

Fall 2017

## Jefferson Review - Fall 2017

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The New Jefferson 6 Diploma Nurses Stick Together 20 Student Recognition Award 28

THOMAS JEFFERSON UNIVERSITY • FALL 2017

# Review

BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES • HEALTH PROFESSIONS • NURSING • PHARMACY • POPULATION HEALTH



Two Alumnae,  
One Vision

A NEW HOME BASE FOR ALL GRADUATES



# 20

**ON THE COVER:** CAROL AMMON, BSN '17, MBA, AND MARIE PINIZZOTTO, MD '88. PHOTO BY KEVIN MONKO.



**Jefferson Review**  
Fall 2017

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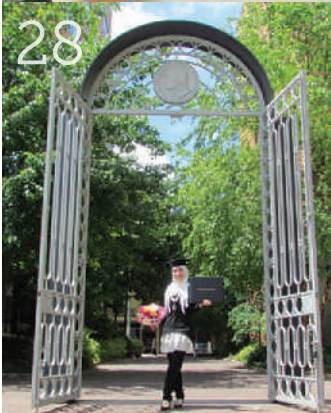
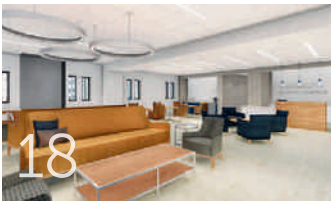
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## The Wind is Free

“The timing of this graduation is quite special. It comes on the cusp of our imminent merger with another of our city’s iconic institutions—Philadelphia University. An out-of-the-box merger, that calls for *breaking* new ground and *breaking down* old conceptual boundaries.

*On May 22, 2017, TJU Provost Mark Tykocinski, MD, shared the following comments with Jefferson College of Health Professions and Jefferson College of Pharmacy at Jefferson’s 193rd commencement ceremony. His remarks appear here in lieu of his usual column.*

At such an historic moment, it’s fair to ask: What drives us to stretch for such opportunities? What propels us to transcend artificial boundaries, regardless of the challenges?

For an answer, I look to my wife’s late uncle. Uncle Ralph would close his letters with the phrase “The Wind is Free”—in place of a signature. The word “free” suited him well. Notwithstanding his splurge on the sailing yacht he himself designed and financed, this well-to-do Connecticut real estate developer was otherwise remarkably low-key. At black-tie events, he wore a scissor-cut black ribbon in lieu of formal bow tie—a *free* bow tie, if you will.

For decades, no one thought to ask Uncle Ralph what he really meant by “The Wind is Free.” Not long before he passed, I posed the question. Some weeks later, two handwritten pages, with a message in line with his passion for the sea—from this sailor who had been on a U.S. Navy staging warship at the Normandy landing on D-Day:

*“The wind is a force that cannot be bought. One can easily buy the boat, but one cannot buy the wind that will take you to your destination. One will have to contend with obstacles such as storms, depressing calms, and strong winds. One may need money to buy the boat,*

*intelligence to direct the boat, but the ultimate ‘force’ to move the boat is something that nobody can buy. This is the wind that is free, and this is the wind that carries a person to their destination.”*

How insightful and true these words are!

Class of 2017, as you now set sail for the open and wholly uncharted waters of your personal and professional lives, carry with you the essence of this message. The wind—the forces that motivate and drive—will differ for each of you. For some, *sheer ambition*; for others, *payback* to loved ones who sacrificed to pave your way; for yet others, *nobility* of the mission. Your wind will comprise those forces that foster creativity and unleash curiosity. Let your free spirit soar.

These forces share something in common—they are cultivated from within. Free of charge. *Not* purchased. *Not* dependent on others. This *inner* wind is free—there in abundance, to lift you into flight, at times to great heights. The only thing required is that you consciously cultivate this wind—come to understand it, tap into it, and apply it with purpose.

Since you transition to alumni status today, I’d like to share an anecdote about another alumnus, from our medical college Class of ’02. Basil Harris made national headlines last month, as winner of the high-profile Qualcomm Tricorder XPRIZE.



Mark L. Tykocinski, MD  
Provost, Thomas Jefferson University

*Star Trek* fans know the tricorder—that multifunction do-it-all handheld device used by Spock and McCoy to instantly read patients' ailments. Remember? They just ran it up and down the body and got all the data.

The international competition to design a real tricorder was fierce, five years in the making—312 entrants from 38 countries—and it was our own Basil Harris who won. He and his bootstrapped seven-member team of family and friends worked nights and weekends—and took home the grand prize of \$2.6 million!

For Basil Harris and his ragtag team, the wind was *curiosity, ingenuity*, and the *sheer guts to try*. No venture funding. No corporate backing. Just 3-D printers in Harris' kitchen and his three teenage kids creating prototypes for the 65 kits that were required for this project. Curiosity and creativity need not be bought, just allowed to blow freely from within.

Even in bringing *Star Trek* to life, the wind is free of charge, no need for a wallet. I'd offer yet another interpretation of free. Wind is *free of constraint*. It blows freely, in all directions, pushing obstacles aside, or simply skirting around them.

An hour's drive, at the Princeton Institute for Advanced Study, a stone pediment aside a bench overlooking a lovely pond is inscribed as follows:

*"True scholars often work in loneliness, compelled to find reward in the awareness that they have made valuable, even beautiful, contributions to the cumulative structure of human knowledge, whether anyone knows it at the time or not."*

Translated to our wind metaphor: true scholars—whether they be physical therapists, occupational therapists, physician assistants, couples and family therapists, clinical diagnostic experts in the laboratory or radiological fields, pharmacists, or scientists—must allow their inner wind to operate *free of constraints* from others. They must ignore ignorant critiques and eschew external validation.

I have every confidence that many of you in the Class of 2017 will not only practice your profession, but will look to cross boundaries and innovate at the edges. As your creativity unfolds, know that you will at times have to withstand critiques, sometimes biased, on the way to having those innovative ideas recognized. It takes guts to put yourself out there and to stick to your convictions.

I have my own story to tell. Years ago, as a molecular immunologist and young faculty member, I submitted my first NIH grant. The study section reviewers *demolished* it. Clearly, they didn't get what I was talking about. And I didn't know why, because the concept seemed so simple to

me: engineering therapeutic cells by painting their surfaces with purposefully chosen proteins.

Deflated, but not derailed, I volleyed back by coining some new terms—after all, words do create realities—and I pegged my new ideas to ideas already in the reviewers' minds; after all, most scientists don't *search*, they *re-search*.

Sticking to my guns paid off. On the second go, my grant application scored top marks from the very same study section. *My* inner wind had withstood NIH scrutiny!

Even so, this concept—designer cells via fusion protein painting—hovered on the periphery of mainstream immunology and oncology for years, albeit well-funded and the basis for a biotech company I founded. Fast-forward to three years ago. A phone call from two professors—at Harvard and UC-Irvine, no less—asking me to write a chapter for a first-ever book on cell surface engineering and what they now referred to as a *cutting-edge field*. All of a sudden, the topic—*my* topic—was a *hot* topic! And it was now even considered a field! My free, unconstrained wind had prevailed.

At times, your inner wind must withstand the ignorance and biases of others. Sometimes it will mean operating in loneliness, as others catch up.

By no means am I suggesting you function as a lone wolf traveling your chosen path in solitude. Quite the contrary—at the very heart of the inter-professional learning in which you've been steeped here at Thomas Jefferson University, collaboration is paramount. Converging winds gather greater force. Teamwork draws on a collection of imaginations and experience, powered by free flow of intelligence. Balance the

benefits of the converging winds with the simultaneous need to protect one's own creative winds. Balance teamwork with individual enterprise. Balance acceptance of critical input with staying true to your hunches and intuitions. In short, blaze your own paths.

Wind is air in motion. But air won't blow if that air has no density, or if it is too thin. Data from the MAVEN satellite, in orbit around Mars since 2014, reveals that the Martian atmosphere was stripped away to space early in its history. Planetary air is fragile, not to be taken for granted—even here on Earth. At a recent alumni ski weekend in Colorado, I noticed a canister of bottled air amongst the snacks and sodas in the hotel room. Two miles higher, the air thins. Suddenly air is a costly commodity. American Express' *Departures* magazine recently showcased bottled air as the latest luxury item, for those traveling to air-compromised destinations. *Sometimes even air is not free.*

Air and wind demand thresholds. So too is *your* inner wind. It must have materiality, real substance. Do not mistake *air* for *airiness*. Going freely doesn't mean dabbling about in superficial ways. Your inner wind elements—creativity and curiosity—must also have depth.

And from Roger Ebert, the late film critic: *"I was born inside the movie of my life. The visuals were before me, the audio surrounded me, the plot unfolded inevitably but not necessarily. I don't remember how I got into the movie, but it continues to entertain me."*

Class of 2017, be entertained by the movies of your lives whose plots will continue to unfold, and be guided by this simple motto: The Wind is Free.

