

SPRING 2020

# THE FRANKLIN GAZETTE

THE MAGAZINE OF FRANKLIN UNIVERSITY SWITZERLAND / 50th ANNIVERSARY ISSUE

**HONORING the Past**  
**CELEBRATING the Present**  
**SUSTAINING the Future**



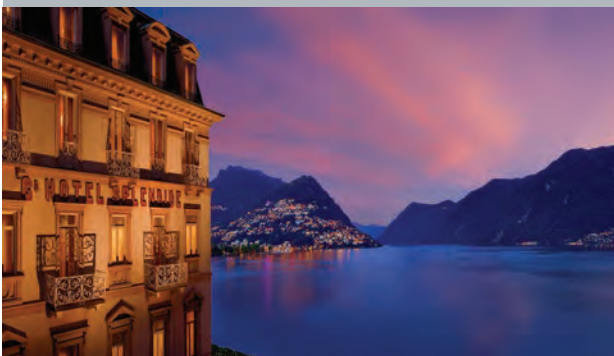
Time to Celebrate!

# FRANKLIN GLOBAL ALUMNI REUNION

Alumni and friends will converge in Lugano the weekend of May 21-23, 2021 for a variety of events including faculty lectures, excursions in Ticino, a cocktail cruise on Lake Lugano, and a very special gala.

POSTPONED  
TO MAY  
**2021**

## REUNION EVENTS OVERVIEW



### Friday, May 21

- **Exploring Ticino:** Bus trip and short hike in Valle Verzasca.
- **Global Alumni Reunion Kickoff:** Hear President Greg Warden's State of the University address.
- **Taste of Switzerland:** An informal cocktail-style dinner featuring delicious Swiss cuisine.

### Saturday, May 22

- **Breakfast with Professors**
- **Campus Tours:** Walking tours of Kaletsch and North campuses led by Franklin students.
- **Faculty-Led Workshops** on conversational Italian, perceptions of happiness, and collaborative leadership.
- **Aperitivo Alumni Boat Cruise:** Depart from Imbarcadero Paradiso on beautiful Lake Lugano.
- **50th Anniversary Gala:** Cocktail hour, dinner, and dancing at the Hotel Splendide Royal Lugano.

### Sunday, May 23

- **Walk Down Memory Lane:** A visit to Franklin's previous campuses (Villa Ciria, Ferrari, and Sassa).
- **Sustainable Garden Dedication:** Celebrating the memory of Professor Ann Gardiner.
- **Franklin Family BBQ** on the North Campus soccer field.
- **"Last Look" Hike** up Sasso delle Parole with panoramic views of Lake Lugano.

### Franklin Kids Club

Childcare will be offered at key times during the weekend to allow alumni to enjoy reunion events. Franklin staff and students will entertain children with activities, crafts, and games, and provide meals.



**TO REGISTER**

and see who is planning to attend, visit [www.fus.edu/alumni](http://www.fus.edu/alumni).



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Professor Ann Gardiner looks out over the sustainable garden at Franklin. Read about her life and upcoming memorial on page 68.

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NOTABLE ALUMNI  
SHARE THEIR SUCCESSES

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# FRANKLIN GAZETTE

THE FRANKLIN GAZETTE is the annual showcase magazine for Franklin University Switzerland alumni and friends, faculty and staff, and parents and prospective students.

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MESSAGE FROM  
THE PRESIDENT



## GREETINGS FROM LUGANO!

**A**s I traveled and spoke with alumni, spent time with students, and collaborated with staff and professors during this 50th year, I could not have been prouder to represent this great university.

Nothing becomes great by chance, however. Fifty years ago, our founders did something courageous and innovative. The institution they built has grown into a university that is now accredited on two continents. We are the beneficiaries of their vision, hard work, and perseverance. Franklin University Switzerland has continued to prosper because we have embraced those core values.

We may be a small university, but we think big. We are always ready to ask “Why?” More importantly, we also ask “Why not?” which fuels our creative thinking. As we prepare students for the jobs of the future, we must continue to ask these questions and take risks.

In our 50th year, there is so much on the horizon: New programs will begin soon and others are still under consideration. Starting this fall, Franklin will launch a Master of Arts in Political Economy of Money and Development, offer pre-health sciences courses to prepare students for professional and graduate schools, and launch the Zurich Program that will provide a site for study and research in one of Europe’s most important economic and cultural centers.

Our new building project is becoming a reality. It will provide much-needed learning and living space for our students and fulfill the long-awaited goal of completing our campus. Its innovative design combines the best of sustainable “green” technology. Because much of the building is glass, energy consumption challenges will be met by a special system of louvers. Programmed to adjust and shelter the glass from excessive sunlight, these louvers will also manufacture energy for the complex through an integrated photovoltaic surface. Franklin has been working with its architectural team and colleagues at the University of Applied Sciences and Arts of Southern Switzerland (SUPSI) to create this sustainable solution, which is the first of its kind in Switzerland. Many alumni have taken part, and we are so grateful for their support. We look forward to an inauguration in 2021.

As I meet with Franklin alumni, that hallmark adventurous FUS spirit and other core values are evident. Our alumni are living and making changes all over the world, and it is heartening to hear their hopes for Franklin and see their excitement about remaining engaged with their alma mater. The generous support that alumni provide to current students instills in them a greater sense of belonging and motivation to succeed here.

I encourage you all to continue dreaming, risking, engaging with Franklin, and changing the world. You are what our founders dreamed Franklin would become. Your story is our story. Together, WE are FUS.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Greg Warden".

**P. Gregory Warden**

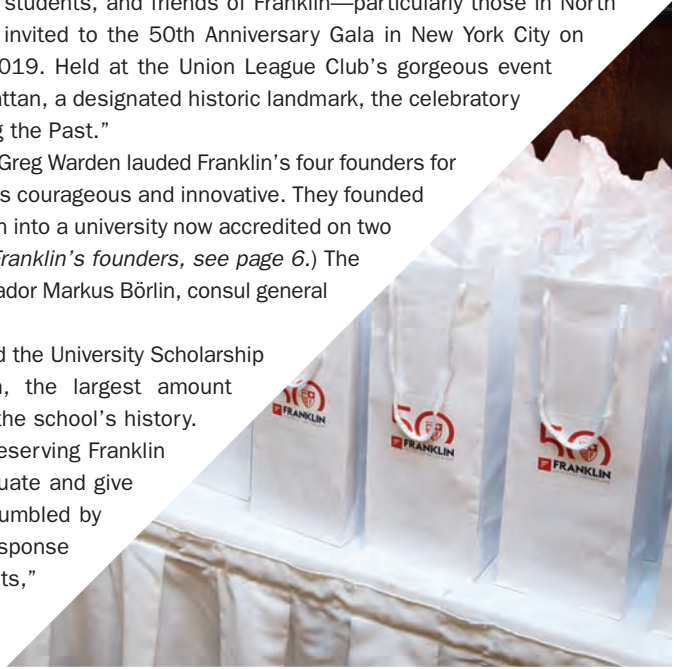
*President, Franklin University Switzerland*

# 50th ANNIVERSARY New York City Gala

**A**lumni, parents, students, and friends of Franklin—particularly those in North America—were invited to the 50th Anniversary Gala in New York City on November 9, 2019. Held at the Union League Club’s gorgeous event space in Manhattan, a designated historic landmark, the celebratory event focused on “Honoring the Past.”

In his speech, President Greg Warden lauded Franklin’s four founders for doing “...something that was courageous and innovative. They founded an institution that has grown into a university now accredited on two continents.” (*For more on Franklin’s founders, see page 6.*) The guest of honor was Ambassador Markus Börlin, consul general of Switzerland in New York.

The gala, which benefited the University Scholarship Fund, raised \$1.2 million, the largest amount raised at a single event in the school’s history. Those funds will support deserving Franklin students who want to graduate and give back to society. “We are humbled by our alumni’s continued response to the needs of our students,” said President Warden.





Left to right: Wilfried Geens, founder; Beatrice Geens; Ron Goldman '73; Pam Goldman; Pat Tone, founder; Lynn Tone.



Left to right: Moussa Abboud; Molly Hays '83; Salwa Al Jamali '83; Abbie Engler '83; Gail Dodge '83; Seok Yam Chew '83, trustee; Margaret Abboud '83; Pandora Spelios '82.



Left to right: Nancy Boas; Rosemary McNeely P'23; Damon Brandt; Allen Kolkowitz; Kevin McNeely '73, P'23, trustee.



Left to right: Jennifer Berg '76, trustee; Paolo Grassi; Julie Kahn Brown '76; Professor Morris Mottale; David Sinclair '77; Lisa Chapman; Jay Tucker '77, P'12, trustee; Andrea Tucker P'12; Suzie Gilbert '76; Zachary Morowitz.



Left to right: Christopher Scholz '76, trustee; Ines Elskop; Eileen Oakford '76; Elizabeth Peabody '76; Howard Christian; Paul Lowerre '77, P'06, trustee; Ursula Lowerre '76, P'06; Scott Oakford '75; Diana Chen; Pierre Merle.



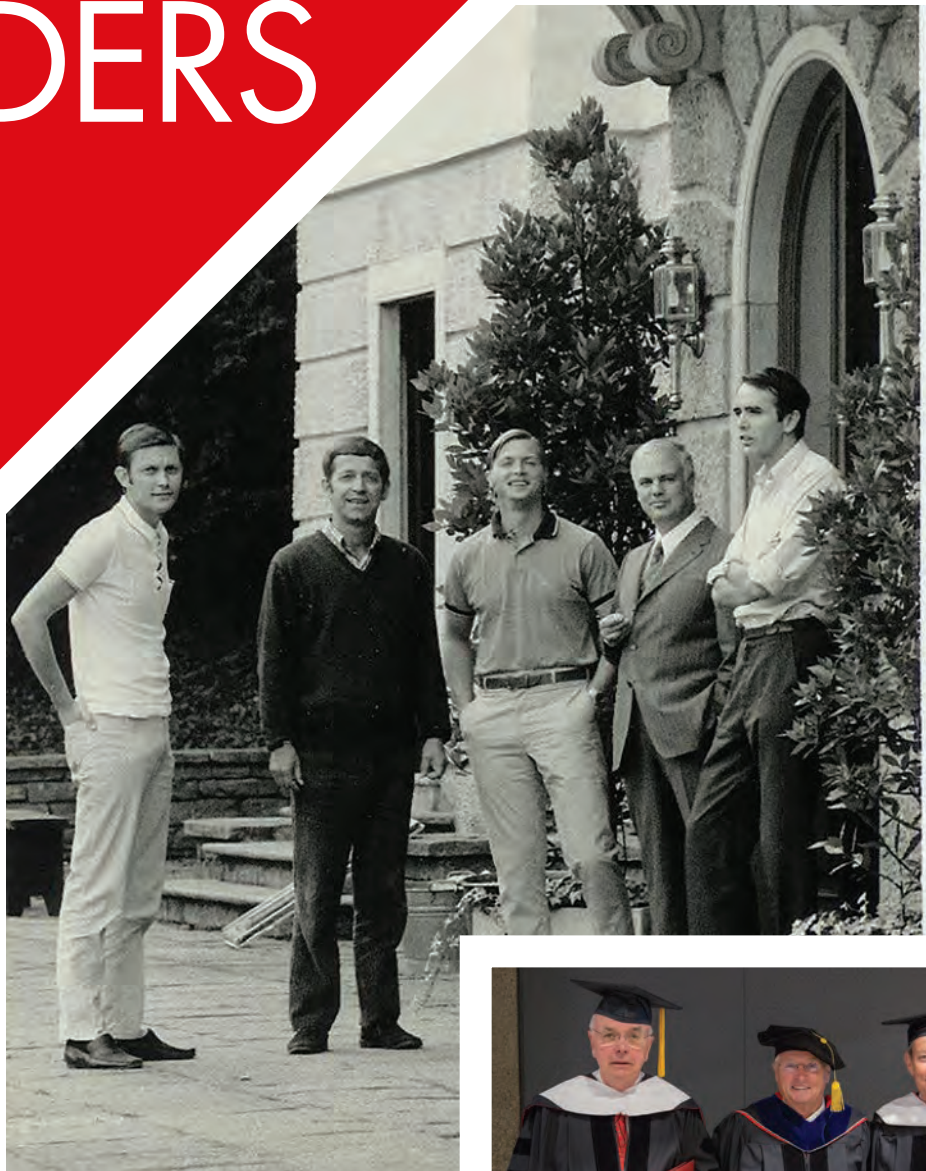
Left to right: Diane Warden; Jim Leslie P'17, trustee; Corinne Börlin; President Greg Warden; Norma Leslie P'17; Kim Hildebrant '90, board chair; Ambassador Markus Börlin, consul general of Switzerland in New York.

# FIFTY YEARS IN THE MAKING: FRANKLIN'S FOUNDERS SPEAK

BY JOELY JOHNSON

The year 1968 was filled with hope and rebellion. In the skies, Boeing's "Jumbo Jet" forever changed air travel, and Apollo 8 carried humans into moon orbit for the first time. On the ground, Vietnam and the Cold War stoked civil and human rights unrest. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Robert F. Kennedy were assassinated. Riots and student protests took place around the world.

Even idyllic Lugano experienced strife. Fleming College, an offshoot of the American School in Switzerland (TASIS), struggled with ideological conflict among its leadership. Ultimately, Fleming founder Mary Crist Fleming made the unexpected decision to close the school. The news took the community by surprise. Four of Fleming's faculty—three young professors and one veteran—decided to band together to create a new school. With the support of former trustees, they did just that.

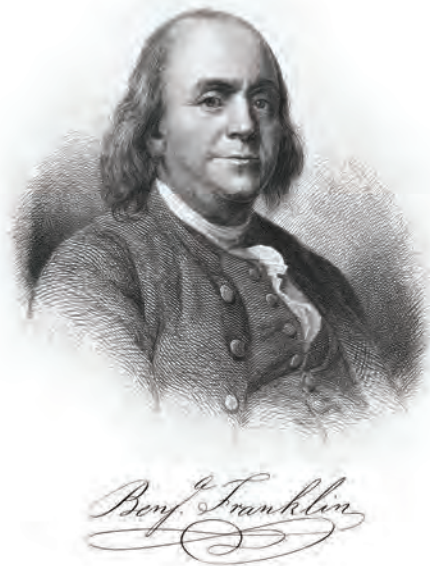


Above, left to right: Founders Theo Brenner, Jacques Villaret, and Pascal Tone. Far right: Founder Wilfried Geens.

At right: Geens, Tone, and Brenner at Commencement 2019.







## The Founders

The founders each arrived at Fleming in a different way. Belgian **Wilfried Geens** said, "After graduating from Johns Hopkins University Center for International Relations in Bologna, Italy, I was headed for a diplomatic career." In Bologna he crossed paths with David Mellon, director of the TASIS post-graduate program, a 13th-year abroad for U.S. high school graduates that later grew into Fleming College.

"He was recruiting for the TASIS summer program. I had some free time, and as there was no immediate diplomatic recruitment exam in Brussels, I took Mellon's offer and became an instructor and guide." After that summer, Geens returned to Belgium for military service. Fifteen months later, a call from Lugano brought him back to Fleming as a professor of political science and European history. He taught there for four years before Fleming College shuttered its doors.

American **Pascal "Pat" Tone** was also drawn to Fleming by Mellon. "In 1969, I had just completed my master's degree at Columbia University Teachers College after three years teaching in New York City," said Tone. When Mellon offered the 26-year-old a position in Switzerland, Tone and his wife couldn't wait to set sail.

A native of Zurich, Switzerland, **Theo Brenner** was an established administrator and faculty member at Fleming when the school closed. "At that time, I was director of the Institute for European Affairs," said Brenner. "I had originally come from TASIS years before as a summer program counselor. I intended to return to university after that, but I never got anywhere close!"

French cinematographer, photographer, Fulbright Scholar, and senior Fleming professor **Jean Jacques Villaret** was older than the other men by more than a decade. His experience rounded out the committed team of founders that would bring Franklin College to life.

The founders remained committed to a special concept of international education.

## Initiating an Institution

The name "Franklin" was chosen in honor of American founding father Benjamin Franklin, who was the United States' first foreign ambassador. "We thought he would be an excellent namesake," said Tone, "matching our mission and desire to educate American students in the international community." The new name also happened to retain the initials on the Fleming logo.



Establishing a college required both collaboration and compromise. "We originally determined that the college would be governed and administered collegially, with shared responsibilities among equals, like the Swiss government," Brenner said. Those plans, however, were rejected by powers higher up: The founders were pursuing Franklin's incorporation in the United States through the State of Delaware and its Department of Education, which was not interested in a new form of academic governance.

"That egalitarian premise ran aground with the evaluation team's visit to the campus," Brenner said. The officials asked that Franklin be run as a traditional administration, including an executive president. "We agreed," Brenner said, "and named Pat Tone president, principally because he had orchestrated the incorporation and accreditation processes. Moreover, he was generously housing our admissions office in his home in Manhattan."

Despite that organizational concession, the founders remained committed to a special concept of international education: small classes, purposeful academic travel, and informal personal connection between students and faculty. Franklin alumni and current students would surely agree this aim was met from the start and continues to be today.

## Creating a College

In addition to addressing regulatory issues, the men had to quickly find faculty members. "We started with 10 faculty members and 36 courses offered in four academic subjects: study of civilizations, art, politics and economics, and languages and literature," Geens recalled. Like the founders, many of the Franklin faculty had previously taught at Fleming.

