

SPRING 2023

MOREOVER

Thomas More University





SAINTS ON PARADE

The Marching Saints joined in the Red's Opening Day festivities as one of the participating bands in the Findlay Market Opening Day Parade. #LetsGoSaints



THOMAS MORE
UNIVERSITY

Make It **More.**




As this spring semester wraps up, Thomas More University is flourishing. The work set forth in our Strategic Plan – Lighting the Way continues, and its corresponding funding mechanism, the Second Century Campaign – It's time for More, continues to support this vibrant campus. We are delighted to see construction underway on the new academic center, the completion of many student space renovations with still more to come, the announcement of new academic programs, the Saints' baseball team playing at their new home field - Thomas More Stadium (in partnership with the Florence Y'alls), the acquisition of Five Seasons Sports Club location adjacent to the main campus which creates cohesiveness for the campus while furthering the University's commitment to wellness and health, and the securing of various naming opportunities ensuring students have the best facilities and equipment to succeed in the classroom and in their future careers.

Three months into a global pandemic, this University boldly launched the largest capital campaign in our history, and I am thrilled to report that the campaign surpassed its \$30 million goal three years ahead of schedule. During Media Day 2023, I went into depth about the many successes that have been achieved as the challenges faced by other universities have not presented the same constraints for us. Our focus remains on mission, providing a values-based, personalized educational experience, and making certain that our institution is student-ready and financially responsible. We are also pleased that our campaign has not met this degree of success through one large gift, but rather through the outpouring of support from our community and, even though we have met our goal, we are not finished yet. We thank all of you for your support and look forward to continuing to move forward together to improve the student experience offered at Thomas More.

We are so proud and thankful for the excellent work that our alumni perform in their communities, across the region, and in the larger world. We truly appreciate that they share their blessings with us and our students. Not only do many alumni share of their treasure, but they also open doors to amazing opportunities for both the students and the University, and many come back to campus to share their personal experiences and journeys. This is where so many of the stories featured in this Moreover come from. It is as a result of our engaged alumni, that Thomas More is able to make innovative strides that ensure that we are truly student-ready as an institution.

Look for more great media announcements shortly after this magazine arrives as we continue to find ways to offer students greater value in their education. New initiatives and academic innovations ensure our graduates continue to have a transformative experience during their time here. We look forward to supplying you with more good news as we continue to educate the future leaders of our region.

Go Saints!



President Joseph L. Chillo, LPD.



THOMAS MORE UNIVERSITY

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Editor: Judy Crist

Designer: Judy Crist

Contributing Writers: Flynn Ashley, Judy Crist,
Lynn Kelley, David Klenk '22

Guest Writers: Joseph L. Chillo, LP.D., Kyle Isaack

Photography: Bruce Crippen, Judy Crist, Chris Gramke,
David Klenk '22, Macara Vonderahe '22

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SEND COMMENTS, STORY IDEAS, OR LETTERS TO:

Moreover - Thomas More University
333 Thomas More Parkway
Crestview Hills, KY 41017-3495
Phone: 859.344.3309
Email: moreover@thomasmore.edu

MOREOVER

SPRING 2023



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ON THE COVER

A focus on student success includes improving existing areas and creating new spaces. One existing area that was improved is the Saints Center which has been returned to its original purpose as a student center.



@ThomasMoreKY

A great day to be a Saint

The University welcomed local media to campus on March 2, for a celebration of the success seen in the first 24 months of the Second Century Campaign – It's time for More, the funding mechanism for the University's Strategic Plan – Lighting the Way. Representatives from media outlets across Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky joined students, faculty, and staff for lunch as President Joe Chillo updated the community on landmarks achieved and what lies in the future.



President Chillo addresses the room on Media Day.

ADDRESS BY PRESIDENT JOSEPH L. CHILLO, LP.D., TO LOCAL MEDIA AND THE THOMAS MORE COMMUNITY

“On behalf of our alumni, faculty, staff and students, and certainly our Board of Trustees, welcome to Thomas More University. Good afternoon and thank you all for taking the time to join us in this celebration today. We extend our gratitude and thanks for the positivity that you’ve all shown this year in the various publications throughout Northern Kentucky and the greater Cincinnati region. Without this important work, we would not be able to tell our story which is based on why a private education matters, why a values-based education matters, and why a personal education matters as well. We know that it makes a difference in the lives of students and certainly the alumni that we have served for over 101 years in the commonwealth and throughout the region, and the companies that rely on our alumni for their growth and expansion, and the communities that they live and serve in.

“I want to take a moment - we have a lot of students here representing various clubs and organizations. I am going to make a presidential decision for our students to stand up; not to embarrass them but because these students have represented Thomas More well over the years. Some of them are getting ready to graduate, go on to physical therapy programs, go on to internships in Washington, D.C., continue to do work in calculus. They are all

rockstars: these are students who are representing other areas – they are residential advisors, involved in the Student Advisory Council, they are student-athletes. These are students who make Thomas More what we are today and certainly they’re going to be the rock stars of the future. They also remind us of the importance of the work that we do and the reason why we do our work. Certainly, we try to shape who they will be; their ability to navigate the world beyond Thomas More, and the communities they will live and work in.

“There is no doubt that higher education has experienced a changing landscape over the past several years. We see stories about deficits, declining demographics, increasing costs, inflation, a broken business model – these have been regular news stories both within our region and across the nation. The challenges faced by other universities have not presented the same constraints at Thomas More because of our focus on mission, a values-based education, a personalized education experience, and making certain that our institution is student-ready and financially responsible. Our faculty and staff are deeply dedicated to the success of every student. While COVID-19 created disruption in higher education, we’ve met the pandemic with innovation and agility, achieving the highest traditional enrollment and the strongest financial position in the

MEDIA DAY CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

University's history. Not only does this demonstrate our ability to successfully navigate obstacles, but it also provides a glimpse of what we are capable of doing into the future.

"As I reminded our nursing students yesterday, at their graduates' day, this University has lived through wars, depression and recessions, a pandemic, locusts, and even despite a flood in the President's Office. My point is, every time a challenge has been presented, this institution has risen to meet the challenge and to get out of that challenge more successful. Our DNA has been shaped by our past, and our willingness today to challenge ourselves for a better future. We are investing in all areas of the University to ensure the future for our students. We are ensuring that the Thomas More experience sets them up for meaningful lives and careers. We are supporting our students to help them to find their purpose and understand their responsibility to others, knowing that they will pay that forward in the communities that they will go on to serve.

"In my inaugural address back in 2019, I stated, 'a great

university not only achieves its goals but dares to dream, inspire, and hope.' Just over 24 months ago, we set up the task of creating an ambitious Strategic Plan – Lighting the Way and it is supported by the Second Century Campaign – It's time for More. Since then, we have had no shortage of exciting announcements to send your way. Since the Campaign's launch, we put into action initiatives to support student success, academic innovation, and responsible stewardship.

"Student success has been prioritized as we rang in the New Year in 2023 by announcing the acquisition of the Northern Kentucky Five Seasons Family Sports Club facility. Many naming opportunities were established on campus, allowing us to have the best equipment and spaces for our students to excel. Truly a student-ready university, we recently launched Saints Essentials, taking an innovative approach to college costs by providing every student with what they need to be successful in the classroom and beyond. We are removing endless fees that create barriers for many students and their families in affording a higher education. We are removing food

student success



responsible stewardship

insecurity and we are expanding health and wellness initiatives.

“In a recent study we surveyed the Thomas More community about what they believe makes their college experience unique. While we expected to receive answers about small class size, mission-driven experiences, dedicated and caring faculty, the number one answer was the overwhelming sense of community that is fostered here at Thomas More. Other institutions can look at higher education as a transactional endeavor – they seek to be leaders in online education and some are certainly mission-adrift. That is not how we serve our students at Thomas More University. The value of an in-person, liberal arts education shines bright. Our graduates have a sense of purpose that sets them up for their lives. Through Saints Essentials, we are better able to foster a sense of community for our students and create the personalized education environment that we know is so critical for student success.

“As we grow this commitment to student learning, we also have Thomas More student-athletes successful on the field of competition and in the classroom. We ensure that we have the very best facilities


and equipment, setting them up for success. In March 2022, we introduced Thomas More Stadium, the new home of the baseball team through a partnership with the Florence Y’alls. Our softball team will see facility improvements as we announced plans last December for extensive renovations to their current field and new construction creating a state-of-the-art complex. The project will begin at the conclusion of their current season.

“Our work to set up our student-athletes for success in the classroom is evident by the 400 student-athletes who achieved a grade point average of 3.0 or higher at the conclusion of this past fall semester. As many of you heard last summer, we were thrilled to share the news that Thomas More has been granted provisional membership to the NCAA Division II, making us (Thomas More) the only NCAA Division II institution in Northern Kentucky and the Greater Cincinnati region.

“Our faculty and staff have been intentional about planning for the future so that Thomas More University stays at the forefront

MEDIA DAY CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

academic innovation



“7,000 gifts. That’s critically important because it demonstrates the commitment that our donors and friends have to the advancement of Thomas More University.”

President Joe Chillo



MEDIA DAY CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

of academic excellence and innovation. You undoubtedly noticed that construction is well underway on the new academic center, which will house advanced technology, state-of-the-art classroom environments, and the College of Business. Our campus growth has been exponential in the past 24 months as we relocated education and psychology to Cabrini Hall, and have acquired 207 and 209 Thomas More Parkway, allowing space for transformation of the Saints Center back to its original purpose, a true student center. This was a promise that I made to our students when I arrived at Thomas More in June 2019.

“As we restore University property, we are intentionally creating spaces that faculty and students can engage in effectively. We are becoming an innovation destination for young entrepreneurs with the launch of the Dr. Anthony ’65 and Geraldine ’66 Zembrodt Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation. Through Thomas More’s many collaborative partnerships we are uniquely able to understand regional needs, which has informed our new academic programs and has led to the development and expansion of our co-op and internship opportunities. We know that these experiences are critically important for students to engage with corporate leaders throughout the area. Our partnerships allow students to get out into the field before they graduate, gaining valuable experience and making connections, and often earning money to relieve the financial burden associated with higher education. This is just one way we prepare our students for successful careers, not just jobs.

“As we look ahead to the 2023-2024 academic year, Thomas More University will officially launch a new Master of Public Health degree and four new undergraduate programs. Two offerings are in the College of Business: a Bachelor of Science in finance and a Bachelor of Arts in tourism and recreation management. We are also introducing two offerings under the St. Elizabeth College of Natural and Health Sciences: a Bachelor of Arts in life science and a Bachelor of Arts in physical science.

“Our reach is growing. Georgetown University’s return on investment study shows our alumni have a higher ROI than any

public university in Kentucky and we hold a strong second ROI among private universities in the commonwealth. Further, we ranked #1 in ROI among private liberal arts institutions in the Cincinnati region. Our alumni are leading the way, there is no doubt an investment in education at Thomas More is well worth it. We have acted on responsible stewardship for securing funds to ensure students have access to an affordable, mission-driven Catholic education that is values-based and personalized, that will serve them well for their lifetime.

“During the Campaign, 32 endowed scholarships have been funded or increased and we have some of those folks here today. I want to thank Melissa Lueke for the work that she has done in making sure that Catholic education is affordable and certainly the work that she has done in the leadership of the Capital Campaign. I also want to thank Dr. Don Saelinger, who is a member of our Board of Trustees and also an alum of Thomas More and family member of Sr. Irmina Saelinger. To some of you that name should be familiar as we have dedicated the registrar’s office in her memory, as one of our leading founders here at the institution. Don and his family have also endowed a generous scholarship to make sure that our Catholic education is affordable. And, of course, I want to thank our Board Chair Dr. Judith Marlowe, who is also an alum. I’m starting to see a theme here in how great our alumni do! Judith and her husband have made a significant investment in Thomas More as well and I want to thank Judith, not only for her leadership, but certainly for the work that she has done with the Capital Campaign and her investment in Thomas More.

“Three months into a global pandemic, we boldly launched the largest capital campaign in University history. Fully engaging our alumni in the process, our campaign has not been a success through one large gift, but rather through the outpouring of support through our community. More than 7,000 gifts, including 127 major gift donors – 7,000 gifts, that’s critically important because it demonstrates the commitment that our donors and friends have to the advancement of Thomas More University. These individuals took a bold step to help us achieve our goal that we set for the



student success

Second Century Campaign. I'm happy to report that the University has surpassed the goal of \$30 million. Three years early and in just 24 months, we have reached \$33 million. That does not mean the work stops. Anybody who knows Kevin (Reynolds, vice president, Institutional Advancement) and I, will tell you we never sleep and never stop, we are going to move forward. We are not sitting here today telling you that there is a new goal, because we are going to raise as much money as we possibly can. It is for the students and we know how much it means to our University.

"As we celebrate the success that we have seen in the past 24 months, we have also seen many ways that we can continue to improve the student experience and the value of their education. As we continue to evolve and look into the future of Catholic education, we hold true to the values of our founding Orders and the principles of the Catholic Intellectual Tradition. We have seen the difference that students' experiences at Thomas More makes through the University staying committed to values and mission.

"We have many exciting announcements and new initiatives on the horizon as we continue our work to transform higher education in the commonwealth and within the region. I stand by my statement that I made during my inauguration: 'A college education isn't supposed to be a hoop that you jump through or a box to check in order to get a good job; education is a transformative endeavor, not a transactional one; it is a community, not a commodity.'

"Thomas More was founded as a teaching college, and we will soon announce an innovative educational model that will remove barriers for the region's future teachers. Thomas More will address the need for more highly qualified teachers to be in the K-12 environment. The vibrancy of our communities in Northern Kentucky and throughout the commonwealth require stronger schools and the most important investment that we can make is to ensure that every student has access to high-quality education and excellent teachers who care deeply about the education of children. We are going to be taking a leadership role in shaping K-12 education in the commonwealth. Through innovative programming,

we are going to remove financial barriers for our students and for the next generation of teachers, and provide expert faculty who will create a workforce that answers the region's needs.

"We will be taking a different path than many other higher education institutions who are moving away from their founding values as we launch the Center for Faith, Mission, and Catholic Education this summer. We know the significance of this action as we seek to lean into the Catholic values that have been the cornerstone of our institution, and coming up on Friday, March 24, we invite you all back to campus as we officially name the College of Business, celebrating one of our first gifts to the Second Century Campaign, and a vision to shape business leaders who understand the complexities of a free market enterprise, understanding the importance of sustainability, and the need for more business leaders to be ethical leaders of the future. I certainly look forward to having you here to join us on this joyous occasion.