Congratulations, onward and upward! 🍷 ”

## The Families We Choose

**Both feature stories in this issue celebrate Jefferson's long history and its bright future, bringing to my mind thoughts of family and tradition.**

We are all part of the Jefferson family, now larger and stronger with our recent combination with Philadelphia University (pages 6–9). Today we are a new Thomas Jefferson University, yet as we push forward and create a bold tomorrow, we continue to remember and honor our pasts. In addition to the unique programs, people, and perspectives PhilaU brings to Jefferson, we inherit its rich history and traditions and add them to our own. This is what new families always have done.

The vision of the new Pinizzotto-Ammon Alumni Center (page 18) is to provide a warm, inviting home away from home for *all* Jefferson alumni. But it also will unite our family and history under one roof, with curated displays of memorabilia that highlight Jefferson's storied past. Visiting the Alumni Center will be a way to reconnect with your roots and fellow classmates and alumni, strengthening the bond with the University and each other.

Some alumni have taken that bond a little farther, building a Jefferson family in a more literal sense: We know of 21 marriages between MD and PhD alumni and 158 marriages between MD and Nursing alumni, and hope to uncover more. Can even Cupid claim better match-making success?

Jefferson also inspires other close connections, such as our legacy families who, generation after generation, reinforce their relationship with the University. Thomas Green, MD '94, was a double legacy student, the son of a

nurse and a physician who met at Jefferson as students. Thomas' daughter is continuing the family tradition; she recently enrolled in the Postbaccalaureate Pre-Professional Program in Jefferson's College of Biomedical Sciences. Brock Bakewell, MD '84, is part of a long line of Jeffersonians that includes his father, grandfather, and some distant relatives on his mother's side—and now extends to his son, who graduated in May.

Alumni like Thomas and Brock have such a deep affection and affinity for their alma mater that they have been giving back to the University, and in Brock's case, to the new Alumni Center, which is being made possible by the generosity and vision of alumnae Marie E. Pinizzotto, MD '88, MBA, and Carol A. Ammon, BSN '17, MBA.

Enduring and enriching relationships like these remind me that family is more than having a past—it's about building and sharing a future. Jefferson alumni and its legacy families are as much a part of the University today as they ever were, committed to carrying us forward for many more generations to come.

One of the most exciting features of the Alumni Center will be the Alumni Legacy Wall bearing the names of alumni who have contributed to the Alumni Center campaign. I hope to see many of your names there, forever linking your personal stories to the Jefferson story that we are still writing together.



*Elizabeth A. Dale*

**Elizabeth Dale, EdD**

Executive Vice President and  
Chief Advancement Officer

For information about adding your name to the Alumni Legacy Wall, visit [Jefferson.edu/AlumniCenterCampaign](http://Jefferson.edu/AlumniCenterCampaign).

Do you have a spouse, partner, child, or grandchild at Jefferson? Share your Jefferson family connections by emailing [alumni@jefferson.edu](mailto:alumni@jefferson.edu).



# Introducing the

CELEBRATING  
THE FUTURE OF  
EDUCATION

THE REVOLUTION STARTS NOW

Stephen K. Plaza, MD, MBA  
President and CEO  
Thomas Jefferson University &  
Jefferson Health



*One Name. Two Legacies. Infinite Possibilities.*

# New Jefferson

**J**efferson's past is defined by a history of medical firsts, from the first-in-America brain tumor removal to the first heart-lung bypass. We pioneered a medical education that augmented lectures in the amphitheater with clinical experiences in the hospital. Jefferson has been pushing boundaries, shifting paradigms, and inventing better ways of training doctors and healing patients since 1824. Our passion for firsts and our legacy of innovative leadership will keep us making history in the years ahead. That's why we are excited to announce our newest boundary-breaking advance, one that promises to spark a revolution in higher education.

As of July 1, 2017, Thomas Jefferson University and Philadelphia University (PhilaU) have combined to create a different kind of comprehensive university. The new, transformed **Jefferson (Philadelphia University + Thomas Jefferson University)** will deliver hands-on, transdisciplinary, interprofessional education in medicine, nursing, health professions, science, architecture, design, fashion, textiles, business, engineering, and more, all grounded in the liberal arts.

A July 5 article in *Forbes* about the merger begins, "This is not your typical ho-hum merger." It's true—our combination is a sign of a revolution in education. Indeed, higher education, like healthcare, is undergoing rapid and fundamental change, and this is a natural culmination of



the reimagination of Jefferson.

The future—in healthcare, in business, in almost every profession—is about collaboration and communication, teamwork and empathy, creativity and lifelong learning.

PhilaU has been a leader in experiential, real-world learning and has been nationally and internationally recognized for many of its programs (including recognition in interior design, 11th nationally; architecture, top 10 nationally; fashion, 8th nationally and 28th globally). Combining with an institution of such caliber and programming will position us to better prepare students to succeed and seize the future.

Innovation in health thrives when clinicians and healthcare professionals feel empowered to find their own solutions—to design smarter services, new devices, and better products. That's why we've been building design thinking into the Jefferson curriculum, and that's part of the reasoning behind our union with PhilaU. It's a merging of mindsets as much as a combination of institutions.

Both universities had already been collaborating: PhilaU architecture students and Jefferson medical students worked together on a hospital-of-the-future project, and PhilaU industrial design students and Jefferson occupational therapy and medical students took part in a course that used design thinking and next-generation technology to make caregiving better.

Yet this union is about more than healthcare. If anyone asks why an almost 200-year-old health sciences university would partner with a university that excels in design, innovation, and experiential learning, it's because together we can reimagine a new kind of professional education to meet a different kind of future—one where work and learning intersect, and where universities and industries are teaching and learning partners. The university of the future will look less like the traditional four-year institutions of today and more like 24/7 learning labs, where students and alumni return—in person and virtually—over the course of a career or careers.





*Innovation in health thrives when clinicians and healthcare professionals feel empowered to find their own solutions—to design smarter services, new devices, and better products.*



*Why now?* At a time when higher education is more and more under fire for not giving a sufficient return on student and parent investments, the answer is *We can't wait*. To spark the innovation needed to trigger sweeping change in higher education and healthcare, we must shatter the traditional mold for our industries. We're doing today what will become obvious to others tomorrow.

Jefferson's past was not shaped by being timid and playing it safe. That cannot shape our future either. We are creating a university that carries Jefferson's and PhilaU's DNA for creativity, confidence, and above all, disruptive innovation. We are transforming higher education and preparing graduates who will go out and shape a better future for us all.

We're still Jefferson, only more. We still offer the same great Jefferson education, only better, and you are still Jefferson alumni with roots in a legacy of leadership and firsts—a past *and a future* that leaves behind conventional thinking and old ways of getting it done.

We are thrilled to begin the next chapter of Jefferson together. 🍷

# The PhiladelphiaU



While locations, size, and programs have grown and changed over its storied history, Philadelphia University—now Jefferson (Philadelphia University + Thomas Jefferson University) – East Falls—has always remained true to its founders' mission to foster a culture of market-driven innovation in which students learn to integrate knowledge, develop broader analytical skills, and untangle complex problems. You see it in the studios, labs, and outreach study environments that combine professional skills, breadth of perspective, and synthesized decision-making abilities—all developed while working on real-world challenges.

# Story

BY TRISH SHEA



# M

aurice Kanbar '52, H'03, **began his inventive path** at a dude ranch in 1964, when he pulled away from a wall and became fascinated with how cleanly the sand crystals in the concrete removed the pills from his sweater. Thus was born the top-selling sweater comb, one of his myriad inventions and successful business enterprises.

As a freshman, Jordan DeCicco '20 needed a jump-start to get energized for his 5 a.m. practices as a point guard for Philadelphia University's Rams basketball team. After a futile search for a healthy iced drink to boost his energy, DeCicco—in the **true entrepreneurial spirit** of PhilaU—did the next best thing: He invented it himself.

Recent grad Renee Kakareka '17 **conceptualized** smart glasses that not only equip the hearing impaired with the ability to translate words into readable text, but are also affordable and fashionable.

These are just a few of the **thousands of snapshots of PhilaU's community** of designers, healthcare professionals, businesspeople, inventors, architects, engineers, and entrepreneurs. Their **bold and innovative spirits** resonate today as notably as they did in 1884, when Theodore C. Search established the Philadelphia Textile School to educate America's textile workers and managers—and **revolutionized the industry**.



## A History of Change and Innovation

# It

all began in the wake of the 1876 Centennial Exposition, when a group of local textile manufacturers, led by Search, noticed a sizeable gap between the quality, capacity, technology, and variety of American textile products and those displayed by their rival European mills. To address this gap, the group formed the Philadelphia Association of Manufacturers of Textile Fabrics, with Search as its president, to fight for higher tariffs on imported textiles.

Search went one step further and began investigating how to educate local textile leaders. He joined the board of directors of the Philadelphia Museum and the School of Industrial Art (now the Philadelphia Museum of Art and the University of the Arts, respectively), thinking they were the perfect partners for his plans to establish a school, and began fundraising in 1882.