The college's first campus was an abandoned 18th-century villa on the shore of Lake Lugano. The founders refurbished the rented building, despite knowing it was to be torn down the following year. "I remember driving my Volkswagen van to London to the major bookshops there, with a list of faculty book preferences," Geens said. "I loaded the van to the roof and drove back to Lugano to stock our first library in Villa Ciria."



The founders also had to recruit their first cohort of students. “We talked to students who would have been returning to Fleming, and many came on board,” said Tone. “I also wrote to students who had applied for the 1971 academic year and explained the transition to them.” In addition, Tone returned to New York and launched a vigorous recruiting effort.

Housing students was another challenge, as Villa Cirila was too small to provide dormitory space. “We found hotels in Lugano that closed in the winter and housed students there,” said Geens. Lodging students in rented spaces would continue for many years. Brenner, being Swiss, developed local contacts to help secure accommodations.



Students at Villa Cirila.

One aspect of launching Franklin that was not onerous was developing the Academic Travel program. Villaret had a knack for leading unforgettable educational



trips in his home country of France. “He organized Academic Travel to Cannes to study film, Île Sainte-Marguerite for archaeology, the Musée Picasso in Antibes, the cathedral in Avignon for religion, Arles-Les Baux-Saint-Rémy to learn about Van Gogh, and Saint-Tropez to study post-impressionist painters,” recalled Tone. Academic Travel began with the first class of students and never stopped.

### Slowly Settling In

In 1971, the campus moved to Villa Ferrari, another rented property in Lugano. The school remained there until 1974, when growing enrollment required the third move in five years to Villa Sassa. Also known as the Via Tesserete campus, this rented location housed the school for 12 years. During that time, Franklin received U.S. degree-granting accreditation, and Brenner became acting president from 1979 to 1980, after which the Board of Trustees elected him president.

The founders knew that moving so often was limiting Franklin’s ability to become a school of note. “After having been itinerant,

like a traveling circus, and operating on rented premises for the first few years, it was imperative to acquire a permanent home for the college,” Brenner said. “Without its own campus, the academic program could not be credibly developed.”

In 1986, that permanent home was finally secured with the purchase of the Via Ponte Tresa property in Sorengo, now called the Kaletsch Campus. Construction was immediately started on classrooms, art studios, a library, an auditorium, and the student lounge now known as the Grotto. The school’s first four-year degree cycle was launched in Sorengo that fall. “That was a seminal change,” said Tone, “that began modern-day Franklin College.”

### Growing Steadily

Since then, and with the help of a supportive Board of Trustees, Franklin has continued to expand in size and scope. In 1995, **Erik O. Nielsen** became president. During his tenure, Franklin purchased the former Istituto Leonardo da Vinci high school in 2004 and established the North Campus. The following year, Franklin gained



Today's students enjoy Franklin's beautiful Sorengo campus.



Swiss accreditation, allowing the school to offer truly international degrees.

Next up was a series of campus enhancements: the Pascal Tone Athletic Center, the Avena Fountain, and the Kaletsch Campus were dedicated in 2006, followed by the Fowler Library and the Graphic Design Center in 2007. Construction started on two new student residences just a two-minute walk from Kaletsch Campus.

In 2010, Franklin's Board of Trustees approved the Taylor Institute for Global Enterprise Management, which would lead to the Master of Science in International Management (MSIM) program.

When **P. Gregory Warden** became president in 2012, Franklin's first master's cohort launched the MSIM program, and the Ursula and Paul Lowerre Academic Center was dedicated. In 2013, Franklin earned full university accreditation. The school's name was officially changed to Franklin University Switzerland in 2014 and was celebrated with the first-ever University Day, which has become a tradition.

The end of the last decade saw a surge in partnerships. In 2018, Franklin was approved as an accredited foreign university

by the Chinese Ministry of Education. The school also partnered with Emerson College in Boston, Massachusetts to create Franklin's first 3+1 program, leading to a master's degree in four years. In 2019, a strategic partnership was formed between the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) and the MSIM program. (*Read more about partnerships starting on page 38.*) Spanning the decades is Franklin's latest construction project, a multi-use building and student residence adjacent to the Kaletsch Campus, slated for completion in 2021. (*Read more about the project on page 56.*)

## Looking Ahead

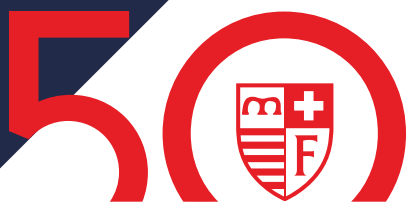
Brenner, Geens, and Tone (Villaret passed away in 2017) rendezvous each May in Lugano for the Founders' Meeting. While the gathering allows the longtime friends to catch up on personal matters, they invariably talk about the future of Franklin, and their vision is very clear.

Properly promoting Franklin's hybrid educational offerings in the local context of Ticino and Switzerland is a priority for

Brenner. "Care should be taken to profile Franklin as a university college, to preempt misunderstandings about the European perception of university as encompassing all disciplines." In this way, Franklin could deepen contributions to Lugano-Ticino intellectual life, offering the reciprocal advantages of U.S. "college towns" that comprise quality educational institutions.

Tone's expectations for Franklin's next 50 years center around students. "We must ensure that our curriculum meets the needs of a new generation of students," he said. He also believes in broadening the admissions net. "It is very important to continue our cooperative agreements with U.S. institutions that send students to Franklin for one semester or one year—this cross-fertilization is valuable."

Geens agrees that pushing enrollment is key to securing Franklin's future. "We will continue to become more known, partially through the internet, through word of mouth, and through alumni," he said. "I am confident in the future of the college. We now have student housing and gym facilities that are second to none. These developments are strong steps forward." ■



# YEARS of FRANKLIN



**1969**

### Franklin College established

Theo Brenner, Jacques Villaret, Pascal Tone, and Wilfried Geens established "Franklin College and the Institute for European Studies."

**1971**

### Franklin College moves to Villa Ferrari

Following recognition by the IRS as a tax-exempt corporation, the college moved to Villa Ferrari in Loreto, where it would remain until 1974.



**1975**



### Associate of Arts degree programs receive U.S. accreditation

An application for accreditation as an A.A. degree-granting institution was submitted to the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools in 1972, and full accreditation was granted in June 1975.

**1986**

### Franklin College purchases the Sorengo Campus and becomes a four-year college

In fall 1986, coinciding with the move to the permanent campus in Sorengo, Franklin opened the academic year as a four-year institution.

**1990**

### U.S. accreditation reaffirmed

On June 26 and 27, 1990, the Commission on Higher Education of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools acted to reaffirm the accreditation status of Franklin College.

**1970**

### Franklin College opens in Villa Ciria

The founders knew the college could only occupy Villa Ciria in Lugano-Paradiso for one year. Throughout the summer of 1970, the administration and faculty renovated the villa themselves.



**1973**

### Founder Pascal F. Tone becomes president of Franklin College

**1974**

### Franklin College moves to Villa Sassa

The college moved to Villa Sassa (also known as the Via Tesserete campus), and remained there until 1986.



**1980**

### Founder Theo E. Brenner becomes president of Franklin College

**1995**

### Erik O. Nielsen becomes president of Franklin College



**2004**

**North Campus is purchased**

In May 2004, the school acquired the former Istituto Leonardo da Vinci, a private Italian high school located just 300 meters from Franklin's main villa. The North Campus was inaugurated in January 2006.



**2009**

**SGA formed**

The Student Assembly merged with the Programming Board to become the Student Government Association (SGA), representing students' needs and interests in all facets of university life.

**2012**



**P. Gregory Warden becomes president of Franklin College**

**First cohort begins the master's program**

The Taylor Institute launched its Master of Science in International Management (MSIM) program with a cohort of nine students from the U.S., Latin America, the Middle East, and Europe.

**2014**

**Franklin becomes Franklin University Switzerland**

On April 2, 2014, Franklin University Switzerland announced its new name and status, kicking off the first University Day celebrations recognizing Franklin's transformation from college to university.

**2019**

**Franklin partners with Emerson College**

Franklin and Emerson College in Boston, Massachusetts created a 3+1 program allowing students to complete a bachelor's degree at Franklin and a master's degree at Emerson in just four years of study.



**Franklin partners with UNITAR**

The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) developed courses as part of a new MSIM emphasis in Responsible Management and Climate Action.



**2005**

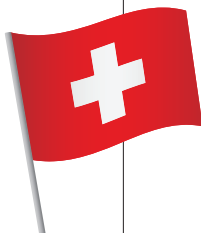
**Franklin College programs of study gain Swiss accreditation**

The Swiss University Conference voted to approve Swiss accreditation of Franklin's programs of study.

**2010**

**Taylor Institute inaugurated**

In November, the Board of Trustees approved the launch of the Taylor Institute for Global Enterprise Management.



**2013**

**The Swiss University Conference recognizes Franklin as an accredited university**

In November 2013, Franklin's status change from college to university was finalized.

**2018**

**Franklin approved by the Chinese Ministry of Education**

Franklin University Switzerland was approved in 2018 by the Chinese Ministry of Education as an accredited foreign university in China.



**The final construction phase of Franklin's new student residence complex begins**

# FRANKLIN FAMILIES



# 760

- In Franklin's 50-year history, 760 students
- have attended who have family ties to the school.
- These legacy alumni share a special bond.



*Leslie Tedoldi '18  
and her mother  
Diana Tedoldi '90*

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## Mother and Daughter Share Ties to Franklin

It is rare to find two people with so many overlapping connections to Franklin as mother and daughter **Diana Tedoldi '90** and **Leslie Tedoldi '18**. Both attended, majored in International Relations, and are still on campus—now as staff.

Diana Tedoldi, advancement coordinator, is originally from Queens, New York. Her parents emigrated from the former Czechoslovakia after the 1968 Warsaw Pact invasion. They were planning a visit to Europe when Diana came across a catalog for a small college in Switzerland. Her aunt lived in Lake Como, Italy, so the family decided to visit her and drive up to look at the campus. On their visit, Diana had an impromptu interview with the dean, and she decided then that she wanted to attend.

She spent her first year on the Villa Sassa campus. The following year, Franklin moved to the Kaletsch Campus in Sorengo and was accredited as a four-year school. What had been a two-year plan evolved into a four-year plan; none of her friends wanted to leave Franklin, nor did she.

Some of Diana's most vivid memories are of Academic Travel. Those learning adventures took her to Yugoslavia, Southern Italy, Egypt, Israel, Thailand, and Greece. She visited Berlin when it was still divided by a wall and Georgia in the Soviet Union one week before the Chernobyl disaster.

Diana graduated in 1990 with a B.A. in International Relations and a minor in Italian. She returned to New York and was hired at the United Nations, working in the departments of Public Information and International Economic and Social Affairs. When she

married her husband, Massimiliano, whom she had met at the annual jazz festival in Lugano, they returned to Ticino to live and had two children, Leslie and Matteo. Diana began working at Franklin in 1998 after a chance encounter with the alumni director, who encouraged her to apply for a job. She has been there since, and in addition to her multifaceted work for the Office of Advancement, Diana has become Franklin's de facto historian.

Unlike her mother's random discovery of Franklin, Leslie Tedoldi grew up with Franklin in her life. They lived so close to campus that part of her daily experience was seeing Franklin students walking to classes. She knew Franklin as her mother's workplace, only to be reminded occasionally that Diana was also an alumna.

Leslie initially planned to become a doctor; she attended medical school for two years before realizing that the big university setting was not a good fit for her. Diana knew that Franklin provided the opposite experience, so she suggested her daughter try Franklin. Leslie agreed.

Leslie was drawn to international relations—like her mother—which meant the two women took similar courses and were both taught by Political Science Professor Morris Mottale.

**Leslie feels that her legacy student experience has given her a special bond with Franklin and a unique perspective to view a place through the eyes of two generations.**



Like Diana, some of Leslie's fondest memories include seeing the world and forming friendships through Academic Travel. She traveled to Guatemala while studying the politics of Mesoamerica and visited Japan for a history course.

As a Life-Long Learning Scholar, Leslie started working at Franklin as a student, first in event management, then in student life, and finally as a research assistant. After graduating in 2018, she was hired as the assistant to Academic Affairs and the Office of the President. Her work now entails project management, organizing lecture and film series, and overseeing commencement.

With their shared experience, both Tedoldis are enjoying Franklin's 50th-year celebrations. "This anniversary comes at a good time to reassure the Franklin community that [our founders] had a good idea and it worked," Diana said. For mother and daughter, it has been wonderful to celebrate a place they love on multiple levels—as family, as co-workers, and most importantly, as fellow alumni. ■ —LM

“This career has been a dream come true. To be able to write for a living and support my family is a gift, and I am grateful.”

## Author Found Inspiration at Franklin



“I will always remember that year at Franklin so fondly. It was instrumental in inspiring my writing career,” said **Brooks Whitney Phillips '87**, author of six bestselling children's books for American Girl and two children's books for Scholastic. Her first novel is set to be published by Philomel Books (an imprint of Penguin Random House) in spring 2021.

Phillips is also part of a Franklin legacy family. The Chicago native who went to a small boarding school in Connecticut learned of Franklin from her aunt, **Elizabeth Thiele '63**, who loved her experience at Franklin's predecessor, the American School in Switzerland, so much that she encouraged her niece to attend.

The idea of spending a year abroad studying European art and literature was appealing to Phillips, so she applied and was accepted. “I found Lugano, the Alps, and Switzerland so inspirational,” she said. “I wrote a lot while at Franklin. My English professor, **Jacqueline Perret**, really encouraged me. She saw talent in me when I was young and felt I had what it took to

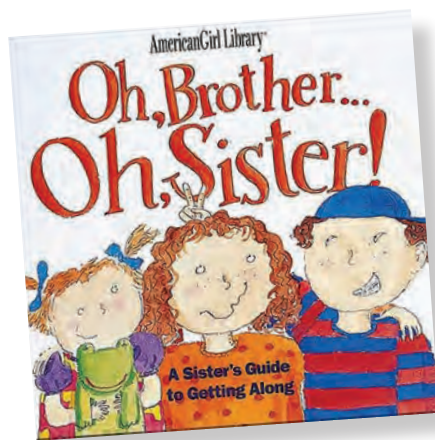
make it as a professional writer.”

Her positive experiences during that year on the Villa Sassa campus influenced her sister, **Mimi Carr Killoren '88**, who attended Franklin the year after Phillips. Two decades later, on a family trip to Lake Como, the two visited Franklin and explored their old haunts around Lugano.

Phillips transferred to the University of Denver and majored in literature, then found work in public relations and advertising. She quickly realized that a corporate nine-to-five gig was not for her, however, so she quit her job and declared herself a freelance writer.

The *Chicago Tribune* hired her on spec for one story, which led to more assignments and then her own weekly syndicated column covering art and music. It was the mid-1990s, so Phillips found herself interviewing top entertainers including Tom Petty, Jewel, and the Counting Crows.

She then started writing for *American Girl* magazine, and at 28, her first book was published by American Girl—a fun activity and advice book for pre-teens—followed by a new one every year. Her book, *Oh, Brother...*



*Oh, Sister: A Sister's Guide to Getting Along*, was published in 1999 and reprinted in 2008, and is still popular with parents. Professor Perret had been right.

When Phillips met her husband, who was from Key West, Florida, she left Chicago for life on the island. She landed an assignment writing travel and design stories for *Coastal Living* magazine and started working on her first novel while raising their children, Tate and Posy, now 17 and 14.

That novel is scheduled for release next summer. Called *The Grove*, it was described by *Publishers Weekly* as “a coming-of-age novel set in a Florida orange grove in the early 1960s... Told from 13-year-old Pip's point of view, the novel explores family loyalty, friendship, and racial tensions.”

“I had hoped I would be on a third novel by now, but life happens. My career certainly slowed down while I was raising my children,” Phillips said. Two years ago, she took her family to Lugano and showed them Franklin. “It was such a special part of my life, I wanted to share it with them.”

Although her son is drawn to large universities, her daughter may consider Franklin in her future. “She likes adventure and is interested in travel and European experiences,” said Phillips, who is hoping to revisit Franklin herself to teach writing for a semester. “It would be wonderful to come full circle.”

For now, having completed the revision process on her novel and with the kids away at school, she is enjoying more time for other writing projects. “This career has been a dream come true. To be able to write for a living and support my family is a gift, and I am grateful.” ■ –SG



*The best network is the one you're a part of.*

# FRANKLIN CAREER ADVISORY NETWORK

## Connections can help one accomplish so much!

The caliber and diversity of professional expertise held by Franklin's 7,000 alumni is a valuable resource that you can both leverage and add to.

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Franklin uses the top-rated Firsthand online platform for alumni engagement and career mentoring. Alumni and students are encouraged to join, create a professional profile in just two minutes, and then seek advice or make connections in your field easily, virtually, and with Franklin as your introduction.

### PAY IT FORWARD

Interested in giving back? Your experience and insight could help a Franklin student or young alumnus. Your perspective and feedback may be exactly what they need to excel. Contributing to the success of one Franklin graduate bolsters the collective success of the Franklin community.



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- Participate in webinars and conference calls about professional topics.
- Review resumes of Franklin students.
- Conduct mock interviews to help students convey their Franklin education to future employers.
- Provide internships—and benefit from Franklin-educated interns!
- Collaborate on virtual or in-person networking events for fellow alumni, parents, and students.

**TAP INTO THE FRANKLIN NETWORK TODAY!** Go to [fus.firsthand.co](https://fus.firsthand.co).



**QUESTIONS?** Contact Tara Bracher,  
Assistant Dean of Alumni and Parent Relations,  
at [tbracher@fus.edu](mailto:tbracher@fus.edu) or US +1 310 597 1502.