"As we conclude Thomas More's first century, we continue to stand on the shoulders of giants. We look forward to the next century leading in service to our students and to the region. Founded in 1921 as Northern Kentucky's first college, we continue to be the regional leader for a quality Catholic liberal arts education, providing students an experience that develops character, a sense of purpose, and an understanding of their responsibility to others. This is an exciting time at Thomas More, and we look forward to the next decade with great excitement and enthusiasm. I want to thank all of you today for helping us tell our story. To our faculty and staff, please accept my deepest appreciation for your work and dedication to our

University, our students, and our time in the history of this great University. To our students, you are the foundation that is being built; I know you will be successful, just like the alumni before you. May God bless all of you during this season of Lent and may He bless Thomas More University."

To read the release and listen to the entire Media Day address, visit tmuky.us/23mediaday.

MOREOVER

MOREOVER [Spring 2023]

Headlines in Campus News

CHORUSES PARTNER WITH THE CINCINNATI CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

The Thomas More Choirs, in partnership with the Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra, presented Healing & Understanding: We Are One, a five-day music festival which featured lectures and concerts in October 2022. The festival was funded through a generous grant provided by ArtsWave. Programming featured a strong Thomas More presence with the Choruses, Daniel Parsley, DMA, assistant professor of music, Jillian Harrison-Jones, DMA, adjunct professor of music, and local artist alum Michael Thompson '21, all taking part in events. To read the original press release, visit tmuky.us/tmucco.

SUNDANCE BOUND

"The Starling Girl," a film featuring student Paige Leigh Landers, was included in the 2023 Sundance Film Festival. The prestigious, 44-year-old film festival brings together storytellers and audiences for dramatic and documentary features, short films, and episodic content. Landers, a Villa Hills native, portrays Kelsey, a "mean girl" in the dance troupe who bullies the film's protagonist. Her talent shines beyond her acting, as Landers choreographed all of the dance scenes the troupe performs in the film. "This has been such a great experience," Landers recalls. "From the very first audition, to going to see the film at Sundance. I learned so much throughout the process, and I cannot wait for everyone to see it!" To read the release, visit tmuky.us/landers.

SUMMER ABROAD IN THE UK

Ashley Albrinck, a Thomas More junior English major, plans to study Shakespeare at the University of Oxford in England in summer 2023 after being awarded the English-Speaking Union (ESU) Scholarship presented by the English-Speaking Union Kentucky Branch. A Cincinnati native and graduate of Mercy McAuley High School, Albrinck's love of Shakespeare led her to apply for the program. "I enjoy the study of literature and I'm a fan of Shakespeare. I loved the idea of experiencing his work in his homeland." To read the entire story, visit tmuky.us/albrinck.

FIELD STATION ASSISTS WITH OHIO RIVER MONITORING

In the wake of the East Palestine, Ohio, train derailment in February, the Biology Field Station and Director Chris Lorentz, Ph.D., assisted the Greater Cincinnati Water Works, the NKY Water District, and ORSANCO in efforts to monitor potential impacts of the chemical spill on drinking water for the region. In summer 2023, the Field Station plans to install equipment to become ORSANCO's newest organics detection site on the Ohio River, providing real-time water quality data to assess the conditions of the River from a human health perspective.

REPRESENTING AT THE KENTUCKY ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

Students and faculty from the Departments of Chemistry, Biological Sciences, and Mathematics represented the St. Elizabeth College of Natural and Health Sciences at the Kentucky Academy of Science (KAS) annual meeting at Morehead State University in November 2022. Chemistry students Madison Davis, Ashlei Green, Maria Rice, Madison Genslinger, Jose Ruiz, and Emmanuel Oloo presented the results of their research alongside faculty advisors/mentors Drs. William Wetzel, Meenakshi Bansal, Shiv Sharma, and Dan Esterline. Madison Davis earned the highest rating for her poster in the analytical/physical chemistry division. Biology student Gemma Sanders presented her research and earned the highest rating in the engineering section. For more information and photos, visit tmuky.us/22kas.

WOMEN IN PHYSICS

Students and faculty from the Department of Mathematics and Physics attended the Conference for Undergraduate Women in Physics at Auburn University in January 2023. In addition to attending many sessions on research, career planning, and thriving in a male-dominated field, Ash Coleman and Lindsay Dawson presented their research work during a poster session. Other members of the group included first-year major Josephine Roach and faculty members Jyoti Saraswat, Ph.D., associate professor of mathematics and Wes Ryle, Ph.D., professor of physics. For more information and photos, visit tmuky.us/23physics.

COLLEGE PREP PROGRAM ROLLED OUT

Feb. 10, 2023, marked signing day as representatives from Thomas More and Lloyd High School in Erlanger, Kentucky sat down and launched the College Prep Program as a way to help high school students stay academically engaged during the summer. This program strives to keep college on the horizon post-high school with the pilot taking place in summer 2023. The hope is that other regional high schools will choose to participate. For more on the program, visit tmuky.us/collegeprep.

MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH ADDED TO CURRICULUM

The Master of Public Health launches in fall 2023 as a fourth master's degree offered at the University. This graduate degree prepares students with skills in a wide range of areas necessary to address complex and ever-changing public health challenges and is a perfect fit for those looking to accelerate their career in the public health field. To read the press release, visit tmuky.us/mph.

SQUARE1 NEXT SPARKS INNOVATION

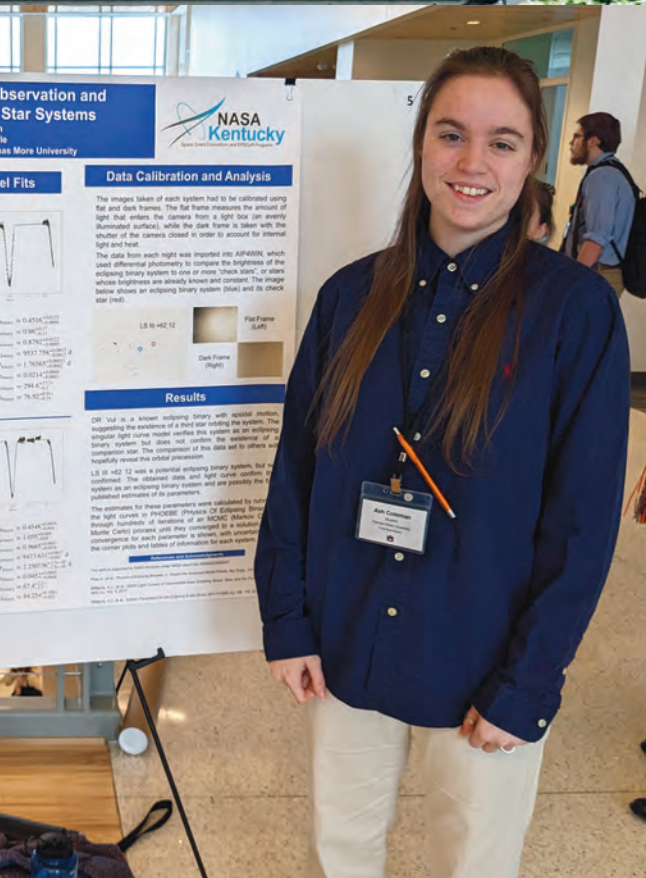
Square1's NEXT business development program inspires and teaches high school youth to utilize innovation and entrepreneurship skills. The NEXT program concludes with students competing in a Shark Tank-like Final Pitch contest, in hopes to advance to a regional contest, where over \$600,000 in scholarships and cash prizes are awarded. The March 2023 NEXT Final Pitch event was held on campus with the winning team earning a full scholarship to Thomas More as the University strives to become the innovation destination in the region. For more information and photos, visit tmuky.us/23finalpitch.

OR Vul and LS III +62 12: An O
Analysis of Eclipsing Binary
Presented by: Ash Coleman
Faculty Sponsor: Wesley Ryle
Department of Physics & Mathematics - Thom

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SAINTS SPOTLIGHT

Sophia Hermosilla

International Studies/Political Science

SUBMITTED BY DAVID KLENK '22, GRADUATE ASSISTANT
COMMUNICATIONS | PHOTO PROVIDED



Moreover caught up with international student Sophia Hermosilla '23 from Panama. Sophia majors in international studies and political science, and had a fantastic internship in the summer of 2022, as assistant to Panamanian Ambassador Liliana Fernandez at the Colombian embassy in South America. What follows is an excerpt from her interview.

Tell us about your field of study.

SH: I am studying international studies and political science. International studies tries to explain and understand how states interact with other countries and political science is more a local study of government, of different government forums. It is important to me because, since I was a teenager, I've been interested in politics back home and how can we improve those politics, both domestically and internationally. When I was probably a junior or sophomore in high school, I got into a program that was like a youth senate, and for a week we would draft laws, we would work as a senator in Panama. Since then, I was very interested in public relations and how to help the community towards politics.

Describe your internship and your takeaways.

SH: I was in Colombia, in the embassy of Panama. I was an assistant to the Ambassador Liliana Fernandez and I would write official documents for Panama and deliver them to the government back home or rearrange schedules, meetings, or events. Mostly they were cultural and art events to enhance the Panamanian culture.

This internship, I fell in love with it. It was the perfect opportunity for me to make sure and confirm what I like about public relations, especially international relations. I didn't only improve as a professional, but as a person. I had to work and live in a country I'd never been to, Colombia, and had to adapt very quickly in less than three months. Another thing that the embassy taught me is how to adapt very quickly; how things, situations, might change so fast that you need to adapt in the moment. One of those was the first event I went to: a Central American film event. For two weeks, maybe three, we expose the Colombian community to Central American movies directed by people from as far away as Africa, Armenians, people from Costa Rica. It was very beautiful to see how we can share our culture with Colombia and Colombia will share with us, and how we can make a mix of it. I was impressed by how many internationals come to these events, from all around the world. It was a little melting pot at all these events, it was so beautiful.

I was impressed by the Colombian elections. I arrived in a very interesting point for Colombia, and as a political science major, it's very intriguing to see how each country sees elections, especially presidential elections. I was able to compare how Panamanian elections, the United States elections, and Colombia are so different, even though we are the same region – America. That was very interesting. So yeah, those are my top takeaways, other than having a good time.

Did your internship help determine your path?

SH: Yes, it did. I always wanted to be abroad and see the world, see other cultures – learn how other communities interact and how their customs are so important to them, as mine are to me, and I had that opportunity in Colombia. Now I want to stay on that path of working in embassies.

To listen to or read the entire interview, visit tmuky.us/sophia.

MOREOVER

SAINTS SPOTLIGHT

Niyokwizera Eva

Black Student Union President

SUBMITTED BY DAVID KLENK '22, GRADUATE

ASSISTANT COMMUNICATIONS | PHOTO PROVIDED



Black Student Union President Niyokwizera Eva sat down with Moreover and discussed her time at Thomas More and the accomplishments she has been able to achieve through clubs and friendship. What follows here is a segment of the longer interview.

Share with us your major and how you knew Thomas More was the right place for you?

NE: I'm a junior law major, and I knew Thomas More was right for me because in my process of selecting the college to go to, I wanted to find something that was very small. I had three top options and I had never heard of Thomas More before they started harassing my email. I say that in a joking way, colleges have to recruit and promote. I played lacrosse and soccer, and was very involved in school, as I am now. When I took the visit here, I was like, "Okay, I like it, it's so small that I can walk to class." And they offered me a scholarship to play lacrosse. I wanted to play a sport in college, just not soccer. So I was like "that's perfect."

The Black Student Union (BSU) has grown since its inception in 2019. Can you tell us what has worked to fuel that growth?

NE: Before I became president of the club, Whitney Johnson, Diamond Vance, India McCullough, they all kind of laid the foundation for it. They started the Black Student Union so they could have a place to feel safe, not that campus isn't safe, but they wanted a place where they could be comfortable and they could be themselves in a place where other students of color could also be themselves. They pretty much did a lot of the hard stuff, I would say, like they had the events that discussed racial inequality, they had events that basically explain what the Black Student Union is and why it's important. I feel like now I get to do all the fun things, all the fun events that just incorporate Black culture.

What accomplishment are you most proud of as president of the BSU?

NE: I'm most proud of how I've incorporated the opinions of students when it comes to events. This year, most of the events were suggestions or the result of criticism from students. I'm very proud of the fact that I'm able to use criticism to make events, like we had "A Taste of Soul" event for Black History Month.

Who or what do you draw inspiration from?

NE: I draw inspiration from God. I'm someone who's very faith-based, so for me everything that I do has to align with the will of God. When I'm doing things, I do it not for the validation or for the approval of other people, but the approval and validation of God. If it's something that doesn't fall in his will, I'm not going to do it. I try to serve others and practice selflessness. I try to love others the way that Jesus did, the way we were taught in Sunday school.

What are your plans/goals for after graduation?

NE: I'm going to go to grad school here. I'm going to try to be a GA (graduate assistant); we'll see how that works out. I'm not sure what field, which is why I'm going into grad school while I'm still thinking. I want to at least have a master's (degree). I also want to continue my podcast that I started, "The Purpose Podcast." It's a faith-based podcast where I'm searching for my purpose through interviewing people who have found their purpose and I'll have some of my friends come on as well to describe their journey. I define what "purpose" is in biblical terms and what "purpose" means to me.

To listen to or read the entire interview, visit tmuky.us/eva.

MOREOVER

What do you SEEK?

SUBMITTED BY LYNIA KELLEY

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS AND PR

A group of Thomas More students, led by Andrew J. Cole, director of Campus Ministry, attended the 2023 SEEK Conference, an annual event put on by Fellowship of Catholic University Students (FOCUS) in St. Louis, Missouri this past January. As FOCUS's national conference, SEEK encourages those in attendance to explore what they truly seek: to learn about the faith, to share in friendship, to be encouraged in their unique vocation — and to experience the love, hope, and very real presence of Jesus Christ through His Church. The conference draws its name from John 1:38: "What do you seek?" Students attending SEEK took the time to reflect on their experience. Below are two student responses. For additional responses, visit tmuky.us/23seek.

Michelle Bump

My favorite memory from SEEK was Mass on the very first day. To kick off the conference, we all gathered to celebrate together. It was the perfect way to start such a beautiful week because it reminds us of the reason why we were all brought together and how we are all connected through Christ.