Two years later, on November 5, the doors opened at 1336 Spring Garden Street for the first textile educational institution in the United States: Philadelphia Textile School. With five students and Search himself teaching classes, the school quickly experienced rapid growth. By 1890, enrollment stood at 268 students from 11 counties and nine states. While this increase was impressive, the school faced the challenge of accommodating an unexpected overflow of students it had to turn away due to

lack of space. In 1891, the School moved to Buttonwood Street, which allowed for an expansion of academic offerings and an increased capacity of students.

The school survived the Depression and entered a new period of growth at the outset of World War II. In 1941, Philadelphia Textile School was granted the right to award baccalaureate degrees, and a year later changed its name to the Philadelphia Textile Institute (PTI). Eight years later, having decided to sever its ties with the museum, PTI moved to its present site in the East Falls section of Philadelphia.

In 1961, the school once again changed its name, to Philadelphia College of Textiles & Science. The college's student population doubled between 1954 and 1964, and again by 1978, with programs in the arts, sciences, and business administration being introduced. The college purchased an adjoining property in 1972, doubling the size of its campus. In 1976, it offered its first graduate degree, the Master of Business Administration. The purchase of additional properties in East Falls in 1980 and 1988 nearly doubled the campus again, adding classrooms, research laboratories, student residences, and athletic facilities.

During the 1990s, the college expanded its undergraduate majors to prepare students for current and emerging

fields.. To better reflect the institution's breadth and depth, the college applied for and was granted university status by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in 1999. And, in a historic move, the board of trustees voted to change the school's name to Philadelphia University, making it the only private university to be named after the city of Philadelphia.

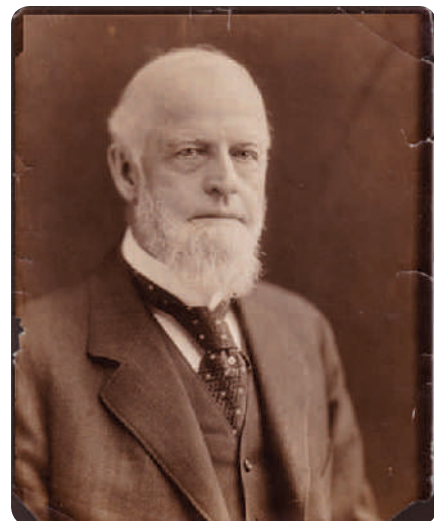
### Academics

In the first part of the 21st century, students from 38 states and 30 countries could choose from more than 70 undergraduate and graduate degree programs.

Academic programs were housed in the College of Architecture and the Built Environment; the innovative Kanbar College of Design, Engineering and Commerce; the College of Science, Health and the Liberal Arts; and the School of Continuing and Professional Studies. Courses were also offered via PhilaU Online.

While its locations, size, and programs have grown and changed over its storied history, the university has always remained true to its founders' mission to foster a culture of market-driven innovation in which students learn to integrate knowledge, develop broader decision-making skills, and untangle complex problems.

Theodore C. Search, founder of Philadelphia Textile School —now Jefferson (Philadelphia University + Thomas Jefferson University) – East Falls—, was a renowned businessman, as well as president of the National Association of Manufacturers and managing director of the Stetson Company. His legacy has inspired generations of students to innovate and find solutions to real-world challenges.





## Redefining Humanly Possible

Active, collaborative, real-world learning that is grounded in the liberal arts is the definition of the University's signature approach to teaching and learning, Nexus Learning. It's an approach that mirrors industry and has become renowned for being the model for professional university education.

Since its inception in 2008, Nexus Learning has provided students with a thinking-and-doing education where the stakes are real and the outcomes rewarding. It is a key factor in the University's achievement of a 95 percent job and graduate school success rate. The student academic experiences go beyond four walls, out into the real world where practical, integrative experiences make an ideal ecosystem for entrepreneurship and innovation. As professionals from their first day on campus, students work across disciplines and with industry partners to identify and solve problems, and experience what's happening in industry and the greater world.

Last spring, industrial design, occupational therapy, and JeffDESIGN SKMC students took part in the novel Medicine + Industrial Design course—the first course enrolling both PhilaU and Thomas Jefferson University students.

Their coursework focused on creating a new set of standards that would reduce anxiety in patients undergoing “awake” surgery, procedures that allow them to opt for localized and/or regional anesthesia instead of general anesthesia. Their system incorporated modifications to the operating room environment, better pre-op communication

with patients and their families, and new training for surgeons.

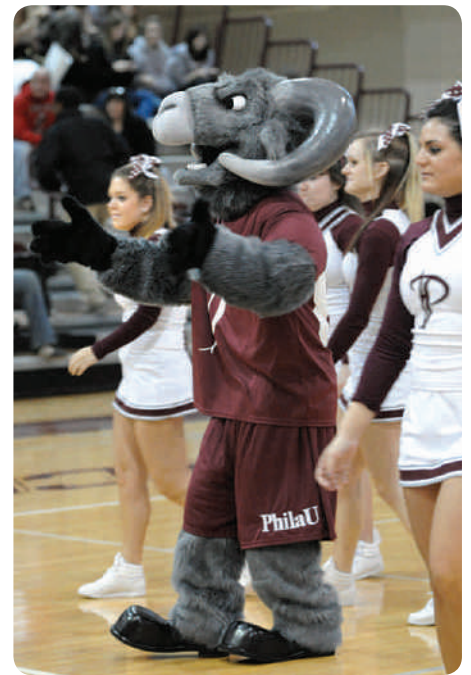
Architecture students and medical students also came together recently to investigate healthcare industry trends, emerging design and healthcare technologies, virtual reality, and real-time sensing and actuating. They worked with practitioners from architecture firms Ennead in New York and EwingCole in Philadelphia. The final project focused on redesigning the building envelope of existing Jefferson Hospital buildings to improve their environmental, energy, and health-related performances.

Architecture students had access to a hospital to do direct observations and talk with clinicians and staff, while medical students learned from architects how redesigning the built environment can improve health outcomes.

## Going Beyond the Classroom

PhilaU has consistently been a leader in establishing programs in emerging fields that more effectively meet the challenges and expectations of today's workforce. This year alone, four new programs and a specialization were introduced: PhD in midwifery, MS in real estate development, MS in global fashion design management, an online MS in construction management, and an art therapy specialization MS in community and trauma counseling.

Existing programs continue to receive accolades. Top national and international rankings have been designated to the physician assistant, landscape architecture, disaster medicine and management, graphic design, industrial, interior design, fashion, sustainable design, interior design,





*The award-winning Nexus Learning—active, collaborative, real-world learning that is infused with the liberal arts*

From its humble beginnings on Spring Garden Street, Jefferson – East Falls has grown to a 104-acre campus in the East Falls section of Philadelphia, 10 minutes north-west of Center City Philadelphia. The campus consists of 52 buildings, including classrooms, laboratories, studios, the Paul J. Gutman Library, resident facilities, an exhibition gallery, and the 72,000-square-foot Kanbar Campus Center; the Gallagher Athletic, Recreation and Convocation Center; the LEED Gold Center for Sustainability, Energy Efficiency and Design; the Arlen Specter Center for Public Service; the PhilaU Residences at Falls Center; and the Lawrence N. Field DEC Center.

architecture, and interior architecture programs.

Community outreach is also part of the experiential learning experience, supporting and partnering with the Philadelphia community in which it thrives. One such outreach effort focuses on building a trauma-informed workforce within the District of Philadelphia's public and private schools by equipping municipal workers with the knowledge and tools they need to innovate in their jobs and promote positive change in city government. Landscape architecture students worked with residents of the city's Kingsessing section to design a common space that fully reflects the neighborhood's assets, while providing a meaningful ecological value for native birds and pollinators, and a vibrant green space for residents to relax in and enjoy.

Last fall, graduate industrial design students worked with Center City medical students to develop solutions to

maximize then-18-year-old Lariq Byrd's limited use of his left wrist and hand, the result of a stray bullet that left him mostly paralyzed from the neck down. Using digital fabrication technology, 3-D printing, and patient-centered design, the students worked in teams, collaborating on problem definition, idea refinement, and prototyping. One team devised a remote-control system that would allow Byrd to use micromovements of his hand to change the channel on his television and play video games; another group designed a glove to improve Byrd's handgrip.

### Healthy Minds and Bodies

With 17 NCAA Division II Men's and Women's sports, athletic and fitness programs are integral parts of the student experience. More than 50 percent of the university's students are involved in some form of fitness activities, whether it's an NCAA team, intramural sports, or the Fitness Center.

The university is well known for its strong athletics programs, particularly in basketball. Herb Magee '63 is celebrating his 51st season as head coach of the men's team this year and was inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame. One of the most decorated coaches in the history of basketball, Magee has won 1,053 games—the most in NCAA Division II men's basketball history and the second-highest total across all three divisions. The 1970 team was the NCAA Division II Men's Basketball National Champions.

Assistant Vice President of Athletics and Women's Basketball Coach Tom Shirley was named the 2015–16 Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference (CACC) Athletic Director of the Year for the second year in a row. He is the third women's basketball coach in NCAA Division II history to earn 700 career wins.