MESSAGE FROM

## THE ASSISTANT DEAN OF ALUMNI AND PARENT RELATIONS



### GREETINGS, FRANKLIN ALUMNI!

**T**his has been an incredible year for Franklin's alumni relations office. Our 50th-year celebrations have been a success, from the Gala in New York City honoring our founders and history, to our many club and regional events. Alumni are eager to hear about the great things happening at their alma mater. It's been exciting to connect with alumni I haven't met before and hear their Franklin stories.

Our office is harnessing this energy to give alumni new reasons to engage with Franklin. Alumni are enjoying networking with peers who share their passions and perspectives, and they are discovering the value of staying connected. They are telling us how much their Franklin experience has given them the confidence, critical thinking skills, and knowledge to be successful in their careers.

Club chairs are taking the lead in planning and hosting successful events, for which I am so grateful. That adventurous and creative Franklin spirit has been a factor in planning events in unique venues. We have found ourselves on a pirate ship, on a brewery rooftop, and in the National Portrait Gallery. It's been like Franklin Academic Travel 2.0! Whatever the venue, connections are being made, friendships are growing, and the desire to be a part of what is happening at Franklin is being renewed. As one tasked with engaging and supporting Franklin alumni, it is heartwarming to see this community grow.

Alumni listen with affection and pride as President Warden and others share the many directions in which Franklin is growing, whether through programs, partnerships, visibility, or reputation. Having lived on campus in Lugano, alumni are excited about the new building project (to be completed in fall 2021) and how it will meet the needs of our students. Our alumni understand that Franklin's growth and prosperity only enhance the degrees they have earned.

Our celebratory year was to culminate in May 2020 with the Global Alumni Reunion in Lugano. Unfortunately, the global pandemic has necessitated many changes in plans, and we have had to postpone the celebration until reunion weekend May 21-23, 2021. We hope many of you will join us then.

It is clear to me that this milestone year will not just come and go. This time has created a launching pad to reengage alumni, expand our volunteer base, and spread the message about this amazing institution that we love. I hope you are equally filled with excitement about all that the future holds for Franklin.

WE ARE FUS.

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Tara Bracher'.

**Tara Bracher**

*Assistant Dean of Alumni and Parent Relations*

FRANKLIN'S

50

FOR

NOTABLE ALUMNI  
SHARE THEIR SUCCESSES

**T**here are more than 7,000 Franklin alumni who are making a difference at home, in their communities, and around the world. In 2019, Frankliners were given the opportunity to nominate a peer to be honored as one of Franklin's "50 for 50" campaign, highlighting 50 notable alumni who have excelled in their fields, including careers in business and philanthropy.

Nominees were asked to describe their success and how Franklin played a part, as well as other questions. The honorees' statements here have been distilled from their full responses, which are shared at [www.fus.edu/50-years-of-franklin](http://www.fus.edu/50-years-of-franklin).



**ESRA'AAL SHAFEI '08**

*Executive Director, Majal.org  
Manama, Bahrain*

My definition of success is persistence and consistency. I'm eager to continue building upon the foundation that I've created by expanding my reach globally and deepening my existing partnerships, as well as making new ones. I'm also excited to share the expertise that I've acquired throughout the years with various global movements that echo my values.



**SHEIKH AL-BANAWI '77**

*Chairman and CEO, The Industrial Group | Jeddah, Saudi Arabia*

Franklin has always been important in my life. I established the Al-Banawi Scholarship for Personal Development with the unique purpose of providing financial aid to outstanding students who reciprocate by acting as academic mentors. The Industrial Group is a market leader in packaging, specialty chemicals, and food flavors in the broader Middle East, Africa, and Indian subcontinent. I have dedicated myself to helping the next generation of enterprise leaders in the Arab world.



**RICK BELL '65**

*Chairman and Founder (retired),  
Harvard Business Services, Inc.  
Lewes, Delaware*

In terms of success, I have been married 48 years, I have four great kids, and seven happy grandchildren. I'm retired now, and the company I started is 40 years old with 40 employees; it's profitable and rewarding. Franklin opened up the world to me at 17 years old. I always focused on global enterprise, and thanks to Franklin, my international base was Lugano.



**PATRICIA BINOSI  
BEGGIATO '87**

*Entrepreneur, Darlington House  
Washington, D.C.*

Not only did I meet my husband at Franklin, the university opened my mind to a better understanding of the world. Without Franklin, I would not have become the owner of one of Washington, D.C.'s most successful restaurants and a mother by the age of 25. It taught me to become self-sufficient, a problem solver, and to believe that I could achieve anything!



**JENNIFER BERG '76**

*Managing Director (retired),  
Morgan Stanley UBS | New York,  
New York and Vail, Colorado*

At Franklin, I gained a European perspective and the confidence to traverse professional and personal opportunities globally. I am inspired by my father, who was a self-made industry pioneer, out-of-the-box thinker, and an impactful speaker and writer. I feel that I have succeeded beyond the odds.



**MARTA OPRISAN  
BERGGREN '07**

*Counselor and Consul,  
Embassy of Canada to Sweden  
Stockholm, Sweden*

As a foreign service officer, I've specialized in Canadian citizen (consular) services, as well as management of Canadian missions abroad. I've represented Canada in 12 countries. I knew I wanted to work in foreign service, but not in the stereotypical way; I wanted to help people. Believe it or not, I got this desire from being a resident assistant at Franklin.



**ADRIENNE BLAINE '13**

*Producer, AJ+ | Washington, D.C.*

I am a video producer for AJ+, a digital channel of Al Jazeera. I have won two prestigious Webby awards as part of a team that delved into food waste and discrimination against Asian foods that use MSG. The newsroom I work in is incredibly diverse and multicultural. I would not have been considered for the job if it had not been for my international education at Franklin.



**EMILY BOYNTON '09**

*Executive Director, GAMA  
Foundation for Education and  
Research | Washington, D.C.*

Franklin taught me to become more independent and how to deal with conflict and changes head-on. After graduating during the economic crisis a decade ago, my path to success was not automatic and is ongoing. As an executive director of a nonprofit foundation, I am thrilled to be able to plan for the future and lead my team while helping people run their own businesses.



**MARTIN CAPOUSEK '07**

*CEO, Vega Tours | Prague, Czech Republic*

My key professional success is being the CEO of my family's business. Franklin provided not only an important base of knowledge and skills but also a network of friends for life. Recently, we opened a branch in Switzerland, which would have been a more difficult task without having previous knowledge of the local market and culture.



**ZACHARY CEFARATTI '12**

*CEO and Founder, Dalma Capital Dubai, United Arab Emirates*

Franklin helped me develop a global view of the financial industry and prepared me to run an international business. Shortly after graduating, I founded Dalma Capital with less than \$1 million in a single hedge fund. Dalma now manages 13 funds with more than \$600 million in assets and has established an investment bank with annual deal flow in excess of \$1 billion.



**SEOK-YAM CHEW '83**

*Lawyer and Director (retired), Siong Hoe Group | Singapore*

I was a structured finance lawyer for several years with an international law firm, and I worked on some of the largest and most complex transactions in Southeast Asia. The professors at Franklin instilled in me the belief that I could do anything into which I put my mind and energies. This outlook has stayed with me all these years.



**MICHAEL CORCORAN '10**

*Advisor, U.S. Department of Defense | Washington, D.C.*

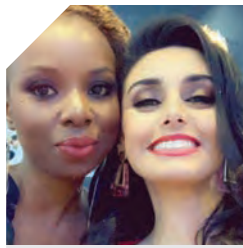
I'm more interested in public service than making a lot of money. After graduating from Franklin, I served in the Peace Corps in Burkina Faso where I worked to improve food sustainability. Franklin challenged me to think about America's role in the world and my place in it, and that's something I've carried with me. Franklin is also where I met the love of my life, **Madeline Weinfeld '10**.



**MAJDA ZIAD DAKKAK '15**

*Director of Communication and Business Development, Dakkak Tours | Amman, Jordan*

After Franklin, I joined the Association of Queen Rania Award for Excellence in Education, a royal initiative to support and honor distinguished educators in Jordan. After two years, I left to join the family business and revamp what it means to be a tour operator in the 21st century. My success will be measured when my passion for education and love for business are in sync.



**TEMI FET'ERA '06**

*Founder and Director, Māe Africa Development Initiative Abuja, Nigeria*

*(Pictured above on left.)* I attribute a lot of positives in my personal and professional life to Franklin. Spending my formative years in an environment of multicultural interactions, new languages, and frequent travel prepared me for the work I do now. In my five-year plan, I aspire for Māe Africa, a nonprofit dedicated to protecting Africa's heritage and history, to become a recognized cultural enterprise.



**JOCELYN GARIBAY '13**

*Senior Director of People and Operations, Code2040 San Francisco, California*

I am incredibly proud to be a senior leader at a badass nonprofit changing how Black and Latinx communities access power in the U.S. tech industry. As an anti-capitalist, I believe that success is so much more than traditional definitions of achievement. Franklin instilled a sense of adventure and fearlessness in the way I approach the world, and that's helped me build the life I have now.



**CASEY GAYMAN '07**

*Senior Advisor, U.S. Department of State | Washington, D.C.*

Franklin has given me an advantage at nearly every point, from graduate school to developing the cross-cultural communication skills required for international diplomacy. After completing a master's program, I was selected for a Presidential Management Fellowship at the U.S. Department of State. I currently support U.S. efforts to counter worldwide financing of terrorism.



**IÑIGO GARCIA GORDOBIL '11**

*Senior Investment Director/  
Co-Head, U.S. Venture Capital  
and Growth Equity, Cambridge  
Associates | San Francisco,  
California*

Franklin taught me to be intellectually curious. Cambridge Associates is a global investment firm that advises institutional investors. As part of my job, I'm responsible for helping invest over \$3.5 billion annually in the asset class. My wife **Rene Musech '11** and I spend our free time with family and exploring our love of travel that was nurtured at Franklin.



**MARCI HARRIS '97**

*Co-Founder and CEO, POPVOX  
Redwood City, California*

I am co-founder and CEO of one of the first civic tech companies, providing tools for public engagement. I work at the intersection of politics and technology at a time of rapid change and frequently draw upon the perspective I gained at Franklin. My professors gave me the history, and my colleagues showed me how people from all over the world can form deep bonds.



**CATHARINE (KIT) FINDIESEN HAYS '76**

*Author | Greater New York City  
Area, New York*

I have been dedicated to leading international interdisciplinary research, co-creation, and adoption of a fundamentally new model to transform the scope, practice, and value of marketing and advertising. The resulting book I co-authored as an executive director at the Wharton School, *Beyond Advertising: Creating Value Through All Customer Touchpoints*, emphasizes the imperative of aligning the interests of people, profits, and the planet.



**ROBB HAWKINS '01**

*U.S. Diplomat/Economic Officer,  
U.S. Department of State  
Chengdu, China*

As a career diplomat with the U.S. Foreign Service, I have served on missions in Indonesia, Pakistan, Cambodia, and China. I have helped American citizens amid terrorist attacks in Jakarta, advocated for U.S. businesses operating in Pakistan, and reported on labor conditions for Cambodian textile workers. I have relied on my Franklin experience to empathize and manage multinational teams to achieve my nation's foreign policy goals.



**MOLLY HAYS-JETTE '83**

*Executive VP and Owner, Snake  
Tray | Bay Shore, New York*

My husband and I built a manufacturing company that serves corporations, organizations, and governments worldwide with innovative cable management systems. I feel my greatest accomplishments have been my family and helping to start a school in our community called the Bridges Academy. One of my life goals is to make a positive impact on children and, through adoption and building a school, I am achieving that goal.



**ANDREW HERNDON '11**

*Co-founder, Lore | Portland,  
Oregon*

Whether you encounter success or failure, the key is to not lose sight of the opportunity ahead. The small, discussion-based classes at Franklin, combined with the international setting and Academic Travel, helped me develop a deeper understanding of different perspectives and how to navigate unfamiliar circumstances. Those skills have been pivotal in handling the successes and failures I've encountered since graduating.



**KIM HILDEBRANT '90**

*President, Anchorage Group  
Board Chair, Franklin University  
Switzerland | Banco, Switzerland*

After a positive experience with the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, I set up an international management consulting company, which has expanded into cybersecurity and security in general. Joining the Board of Trustees and later being nominated chair is one of my most special successes. Franklin contributed to making me a citizen of the world, which assisted me significantly in my international career.



**INDIA HOWELL '76**

*Founder and Executive Director,  
The Tanzanian Children's Fund  
Karatu, Tanzania*

Success for me is providing a home for more than 100 orphaned children, transforming two low-performing government schools into top-ranked schools, and helping more than 700 community members start businesses. The friends I made at Franklin were some of my earliest supporters. Without them, my dream of helping others would not have been possible.



**DEIRDRE  
KINNEY-BRENNAN '82**

*Documentary Film Producer and Set Decorator, Castletown Productions | New York, New York*  
I am a wildlife documentary filmmaker and have made three films about rare and endangered species. I am also a set decorator for film, television, and theater. Franklin encouraged and nurtured my exploration and curiosity about the world through Academic Travel and in the classroom, which carried over into the making of documentaries.



**JANET COLE LEISTER '68**

*Educator (retired) | Bothell, Washington*  
Throughout my life, I have been passionate about international work. I ran a 1,000-student ESL program and became an assistant dean and professor at Hawaii Pacific University. I did rural economic development and international marketing for Hawaiian agriculture and became the international marketing manager for the State of Washington agriculture. Franklin was the foundation for my work.



**TAROUB AMMAR  
MALHAS '05**

*Freelance Consultant, Trainer, and Facilitator | Amman, Jordan*  
Franklin taught me how our differences make us unique, and it is these differences that allow us to make positive changes. Success, to me, is that ability to make a difference in the world. By working on various projects in the development sector, I contribute to making little changes that (hopefully) have a big impact on people and society.



**KEVIN MCNEELY '73, P'23**

*Executive Director, Sonoma International Film Festival Sonoma, California*  
Franklin has had an indelible effect on my life, including the confidence to be comfortable with languages, customs, and cultures around the world. While I have enjoyed working in cable TV, dabbling in the wine/restaurant business, and growing a nonprofit, my biggest success is my family—my wife Rosemary and daughter Hannah Rose who is currently attending Franklin!



**CATHERINE MORGAN '85**

*Owner, Morgan Capital LLC and Engel & Voelkers | Fort Lauderdale, Florida*  
Twenty years ago, I was the only female owner of a \$2 billion commodity trading advisor in the world. Beyond academic, professional, and financial accomplishments, I am most thankful for my success as a mother, good friend, and community leader. Helping others achieve their potential is a major source of my personal happiness. Franklin's global alumni network provides access to wonderful new contacts, high-level events, and fabulous reunions.



**TOMMIE L. PEGUES '94**

*Insuri.com LLC | New York, New York*  
Franklin opened my thinking to the world! I am very happy to be an honoree. My achievements are mine, but they are not greater or smaller than any other person's achievement in any manner of measurement. In the next five years, I plan on focusing my philanthropic efforts to help more people and communities.



**LAURA MARSALA  
PETERSON '06**

*Executive Director, Living Earth Center | Mankato, Minnesota*  
I run one of the largest community gardens in Minnesota and help educate people about environmental and social sustainability initiatives. I am grateful that I can use my skills, voice, and privilege to effect positive change. My relationship with environmental and social sustainability began at Franklin with my Academic Travel to Malawi and Zambia with Professor **Anne Flutti**.



**BROOKS WHITNEY  
PHILLIPS '87**

*Author | Key West, Florida*  
I began my writing career at the *Chicago Tribune*, where I wrote a syndicated column. I have written eight middle-grade books and contribute design and travel stories to national magazines. I was very lucky to have a wonderful English professor at Franklin, **Jacqueline Perret**, who truly believed that I had what it takes to make it as a professional writer.



**KAREN A. REARDON '80**

*Associate Professor, Management and Leadership, La Salle University | Jenkintown, Pennsylvania*

I presently teach management, leadership, business law, ethics, and corporate social responsibility. I co-founded the nonprofit HighSight, which provides scholarships and mentoring to low-income youth in Chicago. I credit my time at Franklin for making me a citizen of the world. Without the scholarship opportunity Franklin provided, my life would be less rich.



**EDDIE REHFELDT '85**

*Executive Creative Director, FLiP Creative Group | Seattle, Washington*

I worked really hard to achieve my goals. At first, I believed my dyslexia would hold me back. Luck, timing, and the love and support of family and lifelong friends made me who I am. Franklin is a huge factor in my success; I learned to be independent and found my passion for art and travel while living in Lugano, and my Franklin professors' words are still alive in my head.



**PHILIP RENAUD '95**

*CEO and Chairman, Redecam Milan, Italy*

I am surprised and grateful to be one of Franklin's 50 for 50 honorees. My wife **Estafania Renaud '95** and I met at Franklin. Redecam offers highly engineered air pollution control solutions; I attribute my success to a lot of hard work and luck. I am inspired by my whole family. They each take on every challenge presented to them. In the next five years, I plan to travel less for work and spend more time with my family and friends.



**ELYSE RESNICK '92**

*Service Learning Instructor, IES Abroad | Milan, Italy*

I have dedicated my career to education. Recognizing the impact that educators have on shaping future leaders says more about Franklin than it does about me. I am proud to be part of this institution, where I learned a language that, 20 years later, gave me the chance to receive a Fulbright research grant.