The theme of SEEK23 was "You are Called." Throughout the week we heard many outstanding speakers inviting us to go forth and spread the Word of God because, as His children, we are all called. Therefore, the biggest take-away is to arise. To get up and follow Jesus. To get up because He has called every one of us by name to be one of His disciples. It doesn't matter how far we fall or the mistakes we have made because His love for us is infinite, and He is calling us to come be with Him.

Not only did this opportunity connect us Thomas More students, but it also connected us with other students from different colleges. There were over 17,000 college students in attendance at this conference. Everywhere we went, there were opportunities to interact with and build relationships with other people our age. These connections are so beneficial to everyone involved because we all share the same love for Jesus which gives us a deeper understanding of each other.

Houston Watson

My favorite memory from SEEK was getting to listen to amazing and impactful speakers all throughout the conference, on topics ranging from God's love to the married life to religious freedom. I found the speakers and the sessions that I attended to be very

informative and helpful, both in my spiritual life and my everyday life.

I would say the biggest concept I took away from SEEK was that I am loved by God, and that because I am loved by God, I am also called to love Him and to love others. I am also called to go out into the world and make disciples, whether that's through simple friendships or more direct witnessing and apologetics. My mission is to spread the knowledge of God's love to others so that they too can experience it as I do, and so that they can then go and spread that knowledge to even more people.

Throughout the trip, whether it was on the ride to and from the conference, at the hotel, at a restaurant, or during the conference itself, I was able to draw closer to the other Thomas More students and make memories and lasting friendships. I was also able to interact with other college students from all over the country, some from other Catholic universities, and some from public and private non-Catholic universities. Just seeing thousands of other like-minded young people all at this conference was encouraging as it shows that there are still many young people who care about the faith. **MOREOVER**

Right top: Opening Mass during SEEK Conference. Photo courtesy Michelle Bump.



Alum's generosity creates exceptional opportunity

Annual trips to SEEK for Thomas More students have been made possible thanks to generous contributions made by Marc '85 and Susan Neltner. Dedicated supporters of Thomas More, the Neltners provide assistance for initiatives that offer students opportunities to connect with the Catholic values and social teachings that the University is built upon.



WM. T. (BILL) ROBINSON III '67 INSTITUTE FOR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

ADVANCING THE AMERICAN CONCEPT OF RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

The spring 2023 interfaith event sponsored by the IRL focused on the topic of "Political Partisanship and Its Impact on the Future of Religious Liberty." Keynote speaker in the spring discussion was religious liberty lawyer and scholar Asma T. Uddin who is the current visiting assistant professor of law at the Catholic University of America located in Washington, D.C. William Madges, Ph.D., chair of the theology department and faculty director of the Brueggeman Center for Dialogue at Xavier University, served as commentator with the University's own Catherine Sherron, Ph.D., chair of the philosophy department and director of the James Graham Brown Scholars program moderating.

"Ms. Asma Uddin is a talented religious liberty lawyer, scholar, and author who is domestically and internationally respected for her experience and writings on behalf of religious expression for people of all faiths in the U.S. and abroad," says Raymond Hebert, Ph.D., IRL executive director. Hebert further explains, "Few in the country are as prepared to talk about political polarization as it applies to Muslim-Christian relations in the U.S." A prolific author, Uddin penned two books centered around religious liberty, including "When Islam Is Not a Religion" (2019) and "The Politics



From left: Dr. Cate Sherron, President Joe Chillo, Dr. William Madges, Dr. Ray Hebert, and Asma Uddin.

of Vulnerability" (2021). She explores the multifaceted issues of gender, politics, and religion. In addition to her legal work, Uddin writes and speaks on Muslims and gender. Uddin has advised on numerous media projects about American Muslims, including, most recently, as executive producer for the Emmy and Peabody-nominated docu-series, "The Secret Life of Muslims."

In preparation for the talk, Uddin was interviewed by Thomas More University communications student Bella Young and offered this insight for individuals and communities in navigating cultural or religious divides. "Look beyond the headlines. Don't believe everything you read on the internet and try to reach out to the actual people, the actual humans who are involved and learn their story." To listen to the complete interview, visit tmuky.us/uddin. For a video of this event or more information on the IRL visit: thomasmore.edu/religiousliberty. **MOREOVER**

KUDOS TO THOMAS MORE FACULTY AND STAFF ON THEIR ACCOLADES, PRESENTATIONS, AND PUBLISHED WORKS

Robert W. Plaster College of Business



Robinson

Malcolm Robinson, Ph.D., professor, business administration & economics, was featured as an expert by WalletHub.com in an article about Debt Consolidation Loans.

To read the article and Malcolm's expert opinion, visit tmuky.us/robinson6. WalletHub also featured Robinson in their study entitled "Cities Where Inflation is Growing the Most." To read Robinson's input on what is driving inflation and thoughts on what can be done to slow it down, visit tmuky.us/robinson7. Robinson also shared his expert advice on two topics with MoneyGeek.com. The first is their November 2022 inflation study. To see what Robinson has to say about protecting your purchasing power, visit tmuky.us/robinson8. The second is about balance transfer credit cards. You can find this recent contribution by visiting tmuky.us/robinson9.

St. Elizabeth College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences



Garriga

Maria C. Garriga, Ph.D., professor, foreign languages, contributed a chapter to the fourth edition of Resource Handbook for Academic Deans: The Essential Guide for College and University Leaders, edited by Andrew Adams, and published by Johns Hopkins University Press (2023) in cooperation with the American Conference of Academic Deans (ACAD). The chapter Garriga authored is titled: "The Dean as Supporter in Chief: Spreading Joy in Academic Communities" (pp. 215-224).

Raymond G. Hebert, Ph.D., professor and executive director of the Wm. T. (Bill) Robinson III '67 Institute for Religious Liberty (IRL), was named by The Northern Kentucky Tribune as a 2022 NewsMaker. This recognition is bestowed on high-



Hebert

achieving community servants in recognition of the significant role they play in the Northern Kentucky community. The Tribune recognizes five leaders as NewsMakers, each diverse in their regional impact. To read the story the Tribune posted honoring Hebert, visit tmuky.us/hebert.



Mayhew

Kirk Mayhew, assistant professor, creative media, took part in the 57th Conference of the National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts held March 13-18, 2023, in Cincinnati, Ohio.



Christy Petroze, Ed.D., associate professor and chair, education, and **John T. Spence, Ph.D., AICP**, professor, philosophy, political science & interdisciplinary study, presented research at the Lilly Conference of College Teaching held at Miami University (Ohio) in November 2022 on their efforts to improve civics education. "A Conceptual Framework Informing Thoughtful Student Engagement with Democracy" presents a framework for high school instructors to use to more easily explain and critically examine the processes and structures of democratic governance, preparing students for an analysis of democratic citizenship that includes appreciating decisional processes and outcomes.

Christy Petroze, Ed.D., associate professor and chair, education, joins the re-established Diocese of Covington School Board, being appointed by Bishop John C. Iffert. According to its official mission statement, the board seeks to promote

Catholic education in a way that spreads the Catholic faith, through acting "as a consultant to the bishop of Covington, the superintendent of Catholic schools, and the director of catechesis and evangelization" for educational programs of "Catholic schools and parish school of religion programs."



Sierra

Luis Sierra, Ph.D., associate professor and chair, history & legal studies, had material published from his new research project in the Journal of Urban History. The new research is focused on cemeteries, monuments, cenotaphs, and tombs and the role the dead play in building the story and history of a nation. The article, "The Precinct of the Dead and Saints for the Nation: The Bolivian National Revolution and Gualberto Villarroel, 1943-1956" makes significant contributions to Bolivianist scholarship and to larger understandings of the construction of memory in urban space.

John T. Spence, Ph.D., AICP

professor, philosophy, political science & interdisciplinary study, wrote the article "The Southbank Shuttle, The Resilience of a Good Idea" which was featured in a recent issue of the Northern Kentucky Heritage magazine. The magazine is published by the Kenton County Historical Society. Visit tmuky.us/nkyheritage, for more information on the magazine.

College of Natural and Health Sciences



Bansal

Meenakshi Bansal, Ph.D., assistant professor, chemistry, published "Enhancing the compatibility of BioCaRGOS silica sol-gel technology with ctDNA extraction and droplet digital PCR (ddPCR) analysis" with co-authors: Chinmay S. Potnis, Rajat Chauhan, Theodore S. Kalbfleisch, Evan Alexander, Lindsay Eichhold, Craig A. Grapperhaus, Robert S. Keynton, Mark W. Linder, and Gautam Gupta in the journal RSC Advances (2022.12, 29399-29404), which continues this group's work on long-term stabilization of protein biomarkers.



Shannon Galbraith-Kent '98, Ph.D., professor and chair, biological sciences, through her work as the Kentucky Academy of Science (KAS) representative to the Kentucky Heritage Land Conservation Fund Board (appointed by Governor Andy Beshear), discussed the board's role in preserving natural areas across Kentucky at the KAS November 2022 annual meeting. Members on the board represent a diverse set of state entities who have interests in preserving natural areas in Kentucky. The KHLCF is the primary source of state funding for the purchase and management of natural areas. In spring 2023 Dr. Galbraith-Kent was awarded a \$2,500 grant from the Northern Kentucky Urban and Community Forestry Council. The grant will be used for Phase I of a project on Thomas More's campus as part of the William S. Bryant Arboretum.



Chris Lorentz, Ph.D., professor, biological sciences, and director of the Biology Field Station was awarded the 2022 Robert Lauderdale Award for Outstanding Contributions in Water Quality at the Kentucky Water Resources Research Institute Annual Symposium, in recognition of the outstanding work taking place at the Biology Field Station. The Robert Lauderdale Award is presented to an individual who has helped improve the water quality and sustainability of Kentucky's water resources through leadership and service in academia, environmental consulting, environmental

non-government organizations, state and local government, and/or cooperative extension. The Kentucky Water Resources Research Institute is part of a nationwide association of 54 federally authorized water resource institutes and centers located at land grant universities throughout the United States and its territories.



Wes Ryle, Ph.D., professor, mathematics & physics, and director of the Thomas More Observatory, interviewed with Kimberley Heatherington from Our Sunday Visitor (OSV) News, the national/international Catholic wire service, about green comet C/2022 E3 (ZTF) which approached Earth in January 2023. They discussed the comet's "fly by," how Catholics can make this an opportunity to learn about creation, practical ways to engage through the appearance of this comet, and other celestial events to look for in the coming year.

Staff



Kelly Bilz, reference librarian, was selected through a national competition for the American Library Association's (ALA) Emerging Leader Program. In addition, Bilz was chosen by the highest national academic library association, the Association of College and Research Libraries, for sponsorship to the ALA Emerging Leadership program.



Judy Crist, executive director of communications and creative services, interviewed in fall 2022 with Kentucky Educational Television for a segment that covers the history of the Monte Casino Chapel which resides on Thomas More's campus. The short segment is due for release in April 2023.

Leadership in the News

In fall 2022, Cincinnati Magazine named **President Joe Chillo** as one of the region's 300 most powerful business leaders for the third consecutive year in a row. Cincinnati 300's fourth annual edition echoed the two previous years by highlighting leadership that guided public, private, and non-profit organizations that successfully navigated the pandemic. The special edition recognized Chillo's 2022 accomplishments with the groundbreaking of the new Thomas More University academic center and athletic victories such as the partnership with the Florence Y'all's to introduce Thomas More Stadium. "We continue to be a mission-driven institution, but we've changed how we support our students and community by being more agile and intentional," says Chillo. "We have created an exciting and ambitious vision for the future. With the Second Century Campaign, we plan to continue to expand the University and elevate our institution as the region's premier Catholic Liberal Arts University. This is an exciting time as we grow the size of our campus and augment our academic space for teaching, learning, and innovation."



FACULTY, AS SEFNK MEMBERS, NURTURE STEM IN REGION

The annual Science & Engineering Fair of Northern Kentucky (SEFNK) was held on February 2023. Elementary, middle, and high school students from the region participated in the fair and several Thomas More faculty members participated as members on the Board of the Fair. William Wetzel, Ph.D. has been involved for over a decade, with Charles Zimmer, Ph.D., and Jyoti Saraswat, Ph.D., joining in 2016. Over the years, Thomas More community members - faculty and students - have volunteered as judges for the Fair. The SEFNK mission is to promote and contribute to the educational and scientific development of students in its 30-county drawing area of northern and northeastern Kentucky. Thomas More participation highlights the commitment and passion the University's community has for science in the region. Scholarships are awarded to selected high school students. For more information about the fair, visit tmuky.us/sefnk.



Faculty members (left) Bill Wetzel, Chuck Zimmer, and (far right) Jyoti Saraswat, as SEFNK board members, pose with the Thomas More scholarship winners who participated in SEFNK. Winners include Alexander Harper and Donovan Norris (both from the Ignite Institute), and Natalie Janzaruk, Abby Turnpugh, and Mary Wall (all from Notre Dame Academy).



The Center for Faith, Mission, & Catholic Education *a fruit of the Holy Spirit*

SUBMITTED BY KYLE ISAACK, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

Thomas More has a long history of helping young people grow in the Christian faith. It is no surprise that this work has become increasingly difficult with some studies showing that roughly two-thirds of college students stop practicing the faith that parents and communities have worked so hard to transmit. In response to the phenomenon of secularization, the University is redoubling its efforts to directly bolster the faith-development of college-aged students through the founding of the Center for Faith, Mission, and Catholic Education. The mission of the Center is to serve as a catalyst for transformative faith experiences, intentional mission integration, and creative Catholic educational programs

both on campus and in the wider community.

The University is experiencing immense success and growth as we celebrate a century of serving the community. Campus is alive with change and innovation as the entire Saints community works to achieve goals created in the 2021-2026 Strategic Plan – Lighting the Way. Through these initiatives, new facilities are being created and old facilities are being transformed to give students exceptional spaces to thrive, which translates into growing enrollment. The University desires to couple this attention to the exterior development of the campus with the interior development of students and community members through a deepened

academic innovation



President Joe Chillo addresses the Randolph Initiative high school participants during the Thomas More day camp.