Overall, the Rams boast the most-ever CACC championships for women's cross country, women's tennis, women's basketball, men's basketball, men's tennis, and women's lacrosse.

### Philadelphia University + Thomas Jefferson University

No matter where they focus their talents, PhilaU alumni know how to lead and achieve. For generations, they have been among the world's chiefs, champions, innovators, influencers, athletes, and researchers. Now, PhilaU's fashion designers, textile designers, architects, financial planners, engineers, entrepreneurs, and inventors— together with Thomas Jefferson University's equally distinguished faculty, students, and alumni—are the faces of the new Jefferson, who dream big, create trends, and redefine humanly possible. 🏆

Jay McCarroll, PhilaU alumnus and inaugural winner of Project Runway



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# COMING FALL 2018



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A PLACE TO RECONNECT. A PLACE TO REMINISCE.

For more information, please go to [Jefferson.edu/AlumniCenterCampaign](http://Jefferson.edu/AlumniCenterCampaign)

A NEW HOME BASE FOR ALL GRADUATES

# Two Alumnae, One Vision

BY KAREN L. BROOKS



A state-of-the-art anatomy lab with six separate dissecting rooms. Specialized computer classrooms for students across all disciplines. A fitness center with an 18-meter swimming pool. Ample research laboratories, teaching facilities and academic offices.

Jefferson Alumni Hall has a lot to offer. One resource it lacks? A dedicated space where graduates can gather when they return to the University. **That's about to change.**

Thanks to a leadership gift from two alumnae, Marie Pinizzotto, MD '88, MBA, and Carol Ammon, BSN '17, MBA, visitors returning to Jefferson will soon be able to head to an alumni lounge to sip a beverage and enjoy reconnecting. Or have a seat on a cozy couch and flip through an old yearbook. Or attend a variety of meetings and presentations in a high-tech conference room.

Visions of a formal alumni center have been brewing at Jefferson for years, and Pinizzotto and Ammon have set the project's wheels in motion by contributing \$2.5 million toward an end goal of \$4.8 million in the Jefferson Alumni Center Capital Campaign, which will also support a new Alumni Center Scholarship Endowment to benefit students Jefferson-wide.

"Carol and Marie have made a gift to all alumni that honors their collective achievements and offers them a home away from home," says Jefferson Provost Mark L. Tykocinski, MD. "In doing this, they are also serving current

After earning an undergraduate degree in biology with a minor in chemistry, Ammon began working in research and development with a company under the DuPont umbrella in Delaware and set her eyes on a PhD. But then she obtained a promotion into the company's regulatory affairs department and discovered she enjoyed the business side of the pharmaceutical industry even more than the scientific side.

"Long-term, I began to see myself running one of DuPont's businesses. That prompted me to take on as many different positions as possible to gain as much experience as I could," she says. Gradually, she climbed the ranks, and attending Harvard Business School's advanced management program in 1995 convinced her she was ready for a major leap. "I sat there with 150 people in senior positions from all around the world—141 men and nine women—and recognized that I was really competitive and equipped to start my own business."

So when DuPont (by then DuPont Merck Pharmaceutical



Blueprints for the planned Alumni Center; alumni will relax and gather in shared spaces in the main reception area, courtyard, and lounge

students, as the new center will bring them together with graduates of all of the Jefferson Colleges for invaluable mentorship and career development opportunities."

### Professional Dynamos

Ammon and Pinizzotto share a slew of qualities: generosity, ambition, self-confidence. Perhaps the best term to encapsulate the pair is "high energy." With deep roots in the health sciences, both women have led impressive careers.

The only daughter in a family with four children, Ammon developed a bold streak early in her youth. Her interest in "things that just weren't done by girls at the time"—like playing Little League and having a paper route—shaped her daring personality.

"It was frustrating to see my brothers do things that I wasn't allowed to. I had to push harder to be able to do what I wanted, and since then I've never accepted hearing, 'You can't do that,'" she says.

Company) moved to sell dozens of products, Ammon raised her hand as a buyer, approaching investors herself and completing a leveraged buyout that enabled her to found Endo Pharmaceuticals.

"A lot of people think I bought Endo out of DuPont, but what I did was acquire old, old pain management products that were usually filled with a generic. I had to build a business plan that would breathe new life into these products...I wanted to give people more choices in how to manage their pain," she says.

Ammon's plan worked. When she started Endo in 1997, there were 28 employees and \$100 million in equity. When she stepped down a decade later, there were more than 750 employees and a market capitalization of \$4 billion.

Pinizzotto forged her own path to professional success. Upon graduating from Jefferson, she served a residency in obstetrics and gynecology at the Medical Center of Delaware,

choosing the specialty because “it involved constant movement”—a good match for her energetic nature. She had been in practice for nine years when a headhunter for Wyeth Pharmaceuticals cold-called her office, seeking someone to head the company’s women’s healthcare division for drug safety, overseeing pharmacovigilance (the science of detecting, assessing, and preventing adverse effects from medications) and risk management. She interviewed and got the job.

“I learned an entirely new field of healthcare. Working at a pharmaceutical company helps one become an even better clinician. You review current literature—literature that is not yet published,” Pinizzotto says. “At the time, I was still working in the clinic half a day per week. I felt like I had an edge, being up-to-date on the latest studies that could benefit my patients.”

Pinizzotto remained in the pharmaceutical industry for the remainder of her career, ultimately starting her own consulting firm centered on pharmacovigilance and risk management.

“Marie’s reputation preceded her. Many of the major companies were calling her for her expertise in risk management,” Ammon says. “Her success as a physician is so clearly noted—everywhere she goes, someone stops to ask her to please go back into practice. They talk about her excellence in the clinic and the joy they shared with her bringing their babies into the world.”

### **Full Lives, Big Hearts**

Since retiring from their pharmaceutical careers, Ammon and Pinizzotto have devoted much of their time to philanthropy and nonprofit leadership. Ammon is a member of the board of trustees for the University of Delaware and the Hagley Museum and Library and previously served as a chair of the board of Christiana Care. Through the Carol A. Ammon Foundation, she and Pinizzotto—who serves as president and CEO of the foundation—contribute to organizations relating to healthcare and education.

Together, the women support a broad range of causes, but some are particularly close to their hearts. In her clinical practice, Pinizzotto was troubled by mental health issues among her patients and the lack of the proper resources to address these issues.

“My patients would talk to me about everything from menopausal emotions to marital problems,” she says. “I didn’t feel equipped to cover everybody’s mental health issues and found a general lack of access to good mental healthcare.” Two years ago, she and Ammon named the Ammon-Pinizzotto Center for Women’s Mental Health at Massachusetts General Hospital, championing research and treatment efforts in the field.

Pinizzotto is a member of the President’s Leadership Council at Jefferson and enjoys “hearing firsthand about Steve Klasko’s vision for responding to changes in health-care.” She also sits on the board of the Eisenhower Medical Center in Palm Desert, California, and the Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation.

## Diploma Nurses Stick Together,



**“The great use of a life is to spend it on something that will outlast it.”**

Rae Fierro, DN '77, referenced this quote from renowned philosopher and educator William James when speaking about the Pinizzotto-Ammon Alumni Center at the annual Jefferson Diploma Nurses luncheon last spring. As president of the Diploma Nurses Alumni Association, Fierro—an outpatient surgery nurse at Jefferson—proposed that the group cement its legacy with a contribution to the new center.

“That’s what I wanted to do—create something that would long outlast our members,” Fierro explains. “Our program closed in 1982, and our youngest alumna is now 55 years old. We won’t live forever, but our legacy will.”

Fierro’s presentation at the luncheon resulted in a gift to name the Diploma Nurses Alumni Association Conference Room in the new center. She and her peers agreed that technology and social media interfere with good old-fashioned face time, and they see the center as a place that will build relationships and cultivate collegiality.

“When I celebrated my 40th reunion this year, it was so rewarding to see so many of my class members who took the time to come back and connect,” she says. “I hope the center inspires younger alumni to feel the same allegiance we do.”





Artist's rendering of Jefferson Alumni Hall on Locust Street between 10th and 11th streets, the future home of the new Alumni Center

### Jefferson—and Its Alumni—on Their Minds

Ammon recently fulfilled a personal dream by enrolling in the Jefferson College of Nursing. She graduated with a BSN last spring—at age 66.

During her course work, Ammon spent a lot of time in Jefferson Alumni Hall and noticed there was no adequate space to accommodate alumni returning to campus. Having previously supported Jefferson through gifts toward foot and ankle research and professional development programs for physicians and nurses, she and Pinizzotto decided to help the University build on its already-growing alumni relations momentum by funding a new alumni facility, which they're eager to see used by graduates of any program.

"We want this to be an appealing place for cocktail hours, special speakers, informal gatherings...and we want

students to see it so that when they become alumni, they will be excited to come back," Ammon says.

The Marie E. Pinizzotto, MD '88, MBA and Carol A. Ammon, BSN '17, MBA Alumni Center will occupy 6,400 square feet in the west wing of the second floor of Jefferson Alumni Hall on Locust Street between 10th and 11th streets. Features will include space for alumni events and reunion activities, a lounge for visiting alumni and their families, a technology-enabled boardroom, and an office suite for alumni relations staff.