**NICHOLE ROUSSEAU-MCALLISTER '07**

*General Counsel, Cannell Capital San Francisco, California*

Franklin gave me an excellent foundation in communication, which has been one of the keys to my success. My classmates came from radically different walks of life than my own, which taught me to effectively communicate on a personal level. I've taken that lesson with me in both my personal and professional lives, and understanding this has been critical to my development.



**CHRISTOPHER SCHOLZ '76**

*Architect and Partner, Elskop Scholz LLC | Board Member, Franklin University Switzerland New York, New York*

I have been a practicing architect for more than 30 years, most of them as the head of my own firm. Franklin means the most to me of any school I attended. It taught me to communicate effectively in a diverse world and gave me the confidence to navigate through it. I have used these skills daily since, and I am proud to serve on its board.



**MEG SIPPERLY SALYER '74**

*President and CEO, Accel Financial Staffing | Oklahoma City, Oklahoma*

Franklin set the foundation for my success. I began my career at Chase Manhattan Bank in New York. A move to Oklahoma City coincided with the opportunity to launch several successful businesses, redevelop historic properties, and become a professional community volunteer. I ran for elected office on the Oklahoma City Council and, after more than 10 years of service, returned to full-time management of my staffing firm and real estate business.



**RICHARD K. SUSSMAN '95**

*General Partner, The Rebel Fundraising | Los Angeles, California*

Franklin contributed to my success through the network effect. I recently raised over \$100 million for two venture capital funds as general partner of Rebel seed fund and as a founding managing partner of Nordic Eye Venture Capital growth fund. I leveraged the Franklin concept that no country or community has all the answers, but working together globally can advance society.





**KOTA TABUCHI '03**

*Managing Director, Africa, Travel Beyond | Berkeley, California*

I quite literally think about Franklin daily. A Franklin professor taught me the power of saying yes to opportunities rather than shying away. This lesson allowed me to navigate to a career that resonated with my passion and interests. Franklin has opened doors that wouldn't have existed otherwise and provided experiences only gained through an international education.



**KARLA TADIC '16**

*Supervision Analyst, European Central Bank | Frankfurt am Main, Germany*

Franklin widened my horizons and prepared me to live and work in a diverse international environment. I earned a master's degree from London School of Economics and have already acquired almost three years of experience in the European Parliament and the European Central Bank. I believe I am on the right track with what I imagined I would be doing in my life.



**DIANA TEDOLDI '90, P'18**

*Advancement Coordinator, Franklin University Switzerland Lugano, Switzerland*

I have been working at Franklin for the past 20 years in alumni relations, advancement, and on *The Franklin Gazette*. I am passionate about my work because I want Franklin to continue to thrive. My Franklin education gave me an understanding of history, politics, and culture, and a decade later it welcomed me back and gave me more than just a career path to follow.



**MARGARET ELIZABETH TEJADA '07**

*Senior Legal Assistant, Nelson Immigration Law, PC | Silver Spring, Maryland*

Success to me is working hard to achieve my goals and collaborating with diverse peers along the way. I did this at Franklin, in two AmeriCorps programs, as a Peace Corps volunteer, as a senior legal assistant for an immigration law firm, and in pursuit of my M.A. in International Education. Franklin showed me what a complex, interconnected world we live in and how we affect each other.



**CAROLYN THOW '90**

*Director, Whittemore—Community, Culture & Conservation; and President, Friends of Whittemore, Inc. | Oldwick, New Jersey*

I am very fortunate to be surrounded by a team and community that support my vision of community, culture, and conservation. My time at Franklin taught me many lessons I have applied to my career, which in turn has led me to where I am today. I prepare for a busy day with five deep yoga breaths.



**ELLIOT TOMAENO '08**

*Founder and CEO, Astrsk PR New York, New York*

I run a 22-person PR agency that specializes in working with brands at the forefront of technology and industry innovation, such as Squarespace and Prime Video. We handle all aspects of consumer, corporate, and investor-focused public relations. Franklin taught me to think globally, to gain confidence outside of my comfort zone, and to interact with people from very different backgrounds.



**AUSTIN TOMLINSON '06**

*Senior Director of Alumni Relations, INSEAD | Singapore*

Franklin made me comfortable with people from all walks of life. Upon graduation, I was offered a position in Franklin's admissions office. I later accepted a job with international graduate business school INSEAD, and today I lead their global alumni relations practice, focused on engaging 60,000 alumni in 170 different countries.



**KAYSI WINSMAN '14**

*Senior Vice President, Organizational Design, Bank of America | New York, New York*

I've led transformational process and organizational design efforts across the retail, banking, energy and utilities, and nonprofit sectors. This endless learning takes me all over the map and keeps me on my toes. Personally, I try to make decisions from a place of love instead of fear. My experience at Franklin challenged me to approach learning with a fresh mindset and to grow in ways I could never have foreseen.

The following honorees' responses were not received in time for publication; read about them at [www.fus.edu/50-years-of-franklin](http://www.fus.edu/50-years-of-franklin)

MICHAEL GARCIA '08  
RENE MUSECH '11

# FRANKLIN AT 50



“The fact that Franklin is 50 years old shows the founders’ ability to identify and embrace an international imperative in undergraduate education. Throughout the years, Franklin has shaped and reshaped what a relevant international liberal arts education looks like. In that respect, we were well ahead of the game, and that’s a meaningful achievement.” —Trustee Jennifer Berg '76

“This 50th Anniversary is an incredibly exciting opportunity for Franklin. It’s great to have the opportunity to look at yourself in the mirror, in a way, and put together a vision of what you want to look like for the next 50 years. We are writing a new chapter for the university—a new chapter in the same book—continuing the traditions of Franklin but looking ahead.” —Dean of Executive Education Carlo Giardinetti

“The most important advantage that Franklin delivers is an experiential education in international relations. With everything going on in the world, it’s more needed than ever. Franklin can really play a role in preparing young people to be the kinds of leaders that we all need and want—who think about all people affected instead of just their own nationalism.” —Trustee Luke Fowler

# University Day 2019: Inspiration and Innovation

Franklin’s annual event known as University Day was first held in 2014 to celebrate the school’s full Swiss university accreditation. Since then, the tradition has grown into a platform for highlighting inspiring academic projects and research opportunities. In 2018, University Day was combined with Giving Day, an annual fundraising event that includes a 24-hour donation challenge known as “One Day. One Purpose.” The goal is to raise critical funding and engage the community to advance Franklin’s mission; in 2019, Giving Day raised \$51,258.

University Day 2019 included a sustainability luncheon, a majors fair, and a T-shirt workshop. A new type of presentation modeled after TED Talks called FUS Talks: Innovating for Change gave students and faculty the opportunity to showcase innovative projects and ideas and inspire the rest of the Franklin community. Topics included climate action at Franklin, work certification in refugee camps, political action in Brazil, and virtual reality therapy for PTSD, among others. The event also featured the Leslie Innovation Fund Award, created by Jim Leslie, trustee, and Norma Leslie, parents of **Evan Leslie '17**, to support innovative student projects and research at Franklin. ■



# A YEAR OF

# CELEBRATION

Franklin alumni clubs  
held regional events  
in 2019 to celebrate  
Franklin's 50th Anniversary.



## NEW YORK

The Franklin Club of New York held an “Art After Dark” event in July 2019 at the New Museum in New York City. Alumni and friends took a private tour and then enjoyed a reception at Jadis.

## SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

The Franklin Club of Southern California and President Warden in September 2019 hosted more than 40 alumni and friends at Ballast Point in Long Beach, overlooking Alamitos Bay, in September 2019. One month earlier, **Brandon López '14** hosted a summer barbeque in La Jolla, San Diego for the Southern California contingent of Franklin alumni and friends (*event not pictured*).





## SAN FRANCISCO

The Franklin Club of San Francisco, California welcomed **President Greg Warden**, the Swiss Consul General, and more than 30 alumni and friends at swissnex San Francisco in October 2019.

## SOUTH FLORIDA

The Franklin Club of South Florida and friends gathered at Wine House Social in August 2019 to celebrate Franklin's 50th year and sample organic wines.



## SEATTLE

The Franklin Club of Seattle gathered in June 2019 at Mbar to celebrate the start of summer and enjoy the beautiful views of South Lake Union while catching up with fellow Frankliners. Then in September 2019, **Vice President of Advancement Anne Marie Judge** and more than 25 alumni and friends enjoyed a cruise on a chartered "pirate" boat on Lake Union.

## WASHINGTON, D.C.

The Franklin Club of Washington, D.C. gathered in November 2019 for a private tour led by an art conservationist of the Smithsonian American Art Museum and then enjoyed a reception at Dirty Habit.





## LAKE LUGANO

The **Franklin Alumni Council** sponsored the Annual Boat Cruise on Lake Lugano in May 2019, where alumni, faculty, staff, and trustees welcome new graduates into the Franklin alumni family.



## 50th Film Series Enriched by Franklin-Sonoma Connection

**F**ranklin's Film Studies minor has increased interest and opportunities in the field of cinema among students and faculty. This enthusiasm has been bolstered by a collaboration with the Sonoma International Film Festival (SIFF) through trustee **Kevin McNeely '73, P'23**. In recent years, the school has hosted community screenings of SIFF Audience Award winning films.

This past year, Franklin decided to combine the screenings with an existing annual lecture series hosted by the President's Office. The resulting 50th Anniversary Film Series featured SIFF award-winning films accompanied by panel discussions with faculty and invited guests, including people involved in creating and producing the movies.

In October 2019, the series presented *The Woman Who Loves Giraffes*. This life story was screened at the 2019 SIFF and won both the Jury Award and the Audience Award for Best Documentary. The film explores the work of zoologist Anne Innis Dagg, widely considered the leading expert on giraffes and the first person to ever study animal behavior in the wild in Africa. McNeely was instrumental in inviting Dagg and producer Paul Zimic to the event.

November's screening of *Albert Frey: The Architectural Envoy—Part 1* was of particular interest to the Franklin community, as the film explores the Swiss architect's importance in shaping U.S. architecture. Frey aided in the introduction of modernism to the U.S. and developed a unique style, blending industrial techniques with a love of nature. Franklin collaborated on the event with Virginia Tech's Steger Center for International Scholarship in Riva San Vitale (for more information, see page 40).



Left to right: Kevin McNeely '73, Anne Innis Dagg, Paul Zimic, Professor Kate Roy, Professor Patrick Della Croce, and President Greg Warden.

The German thriller *Balloon* was shown in January. The tense true story of two families escaping communist East Germany to Bavaria in a homemade hot-air balloon won the 2019 SIFF Audience Award.

In academic year 2020-2021, Franklin will host the New York WILD Film Festival. Students and faculty members will get to take part in the film selection process.

These popular events are open to the public as well as the school community. "We try to loop in faculty early in the planning process so they can include relevant films in their syllabi," said **Leslie Tedoldi '18**, assistant to academic affairs and the Office of the President, and film series organizer. "Our auditorium has approximately 200 seats, and it was completely full for the Anne Dagg event." ■ —JJ

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**THESE POPULAR EVENTS  
ARE OPEN TO THE  
PUBLIC AS WELL AS THE  
SCHOOL COMMUNITY.**



# COMMENCEMENT 2019

“CONSIDER THE CHOICES YOU MAKE, AND REMEMBER TO SAY HELLO.”



ON MAY 19, 2019, FRANKLIN HELD ITS 49th ANNUAL COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY AT LUGANO'S LAKESIDE PALAZZO DEI CONGRESSI. FAMILIES, FRIENDS, FACULTY, STAFF, AND TRUSTEES GATHERED TO CELEBRATE THE GRADUATION OF THE CLASS OF 2019.



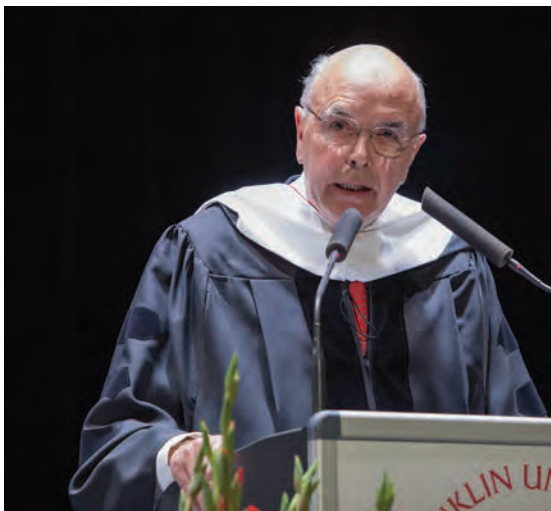
Franklin welcomed keynote speaker and honorary degree recipient Jonathan Steinberg, who is the Walter H. Annenberg Professor of Modern European History (Emeritus) at the University of Pennsylvania; Emeritus Fellow at Trinity Hall, Cambridge, England; and former chair of the Department of History at the University of Pennsylvania (2000–2015). Steinberg is a leading authority on the history of 20th century Germany, Austria, Switzerland, and Italy, about which he has written and taught extensively. He was a member of the Franklin Board of Trustees and the U.S. Presidential Advisory Commission on Holocaust Assets. Steinberg's significant contributions to Franklin include his generous donation of a large collection of research materials focusing on Switzerland and its history, politics, and

culture. In his speech to the class of 2019, Professor Steinberg offered students some prudent advice:

**“You will not be spared very challenging decisions. You should take them consciously, with sensibility, and consider the choices that you have and that you make.”**

This year, Franklin awarded honorary degrees to two of its beloved founders, **Dr. Theo E. Brenner** and Ambassador **Wilfried Geens**. Brenner served Franklin as administrative dean from the school's founding in 1970 to 1979, acting president from 1979 to 1980, and president from 1980 to 1995. Geens taught Political Science and European History in the





Opposite page:  
Jonathan  
Steinberg delivers  
the keynote speech.

Counterclockwise above:  
Founder Theo Brenner receives  
an honorary degree from President  
Greg Warden; Founder Wilfried Geens  
speaks to graduates; Emily Boynton '09  
receives the Ursula Gentile Lowerre Award;  
Happy graduates smile for a photo.

post-graduate program at Franklin's predecessor, the American School in Switzerland. In 1969, he was one of the four founders of Franklin and served as the school's first academic dean.

**"These are the people with whom you will forever share a bond."**

Valedictorian **Ethan Chong**, from Denver, Colorado, graduated *magna cum laude* with a Bachelor of Arts degree in International Management with an emphasis in Marketing, plus minors in Economics, History, and Germanic Studies. Chong invited his classmates to reflect on the connections they have made at Franklin. "When you go back home and talk to your friends and family, there are some things that you just

Valedictorian **Ethan Chong '19**  
speaks to his classmates.



can't fully describe—things that only fellow Franklin students can relate to," he said. "We've all had our differences at some point—we've made friends and we've lost friends, but these are the people with whom you will forever share a bond. When you inevitably stumble into each other on your future travels through life, just stop and say hi. I promise you won't regret it."

The Ursula Gentile Lowerre Award for Outstanding Service was conferred to **Emily Boynton '09**, manager of foundation advancement and fundraising at the GAMA Foundation for Education and Research in Reston, Virginia. Boynton leads fundraising and marketing for the Foundation, which encompasses constituents from around the world. ■ —JJ

CELEBRATING THE PRESENT

# SEEING THE WORLD

HIGHLIGHTS FROM  
2019 ACADEMIC TRAVEL

BY SHANNON GORMAN

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"THE USE OF TRAVELING IS TO  
REGULATE IMAGINATION WITH  
REALITY, AND INSTEAD OF  
THINKING OF HOW THINGS MAY  
BE, SEE THEM AS THEY ARE."

—Samuel Johnson

**T**he past year featured a diverse and ambitious itinerary of Academic Travel, introducing students to medieval settings and contemporary folk culture, huge floodplains and majestic caves, modern architecture, and street photography.

Franklin's signature program is driven by the dedicated faculty who, in addition to their teaching and scholarly pursuits, devote countless hours to the conceptualization, planning, coordination, and shepherding of students on these immersive, location-based educational experiences.

The following sampling of trips reflects the goals of the Academic Travel program, which are to offer experiential learning in a variety of disciplines; embed travel into course curricula as a means of exploring subjects in more depth; tap the origins and expertise of the professors leading the trips; and involve alumni in enriching these experiences for students.

## SCOTLAND

This year, two professors joined forces—and courses—traveling through Scotland.

**Alison Vogelaar**, associate professor of communications and media studies, took her class, "Symbolizing Scottish Folk," on an exploration of the symbolic dimensions and functions of Scottish folk culture in tourism, politics, film, and everyday life. Vogelaar coordinated travel arrangements with associate professor of literature **Alexandra Peat**, whose class, "Scotland, Story and Song," explored the country's rich literary and musical heritage in the broader context of storytelling in all its forms.

Not only did the two course topics complement each other in interesting ways, but the two professors offered varied perspectives to their students. Peat is Scottish and has published on travel and literature, while Vogelaar is an American researching Scottish folk culture who has led this trip for 11 years.

The two groups of 16 students visited many major attractions together and split up for some activities specific to their focus of study. For example, in Edinburgh, the world's first UNESCO-designated City of Literature, Peat took her class to hear oral history come alive at the Scottish Storytelling Centre and

peruse the Scottish Poetry Library. "There were first-edition books by some of the poets we were studying," Peat said, "For the students to be able to hold rare books in their hands and read them in that interesting environment was special in a quiet way."

**Sara Steinert Borella**, vice president and dean of academic affairs, remarked on how the Academic Travel program has been bolstered since changing to a three-credit, semester-long course model. "It has really transformed the nature of the travel," she said.