Dr. James E. Randolph Initiative: pushing for diversity in STEM

SUBMITTED BY LYNA KELLEY, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS AND PR

Under the guidance of Thomas More professors Jyoti Saraswat, Ph.D., and William Wetzel, Ph.D., the University hosted over 50 students in fall 2022 from Holmes and Campbell County High Schools, both located in Northern Kentucky, through the Dr. James E. Randolph Medical, Healthcare, and Scientific Leadership Program. The initiative is a collaborative program which includes a variety of community partners across the region and seeks to inspire Black students to become professionals in medical, healthcare, and scientific settings through academic enrichment, leadership development, civic engagement, and mentorship. Program ideation started in late 2021, with the release of a series of videos in spring of 2022 that showcase Black professionals explaining their educational and career paths. Thomas More contributed four videos, featuring both current students and alumni. The day camp included visits to various labs and classrooms across the Thomas More University campus, with sessions on nursing, exercise science, biology, and chemistry. “I loved visiting the Thomas More animal biology lab, because I want to be a veterinarian,” said Mosiah Hitchcock, an attending student from Holmes High School.

MOREOVER



commitment to the mission of growing and sustaining challenging undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs of study. These academic offerings are marked by superior teaching and scholarship within the Catholic Intellectual Tradition in a way that meets the evolving needs of Thomas More's community amidst the changing realities of our culture.

The Center for Faith, Mission, and Catholic Education is a key element in helping to elevate the Catholic mission of the University. The Center will develop innovative approaches to infusing mission into curricular, cocurricular, and continuing education programs coupled with community outreach. It will bolster Campus Ministry efforts to provide transformative faith experiences and evangelization through prayer, presence, and creative programming. The Center will also expand the reach of the already established Wm. T. (Bill) Robinson III '67 Institute for Religious Liberty, an entity devoted to advancing religious freedom as an unalienable right and the protection of this right for all people by engaging the wider community in civil dialogue at yearly interfaith events. All these efforts are aimed toward the goal of forming faith-filled, virtuous, and service-oriented students preparing to assume a vibrant, transformative role in their faith communities and society.

Once built, the Center for Faith, Mission, and Catholic Education will be housed in the newest academic center currently under construction on campus. A search is underway to find the inaugural center director to launch the Center's initial programming. Ongoing work is being funded through the Second Century Capital Campaign and outcomes will be evaluated for efficacy using both quantitative and qualitative measures. This Center is inspiring and instrumental in providing support to college students as they explore and strengthen their Christian faith during their time at Thomas More.

MOREOVER

SAINTS SPOTLIGHT

Jack Wells

Associate Professor, Mathematics/Physics

SUBMITTED BY DAVID KLENK '22, GRADUATE

ASSISTANT COMMUNICATIONS | PHOTO PROVIDED



Professor Jack Wells has been a member of the Thomas More community since 1980 as a faculty member in the mathematics and physics department. Moreover caught up with Professor Wells on the occasion of his retirement in December 2022.

Can you provide a short history behind your career path?

JW: I grew up in upstate New York. I'd been studying physics since 1970 and earned my bachelor's degree in New York, then went to graduate school in Toledo. That was a fun time, I got a teaching assistantship in Toledo and enjoyed that. My first job was in Canfield, Ohio. It was a high school, and I was coaching football and wrestling. I was a wrestler in college, so I know all about the athletics program. I was also the faculty NCAA rep here for probably 10 years. My second job was in Westminister, Pennsylvania. My third job I came here and have been here ever since. It's been a really nice place to work, it's been a great department.

Do you have a favorite class that you taught here?

JW: Biology is certainly one of them. Another one is in pre-engineering: one course is called statics, it's a junior level course. It's the first course in building structures, like trusses for a bridge or a house, those kinds of things. The electronics course here, digital electronics, that's been a fun course to teach.

What were your top three experiences at Thomas More?

JW: Certainly doing research projects. Physics is an experimental science and doing the experiments is a big part of my job. We have, at Thomas More in the physics department, research courses as a mandatory course and all of our graduating students do some kind of a research project. Working with those students one-on-one, doing a research project for many years has been one of the highlights of my time here at Thomas More.

Different than academics, I walked the entire Appalachian Trail from 2000 to 2011. It took me 11 years to walk the whole thing because I did it a few weeks in the summer. On the Appalachian Trail they do trail names, I didn't get mine until near the end. I called myself "three weeks." I was on the trail most summers for more than 11 years for three weeks each summer. That was quite an experience.

I set up an art gallery show for my father. My father was a pretty good artist. He was a carver/woodworker – pitchers, little balsa wood cars, other kinds of hardwood carvings. I arranged a show for him just a month before he died, that was quite special to me to have a show for my father in the art gallery here at the college.

Can you tell us what retirement means for you as an academic?

JW: I haven't even begun to figure that out yet. My wife has been retired for three years, I'm sure she'll tell me what to do.

What advice do you have for Thomas More students?

JW: It's important to ask good questions. Students tend to sit and try to absorb. They don't ask as many questions as they ought to. It's by asking questions that the connections are made and you can see how the pieces of the puzzle fit. Physics is kind of like a puzzle and if you don't have all the pieces in the right place, then you are missing it and it's hard. I would say ask questions so you can see how those pieces all fit together.

To hear or read the entire interview, visit tmuky.us/jackwells.

MOREOVER

Saints Serve returns for a second year of service

SUBMITTED BY LYN KELLE, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS AND PR

On Tuesday, Oct. 11, 2022, Thomas More University closed for normal activities on campus, allowing faculty, staff, and students to participate in the second annual Saints Serve, a day of service benefiting local non-profits and charities. The campus-wide, day-long event allows the Thomas More community to come together and assist those in need throughout northern Kentucky and the greater Cincinnati region.

Over 1,200 Thomas More volunteers, including students, alumni, faculty, staff, and Board of Trustees members, participated in over 70 projects with more than 55 organizations across Northern Kentucky/Greater Cincinnati resulting in more than 3,000 hours of service performed in support of community neighbors.

Many participants from 2021 returned in 2022 including the Covington Rotary, ORSANCO, Master Provisions, Parish Kitchen, BeConcerned, Benedictine Sisters of St. Walburg Monastery, Redwood, and more.

“For 101 years, our University has been deeply committed to our Catholic values and traditions,” says President Joe Chillo. “Through these service projects, we engage in the principles of Catholic social teaching as well as maintain the University’s long-standing history of selfless commitment to others. As always, we encourage you to examine your place in the world, your responsibility to others, and the ultimate meaning of life.”

To read the original press release, visit tmuky.us/2022saintsserve.

MOREOVER

Mission in action
#SaintsServe
55 Organizations Helped
1,200+ Saints Partipated
3,000+ Service Hours Worked

SAINTS SPOTLIGHT

Choe Sergent, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor, Institute of Ethical, Management, and Organizational Leadership

SUBMITTED BY JUDY CRIST, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS



Choe Sergent, Ph.D., is one of the University’s newest faculty members, joining the community in fall of 2022. He is a member of the Governing Board Equity in Student Success Project (visit tmuky.us/gardner, to read more on the project), also called the Gardner Institute Initiative. Moreover spoke to Sergent about this commitment and the importance of the work that is being done.

Explain your role and how this work can impact the University.

CS: I was asked to be on this committee. A student survey was conducted and they are in the process of compiling the data to try to determine the variables that would increase student retention. Retention is one of the big three – fundraising, enrollment, and retention – that any university has to focus on. It was an honor to be asked to be on this committee, because this is very important work. I’m on the academic retention portion of the committee. The hope is that once we’re done, that we can find methods to increase retention for our students, whether it’s providing additional support or providing a resource that enables them to stay with us and make sure they complete their degree at Thomas More. That’s the goal.

What was your pathway into academia?

CS: I was an assistant vice president at Campbellsville University. I was over the operations of the Southern Regional Center. We built an entire campus and when I say we built a campus we did it from scratch – nothing there. We built over 15 buildings, including a gymnasium, four sets of dorms, and four academic buildings. We had about 800 students enrolled, started a Doctor of chiropractic program, and even developed the athletics program. We offered associates, bachelor’s and master’s degrees, as well as that one

doctorate. We also had certificate programs: welding, plumbing, HVAC, barbering, cosmetology, all of that. I got into it (academia), because one of my best friend’s dad was president (of Campbellsville University). I don’t know why, but he treated me like a son and took me under his wing; he showed me everything that he did.

What are your thoughts on retention, not only for all students, but particularly for students who are identified as Black, Indigenous, or People of Color (BIPoC)?

CS: One thing that’s going to come out of this with retaining and enrolling people of color, is the need to increase the amount of faculty of color. ... They can relate to the students in a way that other faculty cannot. Something that I’m hoping the Gardner Institute addresses, is that sometimes it’s simple things (that retain students).

How many people are involved in the Gardner Institute pilot?

CS: I would say there are at least 35 participants. There’s two different sides of this committee; I’m on the academic retention side and there is another side for student services. I believe right now it is still in the admin stages as the student survey went out right before the winter break. With regards to the results of the survey, I don’t know if they’re going to continue with a purely quantitative approach or if we will also explore some qualitative approaches. The Gardner Institute is really good at what they do but qualitatively, I think, is the only way to find some of the issues that are unique to Thomas More that will increase our retention. There’s definitely going to be things that they see at every university that we need to implement or bring correction, develop policy that will enhance retention, but I’m sure also there is need for the exploration of a qualitative method to find out what’s unique to us that we can do specifically because we’re in a unique area.

I love being at Thomas More. I absolutely love the faith tied to the mission of the school. It has a very good reputation; everybody really cares and does a great job. I think that makes for a top-notch, wonderful school.

To listen to or read the complete interview, visit tmuky.us/sergent.

MOREOVER



Reflections by one Saints Serve team

"It was a great experience to help Habitat for Humanity beyond the spring break trips to Florida. I've lived in Florence for most of my life, so it was great to give back to my community. Thanks for the opportunity!" - **Zoe Blasingame (student)**

"It was a great moment to serve as a member of the Florence ReStore Habitat for Humanity team. It provided me with a natural sense of accomplishment. This volunteering role gave me a sense of pride and identity. Serving kindles happiness!" - **Shiv Sharma (faculty)**

"It was great to go and help out. Sometimes we forget how blessed we are to have the opportunities that we do. It's easy to forget that going to help out and doing simple things can really help make a difference in someone's life." - **Michael Pagano (staff)**

"It was a great day. I drive by the Habitat for Humanity ReStore and always wondered how they serviced this area. As I helped with dusting and sweeping, I found a very pleasant and caring environment for the ReStore staff and their clients. A need well served in our community. I hope to visit the store again." - **Joyce Vorderbrueggen (staff)**





SPRING DAY OF *Giving* MAY 4, 2023

Day of Giving - Save the Date!

Thomas More University's Spring Day of Giving takes place on May 4, 2023. Celebrate the transformation of the Saints Center back to a Student Center by making a gift to the University. Any donation of \$25 or more, made in the month of May, receives an exclusive deck of Thomas More playing cards.

To give online, visit thomasmore.edu/give.

If giving online is not your preference, there is always the option of sending your gift in the envelope at the center of this Moreover.

For additional information, please contact the Office of Institutional Advancement

at 859.344.3344 or

advancement@thomasmore.edu.

BECOME A MEMBER OF THE PRESIDENT'S GIVING SOCIETY



There are many great things happening at Thomas More! As an alum, I am so proud of where the institution is headed.

Construction is underway on campus for the new academic center. The University finalized the purchase of the Northern Kentucky Five Seasons Sports Club, increasing the size of campus by 24%, while securing the largest single philanthropic gift in the University's history. Additionally, the Saint Center was transformed back to a student center, providing students a space to congregate, learn, and socialize, and is now a thriving part of campus. We are investing in the future of these students. We are ensuring that the Thomas More experience sets them up for a meaningful life and career.

I'm proud and excited to see the amazing work being done to support our students and their success, all of which is made possible by the support of alumni and the community. With your support we are truly making a difference as we Make it More.

Join me, and many others, as a member of the President's Giving Society. Thomas More University's fiscal year ends on May 31, so please consider making a gift of \$1,000 or more. We have fantastic events and speakers planned this year exclusively for members of the President's Giving Society and hope to see you there.

Steve Wright

Steve Wright '99, Chairperson
President's Giving Society



Saints salute the Covington Rotary

SUBMITTED BY LYNA KELLEY, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS AND PR

What is a Saints Salute?

A Saints Salute is a community outreach award given by Thomas More to honor partner organizations making a difference through continued support of the University and in the region. Former Saints Salute recipients include VonLehman CPA and Advisory Firm, and Duke Energy.



President Chillo presents a Saints Salute to Rotary representatives.

Thomas More University extended a Saints Salute to the Covington Rotary, the longest-standing service club in Northern Kentucky, in honor of their common roots in downtown Covington, a history of shared leaders, and a mutual commitment to service. Covington Rotary received the honor during a Thomas More football home game with President Joe Chillo saying, “We wanted to take the opportunity to honor the Covington Rotary for their contributions to the University and dedication to bettering the community. Their continued work to better our region and develop the community service interests and skills of students aligns with our mission and makes them an invaluable member of the Thomas More community.”

“As the oldest service organization in Northern Kentucky, Covington Rotary has a 202-year history of caring for our community,” added Judith A. Marlowe, Ph.D., chairperson of the Board of Trustees. “Their support of education in Covington

schools, feeding the hungry and homeless by providing supplies and volunteer assistance for the Parish Kitchen, Be Concerned, and Hosea House, and improving our environment by planting pollinator gardens, clearing the riverbanks of trash and debris, and creating Rotary Grove in Devou Park are only a few of the many ways they have left their mark over the years. It is especially significant for Thomas More University to honor their history of service not only due to our shared roots in Covington and shared values, but also to a shared history of leaders and partnerships that continues as Rotary and this University enter their second century.”

The Rotary Club plays a large part in the annual Saints Serve day. In the 2021 inaugural Saints Serve day, the Covington Rotary connected Thomas More with several of their ongoing service projects and facilitated additional opportunities to serve the community in a variety of locations.

[MOREOVER](#)

Monsignor Murphy Legacy Society

CREATE YOUR LEGACY AT THOMAS MORE

Can **YOU** leave a lasting contribution to the mission of Thomas More University? Charitable planning empowers you to create opportunities for generations to come. **THANK YOU** to all of the existing members. Through the Monsignor Murphy Legacy Society you can join a fellowship of devoted friends and alumni who have made a pledge to support Thomas More through their will or other estate planning documents. Your contribution will sustain the mission of Thomas More while creating a lasting legacy for yourself on campus.

Have you considered making a legacy plan with Thomas More? There are many options to explore which give you the freedom to craft your legacy, and it may be easier than you imagine. Contact the Office of Institutional Advancement at **859.344.3344** to explore opportunities for planned giving or to notify the University of your intent. Additional information can be found at tmuky.us/plannedgiving.