Set for completion in summer 2018, renovations will leave the center looking as much like a museum as a gathering space. Archival display cases will showcase items such as yearbooks, photographs, medical and science artifacts, and other Jefferson memorabilia to create a "living time capsule" that will remind visitors how far the institution has come since its founding in 1824.

***Set for completion in summer 2018, renovations will leave the center looking as much like a museum as a gathering space.***

Ammon says she and Pinizzotto would like to see all alumni remain part of the Jefferson community, no matter where they live or what degree they earned.

"If we keep people focused on the great education they got at Jefferson, our hope is that they will want to give back for years to come." 📌

## and With Jefferson

TOP LEFT: Laurel Gutter '79, Kathleen Wapner Schneider '79, Theresa McGlynn Rupp '79, and Kathleen Corse '79

BOTTOM LEFT: Betty Anne Hedges '77, Rae Fierro '77 (president of the Jefferson Diploma Nurses Alumni Association), Pat DeHart '77 (recording secretary), and Karen Mulligan Robnett '77 (vice president)

BELOW: Donna Ranieri Ambrogi '75 with Karen Jordan '76

RIGHT: This photo, taken in 1893, is of the graduating classes of 1893 and 1894 (the first of the Training School).





## College of Biomedical Sciences

### JCBS LAUNCHES MS IN HUMAN GENETICS

Beginning in fall 2017, the Jefferson College of Biomedical Sciences will offer a new Master of Science in human genetics. Genetic counseling is a rapidly expanding and diversifying profession that offers opportunities for practice in a wide variety of settings, such as hospitals and clinics, academia, laboratories, government agencies, public health, consulting, and advocacy. Practice areas encompass many specialties, including prenatal, pediatrics, cardiology, neurology, metabolic disorders, infertility, cancer, and many others. As a profession that blends scientific information with clinical, ethical, psychological, and legal skills, genetic counselors have a uniquely satisfying and rewarding career that is in high demand.

For more information, visit [Jefferson.edu/university/biomedical-sciences](http://Jefferson.edu/university/biomedical-sciences).

### 11TH POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

The Jefferson Postdoctoral Association and the Jefferson College of Biomedical Sciences Office of Postdoctoral Affairs hosted the 11th Jefferson Postdoctoral Research Symposium (PRS) on May 31, 2017. The keynote speaker was William Kaelin, MD, from the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Harvard Medical School. The Postdoc Presenter Winners were:

#### Outstanding Oral Presenters

- Xiaosong He, MD, from the laboratory of Joseph Tracy, PhD, ABPP/CN
- Valentina Minieri, MD, from the laboratory of Bruno Calabretta, MD, PhD

#### Outstanding Poster Presenters

- Clare Adams, MD, from the laboratory of Christine Eischen, PhD
- Adam Bartok, MD, from the laboratory of Gyorgy Hajnockzy, MD, PhD
- David Booth, MD, from the laboratory of Gyorgy Hajnockzy, MD, PhD
- Lauren Jablonowski, MD, from the laboratory of Flemming Forsberg, PhD
- Aurore Lebrun, MD, from the laboratory of Craig Hooper, PhD

### COREY ROGERS RECEIVES POSTER AWARD

▶ Corey Rogers, Biochemistry and Molecular Pharmacology PhD candidate, received a Poster Award at the recent "Cell Death, Cell Stress and Metabolism" conference held in Cancún, Mexico, March 14–17. His poster and presentation were titled "Cleavage of DFNA5 by Caspase-3 Mediates Progression from Apoptosis to Secondary Necrosis."

## College of Health Professions

### NEW MS IN MEDICAL PHYSICS

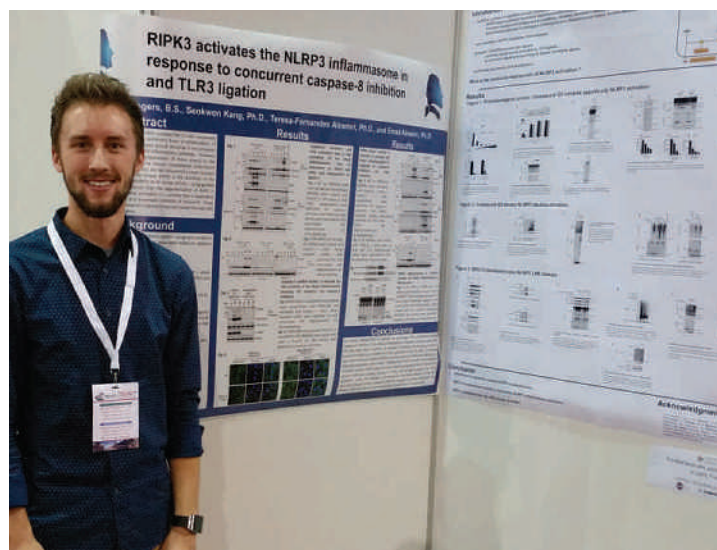
Jefferson launched a Master of Science in medical physics in the fall, which prepares students to work as medical physicists in hospitals, clinics, or medical schools. Medical physicists are involved in three main areas: clinical service and consultation, particularly diagnosis and treatment; research and development; and teaching.

Lecture courses are supplemented with lab exercises designed to give students their first experiences with safety precautions, dose calculations, treatment planning, and equipment calibration. Additionally, an extensive clinical curriculum solidifies students' practical knowledge of medical physics. Jefferson is also the only program in the Philadelphia region that offers training on the two largest suppliers of linear accelerators in the United States, giving graduates the advantage of having worked with both types of machines.

### NEW PROGRAM PREPARES STUDENTS FOR MEDICAL PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT

The Medical Product Development Post-Graduate Certificate Program, offered through the Department of Medical Laboratory Sciences and Biotechnology, is designed to provide core knowledge of the medical product development process. Courses are delivered online in a hybrid approach, both lecture-based and self-paced. The program focuses on medical diagnostics and devices and the U.S. regulatory approval process, although it also highlights differences with other types of products and international regulatory considerations.

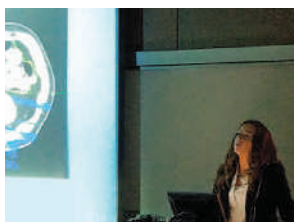
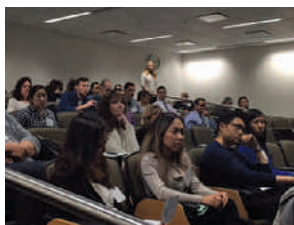
Students will learn project management and development of new medical products and services and gain skills to work in R&D, manufacturing, RAQA, marketing, and support. Coursework focuses on identifying customer requirements, understanding compliance, designing for improved performance, addressing risks, and building market success.



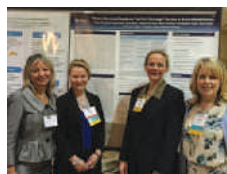
## College of Nursing

### MEDICAL DOSIMETRY CONTINUING EDUCATION DAY

Jefferson's first Medical Dosimetry Continuing Education Day was held on May 6, 2017. The topics presented showcased a variety of modalities and techniques used by dosimetrists in the care of oncology patients. All six speakers were alumni of TJU's Dosimetry Program: Bryan Streitfeld '16, Ontida Apinorasethkul '11, Jillian Hession-Daly '13, Chavanon Apinorasethkul '14, Nelly Ju '13, and George Cherian '08. Attendees were medical dosimetrists and radiation therapists from the tri-state area. This seminar was awarded continuing education credits from both the ASRT and MDCB professional societies. It also provided opportunities for networking and peer instruction, which have continued following the workshop.



### JCN FACULTY AND STUDENTS PRESENT AT THE ENRS CONFERENCE



Jefferson College of Nursing was well represented at the Eastern Nursing Research Society (ENRS) 29th Annual Conference held in Philadelphia in April 2017. Faculty and students made several presentations on a wide range of topics related to the conference theme of "Leading the Way: Building Strength and Unity in the Diversity of Nursing Science."

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#### Faculty

- Susan Egger: Poster, *The Interprofessional Communication Scale*
- Mary Hanson-Zalot: Poster, *Perceptions of Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program Graduates Regarding Andragogical Practices Employed by Faculty*
- Mary Lou Manning, Monika Pogorezelska-Masiarz: Poster, *DNP Students' Ability to Recognize and Assess Interprofessional Collaborative Practice: Evaluation of a Clinical Practicum Experience*
- Mary Lou Manning, Monika Pogorezelska-Masiarz: Poster, *Infection Prevention and Control in Baccalaureate Nursing Education: Identifying Content, Teaching Strategies and Gaps*
- Anne Bradley Mitchell: Poster, *Older Adult Participation with Neighborhood Walking Audits*; Poster, *Walking Patterns among African American Older Adults*
- Sharon Rainer: Podium Presentation, *Assessing Quality of Pain Management of Older Adults in Emergency Care*
- Kathleen Black: Poster, *Development and Psychometric Testing of the Nipple Shield Satisfaction Survey (NSSS)*

#### Students

- Janice Carsello: Poster, *Evaluation of Practice Standards for Prescribing Oral Chemotherapy using ASCO/ONS Guidelines*
- Claire Donahue, Jessica Dochney, Kelly Davis, Nicole Beyer, Christopher Evans, Karen Dunham, Patty Pollack: Poster, *The Perceived Readiness Tool*

## College of Nursing (cont.)

### JCN BSN PROGRAM AT ABINGTON – DIXON AND ARIA CAMPUSES

Jefferson College of Nursing began offering its Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program at the Abington – Dixon Campus in Willow Grove, Pennsylvania, in the fall semester, with plans to also extend it to the Aria Campus in Trevoise, Pennsylvania.