**"The students are so well prepared going abroad that they can do different things on the travel itself, then come back and 'unpack' that experience."**

Meanwhile, Vogelaar's class visited the formidable fortress that is Edinburgh Castle and took a heritage tour of the city. "Scotland has so many castles, and they are all wildly different," she said. "The country has invested a lot of money in its tourism industry. It's been interesting, visiting over the course of a decade, to watch landmarks change as tourist sites."

Take Doune Castle for example, which



Students read from first-edition books at the Scottish Poetry Library in Edinburgh.

the entire group visited. It has its own rich medieval history but became extremely popular after it was featured heavily in the 1975 film *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*. The site became a pilgrimage destination of sorts for fans of the British comedy group Monty Python, and the castle's audio tour was even voiced by group member Terry Jones.

Then came *Outlander*, a wildly popular TV series based on the novels by Diana Gabaldon that was set in Scotland and filmed in part at Doune Castle. "*Outlander* has really changed Scottish tourism in an incredible way," Vogelaar commented. "Now there is a whole tour of the castle that has to do with the series!" The funds generated from the influx of visitors have been used to restore the castle and tell the story of its medieval history as well.

The students also visited another place popularized by *Outlander*, Clava Cairns, a mysterious site in the Scottish Highlands that inspired the stone circle central to the series. Although the exact purpose of the ancient stones is unknown, nearby Culloden is a well-documented burial site and memorial to all those who perished in the last battle of the Jacobite Uprising against the British in 1746. "At this major site of a Scottish/English conflict, it's interesting to think about how nations brand themselves, what this place is doing with its identity, to what effect, and how locals feel about it," said Vogelaar. These topics fit with the course's intent to foster better understanding of Scottish culture and, more generally, regional and national identities.

Peat said, "Some of the most significant learning experiences we have on travel are

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### Franklin Connections

The contingent’s tour guide into the Highlands, Iain Stewart, became not only a close friend of Vogelaar’s over her years of return visits, but also a valuable resource to her students, several of whom have found internships with him. Stewart, who has degrees in History and in Ethnology and Scottish Folklore, owns the tour company Serenity Scotland, and is a guest lecturer on cultural tourism at the University of Aberdeen’s Elphinstone Institute.



Students explored caves in Slovenia.

the small moments: conversations after visiting an exhibit, students seeing a place they have read about in a book and understanding it in a more vivid way, or even sitting in a Scottish pub and listening to live folk music.”

A highlight of the trip for the students was the ceilidh (pronounced “kay-lee”), a traditional community gathering of storytelling, music, and dance. The group took a bus to a lodge in the Scottish Highlands, where they had a big meal before gathering in the great hall of the medieval Castle Menzies. A trio of musicians played, while a caller led guests in traditional dances; the revelry lasted late into the night. “The lack of formality made it really festive and a great bonding experience,” said Vogelaar.

In Glasgow, the professors once again planned separate activities. Peat’s class took a tour of the city’s music scene led by a music journalist for *The Herald*. They visited one of the city’s earliest music halls, Barrowland Ballroom, which has been restored to its early-1900s state, and is a popular contemporary venue for indie and pop music. Peat’s group even visited a park in which every mural and paving stone is dedicated to a Scottish musician. “It was a unique way to explore the city,” Peat said.

Meanwhile, Vogelaar’s class visited the People’s Palace, a museum dedicated to the everyday lives of the people of Glasgow, and explored the East End, the historic heart of the city.

The two classes then met up in the West End for *A Play, a Pie, and a Pint*, a lunchtime theater experience where local actors (some on lunch break from work themselves) take the stage, while the audience enjoys an inexpensive lunch and a little bit of culture. Vogelaar said, “It’s a way for this artistic and creative community to make the arts accessible to people.”

Both groups then visited BBC Scotland in Glasgow, where Peat has a family connection. Students took a tour, heard about the station’s history, visited newsrooms, and watched filming taking place. “It was a really fun way to end the trip,” Peat said.

### NORTHERN ITALY & SLOVENIA

Last spring, Environmental Studies majors and other students interested in Environmental Science literally immersed themselves in the environment they were studying—freshwater river systems and floodplains—in the awe-inspiring setting of the Italian Alps.

**Patrick Della Croce**, associate professor of biology and environmental sciences, took his “Freshwater Conservation” class to the last free-flowing major river in the southern Alps, the Tagliamento, and led them on an exploration of a floodplain approximately 1 km wide by 12 km long. “We talk about floodplains and rivers in class, but the students don’t really grasp their size and complexity until I bring them there and they say, ‘Whoa! So that’s a floodplain!’ It takes us hours to walk around,” Della Croce said. “These trips really bring what you cover in class into reality for them.”

Having been there many times, Della Croce could see—and show his students—the changes in the structure of the floodplain that resulted from a major flood a few months prior to their visit. The class also practiced sampling and survey techniques. “The students had no idea what would end up in the trays. They expected maybe one or two things—and instead we got hundreds of river bugs and larvae,” he recalled. “They were very excited with their finds. It’s rewarding to hear the sound of discovery in their voices.”

The group stayed atop a hill in the small village of Ragogna, with a fantastic view of

the floodplain. Their lodging was a red farmhouse that had been converted into a bed and breakfast, the Casa Rossa ai Colli, known for its amazing farm-to-table food.

They moved on to Ljubljana (*pronounced "Loo-bee-on-a"*), the capital of Slovenia, and from there, took day trips to two massive cave systems. Students started at the dry side of the Skocjan Caves, far above the subterranean river which created them, and then entered the main cave traversed by a steep bridge over the river. "I am fairly sure that Tolkien got his inspiration for the bridge to Moria in *The Lord of the Rings* from this place," Della Croce mused.

The students had learned about caves in class and how they are formed by rivers, but many expected to find the caves small and enclosed. "They were surprised by the sheer size and openness," he said. "And in Postojna Cave, with every type of stalagmite and stalactite and drape you can imagine, the beauty is mind-boggling."

The intensely sensory nature of visiting the floodplain and caves made a deep impression on the students.

**"Their entire appreciation of a topic changes radically when you make it real," Della Croce said. "That's the biggest advantage of Academic Travel."**

## GERMANY

In the fall, a Visual Communication Arts class led by associate professor **Johanna Fassel** took to the streets of Munich and the hills of Bavaria with smartphones, digital SLRs, and Polaroid cameras in hand.

Fassel's "Documentary and Street Photography" class spent the semester learning about the history and theory of photography, technical skills such as proper framing and long exposure, and types of visual storytelling. Their trip to Germany brought it all into focus. The group stayed in the contemporary ArtHotel Munich for the entire trip. "Because we were based in the



BMW World in Munich.

same place, we could look at things in depth and from different perspectives," said Fassel, who is originally from Munich. "In a world in which we're so visually bombarded by technology like Instagram, it's really important to me that students are conscious of the power of images."

To practice what they had learned about photography, the students got to work with professional street-style and fashion photographer Gunnar Lillehammer. One assignment was to photograph random, interesting-looking people on the street. "At first, the students were hesitant to approach people and ask to take their picture, but once they got up the courage, they enjoyed it so much they didn't want to stop," Fassel said. "Their photography got better and better as they went."

Fassel arranged a bus trip to Dingolfing, Bavaria through Franklin alumnus **Martin Capousek '07**, who runs Vega Tours out of Prague, where he is very involved in the Czech community of Franklin alumni. "Martin is always so generous with his time," Fassel said. "He has made arrangements for many of our trips, and he always puts us in contact with the nicest people."

The group started an in-depth look at BMW, first visiting its 700-acre production

site in Dingolfing. Back in Munich, the class visited BMW World, a swooping, shiny mammoth of modern architecture that serves as an exhibition, event, and delivery venue, and took a special tour of the BMW Museum, a stellar example of visual storytelling for the ubiquitous brand. To culminate the experience, the students created a photography project based on the architectural landmarks.

To see a different side of Germany, Franklin alumnus **Tyler Olsen '11** invited the class to his guest house in the charming village of Oberaudorf in the Bavarian Alps. Olsen bought and renovated the 150-year-old farmhouse in January 2019 and from it runs Adventure Bavaria, offering outdoor adventures and Bavarian cultural experiences. The group took a Bavarian cooking class, enjoyed a schnitzel lunch and beer tasting, combined a look at traditional Bavarian costumes with a portrait photography session, and created a storyboard for a film project.

"Tyler was so generous and open to us all," Fassel said. "We were impressed with his entrepreneurial spirit, especially being from California and totally integrating into Bavarian life. It really shows that with a Franklin education, anything is possible." ■

# 2019

## FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Since Franklin's founding, the faculty have proven their excellence and engagement in their fields. The school's academic culture emphasizes a global perspective and encourages scholarly activity; the very active faculty contribute in both regards and continue to make the Franklin community proud. The following are selected\* faculty accomplishments from 2019.

### SANJA DUDUKOVIC

Professor and Department Co-Chair  
of International Management

Dudukovic's paper, "Inverse Time Series Approach to Non-Gaussian GARCH-ARMA FX Volatility Modeling," was accepted for presentation and publication in the proceedings of the 28th Conference of the Eurasia Business & Economics Society (EBES) in London in May 2019.

Her chapter, "Evaluating Realized Volatility Models with Higher Order Cumulants: HAR-RV Versus ARIMA-RV," was published in *Eurasian Business Perspectives*, a title in *Eurasian Studies in Business and Economics*, the official book series of EBES, published by Springer Nature Switzerland.

### GABRIEL GEE

Associate Professor and Department Chair  
of Art History and Visual Communication

Gee received a \$19,000, six-month research stipend from the Swiss Research Foundation in collaboration with Lingnan University, the only public liberal arts university in Hong Kong.

Gee also co-edited and wrote with Caroline Wiedmer the introduction for the transcript from the workshop, "Maritime Poetics: From Coast to Hinterland," held by the Textures and Experiences of Trans Industriality (TETI) Group in 2018 at Corner College in Zurich. The transcript is slated for publication by Bielefeld: Transcript Verlag in 2020.

### BRACK HALE

Professor of Biology and  
Environmental Sciences

Hale's article, "Understanding Potential Impacts From University-Led Educational Travel," was published in the *International Journal of Sustainability in Higher Education* in February 2019.

### FINTAN HOEY

Associate Professor of History

Hoey was the recipient of research funding from the Swiss National Science Fund, for the purpose of a Scientific Exchange—Research Visit in spring 2019 for work in Japan and Washington, D.C., where he was a visiting fellow at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. While in D.C., he presented "Proliferation, Plutonium, and Power: The Carter Administration and Japan's Search for a Plutonium Economy."

### MORRIS MOTTALE

Professor of International Relations  
and Political Science

Mottale's essay, "The Rise of China in the World," was published by H Fusion Media Group in January 2019.

### ALEXANDRA PEAT

Associate Professor of Literature

Peat edited with Claire Battershill, Canadian fiction writer and literary scholar, the special issue entitled "Modernism and Collaboration," which was published in *Literature & History* in spring 2019. Peat and Battershill also co-wrote the introduction to the special issue.

### JULIETTE SCHWAK

Assistant Professor of International Relations  
and Political Science

Schwak co-wrote with Iain Watson "Water Security, Riparian Identity, and Korean National Branding in the Mekong Subregion," which was published in *Pacific Focus* in August 2019.

She also wrote "Nothing New Under the Sun: South Korea's Developmental Promises and Neoliberal Illusions," published in *Third World Quarterly* in September 2019.



FRANKLIN'S NEWEST FACULTY MEMBER:

# Juliette Schwak

Assistant Professor of International Relations and Political Science

**J**uliette Schwak joined Franklin in 2019 from Tokyo International University, where she was an assistant professor of international political economy since 2017.

A French citizen, Schwak has lived for several years in South Korea, Hong Kong, the Philippines, and Japan. She completed her Ph.D. in Asian and International Studies from City University of Hong Kong in 2017, earned a Research M.A. in International Relations in 2014, and a B.A. in Political Science in 2012 from the Paris Institute of Political Studies (known as Sciences Po).

At Franklin, Schwak teaches the

introductory political science courses as well as courses on East Asia and political economy. Her classroom expertise builds on her own research, notably in everyday international political economy, promotional politics and nation branding, and global development studies. She is currently researching the extension of the economic notion of competition beyond market spaces, the political economic implications of nation branding, and marketization of and in the global development sector.

She specializes in the political economy of the Republic of Korea, where she has conducted extensive field research. She is

currently working on a book retracing the political project of turning competition into the driving principle of modern Korean society.

Schwak is a regular contributor to publications of Sciences Po-affiliated research and policy center Asia Centre and has been invited to give guest talks at various institutions across Asia and Europe. Her work has been published in prominent peer-reviewed journals such as *Asian Studies Review*, the *Journal of Contemporary Asia*, and *Third World Quarterly*. (For her latest, see page 36.)



## SARA STEINERT BORELLA

Vice President and Dean of Academic Affairs  
Professor of Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies

Steinert Borella and Christopher Fink, associate professor of health and human kinetics at Ohio Wesleyan University, received a \$7,500 grant to support the oral history project, "Tell Me What You Eat, and You Will Tell Me What You Are: Oral Histories of Food and Migration." The grant was a part of the Great Lakes College Association's Global Crossroads Initiative, funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.



## SATOMI SUGIYAMA

Professor and Department Chair of Communication and Media Studies

Sugiyama wrote "Wearable Technologies: Fashion, Size, and Visibility" in *The Size Effect: A Journey into Design, Fashion, and Media* (A. Mascio, R. Menarini, S. Reinach, and I. Tollic, editors), published by Mimesis International in 2019.



## ANDREA TERZI

Professor and Department Chair of Economics and Finance

Terzi's article, "The Rise of National Central Banks' TARGET Balances in the Euro Area: A Comment," was published in the *European Journal of Economics and Economic Policies: Intervention* in September 2019.

He also wrote "Il Governo della Moneta: Seconda Parte—Economia Monetaria ed Economia Reale," published by Milano: EDUCatt, the Entity for the Right to Study at the Catholic University of Milan.



## CAROLINE WIEDMER

Professor of Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies

Wiedmer co-edited and co-wrote with Gabriel Geethe the transcript of the workshop "Maritime Poetics: From Coast to Hinterland." Wiedmer also contributed "Eldorado: The Logistics of Border Regimes from the Mediterranean to Its Hinterlands" to the volume. The transcript is slated for publication by Bielefeld: Transcript Verlag in 2020.

Wiedmer also wrote "Forced Entanglements: Stories of Expulsion, Sovereign Power, and Bare Life," appearing in *Kulturwissenschaftliche Zeitschrift*, volume 2, published by De Gruyter in 2019.

\* A complete record of faculty activity resides with the Vice President and Dean of Academic Affairs.

# EXPANDING OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS

BY SHANNON GORMAN

**F**ranklin is growing—not in size, by design, but in reach and influence—through the creative and strategic formation of partnerships and exchanges with institutions around the world.

When **President Greg Warden** arrived at Franklin, he committed to expanding opportunities for students. He and the leadership team have made good on that promise. “President Warden has been a real leader in this area,” said **Sara Steinert Borella** (pictured below), vice president and dean of academic affairs, whose role in overseeing academic collaborations will be made official in the fall. “This focus has meant a lot for Franklin on several levels.” Partnerships provide additional programs and educational experiences for students in residence, attract more students from around the world, and broaden Franklin’s reputation and influence in the global academic community.



## VITA-SALUTE SAN RAFFAELE UNIVERSITY

*Milan, Italy*

Franklin’s collaboration with Italy’s top-ranked private university has come to life in the past year. Vita-Salute San Raffaele University in Milan is the offspring of an internationally renowned research hospital. The two-way exchange allows Franklin students—particularly those studying psychology—to complete internships and take classes at San Raffaele, as well as learn from visiting San Raffaele faculty teaching courses at Franklin.

**Marina Buraschi '21** was the first Franklin student to take advantage of the exchange. In spring 2019, she took two psychology courses taught at Franklin by Guido Travaini, senior researcher in legal medicine at San Raffaele, which helped prepare her for an internship at their psychiatric clinic in summer 2019.

Buraschi completed an internship in the department that deals with patients diagnosed with mental health conditions such as depression, schizophrenia, borderline personality disorder, and bipolar disorder. She said, “I was able to experience a clinical department by shadowing medical residents and observing their daily duties firsthand.” She interacted mainly with the patients of Cristina Colombo, San Raffaele professor of medicine and a doctor special-

izing in psychiatry and clinical criminology, who then taught a course at Franklin in the fall 2019. “It has proven to be such an enriching collaboration,” said Steinert Borella.

## EMERSON COLLEGE

*Boston, MA, USA*

In 2018, Franklin and Emerson College in Boston, Massachusetts announced two joint 3+1 degree programs in which students earn a bachelor’s degree from Franklin and a master’s degree from







“LIFE IS CHANGE. IF YOU  
AREN'T GROWING AND  
EVOLVING, YOU'RE STANDING  
STILL, AND THE REST OF THE  
WORLD IS SURGING AHEAD.”

—Louise Penny, *Still Life*

Emerson in either Publishing and Writing or Public Relations. This past year, Franklin and Emerson added a third and fourth arrow in their quiver of collaborations.

A 2+2 dual degree comprising two years at Franklin and two years at Emerson will yield an associate degree from Franklin and a B.A. in International and Political Communication from Emerson. Application opened in fall 2019, and accepted students will arrive in Lugano in fall 2020. A similar dual degree in the Business of Creative Enterprise will open to students in 2021.

Steinert Borella said, “The new partnership provides a direct pathway for students to combine an international liberal arts experience at FUS with sought-after political communication instruction and unique internship opportunities from Emerson.”