All prospective donors are encouraged to consult with their legal and tax advisors.



Personalized experience leads to alums in local government

SUBMITTED BY LYNNA KELLEY
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS AND PR



Jon McClain '19 and Pierce Turner '21 represent Thomas More University as they serve the City of Bellevue in Kentucky.

Officials at the City of Bellevue in Kentucky are very familiar with what graduates from Thomas More University have to offer. “We were joking in the office about how Thomas More grads are taking over the City of Bellevue,” says Colonel Jon McClain ’19, Bellevue chief of police. “The top-notch talent from Thomas More is represented here!”

McClain is a graduate of Thomas More’s criminal justice program, a field that gained his interest after departing from the U.S. Navy. “My time at Thomas More was great,” recalls McClain, “I used my military benefits, and the Veterans Affairs (VA) rep, Michelle Vezina (also Thomas More’s registrar), was outstanding in helping navigate any paperwork.” The personalized experience McClain found at Thomas More did not stop at VA services. He credits the small class sizes and the ability to connect with professors in strengthening his education and career readiness. “Thomas More helped me prepare for my current role by teaching me to look at the bigger picture,” says McClain. “Classes in criminal justice research gave me the ability to take alternate views other than that of a law enforcement officer.” McClain was appointed as chief of police in January 2022, after serving on the force for 12 years. He is also a member of the Campbell County Fire Investigation Team and the Campbell County Special Investigations Team.

The City of Bellevue has also welcomed interns from the University over the years. It was an internship that paved the way for Pierce Turner ’21, assistant to the city administrator and alcohol beverage control administrator, to find a permanent role with the city. The opportunity was introduced to him through John T. Spence, Ph.D., AICP, Thomas More professor of political science. “I initially had no intention of going into local government or public administration, but once I went through the internship, I had built an admiration for it,” explains Turner. “The City of Bellevue asked me to stay after my internship had ended, and I have been rising through the ranks to get to where I am now.” Turner’s educational experience did not begin at Thomas More; he was drawn to the University for its small class sizes and opportunities to make connections with faculty and staff. “My academic advisor and I were very close,” recalls Turner. “I was in a few of his classes, and I was able to progress in my academic career exponentially faster than I would have been able to at a larger school.” Further, he credits the smaller class sizes in building an invaluable sense of camaraderie with classmates, which strengthened his team building skills. “Students could rely on others and work together to reach a common goal,” says Turner. “That is what it’s all about in local government. With limited resources, having a group that can work together cohesively is essential.”

Thomas More University students will no doubt continue to find career opportunities with the City of Bellevue. “Whenever the City is in need of personnel for small projects, I always look to Thomas More to give a potential intern some experience in the workforce and to invite them into our community at the City of Bellevue,” says Turner.

MOREOVER

Alums establish, and direct, a center which fosters innovation and entrepreneurialism

SUBMITTED BY LYNNA KELLEY, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS AND PR

As alumni, Dr. Anthony (Tony) ’65 and Geraldine (Gerry) ’66 Zembrodt value an education that fosters creative thinking and problem solving. The Zembrodts have been extremely successful when it comes to invention and entrepreneurialism and as a result of their success in life, they made a leadership gift to the Second Century Campaign which establishes the Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation in their name. The Center was established to foster academic excellence and innovation, one of the goals set forth in Thomas More’s five-

year Strategic Plan — Lighting the Way. The Center increases the potential for entrepreneurialism as it relates to student success both in the classroom and post-graduation from the University. Such a center calls for strong leadership and as a result alum Jeni Al Bahrani ’05 has been named as the inaugural director. “After meeting with Jeni and understanding her approach to engaging students, we became excited about the possibilities,” explain the Zembrodts. “We know that we need innovation not only in the population at large but in the way we teach it. The future of Thomas More University

Volunteerism as a way of life

SUBMITTED BY LYNA KELLEY, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS AND PR

Service to the community is a part of life that lasts well beyond a student's time on campus. The mission of the Catholic liberal arts education at Thomas More is to encourage students to examine the ultimate meaning of life, their place in the world, and their responsibility to others. Service opportunities are important avenues for students to grow as individuals and to connect with their community. As students build a foundation of service and come to understand their responsibility to others, they go on to become leaders in the community, continuing to seek opportunities to help those in need. Thank you to Otis Miller III '16, Laura Gossett '06/'17, and all the Thomas More alumni who make a difference in their communities by giving back of their time, talent, and treasure.



Alumnus Spotlight - Otis Miller III '16

Otis Miller is one alum who strives to serve the community. He has partnered with Cincinnati-based nonprofit, Future Ambassadors Inc., to create "Spread Love Turkey Day!" Miller helps by collecting monetary donations, which are used to purchase meals for families across greater Cincinnati who otherwise could not afford a Thanksgiving meal.

These households include low-income families, single-parent homes, or families who face poverty. "I am looking forward to going to the grocery store, shopping for 125 families, and watching those families pick up their food with smiles on their faces knowing that they can enjoy Thanksgiving without worrying if they can afford it," says Miller. Miller even recruited former Thomas More teammates, **Joshua Hunter '17** and **Amadin Imade '18**, to get involved in the project.

Miller uses his background in athletics to pay it forward by volunteering with Saturday Hoops. Volunteers serve as mentors, interacting with children from elementary through high school every Saturday. "My goal was to do what I can to give back to my community," says Miller. "For me it's about being present and helping people. I understand that people need help and some of the people that need the most help might not ask for it."

Alumna Spotlight - Laura (Berkemeier) Gossett '06/'17

Laura Gossett earned a theater degree during her undergraduate years at Thomas More and that degree led her to participate in similar volunteer opportunities in the region. Gossett has stayed active volunteering with community theatre groups, including Beechmont Players, Inc., Mariemont Players, Inc., The Drama Workshop, Footlighters, and Village Players of Fort Thomas. She also served on the board of Know Theatre of Cincinnati for three years.

Her drive to support the community also inspired her day job, serving as the Director of Development at Life Learning Center (LLC). At LLC, Gossett raises funds to support at risk adults experiencing the most vulnerable time of their life. Many have been incarcerated or suffer from Substance Use Disorder. LLC works with these individuals to improve their situation by teaching essential skills and assisting them to get back into the workforce. "The values imparted through my education at Thomas More directly impacted my affinity for giving back to the community," Gossett reflects. "I am very proud to be a lifelong Northern Kentuckian and take great pride in my community. I support Northern Kentucky and Greater Cincinnati any way I can."



relies not only on its rich past but on always challenging the status quo. Jeni is the way of the future."

The Center provides an incubator space for students, faculty, and staff to explore and test ideas before advancing them as initiatives. Al Bahrani comes to Thomas More from Transylvania University, where her role was to start the inaugural Center for Entrepreneurship. There she assisted aspiring entrepreneurs to start a business, existing business owners to grow their business, and corporations to use innovation as a driver to define/redefine business models. "As an alumna, I am a product of the Thomas More mission, and I know a Catholic Liberal Arts degree is about more than a mission," says Al Bahrani, "it's also about how you will use your education in your professional and personal life. I am thrilled to lead the Center as a way... to promote the applications of entrepreneurial concepts in support of each student's passion, regardless of major." **MOREOVER**

Jeni Al Bahrani addresses the room during the 2023 Women's Conference.



Award dinner returns with an added twist

SUBMITTED BY LYN KELLE, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS AND PR



Alan Pickett receives the Bishop William A. Hughes Award from President Joe Chillo and Board of Trustees Chair Judith Marlowe '69.



Ray Hebert receives the inaugural Dr. Raymond Hebert Distinguished Service Award.



Will Ziegler receives the St. Thomas More Medallion.

After a four-year hiatus, the University honored three outstanding community members at the 25th Bishop William A. Hughes Award Dinner sponsored by DBL Law in March 2023. Three distinct awards were presented to individuals who have shown leadership in the community and made a significant impact on Catholic education.

Alan Pickett, former executive director of Catholic Charities, received the Bishop William A. Hughes Award, which honors those who have made significant contributions to Catholic higher education. Pickett joined Catholic Charities in September 2014 as the ninth executive director and has spent much of his adult life actively participating in numerous ministries at his parish and volunteering in a variety of programs in the community.

Raymond G. Hebert, Ph.D., executive director of the Wm. T. (Bill) Robinson III '67 Institute for Religious Liberty (IRL) was presented the newly created Dr. Raymond Hebert Distinguished Service Award. Hebert has more than 47 years of service to the University. His tremendous legacy began when he joined Thomas More in 1975 as a faculty member. He has filled many roles since then.

Wilbert Ziegler '53, J.D., honorary chair of the Second Century Campaign Steering Committee was presented with the St. Thomas More Medallion, the highest dedicated service award granted to a member of the Thomas More community.

Congratulations to these three outstanding individuals. To watch video of the honorees, view a photo gallery from the event, and read the complete press release, visit tmuky.us/23bhad.

MOREOVER



Twenty-fifth BISHOP WILLIAM A. HUGHES AWARD DINNER

Past and present honorees of the Bishop William A. Hughes Award and St. Thomas More Medallion in attendance included: (first row from left) Julie Geisen Scheper '76, Mary Brown, Most Reverend John Iffert, Most Reverend Roger Foy, Joan Robinson '69, Sr. Margaret Stallmeyer, CDP '68; (second row from left) Chuck Scheper '74, Will Ziegler '53, Dan Groneck, Casey '81 and Mark Guilfoyle, Judith Marlowe '69, President Chillo, Alan Pickett, Andy VonLehman '75, Jim Dressman '74, and Ray Hebert.





Honoring Outstanding Alumni

Do you know someone who deserves to be honored at the next Alumni Awards celebration? Nominations are now open.

The Alumni Awards were established to honor outstanding alumni and community leaders whose talents and expertise have made a significant impact on Thomas More University and the Northern Kentucky/ Greater Cincinnati community. Awards include: citizenship, service, professional achievement, emerging leader, and lasting influence (faculty/staff). For more information, visit tmuky.us/alumniawards. For a complete list of previous award winners, visit tmuky.us/pastawards. The awardees will be honored during Homecoming Weekend 2023.

CONTINUE YOUR EDUCATION AS A LIFELONG LEARNER - EARN A MICROCREDENTIAL OR BADGE

Seeking learners who are interested in adding or updating valuable skills to further their careers, The Accelerated and Graduate program at Thomas More created professional credentials in the form of badges and microcredentials in a self-paced, online format. Perfect for working individuals looking to learn new skills, there are more than 75 courses to choose from including cybersecurity, logistics and operations, management and leadership, digital marketing, human resources, career acceleration, and more. To find out more, visit bemore.thomasmore.edu.

Join the Fun!

Events are a great way to reconnect, network, and socialize. Mark your calendars for these upcoming events!

MAY

SCHOLARSHIP GOLF CLASSIC

sponsored by **Turner**
Building the Future

Monday | May 8, 2023

Summit Hills Country Club

For additional information,

visit tmuky.us/23golfclassic or call **859.344.3344**

JUNE

2023 CRESTVIEW HILLS CONCERT

at Thomas More University

Signature Sponsor - Republic Bank

Friday | June 23, 2023 | 6:30 - 10 p.m.

Sail On (Beach Boys Tribute Band)

The Stranger (Billy Joel Tribute Band)

Gates open at 5 p.m. | Free Entry | No Outside Alcohol

Food trucks and beverages available for purchase

JULY

ALL SAINTS CLUB ATHLETIC GOLF OUTING

sponsored by **St. Elizabeth**
HEALTHCARE

Friday | July 28, 2023 | 7 a.m. - 3 p.m.

AJ Jolly Golf Course

For sponsorship opportunities or to reserve a spot contact Tom Brady at bradyt@thomasmore.edu or **859-344-3642**

OCTOBER

2023 SAINTS SERVE

Tuesday | Oct. 10, 2023

Additional details TBA

WM. T. (BILL) ROBINSON III '67 INSTITUTE FOR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY FALL INTERFAITH EVENT

Stephanie Hall Barclay

Associate Professor of Law

Director, Religious Liberty Initiative

Notre Dame Law School

Oct. 19, 2023 | 7-9:30 p.m.

HOMECOMING WEEKEND

Oct. 20-21, 2023 | Save the dates

Thomas More University

50TH ANNIVERSARY CLASS OF 1973

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AWARDS

HOMECOMING TENT PARTY

Don't miss all the action!

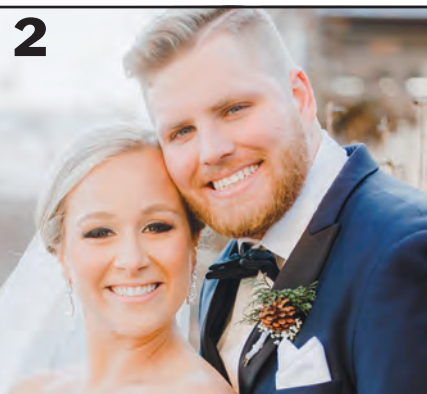


We'd love to share your engagement/wedding news!

Send your good news (and a digital photo) via email with subject line "news" to alumni@thomasmore.edu or visit tmuky.us/alumninote online.

ENGAGEMENT

1. A big congratulations to recently engaged **Robert Augspurger '20** and Taylor Moore



MARRIAGES

2. Congratulations to **Taylor Anne (Walz) '19/'21** and Kobe Tallon, who tied the knot on Jan. 21, 2023
3. **Emily (Schultz) '20** and **Jacob '20 Zai** were married at their alma mater in Mary, Seat of Wisdom Chapel on Oct. 8, 2022

Are You & Your Spouse



If you met your spouse while attending Thomas More (or Villa Madonna), send your anniversary date by email (alumni@thomasmore.edu) or phone (859.344.3545), so we can congratulate you both for years to come! ♥♥♥

Follow Thomas More Alumni on social media:



CLASS NOTES! Send Yours Today

Have you gotten married? Job change? Promotion? Starting a family? We want to hear what you have been doing! Send your note using the envelope at the center of this issue of Moreover or send via email with subject line **class note** to alumni@thomasmore.edu or visit tmuky.us/alumninote online.

STAY CONNECTED Update Your Records

Has your contact information changed? Update your contact records by completing the alumni update form online at thomasmore.edu/alumni or drop a note in the business reply envelope located in the center of this Moreover.