The new baccalaureate nursing curriculum is based on the theme of Health Is H.E.R.E. (Humanistic, Evidence-based, Reflective, and Excellence in clinical leaders). The framework that guides the baccalaureate curriculum at JCN is Promoting Health and Quality of Life Along the Care Continuum. This framework emphasizes the promotion of health and quality of life in a variety of populations during transitions of care from one setting to another and is guided by curricular themes of innovation, population health, interprofessional collaboration, and practice excellence.

### JCN IS PROUD TO PARTICIPATE AS A STRATEGIC PARTNER WITH THE NURSES ON BOARDS COALITION

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and AARP joined forces to form the Nurses on Boards Coalition (NOBC) in 2014, as a direct response to the landmark 2010 Institute of Medicine (IOM) report, *The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health*. The NOBC brought together national nursing and other organizations to work at an unprecedented level toward achieving the Nurses on Boards Coalition goal to improve the health of communities and the nation through the service of nurses on executive boards by placing at least 10,000 nurses by 2020. Boards and other senior leadership bodies benefit from the unique perspective of nurses and are an important component of our mission to improve health and create effective healthcare systems at the local, state, and national levels.

## College of Pharmacy

### JEFFERSON COLLEGE OF PHARMACY STUDENTS RECOGNIZED FOR SERVICE TO SENIOR COMMUNITY RESIDENTS



On June 29, 2017, the Cedars Village affordable housing site was recognized with a Best Practice Award by the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency (PHFA) for their partnership with

Jefferson College of Pharmacy (JCP). This award highlights the healthy living programs presented to the residents of Cedars Village by first-year JCP student pharmacists.

Each academic semester, JCP trainees enrolled in the Healthcare-Related Service Learning course present to the Cedars Village senior citizen residents on topics such as preventative healthcare, medication adherence, blood pressure measurement, and nutrition.

The partnership offers JCP student pharmacists the opportunity to gain valuable experience educating and communicating with the Cedars Village seniors as they apply the skills they are learning in their pharmacy coursework. The seniors benefit from the knowledge and personal interactions that result from their participation in these activities.



### JCP ASSOCIATE DEAN APPOINTED CO-DIRECTOR OF UNIVERSITY INTERPROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

Elena Umland, PharmD, JCP associate dean of Academic Affairs and professor of Pharmacy Practice, has been named co-director of the Jefferson Center for Interprofessional Practice and Education (see page 32). Umland shares JCIPE responsibilities with Lauren Collins, MD SKMC '02, who is an Associate Professor of Family and Community Medicine and Geriatrics at Sidney Kimmel Medical College.

Since 2007, Umland has been JCP's Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, serving as the primary pharmacy liaison to JCIPE and its programs. Umland was one of the first recipients of Jefferson's IPE Education Award, and she currently facilitates pharmacy faculty involvement in a number of IPE activities, including the Health Mentors Program, the End of Life Symposium (part of an IP Grand Rounds course), TeamSAFE training, and a Root Cause Analysis event. Umland also serves as chair of the IPE curriculum committee, where she has launched the development of a new online inventory for tracking student participation in IPE activities, as well as a new transcript designation for Excellence in Collaborative Practice.

Umland received her undergraduate and doctor of pharmacy degrees from Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science. She completed an American Society of Health-System Pharmacist Primary Care pharmacy practice residency at VA Medical Center in Iowa City and completed the Academic Leadership Fellows Program with the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy.



Recipients of the Pennsylvania Pharmacists Association 2017 Ten Under Ten Award: (front) Roshni Patel, PharmD; Melinda Kozminski, PharmD; Nicole Pezzino, PharmD; Kyle McCormick, PharmD; Renee Richardson, PharmD; (back) Jamie McConaha, PharmD; Stephanie McGrath, PharmD; AJ Greco, PharmD; Brandon Antinopolous, PharmD; Sarah Dombroski, PharmD.

### JCP STUDENT TEAM RANKED 4TH IN NATIONAL STUDENT PHARMACIST COMPETITION

JCP student pharmacists Nick Hastain, Ileka Ifejika, and Nancy Tang placed fourth in the American College of Clinical Pharmacy (ACCP) – 2017 Clinical Research Challenge.

Eighty-two schools participated in this innovative and unique competition, where teams of three pharmacy students initially participated in an online journal club for the opportunity to submit a research proposal and officially enter the running. The top 40 teams advanced to Round 2 and were given a clinically focused research question on which to focus a Letter of Intent (LOI) outlining a proposed course of study.

Teams achieving the top 20 scores after the LOI round were advanced to Round 3 and invited to submit a complete research proposal. After being named in the top 20 in March 2017, the JCP team submitted a research proposal titled “Student Pharmacists and Pharmacists Ensuring Children Improve their Asthmatic Lives through TelepharmacY (SPECIALTY): A Transition of Care Plan for Asthma Exacerbations in Pediatric Patients.”

This competition, which is open to only first- and second-year pharmacy students, was launched by ACCP in 2016. This is the second year in a row that a JCP team has placed in the top four, with last year’s team placing third in the overall competition.

### ▲ JCP FACULTY MEMBER RECEIVES PPA AWARD

Roshni Patel, PharmD, assistant professor of Pharmacy Practice at Thomas Jefferson University – Jefferson College of Pharmacy, received a Ten Under Ten Award from the Pennsylvania Pharmacists Association (PPA) on September 23 at their 2017 annual conference in Pocono Manor, Pennsylvania.

Founded in 1878, the PPA is a professional membership organization of more than 2,300 pharmacists and pharmacy students across Pennsylvania, representing almost all facets of pharmacy practice. As the leading voice of pharmacy in Pennsylvania, it promotes the profession through advocacy, education, and communication to enhance patient care and public health.

The Ten Under Ten Awards recognize the top 10 pharmacists practicing for less than 10 years who demonstrate commitment to advancing the profession, involvement in PPA and other pharmacy associations, and/or service to their community. The awards are presented every three years.

# Carol Ammon, BSN '17, MBA

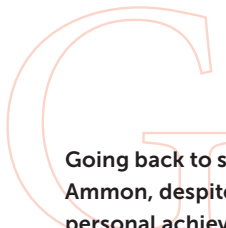
*A Brand-New Nurse, on a Mission*



TOP: Brittany Cole, Rachael McDowell, Priti Patel, Caitlyn Coupe, Carol Ammon, Stephen Mora, RaeAnn Hathaway, and Jenn Morgan enjoy a sunny afternoon on campus, having lunch together in the city one last time as Nursing students.

BOTTOM: Classmates Stephen Mora, Rachael McDowell, Carol Ammon, Priti Patel, Beth Contreras, and Caitlyn Coupe gather at Carol's apartment to share her favorite meal, eggplant parmesan.





**Going back to school in her 60s proved daunting for Carol Ammon, despite her extensive list of past professional and personal achievements.**

"I was concerned about my age because I was taking somebody's place in the program, and I thought the other students might think I had no right to be there," says Ammon, who began Jefferson's one-year, full-time accelerated coursework track (FACT-1) program in spring 2016.

She needn't have worried. "I cannot tell you how welcoming all of these kids—at least, I call them kids—were. They invited me to everything and made me so much a part of the group. They even took me to dinner for my birthday, made me cookies, bought me a gift ... it didn't matter to them that I was the only one with a Medicare card!"

Classmate Caitlyn Coupe, BSN '17, says Ammon fit in perfectly. "You would never know how much she'd accomplished unless you Googled her, which she actually asked me not to do. After everything she's done in life, she still manages to be a genuine, humble, down-to-earth human being who would beat herself up if she got a B on a test."

Ammon decided to pursue a nursing degree after stepping down from high-profile leadership roles in the pharmaceutical and nonprofit arenas so she could immerse herself in healthcare delivery and connect individually with patients. Rather than envisioning herself with a standard position after graduation, she enrolled at Jefferson to prepare herself for participation in medical mission trips to underserved countries around the world.

"I'd also like to volunteer a couple days a week in an inner-city environment, in clinics where people have the least amount of healthcare but the greatest need," Ammon says, citing an interest in care management and educational initiatives. "Jefferson took great care in teaching us about the social dynamics of healthcare and the cultural sensitivities and awareness you need as a nurse. One of my favorite things about our program was the focus on the uniqueness that each patient brings."