Students will take Academic Travel excursions during their two years at Franklin and will have the opportunity to choose

from interim summer sessions in Well, Netherlands at Emerson’s Kasteel Well, a fully restored 14th-century medieval castle; in Sydney, Australia, through a new Emerson program; or in Boston, at Emerson’s home campus.

“The initiative is the result of a deep and long-term collaboration between Franklin and Emerson to provide programs and pathways for students that leverage the unique strengths of both institutions,” said Steinert Borella.



## UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO

Aurora, CO, USA

This past year, Franklin and the University of Colorado’s (CU) Anschutz Medical Campus in Aurora, Colorado formed an exciting alliance. Starting in fall 2020, Franklin will offer a pre-health sciences track that will provide the necessary foundation courses—some taught by visiting faculty from CU Anschutz—to apply to medical school or other graduate or professional programs in the health sciences.

The CU School of Medicine’s Section of

Wilderness and Environmental Medicine is a leader in promoting research, best practices, education, and outreach to advance health and wellness in extreme or austere environments. “We have an affinity with them because of our mountainous settings,” said Steinert Borella. “What’s especially exciting is that our own **Patrick Della Croce** [associate professor of biology and environmental sciences] will offer a summer course for CU and FUS students here in the Swiss Alps.” Participants of the three-week course “Wilderness Medicine in a Changing Climate” will receive a Wilderness First Responder certificate.

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**VIRGINIA TECH**

*Riva San Vitale, Switzerland*

Just a 30-minute drive from Franklin, on the southern shore of Lake Lugano, sits the village of Riva San Vitale and the Steger Center for International Scholarship, which is the European headquarters of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University based in Blacksburg, Virginia. Known as Virginia Tech, they have partnered with Franklin on programs of common interest.

In November, the Steger Center and Franklin presented the Swiss premiere of *Albert Frey: The Architectural Envoy—Part I* as part of Franklin’s 50th Anniversary Film Series. Virginia Tech Professor of Architecture Markus Breitschmid was among the panelists for the post-screening discussion of Frey’s significant role in the history of modernism in the U.S. The panel, moderated by Franklin President and Professor of Archaeology **Greg Warden**, also included two Franklin faculty members: **Johanna Fassi**, associate professor of art history and visual communication, and **Fabio Ferrari**, associate professor of modern languages and literature.

“We look forward to growing this partnership and offering more shared programs and events in the future,” said Steinert Borella.

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**SMU & USC**

*University Park, TX, USA  
Los Angeles, CA, USA*

High school graduates interested in attending Southern Methodist University (SMU) in University Park, Texas or the University of Southern California (USC) in Los Angeles, California have a special opportunity to spend their first semester or year studying in Switzerland at Franklin and then transfer those credits seamlessly back to their college in the States.

“Spending the first year abroad has many advantages,” said Steinert Borella.

“It broadens a student’s perspective and helps them frame their interests, expands their network of contacts, and has a lasting positive impact on the remainder of their university career and beyond.”

SMU’s Swiss International Semester permits up to 30 students to live on campus in Lugano, where they can take advantage of courses in 19 different disciplines—all taught in English—and participate in Academic Travel before entering SMU in the spring.

USC’s Trojan Transfer Plan offers students a pathway to spend their first year in Switzerland and then transfer to USC for their sophomore year. Students are assigned a Franklin academic advisor who is familiar with USC requirements and can help with course planning. “At Franklin, students get to explore many different topics through a global lens, in addition to learning or improving their language skills in French, Italian, or German,” said Steinert Borella. “The combination of an American approach to higher education with the stimuli offered by an international context provides students with a very distinctive international bridge to their studies in the States.”

//////  
**COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON**

*Charleston, South Carolina, USA*

Franklin established an exchange program with the College of Charleston (CofC) in South Carolina, thanks in part to the connections and efforts of trustee **Jay Tucker '77**, whose son attended CofC. Their Humanities and Social Science (HSS) Fellows program for academically outstanding first-year students builds a cohort in the fall and then takes that group for an international experience at Franklin during the spring semester. The first CofC cohort in spring 2019 was very successful, and a second class of 15 students arrived this January. “Visits from CofC faculty and staff to our campus have only helped strengthen the relationship and student success,” Steinert Borella said.

//////  
**UNITED NATIONS**

*Geneva, Switzerland*

Perhaps one of the most exciting partnerships of 2019 was the formation of a program with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR). Franklin students pursuing a Master of Science in International Management (MSIM) can now pursue an emphasis in Responsible Management and Climate Action.

UNITAR is a worldwide leader in providing innovative learning solutions to individuals, organizations, and institutions and is focused on implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals.

MSIM graduates will be prepared to work with organizations dealing with the realities of climate change. “The Sustainable Development Goals are going to be on the agenda of any CEO or leader for the next 20 to 30 years,” said **Carlo Giardinetti**, dean of executive education. “We want to make sure our students understand the implications of climate change from a management perspective.”

In fall 2019, the first cohort of students began the immersive one-year program with “Managing for 2030,” a course about long-term thinking in management taught on the Franklin campus by a visiting U.N. executive. Students also took part in remote calls with other U.N. officers and collaborating companies on sustainability and long-term management.

The program’s second semester delivers climate-related e-learning courses developed by UNITAR and other U.N. organizations. Students are supervised by academic advisors from Franklin and the U.N. and visit the Geneva headquarters monthly for global conferences and meetings with their advisor and top officials working on climate action. “It’s a great opportunity for our students to not only learn more about the management challenges around climate action, but also to meet leaders at the U.N. and make great potential employment connections,” Giardinetti said.



The pathway culminates with a six-week internship working with a U.N. team on a mandated climate action project. Together with entrepreneurs, business executives, and other leaders, students develop ways to bridge gaps between the goals of NGOs and the challenges of industry and government related to climate change and sustainable development. Students present a final report to a panel of U.N. and Franklin academic officials and receive a U.N. work certificate, a valuable credential on their resume.

“Individuals who can find practical, sustainable solutions to NGO issues from a business perspective that span many sectors are in high demand,” Giardinetti said. “Our students will become part of a virtuous circle that leverages educational, social, and business innovation for the benefit of humanity.”

## DELOITTE

### Zurich, Switzerland

Franklin students in the MSIM program who choose the Digital Transformation emphasis benefit from a new collaboration with multinational professional services network Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Ltd., known simply as Deloitte.

“We want to get our students truly ready for the world of work,” Giardinetti said. “The best way to ensure this happens is to partner with the ‘best in class’ in each area.” Deloitte is providing content, instructors, and speakers for two master’s courses in Digital Transformation and Design Thinking.

This collaboration was possible, Giardinetti said, because of the openness of Franklin alumnus **Adam Stanford ’91**, managing partner of Deloitte’s Swiss Consulting Practice. Also a member of the President’s Advisory Council, Stanford has deep ties to Franklin: his father, the late **Brian Stanford**, was a beloved professor from 1970 until his retirement in 2015. The elder Stanford founded the Department of Art and Art History and led many memorable

## THE ZURICH PROGRAM

**F**ranklin is expanding its educational options in Switzerland with a semester program in Zurich. Starting in fall 2020, second- or third-year university students looking for an urban European experience can take advantage of all that Zurich has to offer, while benefiting from Franklin’s liberal arts courses, international faculty, and dedicated student support.

Students can choose an emphasis in Business and Marketing or Art and Film, both areas in which the city excels. “Zurich is well-known as one of the financial capitals of the world. With more than 40 museums and galleries and a roster of major film festivals, it is also an important city for the arts and for film, offering a dynamic learning environment for students who are ambitious, creative, and inquisitive,” said **Caroline Wiedmer**, program director and professor of comparative literary and cultural studies. This will be the city’s only undergraduate semester taught entirely in English.

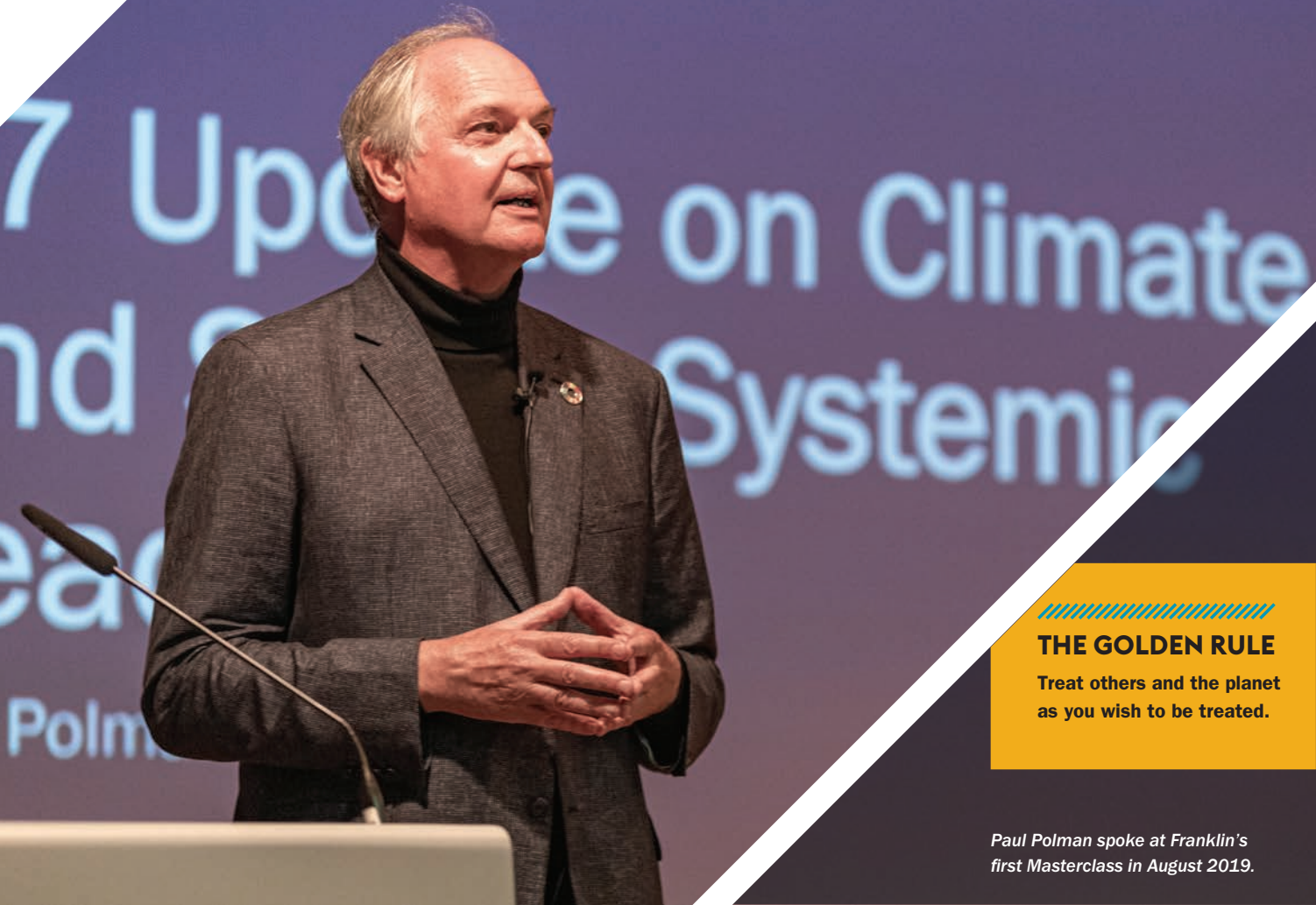
The dedicated Zurich Program room is located in a newly refurbished community building with a café and lounge in Kreis 3, a hip and culturally diverse district. Students will share fully furnished apartments with kitchens, have access to on-site student life staff, and be able to take advantage of extracurricular activities and planned excursions to nearby cities such as Basel, Bern, and Geneva.

“Franklin should have a real presence in Switzerland—hopefully in each part of the country, in time—so it is exciting that we are growing into that potential with the Zurich Program,” said Steinert Borella.

Academic Travel trips to London and Cornwall.

Students travel for this program as well, to Seoul, Korea to visit three international tech giants that are leaders in digital transformation: Samsung, Hyundai, and LG Electronics.

Finally, students undertake a six-week internship preparing a feasibility study—with the guidance of top Deloitte consultants—for new services for the City of Lugano. They earn work certificates from both Deloitte and Lugano. “It all makes for a very rich learning experience,” Giardinetti said. ■



**THE GOLDEN RULE**

Treat others and the planet as you wish to be treated.

*Paul Polman spoke at Franklin's first Masterclass in August 2019.*

# Executive and Continuing Education Expands

FRANKLIN POSITIONS ITSELF AS LIFELONG LEARNING PARTNER

BY SHANNON GORMAN



*Carlo Giardinetti, dean of executive education and global outreach*

In 2019, Franklin made great strides in developing continuing and executive education programs to engage an increasingly diverse population at all points in their lives and careers. **Carlo Giardinetti**, dean of executive education and global outreach, and **President Greg Warden** have been busy identifying and building strategic opportunities to provide innovative programming with partners around the world and right in Lugano.

## Mastering Masterclasses

Franklin's foray into offering community executive education programs through the Taylor Institute has proven very successful. Giardinetti has secured high-profile global executives and thought leaders to visit campus as Masterclass speakers addressing topics relating to sustainability and productivity in the rapidly changing business environment. The intensive full-day sessions of speakers, panel discussions,



Kate Raworth gave a presentation at the October 2019 Masterclass.

and Q&A sessions have been well attended by corporate executives, government officials, NGO representatives, social entrepreneurs, researchers, and Franklin undergraduate and master's students.

The first Masterclass in August 2019, "Leadership and the Golden Rule," featured Paul Polman, former CEO of Unilever, who recently stepped down and formed Imagine, a foundation dedicated to fighting climate change and global poverty through transformational leadership. In his address, he described his participation in the 45th G7 Summit, held in August 2019 in Biarritz, France, and his efforts to bring together the "powerful of the world" to combat climate change.

Polman and a group of panelists discussed challenges pertaining to a culture of learning, innovation, and growth

and presented a road map to activate engagement in change. Panelists included his wife, Kim Polman, who co-authored *Imaginal Cells: Visions of Transformation* with Al Gore and Mohammed Yunus and co-founded Reboot the Future, a team dedicated to building a movement of businesses and people committed to using the golden rule as a guiding principle. Other panelists were Gilbert Ghostine, CEO of socially responsible Swiss corporation Firmenich; Pio Wennubst from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation; and Jenny Assi from the University of Applied Sciences and Arts of Southern Switzerland, known as SUPSI.

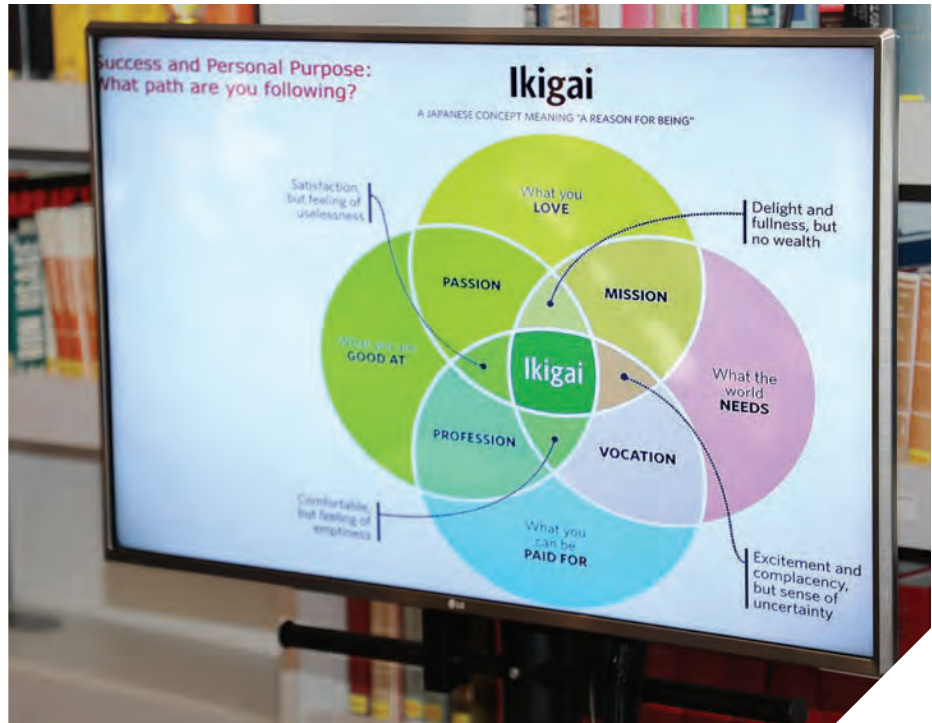
The headliner for the second Masterclass in October was economist **Kate Raworth**, who presented "Doughnut Economics: A Deep Dive into the New Economics and



Kate Raworth

Long-Term Thinking." A researcher and teacher at Oxford University's Environmental Change Institute, Raworth explained her model, "Doughnut of Social and Planetary Boundaries," which distills the challenges of climate and social well-being into a series of factors that must be brought into balance for future generations to continue to survive and prosper on this planet.

Raworth and a panel of experts moderated by Franklin and SUPSI faculty discussed the city of Amsterdam's



application of the doughnut model to work toward a series of economic objectives aimed at achieving 100% sustainability by 2050. Panelists included author and public philosopher Roman Krznaric; **Adam Stanford '91**, managing partner of Deloitte's Swiss Consulting Practice; and Giorgio Maric, director of the Urban Statistics Office for the City of Lugano. The session was moderated by Giardinetti and Luca Crivelli, director of SUPSI's Department of Business Economics, Health, and Social Care.