NEW ARRIVALS



Congratulations to **Stephanie (Sias) '14** and **Gavin '14 Wichmann** on the birth of their adorable son! These two Saints welcomed baby Finn into the world in April 2022.

Kendra (Berry) '18 and **Austin '19 Crone** share a family photo with their littlest Saint, Lizzie.



Are you a proud parent of a little Saint? Please share a favorite digital photo of your little blessing(s). Email alumni@thomasmore.edu with names (include mom and/or dad), and class year!

Creative art alums return to campus



The Eva G. Farris Gallery welcomed alumni as the first art exhibit of 2023, with a closing reception on Feb 9, the final day of the show. Thank you to the following art alumni who shared their outstanding work.

Bro. Don Smith, S.M. '56

Mick Goldberg '65

Thomas J. Stiens '65

Judith L. Stiens '66

Tricia Kramer Noe '67

Larry McKenney '69

Bill Eagen '72

Kenneth A. Reis '72

Roger Schwartz '73

Glenna Zimmerman Galbraith '74

Rita Koehl Geiger '74

Paul Robert Popovich '74

Heidi Toelke '75

Jennifer Baldwin '76

Barbara Airhart Gronefeld '76

Ruthe Wyman '76

Richard Gronefeld '77

Margie Hardebeck, '77

Colette Oliver '79

Cody Goodin '84

Bonita Williams Goldberg '88

David Klocke '96

Ximena Burton '05

Nathan Klare '12

Jason Matheny '12

Christopher Beiting '13

Jacob Condon '16

Karen Cress '16

Guadalupe Fernandez '16

Ian Gunn '16

Nicole Blanchard '19

Joseph Schmitz '19

Sean Green '21

Andrew Christianson '21

Madyson Haynes '21

Michael Thompson '21

Anissa Bradley '22

Elizabeth Butler '22

Eva G. Farris Gallery
THOMAS MORE UNIVERSITY



For a photo gallery from the show, visit tmuky.us/23alumexhibit.

1960s

James Ott '61 wrote the short story titled "Ardeth and Her Wheelchair" which has been accepted for publication by the English language creative writing journal of the Vrije Universiteit (University) in Amsterdam.

Charles H. Bogart '65 graduated from the University with a degree in history and has been putting it to work in his second act as a Civil War Park historian and tour guide at the Fort Boone Civil War Battle Site near Frankfort, Kentucky. He is also a monthly columnist for FRANK. magazine. Visit tmuky.us/frank to find his articles in the online magazine. To read about his fascinating life journey which includes joining the Navy at 17 years of age, attending VMC, and traveling the world before pursuing his passion for history, visit tmuky.us/Bogart.

1970s

John Cimprich '71, professor emeritus for Thomas More University, published "Navigating Liberty: Black Refugees and Antislavery Reformers in the Civil War South" (Louisiana State University Press).



D. Lynn Meyers '77, producing artistic director at the Ensemble Theatre of Cincinnati, was named as one of the region's 300 most powerful business leaders in Cincinnati Magazine's fourth edition of Cincinnati 300. Meyers was also a panel speaker at the 2023 Thomas More Women's Conference.



CLASS NOTES CONTINUED ON PAGE 26

CLASS NOTES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 25

1980s

Karen Mollmann Groh '82

was awarded the Gail Jenkins Teaching and Mentoring Award from the Human Anatomy and Physiology Society. Groh is a biology instructor at Cincinnati State Technical and Community College. This award is presented to an instructor who uses engaging learning activities to help students understand and retain difficult anatomy and physiology concepts with kinesthetic and active learning strategies using everyday props. The award recognizes faculty who mentor other instructors in incorporating active learning in anatomy and physiology.



Garren Colvin '86,

president and CEO of St. Elizabeth Healthcare was named in Cincinnati Magazine's fourth edition of Cincinnati 300, as one of the region's 300 most powerful business leaders in the region.



1990s

Brent Messmer '94

has continued to grow and expand his business, The Matrix Companies, since opening its doors back in 2000. The Cincinnati-based risk management firm, which focuses on workers' compensation, was recently acquired by the London-based firm Charles Taylor. To read more about this deal and what it promises for the continued growth of The Matrix Companies, visit tmuky.us/matrix.



Paul Krusling '95 coauthored a chapter on the wall lizard in "Reptiles of Ohio" (2021) with John Ferner (Thomas More University Emeritus professor of biology) and Jeff Davis (Cincinnati Museum Center). In addition, Paul contributed to two chapters on softshell turtles and one on the broad-headed skink. Paul retired from teaching at Scott High School and continues to be active as a respected herpetologist and naturalist in the Greater Cincinnati area.

Sarah Tomes '99, CEO of LPK, was named to Cincinnati Magazine's fourth edition of Cincinnati 300 as one of the region's 300 most powerful business leaders in the region.



2000s

Terry Farro '00

was promoted to president of Callibrity Solutions in August 2022. Terry also holds the role of chief financial officer. Callibrity is consistently recognized by the Cincinnati Business Courier as one of the fastest growing companies in the area. After earning his degree from Thomas More, Terry earned the designations of Certified Public Accountant, Certified Valuation Analyst, and Chartered Global Management Accountant. Terry and his wife **Mary (Schatzman) '00** have four children and reside in Erlanger, Kentucky.



Moir Weir '00,

president and CEO of United Way of Greater Cincinnati, was named as one of the region's 300 most powerful business leaders in Cincinnati Magazine's fourth edition of Cincinnati 300.



Jeni Al Bahrani '05

returned to Thomas More University as the director of the Dr. Anthony '65 and Geraldine '66 Zembrod Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation. Read more about Jeni's return on [page 20](#).



Tom Haggard '06

is one of 65 members nationwide (and the first Kentuckian) accepted into the School Board Partners Fellowship program for 2023. He was first elected



Fight Like a Kid

In fall 2022, a group of alumni and friends raised money for childhood cancer research by running in the Bourbon Chase marathon. Their team name was Fight Like a Kid in honor of Jackson, the late son of Thomas More alums **Doug '04** and **Shawna (Kelly) '02 McClure**. The team included **Caleb '07** and **Brittany (Goetz) '10 Finch**, **Joe McClure '05**, **Aaron '09** and **April (Husak) '15 Judd**, and **Brandon West**.

to the Covington Board of Education in 2020 and currently serves as chair of the board. To read more about this, visit tmuky.us/haggard2.

Lisette Martinez '06

was named one of 2022's Top Diversity Leaders by Modern Healthcare magazine. Martinez currently serves as executive vice president and chief diversity officer at Jefferson Health and Thomas Jefferson University. The Top Diversity Leaders in Healthcare recognition program honors the top diverse healthcare executives and organizations influencing policy, care delivery and public health, and promoting diversity, equity and inclusion in their organizations and the healthcare industry. To read more about this honor, visit tmuky.us/martinez.



Sarah Wice-

Courtney '08 was named associate vice president for marketing and communications at Northern Kentucky University in 2022. To read more about this new role for Sarah, visit tmuky.us/wicecourtney.



Megan Brooks '09, founded Astral, LLC, to provide branded apparel to wholesalers and businesses on demand. The company won the Entrepreneur Award from Commerce Lexington's Salute to Small Business in 2022. Read a feature on Brooks's business venture by visiting tmuky.us/astral.

2010s

Chris Rickels '10, Ph.D.

was promoted to the position of dean of business, IT, and professional services at Gateway Community and Technical College. Most recently, he was in the role of associate dean of arts and sciences and an assistant professor in philosophy. After graduating from Thomas More, Rickels



went on to earn his master's degree from the University of Toledo and a doctorate from the University of Louisville.

Toby Coston '11,

general manager of Heidelberg Distributing, was named as one of the region's 300 most powerful business leaders in Cincinnati Magazine's fourth edition of Cincinnati 300.



Katie Kitchen Beasley '13

was part of the Cincinnati Children's Hospital research team that helped develop the Q-Collar, a novel device that hit the market last year and may reduce the negative effects of hits sustained during athletic activities. This device was worn during the 2022 professional football season by, among others, Boston Scott, running back for the Philadelphia Eagles. To read more about Katie and the device, visit tmuky.us/qcollar.



CJ Frye '13/'15

was recently appointed to the Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) by Governor Andy Beshear, where he represents high school teachers. EPSB promotes high levels of student achievement by establishing and enforcing rigorous professional standards for preparation, certification, and responsible and ethical behavior for all professional educators in Kentucky. Frye was also elected as the next president for the Kentucky Council of Teachers of Mathematics (KCTM). He began his term as president-elect on Jan. 1, 2023, will take on the role of president from January 2025-December 2026, and continue on as past president January 2027-December 2028. KCTM provides support and professional development for Kentucky math teachers at all levels. Frye has served on the KCTM governing board as its secretary since 2017.



Alex Taylor '14 co-founded Ocusell, an "11-month-old prop tech startup that aims to simplify the residential real estate listing process." Ocusell has nearly doubled its capital stack less than a year after its launch. To read more about Alex's new venture, visit tmuky.us/ocusell.

Kyle Neltner '15

recently graduated with his Juris Doctorate from the University of Cincinnati School of Law. He has since started a position with the U.S. Department of Labor as an employee benefits investigator.



Michael Orr II '15

joined the second cohort of the Northern Kentucky Chamber's new leadership program. Orr works at Gateway Community and Technical College and joins a class of 18 other professionals from a wide range of businesses. The program is meant to bring young professionals, newcomers, and natives together to foster a strong sense of belonging to the community.



Michael Stephens '15 is finishing his Harvard Dermatology Residency program and has accepted a position on the staff of Massachusetts General Hospital as a dermatologist and instructor at Harvard Medical School beginning in August 2023. During his time in residency, he completed research on metastatic melanoma response to checkpoint inhibitor therapy.

Sarah Brown '18 graduated with degrees in English and history before going on to receive her Master of Arts in professional writing and editing from the University of Cincinnati in 2020. She

CLASS NOTES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 27

is now pursuing her Juris Doctorate at the Salmon P. Chase College of Law at Northern Kentucky University. She also stays busy as an editor for the Northern Kentucky Law Review (2022) and as a law clerk at Kohnen & Patton, LLP.

Kelsi Goins '18, who is in leadership on Thomas More's Alumni Board of Directors, was recently promoted to the role of executive director of inclusive excellence in the University of Cincinnati's College of Engineering and Applied Science.

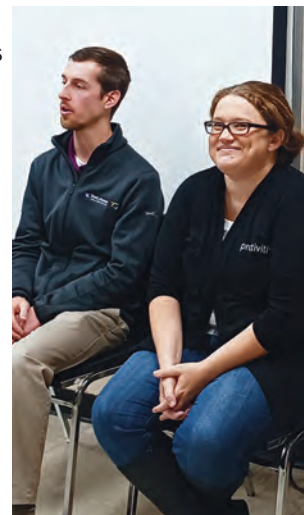
Madison Light '19 is a history alum who earned her Master of Arts in public history from Northern Kentucky University. She now teaches history full-time at Covington Latin School, where she is also an alumna.



Accounting alumni visit the classroom

Accounting alumni visit current students in class to share their perspectives and professional experiences. Thank you to all these alumni who visited:

Kristen Clifton '04 Eagle Financial
Brigid Brown '05 Barnes Dennig
Brandon Busby '05/'17 Disabled American Veterans
Cassandra Stueber '05 Protiviti
Alex Weidner '10 Rudler PSC
Aimee Zimmer '10 Thomas Gilday, CPA
Ross Emerson '14 5/3 Bank
Anna Ward '15 United States Playing Card Co.
Emily Bailey '16 CTI Clinical Trial Services
AJ Mangine '16 PricewaterhouseCoopers
Alex Bramer '17 VonLehman
Megan Berberich '18 Stryder
Jacob Hensley '19 MCF Advisors
Jacob Zai '20 Munninghoff Lange & Co.
Daniel Branch '21 Protiviti
Bruce Kremer '21 VonLehman
Sergio San Pablo '22 Thomas More MBA Program



2020s



Michael Thompson '21 was honored by Table Cincinnati as an inaugural member of the Carl B. Westmoreland Fellowship. This Fellowship serves as an investment in "the next generation of leaders who will help address our community's most pressing challenges." Congratulations, Michael! Table Cincinnati is an organization that has a vision "for Cincinnati's Black community to change systems and achieve greater economic status, connectedness, and overall well-being."



Commemorating the centennial in print "Thomas More University at 100"

Congratulations to Professor Raymond Hebert, Ph.D., recently retired archivist Thomas Ward, and alums **Dave Schroeder '90** and **Paul Tenkotte '82, Ph.D.**, on completion of "Thomas More University at 100: Purpose, People, and Pathways to Student Success" published by Stevie Publishing, Inc. in 2023 (special thanks to owner **Robert Stevie '68**). Copies of this historical text can be purchased through The More Store on campus (call 859-344-3335 for hours) or online at bookstore.thomasmore.edu.

Shop to Benefit Thomas More University

Use your shopper account at Kroger to make a gift to the University. Their program allows you to designate rewards earned on your account be directed to a charity of your choice.



Register at tmuky.us/kroger

Women Who Innovate

THOMAS MORE
UNIVERSITY



WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

March 2023

SUBMITTED BY LYNNA KELLEY, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS AND PR

Ringing in Women's History Month, the second annual Women's Conference presented by Fifth Third Bank and Mubea was held on Friday, March 3, 2023. This year's theme, Women Who Innovate, brought together an audience from across the tristate area to celebrate and recognize the contributions of women through four speakers and a discussion panel. Jeni Al Bahrani '05, inaugural director of Thomas More's Dr. Anthony '65 & Geraldine '66 Zembrodt Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, gave the welcoming keynote. Al Bahrani is an advocate for empowering people to create their own lane of opportunity through the increase of access to entrepreneurship, which leads to creating programs and experiences on campus and in the community. "No matter what I'm building, no matter what you're building, no matter what your organization is building, you can't do it alone," Al Bahrani said to attendees. "That's why I love that we're all here today together. We can reach across the table, find some connections, shake things up, figure out what we can innovate together, and lift as we rise."

Sessions were held throughout the morning and early afternoon



featuring D. Lynn Meyers '77, the innovative artistic director at the Ensemble Theatre Cincinnati; Suzanne Francis, current medical liaison for Novo Nordisk and former manager of Ambulatory Clinical Pharmacy at St. Elizabeth Healthcare, an innovator in the pharmacy field; and Jill Morenz, CEO of Aviara Accelerators, who brought the conversation back to innovation in entrepreneurship.