According to Coupe, Ammon served as a support system for others in the FACT program, inviting them to study at her home in Delaware or to use the apartment she rented in



**We all want to be Carol when we grow up.**



Philadelphia if they were too tired to commute home after a long day at Jefferson. She was a sounding board, a cheerleader, a comedian, and an excellent listener.

"She would also constantly 'sneak-pay' our tab if we went out—she'd leave and then later on, we'd find out our bill had already been paid," Coupe recalls.

The group as a whole sought a meaningful way of thanking Ammon for her generosity and secretly devised the "#CarolCares for Cancer Research" campaign, which raised funds for blood cancer research—a cause close to Ammon's heart. They solicited donations and hosted an event at a local bar whose owners they convinced to donate half the night's proceeds. In the end, they raised more than \$12,000.

Ammon was floored. "They made this happen while they were just as busy as I was, and they took the time to understand what was really important to Marie and me. It was an extraordinary honor that said so much to me about their generation. These are the caregivers of the future, and they are very special people."

The admiration is mutual. Currently finishing up a four-month residency on the medical-surgical unit at Christiana Hospital in Newark, Delaware, Ammon is preparing for her first mission trip to Haiti in January.

"It's remarkable that her whole reason for studying nursing was to give back more than she already has by volunteering," says Coupe—who believes she speaks for her fellow classmates when declaring, "We all want to be Carol when we grow up." —KAREN L. BROOKS

# Alia Salam, MPH '17

Helping Refugees on the Ground

“I wanted something where I applied knowledge on the ground.”



**On May 9, shortly before Alia Salam, MPH '17 graduated from Jefferson College of Population Health,** the Section on Public Health and Preventive Medicine honored her with its Student Recognition Award—one of three awards they present each year at the Annual Public Health Student Poster Session to recognize outstanding achievements in the Philadelphia public health community. Following commencement, Alia also received the Distinguished Capstone Project Award on June 16 for her thesis presentation, “Shedding Light on Communication Disorders in Syrian Refugee Children.” Between these noteworthy accomplishments, we caught up with Alia to learn more about her and what’s next for her.

**How did you come to Jefferson and find your way to studying population health?**

I actually was interested in Jefferson since high school. I thought I would go to Temple, do basic science, and then go to Jefferson for my medical degree; but my career plan changed in my senior year of neuroscience at Temple. The war in Syria continued, and the destruction became massive. And the refugee population and displaced people inside Syria skyrocketed.

So I was like, there’s no way I can help my people with a neuroscience or a biomedical degree. I wanted something where I applied knowledge on the ground. Public health was perfect; it’s a very broad field, and it’s much needed in a war-torn country and in a host country for refugees. So I thought, I can go back home and help my people with a public health degree.

**Did you grow up in Syria?**

I am Syrian-Lebanese, born in Syria, but my nationality is Lebanese. My family came here 10 years ago, so I’m a U.S. citizen.

**What was it like at Jefferson?**

I loved my classes, my professors. We have awesome, highly experienced faculty, including our academic coordinator and adviser. And our program is well-connected to many facilities and institutions, which presents us with a wide array of clerkship opportunities.

**Did any experiences or opportunities stand out for you?**

My biggest project right now is with the Fox Chase Cancer Center, which is located in Northeast Philadelphia, an area with a big Arab population. I started working with them in February 2016, developing a program for breast cancer education and screening specifically for Arab Muslim women in the area. I just finished pilot testing the program, and I think the results are great.

**How did you feel when you heard that you were nominated for the Student Recognition Award?**

I was not sure why they chose me. But the director of the program told me, “It’s about your motivation, all of the work that you’ve been doing.” So that was very uplifting.

**Tell us about your thesis.**

Syrian refugee children in Lebanon have a lot of speech and language problems because they’re traumatized, and also because they’re not in the right nurturing environment. A psychologist that I was in contact with was already seeing children with these kinds of problems, and he agreed to document everything in a database. I told him the variables I needed and asked him to rate their problems from normal to mild to severe. Everything was anonymous. I analyzed the data and came up with recommendations.

I found that the children who had severe and complex communication disorders, more than one type, were less likely to be in school than their peers. They also had more behavioral and emotional problems than the rest of the group. And then I came up with recommendations on how we can help those kids stay in school, and how teachers can recognize the signs and work with them.

**What are you doing after graduation?**

I got a job with the Syrian American Medical Society (SAMS) in Lebanon. I’ve been in contact with them for a long time; when I applied to Jefferson, I even said in my personal statement that once I get my MPH, I want to work for SAMS.

I did my thesis for them, and they loved my recommendations and want me to implement them. So we’re going to develop a program for Lebanese schools so they can accommodate the needs of Syrian refugee children. If I have the time, I might teach some educational programs, like English. 🇯 —EUGENE MYERS



## CLASS NOTES

'09

**Jason J. Zoeller, PhD '09** (molecular cell biology), was a co-principal investigator of research that recently won a U.S. Department of Defense "breakthrough" award grant for work on a drug combination that battles breast cancer. Zoeller, a postdoctoral fellow at Harvard University, received the award for having "promising research" in the cancer field. Zoeller conducted lab research on a drug combination for HER-2 breast cancer patients; the treatment has been tested in mice carrying grafted human tumors with promising results.

## Remembering Mamie Peace

**Mamie Polite Peace, 94, of Berwyn, Pa., died April 21, 2017. Peace worked at Jefferson for nearly 40 years, beginning in the mid-1950s as a staff nurse in the operating rooms and subsequently as faculty staff nurse, assistant supervisor, and then supervisor and acting director—before becoming the first black director of Jefferson's OR nurses in 1968.**

Rich Webster, TJUH president, and Mary Ann McGinley, senior vice president and chief nursing officer, told the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, "Mrs. Peace was passionate about her career as a nurse, and advanced her profession at a time when many women and African Americans were not always afforded the same opportunities."

Peace earned her nursing degree from New York University's Bellevue Hospital School of Nursing in 1947; a bachelor of science in professional arts from St. Joseph's College in Windham, Maine; and a certificate in personnel management from Penn State. She was an active member of the Association of periOperative Registered Nurses, serving as president of their Philadelphia chapter and on the national membership committee. She received numerous awards and recognitions for exceptional service and her commitment to the community, including citations from the Chapel of Four Chaplains, the mayor of Philadelphia, and the Philadelphia City Council.

Peace retired in 1987 to care for her aging mother. During her retirement, she was a member of Saints Memorial Baptist Church in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, where she volunteered and taught adult Sunday School and vacation Bible School, and was affectionately known as "Mom Peace." In February, Jefferson held a reception to honor her and her contributions to the Hospital and the medical field.

"She was a role model at Jefferson and to many because of her determination and will to succeed," Webster said. "Her legacy is one that is respected, and one that will be remembered here for many years."

Peace was preceded in death by her husband, Rev. Lee E. Peace, and her sisters, Ella Mae and Helen. She is survived by their daughters, Lynnell and Carmella; grandchildren, Raynell, Derrick, Angela, Jessica, Sharlette, and Devvyn; seven great-grandchildren; and other relatives and many friends.

## IN MEMORIAM

'39

**Victoria E. Malinoski, BSN '39**, 89, of East Hartford, Conn., died January 12, 2008. Malinoski lived in Mount Vernon, N.Y., for more than 65 years where she was a nurse at Mount Vernon Hospital. She served in the U.S. Army in Germany during World War II, where she attained the rank of captain and earned the Bronze Star.

Malinoski was predeceased by her parents, Michael and Stephanie, and her sisters, Mary and Margaret. She is survived by her brother, George, and other relatives.



At the February 23 reception: Mamie Peace (seated, in pink)

### NEW DIRECTOR OF THE OPERATING ROOM

Mrs. Mamie Polite Peace has been appointed Director of the Operating Room at Jefferson Hospital. She was formerly head nurse and supervisor, and has been with Jefferson since 1954.



A graduate of the Bellevue Hospital School of Nursing in New York, Mrs. Peace has been on the staff at Goldwater Memorial Hospital, New York and Hubbard Hospital, Nashville, Tennessee. She was a faculty member of Jefferson's School of Nursing and Instructor in Operating Room Nursing.

Mrs. Peace is President of the Philadelphia chapter of the Association of Operating Room Nurses and is currently a candidate for the Board of Directors of the National Association. She is President of the Sixtieth Street Area Block Council and is on the Board of Directors of Haven House.

She is married to the Rev. Lee E. Peace, Pastor of Faith Baptist Church in Camden, New Jersey.

'41

**Frances H. Rumberger, DN '41**, 96, of Johns Creek, Ga., died March 30, 2016. Rumberger was a longtime nurse with the Cumberland County School District in Pennsylvania. She is survived by her daughter, Suzanne; five grandchildren, Valeria, Joe, Lisa, Kim, and Kevin; 10 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husband of 54 years, Walter, one brother, and three sisters.