In keeping with the Taylor Institute's mission of identifying pathways for students, faculty, staff, corporate partners, and organizational representatives seeking innovative solutions, Giardinetti met with members of the target audience to determine topics of interest and potential speakers for future Masterclasses. This led to planning to explore the topic of sustainable finance this spring.

### Involving Alumni

Each Masterclass has been attended by a number of alumni—some local and others who traveled a far distance. Many other alumni have expressed an interest in these executive education programs, Giardinetti said, but have not been able to attend in person.

To serve this audience, Giardinetti said they are working on making the video of these Masterclasses available online to Franklin alumni around the world. Another idea in development is to hold Masterclasses abroad in conjunction with alumni events.

"Nowadays, people never stop learning. They keep going back to school for more education," Giardinetti said.

**"I want to channel my efforts toward the involvement of alumni and position Franklin not only as a source of nostalgia, but as a lifelong learning companion."**

### The Future of Work Is Now

In spring 2019, the Taylor Institute launched a bimonthly series of intergenerational learning events called the Future of Work. These evening programs are intended to gather a community of executives interested in exploring trending topics in business—such as people analytics, artificial intelligence, sustainability, and work with a purpose—from a personal development perspective. "We ask questions like, 'Why is this line of inquiry

#### THE TAYLOR INSTITUTE

was founded in 2010 to develop and manage research, graduate, and executive programs related to business and management.



## DEAN GIARDINETTI INVITED TO POPE'S GLOBAL ECONOMIC SUMMIT

**C**arlo Giardinetti, dean of executive education and global outreach, was chosen to be part of the Economy of Francesco, an international meeting of top young economists, entrepreneurs, and activists convened by Pope Francis. Originally scheduled for March 2020 in Assisi, Italy, the three-day summit will now be held in November. More than 2,000 young people from 115 countries planning to attend will be organized into 12 “villages” focusing on specific economic topics. Giardinetti will be part of the organizing and hosting team of the village working on inequalities.

The Pope, who has appealed to participants to “...enter into a ‘covenant’ to change today’s economy and to give a soul to the economy of tomorrow,” plans to attend on the final day to listen to the results of the villages’ work. The outcome is intended to inform a global economic manifesto that Pope Francis will embrace as an ambassador and lobby for in the global political arena. “This is a huge responsibility,” Giardinetti said, “and a great opportunity to represent Franklin and boost awareness of our university.”

relevant to me?’ or ‘How does this relate to my line of work?’ or ‘How am I struggling with the change on a personal level?’” Giardinetti explained.

Attendance is capped at 60 participants to preserve the ability to have in-depth conversations and create a level of bonding unusual in most networking events. “That’s why attendees keep coming back and praising the program,” he said.

The series has built a community of nearly 200 people who have attended at least one session including executives, government officials, and NGO leaders from Switzerland, Italy, France, and Germany, plus a handful of undergraduate and master’s students.

The first Future of Work event in March 2019 on “Global Macro: From Unlimited Development to the New Limited Development,” featured Enrico Sassoon, director of the *Harvard Business Review Italia*. The last session of 2019, “The 50 Shades of Grey of Digital Transformation,” included guests from Google, VF Corporation, Deloitte, and other companies.

### Educating Entrepreneurial Executives

Franklin is also offering executive education options overseas. The Taylor Institute has established a joint Executive Master of

Business Administration (EMBA) in Global Entrepreneurship with the Seoul School of Integrated Sciences and Technologies (aSSIST). The program is geared toward people in South Korea working within organizations as intrapreneurs or those planning to become entrepreneurs. “While South Korea has a high rate of innovation, the country lacks the culture or infrastructure to support entrepreneurship,” Giardinetti said. “This EMBA is intended to provide a first educating step in their development.”

Designed to be completed in 18 months, the EMBA imparts an understanding of entrepreneurial business cycles, changing business trends, a concept of leadership as responsible and collaborative, and global management skills. The program is taught partly in Korean and partly in English.

Through a collaboration formed in 2019 and announced this past February, the Franklin EMBA model will also be offered in China. While the curriculum will be coordinated by the Taylor Institute, students and faculty will share the facilities and resources of the University of Shenzhen in Guangdong. ■



# TOWARD a Sustainable Future

Franklin Community Takes Action  
to Address Climate Change

BY SHANNON GORMAN

**F**ranklin's culture of environmental awareness grows stronger every year as ideals and commitment evolve into action. In spring 2019, a group of nine students in the "Environmental Studies Capstone" class created *The Road to Carbon Neutrality: Franklin University Switzerland's Climate Action Plan*, including three strategies for the school to significantly reduce its climate impact.

Supervised by **Brack Hale**, professor of biology and environmental science, the students gathered and analyzed data on the institution's greenhouse gas emissions. "I was surprised to learn that the largest contributor by far to Franklin's carbon footprint—students commuting to Lugano from their home countries—is usually disregarded by other universities in their carbon inventories and climate action plans," said **Ava Selvig '20**. The group then identified specific mitigation strategies for Franklin to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and set targets to achieve their ideal goal of carbon neutrality by 2050.



“Creating such a comprehensive report requires a tremendous amount of planning,” said **Gabriella Muñoz ’20**. “Once we got started, it required a lot of mental endurance to work on such a long project that had many unforeseen challenges.” She recalled how the group made the auditorium their base of operations toward the end for collaborating, writing, and editing. “I don’t know that my group members would say the same, but I loved the high-stakes, high-pressure environment of that final week.”

Selvig remembered, “By this point in the semester, everyone was extremely invested in their work and the project as a whole, so to be able to finally label it as ‘done’ was a challenge.” **Cristina Biddlecome ’19** said, “I was proud of completing something that seemed impossible with such a diverse team. Students with varying backgrounds and opinions about sustainability were able to pool their strengths and produce a document of considerable magnitude.”

### Putting the Plan Into Action

The students’ 86-page report was submitted to **President Greg Warden** at the end of the semester, and the class gave a formal presentation for campus leadership. “It was very well received for the most part,” Hale said. Some recommendations found immediate traction, and when Hale followed up in the fall, President Warden expressed interest in implementing more of their ideas. Biddlecome said, “I was surprised to learn of the university’s willingness to adopt our ideas and put them into practice. This experience proved to me that it is always worth pitching an idea, no matter how far-fetched it may seem.”

The students’ three recommendations dealt with the use of solar energy; travel by students, faculty, and staff; and food consumption on campus. Franklin has already installed a number of solar panels, including on the roofs of residence halls New A and New B; the *Climate Action Plan* recommends including panels on the soon-to-be-completed multipurpose building as



*Students learn about nurturing and patience from working in Franklin’s sustainable garden.*



*Solar panels line the rooftop of the new residence buildings.*

well. The plan even evaluates and ranks eight other possible locations on campus for future solar panel installations.

### Making Travel Greener

Perhaps the most challenging aspect of creating the *Climate Action Plan* was addressing the carbon footprint from travel, including student commutes to and from Franklin, weekly staff and faculty commutes, Academic Travel, family travel to and from Franklin for graduation, and conference attendance. “We are a community of travelers: Many of our students come from a long distance away, and most come to campus with the expectation of traveling a

lot,” Hale said. “The challenge is to get the community to think about how to do that in a more climate-friendly way.”

The plan suggests as a minimal goal adopting the use of direct flights for Academic Travel courses. Moderate and ideal goals involve the allocation of carbon offsets earned through additional solar panels and the purchase of additional carbon offsets—a system of calculating the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and a corresponding price that can be invested into any project offsetting that amount of carbon. Hale and **Patrick Della Croce**, associate professor of biology and environmental science, have been doing this for all of their Academic Travel and hope to encourage the wider practice at the school.

### Shifting to Sustainable Sustenance

Finally, the class looked at the overall impact of Franklin’s food consumption in terms of energy, industry, agriculture, and land use. Their plan calls for encouraging sustainable food consumption with efforts

such as Meatless Mondays, reducing food waste, and increasing composting on campus. Hale said that Food Services has been very interested in making a shift to sourcing more food locally and including more sustainable food options.

Composting is done in conjunction with the sustainable garden on North Campus, an organic garden sprouting from a rooftop and hillside above the science labs. The composting program was started by **Professor Ann Gardiner**, the driving force behind the garden for many years. She and student volunteers planted vegetables, fruits, and herbs, and at the end of the summer, used their harvest to make meals for student leaders who came back to campus early.

**Katherine Gannon '18**, a Lifelong Learning Scholar involved with the garden during her years at Franklin, said, "Working in the garden taught me patience and how to care for and nurture something. It is also extremely satisfying to plant something, watch it grow, and eventually eat it."

### Center for Sustainable Initiatives

The garden is just one project of Franklin's Center for Sustainable Initiatives (CSI), of which Hale is a co-director. The CSI exists to improve campus sustainability through research, education, collaboration, and outreach. One opportunity has been Franklin's campus-wide observation of Earth Day, celebrated throughout April as "Earth Month." A high point of the month in 2019 was Sustainability Week, a project of the Swiss Association of Student Organizations for Sustainability that began in Zurich and has spread throughout Switzerland. Franklin participated in the first Sustainability Week Lugano in 2019, collaborating with two local universities on a number of events on campus and in the community, including panel discussions and a theatrical presentation about the global economic crisis.

The CSI was also involved in an even more widespread effort: the global climate

**Sustainable development is meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.**  
—*Brundtland Commission*

marches in September 2019. Hale and Della Croce organized a group of students to travel to Bern for the march. Swiss Railways organized special trains that went directly to Bern, with no switching necessary. The Franklin contingency joined a huge group from Lugano, and the "Climate Train" was a festive experience. "It was an amazing feeling, arriving in Bern with all these trains from around Switzerland creating this great group of people speaking German, French, Italian, and English, but with a common purpose," Hale said. "The students felt that they were participating in history being made." ■



### The Future Is in Their Hands

**These and many other students were inspired by their experiences and education at Franklin to work toward positive change in our world.**

**"I decided to pursue a master's in Organic Agriculture at Wageningen University & Research in the Netherlands. Co-writing the *Climate Action Plan* piqued my interest in food production and waste management—both of which require radical redesign."** —*Cristina Biddlecome '19*

**"As someone who is extremely passionate about climate action, I hope to be able to carry out assessments and initiate climate action plans like this one in my future career."** —*Ava Selvig '20*

**"I hope to work on the creative content team of an organization that promotes sustainable living. I'm really interested in the way that art and media can encourage sustainable, conscious living."**  
—*Gabriella Muñoz '20*

Franklin students participated in a climate march in Bern.



# FRANKLIN'S ENDOWMENT Supports Outstanding Students

BY JOELY JOHNSON

**F**ranklin's endowment provides important scholarship assistance that enables a broad range of student success and highlights the community's aims of generosity and inclusion. Scholarships are awarded to deserving students who are motivated to graduate and give back to society in the future.

Here are profiles of four current scholarship recipients who embody the Franklin values of confidence, mentorship, adventurousness, and a love of learning.

## **SIMON BRUNS '21: Confidence is key**

"A common criticism of our generation is that we are apolitical and lack the motivation to enact large-scale change. I do not think we lack motivation, but I feel that my generation does not necessarily have the confidence to do what it wants to do. Key to taking a stronger leadership role in our world would be to build confidence," said **Simon Bruns '21**.

Fortunately, confidence is something that Franklin instilled in Bruns from the start, even before he received his acceptance letter. "It was the personal attention I received as an applicant that made the difference," Bruns said. "When you apply to Franklin, you feel like a person rather than a number." Bruns also chose Franklin because of the school's European location.



"Ticino is a unique part of Switzerland that many people do not associate with the country," he said. "I was also enticed by the Academic Travel program, because I thought that it was an interesting way to incorporate what we learned in the classroom into a real-world setting."

Born in Germany, Bruns moved abroad at age 6 and has lived in Yemen, Ethiopia, Pakistan, and Thailand. A recipient of an academic merit scholarship and the Benjamin Franklin Leadership Award, he is pursuing a double major in history and economics, with an emphasis in political economy and a minor in political science.

In October 2019, Bruns was selected to participate in the esteemed Athens Democracy Forum, an annual summit of world leaders, academics, and activists convened in association with *The New York Times*. "I was encouraged to apply for this amazing opportunity by **Marcus Pyka**, chair of the History Department," Bruns said. "**Ann Gardiner**, [then head of the Writing and Learning Center], was particularly helpful in the application process and supported me by helping edit my submissions."

Witnessing powerful debates was eye-opening. "I was quite surprised by the range of speakers who attended. They even had speakers who you would not expect at a democracy forum, such as Stephen Bannon and Maria Schmidt, a historian who worked as chief advisor for the Orban government in Hungary. I appreciated that all sides were given an opportunity to voice their opinions, as this meant there was actual debate."

Thinking beyond graduation, Bruns again expressed a sense of confidence. "I know that I want to work in an international setting. I know that I want to earn a master's degree, and I am sure that Franklin has prepared me well for whichever path I decide to take."

## MARIANA LEYVA FUENTES '20: Leading through mentorship

Even before applying to Franklin, **Mariana Leyva Fuentes '20**, demonstrated the strong sense of responsibility and commitment that makes her such an asset to the school. "I have always had an altruistic spirit! I enjoy assuming leadership positions in projects that help others. Before coming to Franklin, I was president of a student association committed to creating social change, and taught English to kids in rural areas of Mexico."

Leyva Fuentes was a natural fit for the Al-Banawi Scholarship for Personal Development, which provides financial aid

to students who take on the role of peer academic and personal mentors. Leyva Fuentes mentors students to become engaged, active, and independent members of the Franklin community. "I enjoy helping fellow students develop their academic and leadership skills and reach their full potential," she said. "It always makes me happy and proud to see students grow and reach their goals. Being an Al-Banawi mentor has taught me a lot about the impact that positive leadership can have."

When making a decision on where to study, Leyva Fuentes had to make a difficult choice between Europe and the United States. "By enrolling at Franklin, I got the best of both worlds," the senior said. "I





have had a European study-abroad experience, while getting an American education. Besides, Academic Travel is a very unique Franklin advantage. Most recently, I went to Botswana and South Africa. During the 10 days, I camped, saw elephants, cheetahs, and lions, and slept under a thousand stars.”

Majoring in International Relations with a minor in Art History, Leyva Fuentes is also pursuing an additional diploma by taking part in the Franklin honors program. She is currently writing a thesis on the billionaire space race and global space governance development. “I am interested in analyzing how the emergence of private actors in the space industry can undermine current spatial law and push for the privatization and commercialization of space,” Leyva Fuentes said. “There are many issues regarding ownership, responsibility, and liability for private activities that have to be addressed. I believe the best way to regulate space is to create different governing mechanisms at the international level that include private actors when discussing policy.”

Looking toward the future, Leyva Fuentes sees herself contributing leadership at a global level.

**“I plan to make an impact on the world in the next 50 years by designing policy at the international level, in order to promote sustainable development around the world.”**

## **WILLIAM WALLACE '20: An adventurous spirit**

“At the end of high school, I was ready to go far from home and be in a completely new and different environment,” said **William Wallace '20**. “While a lot of factors drew me to Franklin, I think foremost in my mind was the adventurous aspect. Because my mother and I lived so far away from most of our family, we often traveled, and she always thought it was important for me to see new places and try new things.”

Raised in rural Redding, California, Wallace is very proud of achieving Eagle Scout rank with his local Scouts BSA troop, which contributed to his appreciation of the outdoors. He is double-majoring in Environmental Science and Political Science and double-minoring in Italian Studies and Management. “Another motivation for coming to Franklin had to do with the fact that my family had recently reconnected to our not-so-distant Italian relatives,” he said, “so learning the language, as well as other cultural cues and competencies, was a high priority for me.”

In spring 2019, Wallace was involved in the Environmental Science capstone project, which produced the FUS Climate Action Plan (*see page 46 for more*). While it is common for Franklin students with dual majors to combine their chosen disciplines into a single thesis, Wallace opted to also write a paper on Political Science. “The inspiration came from my summer 2019 internship at the U.S. Department of Energy’s Sustainability Performance Office.

I began following energy-related headlines, which led me to track the progress of a newly formed international organization called the East Mediterranean Gas Forum. My thesis uses public choice theory and political economy approaches to explore how the strategy of the forum’s member states is influencing the overall design of the organization.” Wallace credits **Roberto Cordón**, co-chair of the Department of International Relations and Political Science; **Bernd Bucher**, associate professor of political science; and **Morris Mottale**, professor of political science, as supporters and advisors for his thesis.

Wallace is a recipient of Franklin financial aid and merit scholarships, as well as the Benjamin Franklin Leadership Award. Being accepted to Franklin and also receiving the necessary aid to make it possible was a wonderful surprise. “I also owe a great deal of gratitude to the Redding Chamber of Commerce,” Wallace said, “from which I have received a scholarship each year to help support my education at Franklin.”

The closely integrated FUS community has made a large impression on Wallace. “It’s hard for me to imagine attending a school where I don’t know almost everyone by name,” he said. “More than that, our community extends far beyond [the campus].”

**As a senior, I have been meeting more alumni, and it is incredible just how much everyone cares about our community’s present, past, and future. A common phrase you hear is ‘the Franklin family.’ You get more than just friends, peers, professors, and mentors, you get another family.”**

To Wallace, the interdisciplinary mix at Franklin also provides a powerful foundation for the future. “Our students look above answers in our own fields to see larger themes and narratives that drive global affairs,” he said, “and that perspective is valuable for future managers and stewards of the world.”

