and is writing in the YWCA and the YWCA, I am now on the staff as Development Director. She has and actively engage in other Sweaters sneaker clubs. A friend and I started a group called the Southwest Sweaters sneaker clubs. A friend and I started a group called the Southwest Sweaters sneaker clubs.

And from England, Victoria (Virginia) Guell–Sproul wrote “Winter has been fine here, and I even have built on the wish hand and climbing yoghurt with little daffodils, snowdrops, and cress. But I know it has been bad in the States. Patricia (Pat) Allen rang to say that she had a party for the senior tour at Skipton and she is happy to spend their declining years here with our nice grandchildren around.

Please email me some news and letter grade later in 1989. We were there at the same time as the Asia-Pacific Summit in November, with 125,000 Visitors. Factories were closed and traffic restricted so pollution was greatly decreased. They concluded their trip in Hong Kong just as the police were taking down the students’ barriers from the harbor.

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Get to Know Your Office of Alumni Relations

William Grogan, Associate Director of Alumni Relations

“My area of focus is working with our young alumni, developing new programs, and supporting our shared interest alumni affinity groups. When I’m not in Blankley Alumni House, I enjoy reading, spending time downtown, and the occasional obstacle course race.”

215-572-2094 | groganw@arcadia.edu

Michelle Marano, Associate Director of Alumni Communications and Operations

“Managing social media and alumni communications, I might be equated to one of Arcadia’s resident reporters working the alumni news beat! I’m also responsible for managing event registrations and office operations. Outside of Blankley, I enjoy running, spontaneous road trips, and creating new recipes in the kitchen.”

215-572-2160 | maranom@arcadia.edu

Nancy Woehrle, Associate Director of Alumni Relations

“I have been with the Office of Alumni Relations since 2006 and focus my attention on the annual Reunion and the Career Mentor Program, in addition to general alumni event programming. Off campus, I enjoy performing with two local theatre groups, Jenkinson Music Theatre and Willow Manor Players.”

215-572-4052 | woehrlein@arcadia.edu
David Larsen, Ph.D., a widely recognized leader in international education who helped grow Arcadia University’s Center for Education Abroad into one of the country’s largest and most respected campus-based study abroad programs, passed away on March 2. He was 74.

Dr. Larsen joined Arcadia in 1988 as vice president and director of the Center for Education Abroad. He played an integral role in transforming Arcadia into a leader in international education, helping to establish educational field studies for first-year students and the first-year semester abroad program, overseeing a dramatic increase in enrollment as study abroad developed into an innovative university program, and ushering in an innovative General Education program to deliver an integrated global experience for students. Throughout the course of his career at Arcadia, more than 30,000 students from colleges and universities around the country studied abroad through the Center. Under Dr. Larsen’s leadership, the Center for Education Abroad was recognized in 2001 by the American Council on Education as one of eight American institutions demonstrating promising practices of campus internationalization, resulting in the prestigious Senator Paul Simon Award for Campus Internationalization.

“The impact that David Larsen has had on Arcadia University is incalculable, and his contributions have left an incredible legacy,” said President Nicolette DeVeille Christensen. “David’s visionary leadership in the field of international education quite literally opened up the world to thousands of students, providing innovative study abroad opportunities for so many.”

Among the awards that Dr. Larsen earned during his career are the Education Abroad Leadership Award and Life Membership status from NASSE: Association of International Educators, the Peter A. Wofford Advocacy Award from the Forum on Education Abroad, the Charles Kaasek Award from the Association of International Education Administrators, and the W. LaMarr Kopp Lifetime Achievement Award from the Pennsylvania Council for International Education. A founding board member of the Forum on Education Abroad and a member of the NASSE Board of Directors, Dr. Larsen also served on the Inter-Association Task Force on Health and Safety in Study Abroad and chaired the Health and Safety Committee of the Section on U.S. Students Abroad (SECUSSA).

“Dr. Larsen was first and foremost an educator,” said Lorna Stern, vice president of Arcadia University and executive director of The College of Global Studies. “What is most laudable and memorable to each and every one of us who has had the pleasure to work with him is the kind, modest, and generous spirit that was brought to each endeavor and the unwavering focus on the worth of each individual’s contribution to our common purpose.”

Upon Dr. Larsen’s retirement in 2008, Arcadia dedicated Larsen Hall, the building that houses The College of Global Studies (The Center for Education Abroad was elevated to College status in 2009), creating The College of Global Studies, the first College of its kind dedicated to the development and delivery of education abroad. The University also established The David C. Larsen Endowed Scholarship for International Education, presented to accomplished students who display a strong interest in international education, and The David C. Larsen Award in International Studies, presented to a senior international studies major who has demonstrated outstanding academic achievement and intellectual engagement in global issues.

“A native of Portland, Maine, Dr. Larsen earned a B.A. in Economics at Colby College in Maine, an M.A. in English at the University of Maine, and a Ph.D. in Education at Union Graduate School in Ohio. Dr. Larsen was survived by his wife, Marie-Louise, his daughter and five grandchildren: Owen, Wade, and Cara from his daughter and Christian and Holden from his son.

Arcadia Receives $300,000 Grant from Fourjay Foundation

Susan Jackson Tressider ’84, ‘90M, daughter of longtime supporters and friends of Arcadia Marie-Louise (Vermeiren) Jackson ’01H and Eugene W. Jackson ’01H, recently announced a $300,000 grant from the Fourjay Foundation, the nonprofit organization founded by the Jacksons in 1989. The grant will create The Eugene W. and Marie-Louise Jackson International Fund for Student and Faculty Development and will provide scholarships for Arcadia students to gain an international context in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields, helping them study abroad for one semester or complete internships at an accredited institution. The fund also will help graduate students and faculty at Arcadia gain international field study opportunities in their respective fields, while honoring Marie-Louise Jackson for her role in bringing the first visiting international professor to Arcadia for a full semester.