The theme of innovation as it relates to career continued as Judith Marlowe '69, Ph.D., chair of the Thomas More Board of Trustees, moderated a panel composed of Vashti Chatman, global chief human resources officer at Big Village, Kim Halbauer '00, president of the Kentucky Region at Fifth Third Bank, and Sue Ellen Stuebing '84, vice president and CEO at CET/ThinkTV. The women shared their professional experiences which resulted in leadership roles.

Attendees gained valuable insights from these prominent women in the community, while learning how to celebrate their own accomplishments and set goals for the future.

To read the release/view select sessions, visit tmuky.us/23tmwc.

Speakers for the 2023 Thomas More Women's Conference from left:
Suzanne Francis,
Jill Morenz,
Sue Ellen Stuebing '84,
Jeni Al Bahrani '05,
Judith Marlowe '69,
Vashti Chatman,
and Kim Halbauer '00.

MOREOVER

In Memoriam

"This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in Him may have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day." - John 6:40

Martha Arlinghaus '73, Oct. 23, 2022
Sr. M. Karen Bahlmann '73, March 23, 2022
Monica (Schmits) Borne '89, Aug. 21, 2022
Edgar Cleves, Jr. '47, Sept. 28, 2022
Sr. Victoria Eisenman '53, June 28, 2022
Dr. John Greivenkamp '76, Jan. 29, 2022
Sr. Thomas Harvey '67, March 29, 2022
Sr. M. Elaine Krebs '66, Dec. 6, 2022
Dr. G. Edward Kuhl '63, July 3, 2022
Harold Laughlin '47, Oct. 29, 2022
Robert Livingston '73, June 17, 2022
Sr. M. Norene McCormack '73, March 31, 2022

Stephen Meyers '72, April 27, 2022
Dr. Winnifred (Gerhardstein) Murnin '52, July 19, 2022
Dennis Nolan '66, Oct. 31, 2022
Terry (Winkler) Parkey '70, Oct. 26, 2022
Wilda (McGee) Roehm '50, Oct. 3, 2022
Mary (McBride) Schmidt '68, March 15, 2022
Robert Schwing '67, Aug. 17, 2022
Sr. Henrietta Seiler '55, Jan. 30, 2022
Joseph Steffen '52, June 30, 2022
Mark Tabeling '75, Jan. 25, 2023
Patricia (Boylan) Van Lokeren '66, Jan. 4, 2023



View into the Thomas More Stadium during on-field practice.

Welcome to the new home of Saints baseball

SUBMITTED BY LYNA KELLEY, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS AND PR

In March of 2022, the University and the Florence Y'alls Baseball Club announced a partnership that resulted in the renaming of the home of the Florence Y'alls to Thomas More Stadium. As part of the agreement, the stadium is now the home of the Thomas More Saints' baseball team.

As Moreover went to press, the kickoff celebration of this new home was scheduled for April 15 during a Saints double header, with David Justice, former major league outfielder and baseball/basketball standout during his time at Thomas More, throwing out the first pitch, and Bobby Young '87, former player drafted by the Pittsburgh Pirates, catching. Justice played much of his career for the Atlanta Braves and was inducted into the Thomas More Athletic Hall of Fame in 1996. Young was also inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2008. Previous baseball championship teams were also invited to attend and honored during the game. "We were very excited to welcome David Justice back to a Thomas More University event," says Director of Athletics Terry Connor '92. "We were also thrilled by those who came out to Thomas More Stadium to see the facility and cheer on our Saints."

Tom Brady, associate director of development for athletics at Thomas More, hosted a Past-to-Present Baseball themed Chalk Talk before the game featuring Justice, Young, former baseball coach and current Thomas More Associate Director of Athletics Jeff Hetzer, and former Thomas More baseball player George "Cubby" Lyon, Jr. '51. Chalk Talks are hosted by the All Saints Club, the fundraising arm that provides financial support and resources to all Thomas More University athletic programs through private and community level donations. "We had an amazing panel for this Chalk Talk," says Brady. "Cubby Lyon played on Thomas More's first baseball team prior to his career in professional baseball and later starting his own company. David Justice was a standout player at Thomas More prior to his legendary career in professional ball. Jeff Hetzer coached many great Thomas More baseball teams for 19 years prior to serving as our associate athletic director. The event allowed our panelists to share some great behind the scenes stories that have made Thomas More baseball such a great tradition."

MOREOVER

Notable achievements in the Saints record books



McClanahan



Ferrando



Meddings



Barth



Hurst



Hans



Ray

VOLLEYBALL

women's

Sam McClanahan 1,000 career assists

Asia Ferrando 1,000 career digs

SOCCER

women's

Ryann Meddings tied program record for season assists with 17

FOOTBALL

Saints Defense allowed lowest total yards in program history and set the school record for lowest average rushing yards per attempt by an opponent

BASKETBALL

women's

Zoie Barth 1,000 career points

Courtney Hurst broke program record for all-time career 3-point field goals made

Jeff Hans 300 career wins

men's

Justin Ray 100 career win

CHEER

Saints Cheer Team performed with Greater Cincinnati Autism Association Cheer Squad at halftime of a Saints basketball game



Softball complex to receive upgrade

SUBMITTED BY LYNNA KELLEY, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS AND PR

Thomas More University's softball field is getting a makeover. The University announced plans for extensive renovations to the current field and new construction which creates a state-of-the-art complex for softball athletes. "This upgrade continues our commitment to elevating the reputation and brand of Thomas More Athletics as we begin our transition to the NCAA DII and to creating a student experience that is designed for success in the classroom and on the field," says President Joe Chillo.

The improved field will continue to serve as the home of Thomas More University's softball team, further enabling success in the University's storied sports programs. Selective demolition and improvement plans to and around the field include replacement of existing grass with turf and side fencing. New additions added to create an upgraded complex include four turfed batting cages, two turfed bullpens, a new scoreboard, netting along the 3rd baseline, an outfield fence with windscreen, new backstop and netting, set bleachers, concrete walkways, and features a new, free-standing,

approximately 3,125 SF locker room and concessions building. The project is slated for completion in June 2024.

"I'm very excited for this facility upgrade which will greatly benefit our student athletes and coaches," says Director of Athletics Terry Connor '92. "Thomas More supports its student-athletes by ensuring that they have the best facilities and opportunities to succeed."

The Second Century Campaign, a comprehensive fundraising campaign kicked off in Fall 2021 in support of a five-year strategic plan, supplies funding for enhanced athletic facilities for many of the Saints intercollegiate sports teams. Renovations at Republic Bank Field and the surrounding track, home to the football, soccer, rugby, lacrosse, cross country, and track & field teams, were completed in 2021. Additional plans are in place for other facility upgrades that will positively affect additional Saints sports teams.

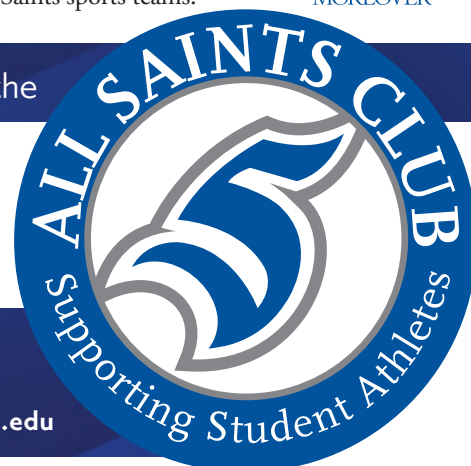
MOREOVER

Top: Upgrades creating a new softball complex at the site of the current field are expected to be complete in June 2024.

SUPPORT YOUR SAINTS! Become a member of the

The mission of the All Saints Club is to provide the financial aid and resources necessary to all Thomas More University athletic programs. With your support, students like those highlighted in these pages can compete at the highest levels in their sport and graduate. We can enhance the overall experience for all 700+ student-athletes by building a culture that promotes commitment to excellence in the classroom, on the playing fields, and in the community.

For more information about the giving levels and benefits of the All Saints Club, visit thomasmore.edu/athletics or contact Tom Brady at 859-344-3642 | bradyt@thomasmore.edu



SAINTS EARN A THIRD STRAIGHT TRIP TO THE NAIA CHAMPIONSHIP GAME



SUBMITTED BY JUDY CRIST, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR COMMUNICATIONS | PHOTOS PROVIDED

The Thomas More University women's basketball team posted another outstanding year winning their way for a third straight season into the NAIA National Championship game. Ranked #1 in the Cramer bracket for the Championship Tournament, Thomas More hosted rounds one and two at home in Crestview Hills with a hometown audience supporting them in their advance to Sioux City, Iowa as members of the final field of 16. The team continued to advance and defeated the No. 1 overall seed, Central Methodist, 71-61 in the semifinals, earning a spot in the championship game where they took on the Clarke University (Iowa) Pride on Saturday evening, March 18.

In a hotly contested game the Saints fought back time and time again as it came down to the final minutes before the Pride went on a run outpacing the Saints and finishing the game on the winning end of a 63-52 score. Three Saints, Zoie Barth, Courtney Hurst, and Emily Simon, scored in double figures in this decidedly defensive

focused game. Congratulations on an outstanding effort as the team completed the year with an overall record of 31 and 4, 20 and 2 in conference. Ranked #1 nationally in the NAIA for the majority of the season, team member milestones include Zoie Barth reaching 1,000 career points and Courtney Hurst breaking the program record for all-time career 3-point field goals made. Congratulations also goes to Coach Jeff Hans who reached 300 career wins during the season, ending the year with an overall coach's record of 321-31.

"The Thomas More community came together to support and cheer on the women's basketball team all season and especially during an exciting NAIA tournament appearance," says President Joe Chillo. "The Saints continue to represent our University exceptionally through their dedication and commitment to excellence on and off the court. We congratulate our women's team on their third appearance in the NAIA National Championship game." What a great year of hoops for these amazing athletes!

MOREOVER

#LetsGoSaints



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THOMASMORE.EDU/ATHLETICS

FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION



SAINTS SPOTLIGHT

Matias Caramuti and Tomas Casares Business Majors/Rugby Athletes

SUBMITTED BY DAVID KLENK '22, GRADUATE
ASSISTANT COMMUNICATIONS | PHOTOS PROVIDED



Moreover caught up with international students and rugby players Matias Caramuti and Tomas Casares in late 2022. Both of these Saints were members of the 2021 National Championship team and drafted in 2022 to play professional rugby. They reported to their teams in January 2023. This excerpt from the interview relays the journey they took during their Thomas More experience.

What is your background in sports? How did you get into rugby?

Matias Caramuti: When I was born, my father was the president of my rugby club, Uru Curé, and he wanted me to play rugby so bad because he was in love with the sport but I never enjoyed the sport when I was younger, so I tried every sport – soccer, basketball, I took swimming lessons, everything, and at the age of six years old, I try one more time, rugby, and I just fell in love with that, so that was how I ended with rugby.

Tomas Casares: I went to one of the few schools that has rugby in Argentina. I started playing rugby in first grade.

How did you find Thomas More and know it was right for you?

MC: We were in lockdown in Argentina because of COVID and my club gave us some ways to keep working on our physique. I decided to make a highlight video and start looking for universities in Google Maps. I found Thomas More and sent an email to the coach with a highlight video. I got an answer and decided to take the opportunity.

TC: In my case, I was contacted by an agency. We also had lockdown down here and were looking for opportunities. They put me in contact with the coach. I also knew that there were already a few Argentinian guys they were going to get later that year.

Tell us about your field of study and why it is important to you.

MC: I'm studying business administration and now I'm doing the MBA program. I decided to study business because I want to expand my family business, which is a travel agency, and keep growing the business. That was my motivation to get into this field. I studied two years in Argentina, two years here in America. I really like it and I think it's useful in every stage of your life. You have to have some administration skills related to business.

TC: I studied sports entertainment marketing. I want to continue my life in sports and the sports industry. I think it's key for my work in the future.

What did you takeaway from the successful rugby seasons?

MC: I think the most important is the group of friends that we made. We were like a family, it's hard to take down a family when it's really close to each other, and that helps us a lot in the rugby part of it. And then of course the national championship, that was great and an amazing feeling. All the path to the nationals, it was just amazing.

TC: I would say that there was a main one from the beginning, from the first season I was here to the end of the last season, and it is that we grew better as a team and as a group. I think that was one of the keys to get the national championship and to build the team that we were able to build. I think as a person I grew, and the team grew for leaving that legacy.

Besides playing pro rugby, what are your plans post-graduation?

MC: Post graduation, and after this next year playing professional rugby, I would like to keep in the field. I'm doing my MBA program, so finish my education (online). We'll see what the future has for me. I'm going to put 100% of my energy into finishing my studies and playing rugby and then we'll see. Probably travel and my family business.

TC: I'm focusing on my rugby career because I can do what I want to do while a professional player. Then maybe be a general manager or try to make a franchise that is in Cincinnati in the future. For now I'm focusing on rugby as a player and being ready for an opportunity to open when I finished my career and get a chance to build a new franchise.

Do you have any advice for fellow students?

MC: I would say work hard. If you work harder, you will get what you want or what you desire. I think our experience is great because we came here to Crestview Hills, Kentucky from Argentina and we both made it through all of our semesters here. We won a national championship with the rugby team and now we're going to play pro. I would say work hard and dreams come true.

TC: I agree 100% with Matias. In addition, I would say that this is a place where working hard pays off and that doesn't happen everywhere. That's something to take advantage of; work hard and be focused and enjoy your experience while you're there. To listen to or read the complete interview, visit tmuky.us/ssrugby.

MOREOVER

Academic accomplishments put Saints in the spotlight

NAIA Scholar Athlete/Scholar Team Awards

The National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) in fall 2022 announced 11,000 Daktronics NAIA Scholar-Athletes and close to 2,000 NAIA Scholar Teams as a part of its annual NAIA National Awards Day. The awards recognize the NAIA's highest individual honors and achievements of student-athletes, administrators, and coaches. **The Saints were well represented with 16 teams and 78 athletes honored.** The sixteen teams include: baseball, dance, men's and women's tennis, men's and women's basketball, softball, women's cross country, women's soccer, women's bowling, women's golf, women's indoor track & field, women's lacrosse, women's outdoor track & field, women's volleyball, and cheer. To read the original NAIA release and the list of scholar athletes, visit tmuky.us/naiascholars. Winter sports brought another round of scholar athlete announcements with more Saints earning this honor in spring 2023:

Dance Names Four NAIA Scholar Athletes | tmuky.us/23naiaschdance

Cheer Earns Program-High Three NAIA Scholar-Athletes | tmuky.us/23naiaschcheer

Men's Basketball's Miller Named NAIA Scholar-Athlete | tmuky.us/23naiaschmbasketball

Six Women's Basketball Players Named NAIA Scholar-Athletes | tmuky.us/23naiaschwbasketball

Men's Bowlers Boyers and Toelke Named NAIA Scholar-Athletes | 23naiaschmbowling

Six from Women's Bowling Named NAIA Scholar-Athletes | 23naiaschwbowling

Academic All Mid-South Conference Student Athletes

As the Mid-South Conference (MSC) announced Academic All Mid-South Conference honorees, many Saints student athletes are included in the ranks. The nomination requirements are maintaining a minimum grade-point average of 3.25 on a 4.0 scale and be in your third term or fourth quarter. These headlines for Saints say it all, visit the links for more details.