'43

**Dolores Imogene Davis Wilkinson, DN '43**, 94, of New Orleans, died March 30, 2016. Wilkinson was a U.S. Navy Nurses Corps veteran of World War II and served as an operating room supervisor at Jefferson. She is survived by her daughters, Margaret and Nancy; her son, James; 11 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; and 18 nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her husband of 38 years, Jimmie; her sisters, Margaret and Edythe; and her brother, James.

'48

**Sophia H. Gormish, BSN '48**, 90, of Northern Cambria, Pa., died March 21, 2017. Gormish was a charter member of the Navy Nurse Corps Association and a lifetime member of the Military Officers Association of America. As a Navy Nurse Corps officer, she had a diversified career, serving as a flight nurse during the Korean conflict. She served as a nursing arts instructor at the U.S. Naval Hospital Corps School, Great Lakes, Illinois; as a Navy Nurse Programs Officer for Western Pennsylvania; and as educational coordinator, medical and surgical supervisor, obstetrics and pediatrics supervisor, and chief of Nursing Service.

In addition to her parents, Gormish was preceded in death by her brothers, Andrew and Frederick. She is survived by her nephews, Clay and Deron; great-niece, Alyssa; and great-nephews, Nicholas and Benjamin.

'63

**Barbara W. Starnier, DN '63**, 73, of Carlisle, Pa., died April 29, 2016. Starnier was a registered nurse who worked in various Philadelphia-area hospitals and was also a real estate agent. She is survived by her daughter, Kristen; a granddaughter, Emily; and her longtime companion, Frank. She was preceded in death by her husband, Anthony; her son, Anthony, Jr.; and grandson, Michael.

To submit a class note or obituary for the *Review*, contact the Office of Institutional Advancement: **BY PHONE** 215-955-7751 **BY EMAIL** [alumni@jefferson.edu](mailto:alumni@jefferson.edu) **BY MAIL** 125 S. 9th Street, Suite 700, Philadelphia, PA 19107



*Catherine E. Phillips, RN, BSN  
1927–2016*

# Invest in the Future

**“‘Mother Jeff’ was everything to her. Her respect and admiration for every Jefferson-trained doctor was unrivaled; in her opinion they were the best. She totally believed in the institution.”**

— BETSY MYNAUGH, CATHERINE PHILLIPS' NIECE

Catherine E. Phillips received her RN from Bryn Mawr Hospital's School of Nursing, a BSN from Villanova University, and nurse anesthetist certification from Thomas Jefferson University. She worked for 40 years, nearly her entire professional career, at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital. The oldest of six children and the only daughter, Catherine loved and cherished family, and she considered Jefferson an important part of it—so much so, that those close to her knew the hospital as “Mother Jeff.”

Catherine, fondly known as “Liz” to her Jeff family, retired from Jefferson in 1989 and spent most of her retirement years traveling, dancing, gardening, swimming, and staying informed. “She was all about advancements through medical research and learning,” her niece Betsy recalls. “She never stopped reading, she never stopped keeping up-to-date with things that were going on in the field. She was the go-to person in the family whenever we had medical-related questions.”

So convinced of the positive results that medical research can achieve, Catherine saw to it that after she died her estate would follow through with her passion—with three estate gifts to support the Jane and Leonard Korman Lung Center, the Vicki and Jack Farber Institute for Neuroscience, and leukemia and lymphoma research at the Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center. These were gifts with personal significance, made to benefit others afflicted with the diseases that claimed the lives of three of Catherine's brothers and other family members. They also reflect how highly she valued the medical advances that enabled her to survive three different types of cancer.

To learn about including Jefferson in your will and other planned giving opportunities, contact:

Lisa W. Repko, JD  
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# 10 Years With JCIPE—and Beyond

Transforming Patient Care, Education, and Jefferson



The mission of the Jefferson Center for Interprofessional Practice and Education (JCIPE) is to improve patient care through implementing and evaluating patient-centered interprofessional education (IPE) and collaborative practice (CP) initiatives throughout Jefferson University. JCIPE recently received a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation grant subaward to serve as one of four national Student Hotspotting hubs.

We spoke with JCIPE co-directors Elena Umland, PharmD, JCP associate dean of Academic Affairs and professor of Pharmacy Practice, and Lauren Collins, MD SKMC '02, associate professor of Family and Community Medicine and Geriatrics in SKMC, about how far the Center has come in the last decade and their big plans for the future.

JCIPE co-directors Lauren Collins, MD, and Elena Umland, PharmD

***For more information about JCIPE, visit [jefferson.edu/jcipe](http://jefferson.edu/jcipe) or follow the Center on Twitter: @JeffCIPE***

## How did JCIPE start?

We started with an AAMC/Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation grant that SKMC applied for to design a new chronic illness care education curriculum. The PIs, Susan Rattner, MD, and Christine Arenson, MD, identified that chronic disease management is about the entire team partnering with patients to help them achieve their wellness goals; they suggested a curriculum involving all the different profes-



The JCIPE team: Shoshana Sicks, EdM; Sarah Libros, BA; Lauren Collins, MD; Sarah Dallas, BA; Courtney Newsome, BA; Cassie Mills; and Elena Umland, PharmD

sions around how best to care for folks with chronic conditions. Jefferson was awarded the grant in 2006, allowing us to launch JCIPE the following year. It was one of the first IPE centers in the country. As part of the grant we designed a four-year curriculum, and the first major outcome was the longitudinal Jefferson Health Mentors Program (JHMP); we enrolled the first class of students as a requirement in their respective professional training programs in fall 2007.

The JHMP partners interprofessional student teams with a health mentor, a person living in the community with one or more chronic conditions. Over 18 months, students learn firsthand from the health mentor about living with and managing their chronic conditions, through interviews, home visits, and assessing their community. More than 6,500 students have graduated from this program, and it's been replicated across the country at multiple institutions as a model for introductory IPE programming. In the last decade, we've added 12 IPE programs that are specifically designed to offer students more advanced clinical collaborative practice experiences, simulation experiences, and virtual training opportunities.

## Tell us about the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation grant and hotspotting.

The Interprofessional Student Hotspotting Learning Collaborative (ISHLC) was developed by the Camden Coalition of Healthcare Partners in 2014 to replicate a successful clinical hotspotting program started by Jeff Brenner, MD, and his team in Camden about 15 years ago. As part of the AAMC grant award, JCIPE has been sending one team to participate in this program since its inception.


Students learn how to work with “super utilizers,” individuals who are using the ED and the hospital repeatedly; sometimes they're admitted six to 20 or more times in one year. The student team, guided by faculty preceptors, provides person-centered, high touch interventions—such as linking them with a primary care provider and teaching them about nutrition—to reduce the frequency of unnecessary hospital visits.

The RWJF grant elevates Jefferson's role on the East Coast in the world of hotspotting and highlights our expertise in IPE and CP care. As the largest of the four national hubs, we are training eight Jefferson student teams and 12 teams from Penn, Harvard, Yale, Rowan, Geisinger, Johns Hopkins, and UNC-Charlotte—comprising more than 215 students.

## What has surprised you most about the program in the last 10 years?

JCIPE has undergone substantial transformation in the last decade. As a pioneer IPE center, we have one of the largest and most well-known foundational IPE programs, as well as some of the newest and most innovative advanced programming in the country. JCIPE continues to grow in wonderful ways to involve educating practitioners at the hospital and outpatient setting and by actively involving the practitioners and real-world practice teams from Jefferson in the student programming that is offered. Most recently, we have developed a nationally recognized assessment tool, called the Jefferson Teamwork Observation Guide (JTOG), which is now available as an app. JTOG enables 360-degree assessment of collaborative practice teams, eliciting perspectives from students, providers, patients, and family members.

## Where do you think the program will be in 10 years?

JCIPE will be so much a part of the tapestry and the culture that people won't even think of it as something separate—forward-thinking IPE and CP are Jefferson. It makes us distinctive and serves as the glue to prepare a workforce with the skills needed for optimal team-based, person-centered care. 



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# Join Jefferson alumni to explore, learn, and experience the world!

## Costa Rica Rainforest Expedition 1

APRIL 13–20, 2018

## Southwest National Parks 2

MAY 14–23, 2018

## Isle of Enchantment: London to Dublin—Oceania Cruises 3

JUNE 7–18, 2018

## Polar Bears and Beluga Whales 4

JULY 15–21, 2018

## Majestic Frontiers: Alaska—Oceania Cruises 5

AUGUST 16–27, 2018

## Flavors of Sicily 6

SEPTEMBER 28–OCTOBER 6, 2018

## Timeless Cuba—Oceania Cruises 7

OCTOBER 19–26, 2018

As part of our commitment to lifelong learning, the Office of Alumni Relations is excited to offer Jefferson alumni an opportunity to see and experience the world through group travel programs. A varied itinerary of travel destinations has been selected for 2018 that combines educational forums and excursions to places of historical and cultural interest, with the opportunity to enjoy unplanned experiences and unique adventures. These trips offer the highest-quality travel experience through our partnerships with experienced travel providers.

Information on each destination is available at <http://jefferson.edu/alumnitravel>.

To request an individual brochure for a specific destination, please contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 215-955-7750.