“This extraordinary grant from Susan Jackson Tressider and The Fourjay Foundation is yet another testament to how deeply the Jackson family has believed in the mission of Beaver College and Arcadia University,” said President Nicolette DeVeille Christensen. “For decades, Marie-Louise, Eugene, Susan, and Geoffrey have been staunch supporters, and their guidance, leadership, and generosity have made a monumental impact on the lives of Arcadia students. Expanding international experiences for students and faculty will build upon the legacy of Arcadia and ensure that this University remains a premier university with a long-heralded global mission.”

In addition to earning a bachelor’s degree in English and a master’s degree in counseling psychology, Jackson Tressider served on Arcadia’s Campaign Steering Committee for three years. Her husband, Richard, earned a master’s degree in education at Arcadia in 1998, while Marie-Louise Jackson served as a trustee and taught French at Arcadia. She was one of several family members who are graduates of Beaver College and Arcadia University, the College of its kind dedicated to the mission of Beaver College and Arcadia University, “said President Christensen.

Nicolette DeVille, vice president of Arcadia University and executive director of The College of Global Studies, presented the award to President Christensen.

In Memoriam: Dr. David Larsen

Marie-Louise (Vermeiren) Jackson ’01H passed away on March 15, 2018, leaving behind lifelong friends and supporters of Arcadia. With a long-heralded global mission, and a naturalized U.S. citizen and earned two master's degrees. She was a devout philanthropist, Maltese heritage, residing in Italy at her birthplace, and active in many positions on various community and nonprofit boards, most notably the aforementioned Fourjay Foundation. In addition to her father and mother, five grandchildren survive her: Owen, Wade, and Cara from her daughter and Christian and Holden from her son. ©

Q. Why decide to make such a grant to Arcadia?

A. Both my parents believed in the value of broadening your personal perspective with international exposure. There is simply no replacement for the type of learning that comes with experience. You can only read about other countries and see pictures on the Internet, but there is no replacement for actually going there. Our world is becoming more international, and I believe that students today will find themselves more enriched and more marketable with such experiences.

Q. What are your fondest memories of Arcadia?

A. Meeting students from other countries, especially countries I’ve never visited, is a fond memory. There were students on campus from South America, Saudi Arabia, Brazil, and other countries. I think having such a mix of international students greatly enriched the whole campus. Another fond memory was being with my friend, Janice Beringer, and seeing the campus for the first time. I was struck by how deeply the Jackson family has believed in the mission of Beaver College and Arcadia University.

Q. What other charitable causes do you support?

A. In addition to serving on a few committees at Arcadia and providing grants to the University over the years, the Fourjay Foundation has served hundreds of nonprofit organizations dealing with health, education, and human services for 25 years in Philadelphia, Bucks, and Montgomery counties. I served on our Foundation Board for 22 years and as executive director for the last eight and a half years. I have served on the boards of Goldey-Beacom College and also the Foundation for 22 years for both the Catholic University of America and the Wharton School. I also had the opportunity to see both my parents receive honorary doctoral degrees and my husband receive his master's degree in education from Arcadia before we were married.

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Is Your Dog Guilty?
Dr. Christina Brown, assistant professor of psychology

While census takers do not include pets when collecting household data numbers, more than 70 percent of pet owners consider their pet to be family. Between 50 and 75 percent of American households have a pet, with Americans spending approximately $50 billion on their pets each year. Here, Dr. Christina Brown describes parts of research she’s conducting with Arcadia students and others on the relationship between humans and some of their favorite four-legged friends.

Support from friends and family also report the strongest support from their pets. Newer research I’ve conducted with Zachary Baker ’13 found that the same processes observed in human relationships are also present in pet relationships. Specifically, whether one’s partner is another human or a pet, we’re more committed to the relationship when we’ve invested a lot time and energy in it, when we think we have few alternatives to that relationship, and when we derive pleasure and satisfaction from our partner.

Animals are particularly helpful when other humans have let us down, as my research with Selena Heng ’14 has shown. Across multiple experiments, we induced temporary feelings of rejection by having people relive a past memory of being excluded by others. We found that viewing photos of animals and thinking of names for those animals alleviated the sting of social rejection. However, thinking of names for strange plastic toys was also effective. Our research suggests that anthropomorphism is a key reason animals are so comforting to humans.

Anthropomorphism is when we project human traits onto non-human stimuli. Animals are very easy to anthropomorphize—just think of all the kids’ movies with talking cats and dogs—and therefore we’re quick to connect with them like we connect with people. But how much of our bond with a pet is one-sided? Other researchers have found evidence that animals do attach to their human companions and develop unique relationships with them, so I’m quite comfortable claiming that my own three cats “love” me. However, sometimes we perceive more in our pets than is warranted. Two studies I conducted with Julia McClean ’14 found that humans project some—but not all—of their own personality traits onto animals. Specifically, people’s own tendency to feel guilt predicted whether they interpreted ambiguous dog behaviors as signs of guilt and anxiety. In other words, a person who is prone to guilt will believe a dog who lowers its head after misbehaving is feeling guilty. Further research has found that dogs who behave like this are actually showing a learned response—that is, they discover we treat them positively if they “act guilty”—so the perception of guilt is really in the person’s head.

In other words, if you’ve ever been criticized for claiming your pet is “just like you,” there may be some truth to it. But go ahead and anthropomorphize your pet anyway. After all, the data suggest it’s good for you.

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