Sixteen from Women's Soccer Named Academic All Conference | tmuky.us/acamscwsoccer

Men's Soccer has Nine Named Academic All Conference | tmuky.us/acamscmsoccer

Six from Women's Cross Country Named Academic All MSC | tmuky.us/acamscwcrosscountry

Men's Cross Country has Three Named Academic All MSC | tmuky.us/acamscmcrosscountry

Seven from Women's Volleyball Named Academic All MSC | tmuky.us/acamscwvolleyball

Thirteen from Football Earn Academic All Conference Honors | tmuky.us/acamscfootball

Three Represent Men's Bowling on MSC Academic All Conference Team | tmuky.us/acamscmbowling

Women's Bowling has Six Named Academic All MSC | tmuky.us/acamscwbowling

Four Wrestlers Named Academic All MSC | tmuky.us/acamscwrestling

Cheerleading has Nine Named Academic All MSC | tmuky.us/acamsccheer

Dance has Conference High 13 Named Academic All MSC | tmuky.us/acamscdance

Women's Basketball Gathers Eight Academic All MSC Honorees | tmuky.us/acamscwbasketball

Men's Basketball's Miller and Schneider Named Academic All MSC | tmuky.us/acamscmbasketball

CSC Academic All-District Teams

The College Sports Communicators (CSC, formerly CoSIDA) each season honors Academic All-District Teams which recognize the nation's top student-athletes for their combined performance on the field and in the classroom. Athletes from NCAA Division I, II, and III as well as the NAIA are recognized for this honor. The following headlines highlight Saints student-athletes who earned spots on these teams.

Four from Men's Soccer Named CSC Academic All-District | tmuky.us/22cscmsoccer

Women's Soccer Places Four on the CSC Academic All-District Team | tmuky.us/22cscwsoccer

Football's Brausch Named CSC Academic All-District | tmuky.us/22cscfootball

Women's Volleyball Lands Four on CSC Academic All-District Team | tmuky.us/22cscwvolleyball

Women's Basketball has Four on CSC Academic All-District Team | tmuky.us/23cscwbasketball

Barth Earns 1st Career CSC Academic All-American Nod | tmuky.us/23cscwbarth

And Still More Good News

421 Student-Athletes Earn GPA's of 3.0 or Above During Fall Semester | tmuky.us/22fallgpa

Trey Brausch Earns NFF Scholar Athlete Award | tmuky.us/brausch



Athletic performances result in Saints headlines

Mid-South Conference Awards

The MSC honors student athletes who are outstanding in their sport as conference coaches vote on yearly awards, as well as all-conference teams. The coaches are not allowed to vote for their own players. Many Saints were among this number; see the following headlines and visit the links for those that made the list.

Four from Women's Volleyball Named All Mid-South Conference | tmuky.us/allmscwvolleyball

Phillips and Johnson Garner All Conference Honors | tmuky.us/allmscfootball

Meyer and Battenstein Named All Mid-South Conference | tmuky.us/allmscmsoccer

Women's Soccer has Three Named All-Conference | tmuky.us/allmscwsoccer

Three from Men's Bowling Named All Mid-South Conference | tmuky.us/allmscmbowling

Barth, Hurst, Simon, and Smith Earn All MSC Accolades | tmuky.us/allmscwbasketball

Jolly Named Player of the Year; Four Saints Named All MSC | tmuky.us/allmscmbasketball

Mid-South Conference Championship Success

Post-season play is the goal for all teams and student athletes and a difficult accomplishment. Congratulations to these Saints who achieved success in MSC Tournament play. Visit the links below to read more.

Women's Track and Field Compete in the MSC Indoor Championships; 10 Named MSC All-Conference | tmuky.us/mscchwtrack

Men's Track and Field Takes Sixth at MSC Championships; Webster named All-Conference | tmuky.us/mscchmtrack

Competition Dance Team Wins Back-to-Back MSC Conference Championships & Regional Championships | tmuky.us/mscchdance

Women's Cross-Country Finishes Second at the MSC Championships | tmuky.us/mscchwcrosscountry

Saints Represent at NAIA National Championships

Post-season play in NAIA National Championships is the ultimate goal. Congratulations to these Saints who went on to compete at the highest level possible for an NAIA collegiate student athlete. Visit the links below for more information.

Women's Cross-Country Runner Dyllan Hasler Finishes 118th at the NAIA National Championships | tmuky.us/hasler

Men's Wrestling Names Four Automatic National Qualifiers and Three Named MSC All Conference | tmuky.us/23naiawrestling

Horton Receives At-Large Selection Into NAIA National Tournament | tmuky.us/23horton

Wrestling Names Three All-Americans; Lead Saints to Strong Finish at NAIA National Championships | tmuky.us/23naiawrestling2

Competition Dance Team Places Ninth at the 2023 NAIA Competitive Dance National Championship | tmuky.us/23naiadance

No. 5 Seed Men's Basketball Falls in the Second Round of the NAIA National Championship | tmuky.us/23naiamensbasketball

No. 1 Seed Women's Basketball Advance to 2023 National Championship Finals for 3rd Straight Season | tmuky.us/23naiabasketball

And Still More Good News

Men's and Women's Basketball Both Achieve No. 1 Ranking in Country | tmuky.us/basketball1

Kreinsen Named as New Offensive Line and Run Game Coordinator | tmuky.us/kreinsen

Caramuti and Montgomery Named NCR Rugby Division I All-Americans | tmuky.us/23ncrallamerican

Jolly Named to Bevo Francis Award Watch List | tmuky.us/jolly1

Jolly Cracks Top-50 Watch List for Bevo Francis Award | tmuky.us/jolly2

Women's Volleyball's McClanahan Tabbed as AVCA All-Region | tmuky.us/mcclanahan

Landers and Ashcraft Garner All-American Honors for Second Straight Season | tmuky.us/23aadance

Barth and Hurst Named to WBCA NAIA Coaches' All-America Team | tmuky.us/23wbcania

Jolly Garners First Team NAIA All-American Honors | tmuky.us/23naiajolly

Barth, Hurst, and Simon Honored as NAIA All-Americans | tmuky.us/23naiaallamericans

Jolly Rounds Out Fantastic Season with NABC All-American Selection | tmuky.us/23nabcallamerican





FIVE SEASONS FAMILY SPORTS CLUB IN CRESTVIEW HILLS NOW A PERMANENT PART OF THE SAINTS FAMILY

SUBMITTED BY LYNNA KELLEY, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS AND PR | PHOTOS PROVIDED

Thomas More University rang in 2023 with a bang announcing the acquisition of the Northern Kentucky Racquet Club, better known to the community as the Five Seasons Family Sports Club facility (Crestview Hills) at 345 Thomas More Parkway. Five Seasons has been the home of the Saints men's and women's tennis teams since 2018. This acquisition includes the largest philanthropic gift in University history, as well as financing through Thomas More partner Republic Bank. As part of the ongoing initiative to expand the University's geographic footprint and enhance student spaces, the addition of Five Seasons increases Thomas More's acreage by 9% and its facilities square footage by 24%. The Crestview Hills campus now spans 126.7 acres, with a total facility square footage coming in at 577,594. This expansion also creates cohesion as it unites Thomas More's south campus from newly named Cabrini Hall (home of the education and psychology departments) at 365 Thomas More Parkway, all the way to the main campus frontage along the Parkway and Turkeyfoot Road.

Thomas More continues the momentum of expanding its campus, even as the goal of providing a student-centered experience remains the priority. "Acquiring this Five Seasons location in Northern Kentucky is a huge benefit for our students," explains President Joe Chillo. "Since launching our Strategic Plan – Lighting the Way in 2021, and the corresponding Second Century Campaign – It's time for More, we have been transforming campus to better serve our students. The Catholic Liberal Arts educational experience provided at Thomas More is strategically designed for student success. By providing our students with the very best facilities, resources, and opportunities, we ensure that they have the tools to thrive in their careers and in their lives." An agreement has been in place where equipment was accessible to students and employees within certain time parameters during the academic year. These benefits are being expanded and accessibility increased to reinforce the University's commitment to health and wellness initiatives on campus. The facility also seeks to provide additional internship and co-op opportunities to students that complement the introduction of a Bachelor of Arts in tourism and recreation management - one of the newest undergraduate programs to kick off in fall 2023.

Even as the University expands and deepens the strong partnership with Five Seasons, business for current membership will continue as usual with operations carried on under the Five Seasons brand name. "The Five Seasons management team will continue overseeing day-to-day operations and members can expect a seamless transition and the same amenities, programming, and services that they have enjoyed over the years," adds Chillo. [MOREOVER](#)

Acquisition of Five Seasons Sports Club demonstrates the University's commitment to fitness, health, and co-op opportunities.





Minute Spiritual Break...

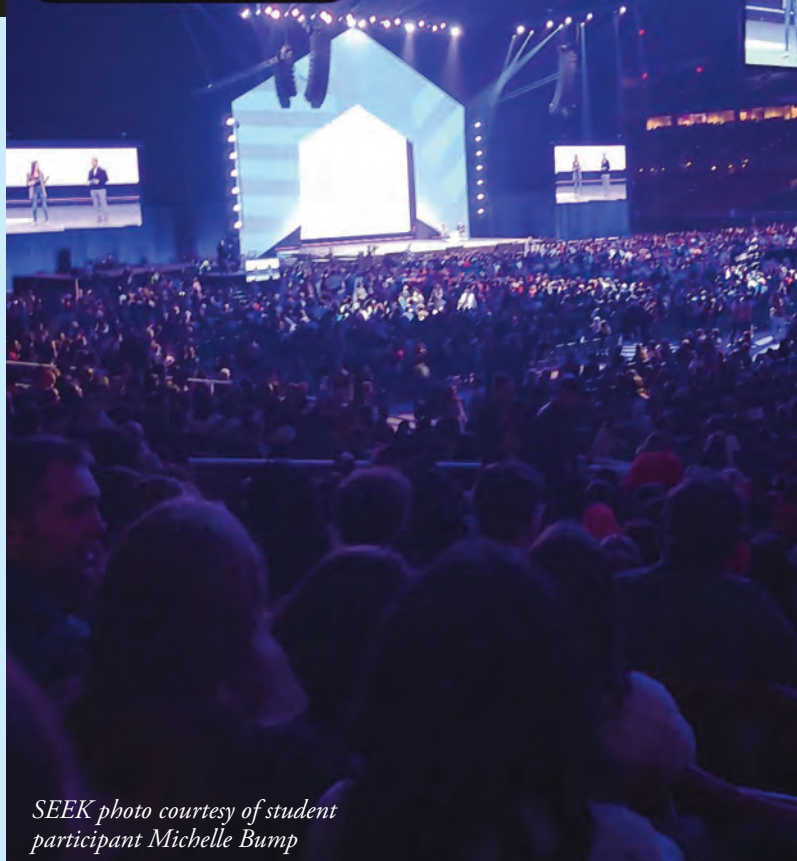
Provided by Thomas More
University Campus Ministry

A BISHOP ROGER J. FOYS SCHOLAR COURAGEOUSLY SHARED SOME VERY DELICATE INFORMATION ABOUT THEIR TRANSFORMATIVE EXPERIENCE AT SEEK. TO PROTECT THEIR PRIVACY, WE ARE WITHHOLDING THEIR NAME. WE THANK THIS STUDENT FOR THEIR CANDOR AND PRAY THAT THEY WILL HAVE THE GRACE TO CONTINUE JUST AS COURAGEOUSLY ON THIS NEW PATH.

INSPIRED TO SEEK MORE

Have you ever been caught going through the motions with your faith? Well I have for basically my entire life. I would think of going to Mass as a burden and would always complain about going to Mass. I would always try to skip Mass. I would not really think about what Mass meant or what it really meant to be a true Catholic – until recently. A month or two ago I went to SEEK and it truly inspired me to think how I should live my life and how God wants us to live. God simply wants the best for us and calls us to live in the image and likeness of God. Before SEEK, I'd say my life was pretty messed up. I was addicted to porn, I would constantly lie to my parents and more stuff that now, looking back, I am not proud of. Each talk I went to at SEEK put a knife into my heart and would bring up an aspect of my life that I was doing drastically wrong. Each talk had me questioning whether I was actually doing the right thing. Most of the time, if not all the time, the answer was “no.” I am glad to say after my experience at SEEK that I have changed my life drastically whether that being stop watching porn or striving to tell the truth. Going to SEEK really opened my eyes to how to live life to the fullest and how to live life as God wants it to be.

For additional student reflections
on the SEEK Conference, go to **page 10**.



SEEK photo courtesy of student
participant Michelle Bump

Know a Prospective Student?

Tell us about a prospective student:

Prospective Student Name _____

Phone Number (_____) _____ Email Address _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

When do they plan to attend college? ☐ Fall 2023 ☐ Spring 2024 ☐ Fall 2024 ☐ Other _____

High School _____ Student H.S. Graduation Year _____

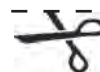
Are they a transfer student? ☐ Yes ☐ No Previous College or University _____

Interests/Desired Major _____

Referred by (name) _____ Thomas More grad year or affiliation _____

Phone Number (_____) _____ Email Address _____

Please return in the business reply envelope included in the center of this issue or submit online at tmuky.us/newstudent. Thank you!





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Name on Card _____ Signature _____

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Maximum three lines, 20 characters per line, including spaces:

Please PRINT using one letter/symbol/space per box. Use only those letters or symbols that appear on a typewriter keyboard. If you are ordering more than one paver, please attach additional inscriptions to the order form. Inappropriate messages will not be permitted.



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online at tmuky.us/paver.