## MORIAH SIMONDS '21: A lover of learning

"My mom is stay-at-home, and my dad is a general contractor, so I grew up knowing the use of hard work and the satisfaction that comes from using the tools you have been given—whether those are your hands or your mind," said **Moriah Simonds '20**. Born in San Francisco, Simonds believes that being raised in the city's arts and literature scene was instrumental in developing a love of learning that has influenced her educational path.

Like many of her peers, Simonds chose Franklin nearly by default—because of what Franklin was not. "I was committing to a university following an 8-month stint in Thailand teaching English," she said. "After having one of the most expansive experiences of my life, I realized I would never be content at a typical university in the States." Franklin's global community appealed strongly to Simonds' desire to develop and pursue new passions.

Simonds is a recipient of the Leslie Innovation Award, a financial award established by Franklin Trustee James Leslie and Norma Leslie, which helps students pursue unique projects outside of the classroom. She used the award to fund research along the Camino de Santiago in Portugal and Spain. "Instead of taking an Academic Travel course through Franklin, I designed my own," Simonds said. Her project explored how religious pilgrimage impacts the socioeconomic fabric of communities along the route. "The grant not only provided me with the means to conduct the necessary research," Simonds said, "it legitimized my identity as an academic."

Majoring in History with minors in Art History and Applied Mathematics, Simonds acts as research assistant to **President Greg Warden** as well as an academic peer

advisor. "The President and I have been working together for a year now, and I can honestly say that being his research assistant as well as an academic mentor have been invaluable experiences," Simonds said. "The opportunity to have an impact on the experience of first-year students carries high responsibility. The breadth of pedagogy that I have encountered through assisting the faculty (both President Warden and **Professor [Marcus] Pyka**) has been incredibly educational, and it is through this that I have learned how to communicate as a professor and as a peer to my fellow classmates."

Simonds plans to continue her global experience after she graduates from Franklin in 2021. "I want to teach English again, this time in Japan, while taking classes at the University of Tokyo. I am incredibly interested in ecological urbanism (designing cities to

be more energy efficient), and I hope to work in an associated field after earning an M.S. in Design Engineering and Landscape Architecture." Wherever she goes, Simonds will carry the sense of unity she gained at Franklin. "I am astounded by the quality of the relationships I have found at Franklin. Despite the disparity in cultural vocabularies, the people I am surrounded with here surpass any expectations [of connection]. It is such a beautiful thing to be loved so well." ■

The generosity of alumni donations provides powerful encouragement for students to achieve their goals at FUS and beyond. To contribute to the Franklin endowment, please visit [www.fus.edu/alumni/donate](http://www.fus.edu/alumni/donate).





## REFLECTING BACK, LOOKING FORWARD

We asked three young alumni to share their thoughts on Franklin at 50. They also had something to say about the future and how they plan to make an impact on the 50 years to come.

### SAMUEL MILLER '17

**“Now more than ever, the world needs the kind of education that Franklin offers.”**

A native of Philadelphia, Samuel Miller '17 graduated *cum laude* from Franklin with a major in History and minors in Art History and Political Science. He went on to earn a Master of Arts degree in Management of the Arts and Culture from the Catholic University of Portugal. He currently resides in Lisbon, Portugal, where he works as a writer and photographer.

“I’m delighted that Franklin is still going strong, as I’ve come to realize what a unique place it is in the academic world—and what a necessary place it is, too. Franklin manages to be exactly what the students make of it in their time there, so, in a sense, the university completely reinvents itself every few years as generations change. I think now more than ever, the world needs the kind of education that Franklin offers.

Maintaining contact with Franklin and my fellow alumni has been a priority since I graduated. I’ve done my best to give [to Franklin] what I can financially, as well as with my time and skill set. I’ve volunteered as a Franklin ambassador and done some copywriting for the Marketing Department to tell the incredible stories of our alumni around the world. I’m certainly hoping to be a bigger part of Franklin’s next 50 years.”

### ELISABETH “ELLIE” LEANING '14

**“I hope to see Franklin and my fellow alumni stay true to our radical beginnings and take a leadership role in solutions to these global issues.”**

When Ellie Leaning '14 entered the school, it was still Franklin College Switzerland. Raised in Brewster, Massachusetts, she graduated *cum laude* with a major in Environmental Studies and minors in Psychology and Comparative Literature and Cultural Studies. She later earned a master’s degree in Environmental Studies with a specialization in Advocacy for Social Justice and Sustainability from Antioch University. Currently based in South Africa, she is working on a variety of projects dealing with environmental and socioeconomic issues.

“I am extremely proud of Franklin reaching its 50th year. As part of the planning team for the first Global Alumni Reunion, I gained insight into the truly radical and humble beginnings of the school, which shaped the university today. Particularly in light of the current realities of climate change and global humanitarian crises, it’s important to revisit these roots—renegade academics demanding a different type of education.

I believe the challenge lies in disrupting the status quo without hurting people in the short term. These interests reflect my experiences at Franklin because they operate in a telescoping manner, zooming in to develop effective models of change as case studies, and then zooming out to big-picture, macro-economic and philosophical explorations of what a new world could look like. This telescoping approach is often used in Franklin classes (I’m thinking of you, **[Professor Sara Steinert Borella]**). Climate projections show a very different planet in less than 30 years, let alone 50. I hope to see Franklin and my fellow alumni stay true to our radical beginnings and take a leadership role in solutions to these global issues.”

### OLIVIA MEIRA '17

**“I believe my impact will derive from being a part of something bigger.”**

Like many Franklin alumni, Olivia Meira '17 has a cosmopolitan background. She was born in Brazil and spent 12 years in Venezuela before majoring in International Relations at Franklin. Following graduation, she returned to Brazil, where she is currently working full-time for retail leader Grupo BIG (formerly Walmart Brasil).

“Franklin reaching its 50th year is just a small step toward the bigger future in store. During my time, I saw the school grow from a college to a university. I also saw Franklin open and expand the master’s program, as well as make partnerships with other universities from around the world. If they could do all that in the span of four years, I am certain that the future will bring many more successes.

As far as my future, in the short term, I plan to continue my retail career by pursuing an MBA. In the long term, I would like to continue being an advocate for political movements that I am passionate about, including gender equality. Mainly, I believe my impact will derive from being a part of something bigger.” ■ —JJ

MESSAGE FROM

## THE VICE PRESIDENT OF ADVANCEMENT



### GREETINGS, FRANKLIN FAMILY!

**A** year ago, the best advice someone could have given me going into our 50th year would have been, “Lace up your running shoes, it’s going to be a wild ride.” It has been an amazing, truly nonstop year for Franklin, and it has also been fun and rewarding!

The groundbreaking for our new sustainable student learning and living center was a dream realized for Franklin. Even the rain that day couldn’t dampen the joy and enthusiasm. It is a privilege to help alumni and partners support the completion of this endeavor.

The excitement around our 50th year has been powerfully felt, whether on campus, traveling with **President Warden** and meeting alumni, or in conversations with our Board of Trustees. Celebrations began with a Gala at the Union League Club in New York City on November 9. The festivity raised \$1.2 million, the largest amount raised at an event in the university’s 50-year history. It was both thrilling and humbling to witness the love our alumni have for Franklin and their commitment to our students. The funds raised will support deserving Franklin students in reaching their educational goals. The university also honored our founders and reminded us of their legacy. Seeing alumni laugh and share stories and fielding questions about what more they could do for Franklin made it a life-affirming evening.

I’ve met so many of you on the road with President Warden and at alumni chapter events. I listen to your stories about Franklin’s past and hear your dreams of the future, and I am inspired. Even though you know me as a fundraiser for the university, we’ve also become friends, as we share a desire for Franklin’s prosperity.

This special 50th year will come and go, but what we have accomplished will have a tremendous impact on Franklin into the future. Thank you for your engagement and generosity, and thank you for making this the most meaningful job I have ever undertaken. Our FUS family’s global concern, generous hearts, and adventurous spirits will ensure Franklin’s continued success.

If you’d like to hear more about how you can help Franklin meet our goals, I’d love to have that conversation with you.

Thank you for sharing this wild and wonderful ride. Together, WE ARE FUS.

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anne Marie Judge".

**Anne Marie Judge**

*Vice President of Advancement*



# FRANKLIN: A Fowler Family Tradition

## LUKE FOWLER

**T**rustee Luke Fowler is proof you don't have to attend Franklin to be part of the family. His connection stretches back to Franklin's beginning, when his father Harry sat on the school's first advisory board. Two of his siblings attended, and eventually, so did his son Wyatt.

### Family Ties

Luke's older brother, **Win Fowler '74**, was a member of one of Franklin's first classes, and his sister, **Angela Fowler '75**, quickly followed. Both attended for two years, and Luke visited them in Lugano several times. About his siblings' time at Franklin, Luke said, "It opened their eyes to the world—and mine too. It made me realize there was a whole world out there to explore."

Angela's strong bond with Franklin included Luke. "She's invited me to events and kept the connection alive over the years; she's done so much for Franklin," he explained. Angela was a longtime Franklin board member and funded the major renovation of the renamed Fowler Library. Luke and his wife Rhonda joined her at the grand opening.

### The Next Generation

A generation later, Fowler got to re-experience that sense of international adventure through his son, **Wyatt Fowler '12**, who decided to attend Franklin in his senior year of college. Wyatt quickly learned to make the most of the school's location. "Switzerland is so central to everything," Luke said. "We'd get a note from Wyatt saying, 'We're going to Croatia this weekend and stopping in Venice for lunch!'"

The travel experience Wyatt gained at Franklin served him well after graduation. He worked in Costa Rica for a hostel and surf school called Room2Board. With that



insight, in San Francisco, he joined AwayCo, connecting surfers and skiers around the world with new boards and ski equipment wherever they travel, and helped open locations in Portugal, El Salvador, and Saas-Fee, Switzerland.

### Looking Back

After a career in investments and banking with JP Morgan, Luke moved to Minneapolis to help with a family business and develop a new hotel chain. While there, he served on the board of the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. "That started my connection to the development side of things," he said. "Since then, in my charitable work, I have always been involved in development." Fowler is the current development chair for Franklin's Board of Trustees.

In 2005, Luke and Rhonda moved to New York. He worked for his father's investment firm, Fiduciary Trust Company, which he had served as a board member

since 1993. There, he joined forces with two Franklins, **Kevin McNeely '73** and **Tim Darrin '75**, both from California. Together they hosted a Franklin fundraising dinner at Darrin's winery, inviting friends and clients from the Bay Area and the Napa and Sonoma valleys. "It couldn't have been more fun," Luke said.

### Being Part of the Future

Since retiring in 2019, Luke and Rhonda have enjoyed Franklin's 50th-year celebrations. He and Angela have each donated to make Franklin's new building complex a reality (*see page 56 for more*). "The building project really sets things up for long-term sustainability," he said. "With Franklin's expansion in the sciences and new graduate programs, it's an exciting time—and the perfect time to focus on building Franklin's endowment and scholarship programs so the school can continue to prosper." ■ –SG

# GROWING INTO OUR OWN

## CAMPUS COMPLETION IN SIGHT

**A**s current students and Lugano-based staff members are aware, there has been a long period of noisy excavation taking place along Via Ponte Tresa, not far from the Grotto. All of that digging is for a good reason, however—the creation of an underground parking garage and a new multi-use building slated for completion in summer 2021.

“In anticipation of the upward trend in the student population, several years ago we purchased this tract of land adjacent to the Kaletsch Campus,” said **President Greg Warden**. “The architects (most recently Flaviano Capriotti Architetti) developed a project to be completed in three phases that would provide additional housing for up to 142 students.” The completed facility will be an enhancement to campus that will serve Franklin students for decades to come.

The building project began with the construction of two modern student residences, now referred to as New A and New B, which were completed in 2007. Located a short distance from both campuses, the new residences provide students with an updated living environment plus easy access to shopping and public transportation. “In the past, we had to rent apartments for some students,” recalled Franklin Trustee **Cabell Goolsby West '65**. “Now we own the property, and that [rent] money will come back into the school.”

The groundbreaking ceremony for the third phase took place in May 2019. At the celebratory event, President Warden announced a transformative lead gift of \$4 million from an anonymous donor in support of the project. President Warden remarked, “This landmark donation is the largest single contribution in the 50-year history of Franklin. Because of the generosity





A rendering of the finished building shows the glowing glass windows that make up the “Tower” and first-floor facade.

of this donor and others, we are able to make this exciting project a reality, and for that, we are extremely grateful.” The gift immediately brought the school halfway to the \$8 million fundraising goal for the project.

The new building complex will be unique in many ways. The main facade has been designed to resemble the fore edge of a book, denoting education and learning. Structural glass windows on both the ground floor of the façade and the elliptical structure called “the Tower” will create a feeling of lightness and a dramatic effect at night. The opaque glass will let light emanate from the structure, while still providing privacy.

The large glass surface area, however, creates sustainability challenges. To improve efficiency, the “Tower” will be encased by a system of mechanical louvers programmed to move and adjust during the day, sheltering the structure from excessive sunlight and heat. Additionally, the louvers will have a photovoltaic surface that will manufacture energy for the complex. Franklin has been working with its architectural team and SUPSI to create this innovative sustainable solution, the first of its kind in Switzerland.

The building will include an auditorium



President Warden speaking at the groundbreaking event.

with flexible partitions, a gym, faculty offices, and additional student apartments. Present at the groundbreaking, Cabell is excited about the communal aspect of the facility. “Having a gathering space for students to come together and talk about what they think and what they believe is a key component for unification of a school community,” she said. “It’s the heart of a school.” ■ —JJ

Private donations from FUS alumni, friends, parents, and others provide the margin of excellence at Franklin. To contribute, please visit [www.fus.edu/alumni/donate](http://www.fus.edu/alumni/donate).

What we keep, we lose; only  
what we give remains our own.

## Keeping by Giving in a Global World

### CABELL GOOLSBY WEST '65

**F**ranklin University Switzerland Trustee **Cabell Goolsby West '65** knows a lot about about dreaming big, taking chances, and giving back. As a student at an Episcopal all-girls school in Richmond, Virginia in the 1950s, she realized she had only two real options for a career: teaching or nursing. "I was unusual in that I clearly did not want to go into either of those fields," Cabell recalled. "I already knew I wanted to major in business."

Her father passed away when she was 9 years old, and her mother raised three children on her own. "She taught sewing at St. Catherine's School so my sister and I could attend for free, and my brother was at an affiliated boys' school. My mother wrote a society column for the newspaper and also started a debutante business in Richmond. She was an entrepreneur." Her perseverance inspired Cabell's later drive for success.

#### Brazen ambition

One day at school, she heard a college counselor speak about traveling the world looking for placements for her students. "She had visited the American School in Switzerland (TASIS) and met Mrs. Fleming [founder of TASIS and Fleming College, both predecessors of FUS]," Cabell said. "The day I heard her speak, I went home and told my mother that's where I was going. I wasn't staying with only girls for the rest of my life. I wanted to travel and see the world and the different people in it."

In response to her adolescent proclamation that she would be attending a gap-year school in Europe, her mother advised her to find a job. "I took the bus downtown to a department store where a neighbor I knew worked. I just knocked on her door and said, 'I need a job,' and she hired me—I guess because I was so brazen!" There was



a catch, however; at only 15 years old, Cabell was underage to work. She needed to go before a judge with her mother in order to accept the job of secret shopper, for which she would be paid to visit various store locations and report on the sales associates' demeanor and skill.

Taking that position set Cabell in the right direction. "Did my salary pay my way to school? No, but I was doing my part, and my mother picked up the rest." The department store job ultimately paid off even more meaningfully, in the form of inspiration. "I got exposed to retail, and I enjoyed it," she said. "I also saw that women in business could move ahead and be promoted. That was the lightbulb that went off. I eventually ended up building a career in retail."

#### The stars aligned

Cabell found a few compatriots on her path to Switzerland. A longtime friend applied to TASIS, as did another girl whose cousin lived in Richmond. "The stars were just in

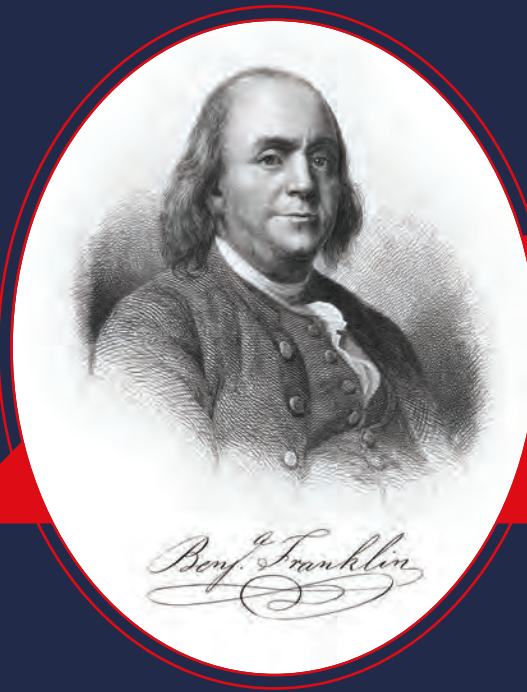
alignment," she reminisced. When the TASIS-bound students gathered at the port of New York to embark for Switzerland by ship, Cabell's horizons were already expanding. "There were 100 students from all over the United States, both boys and girls." She remembers waving goodbye to her mother as she and her friends set sail. "That's when the tears came."

Classes and lectures started right on board during the 2-week crossing. "I had never heard the Italian language before," Cabell said, "but we had to speak it when we sat together for meals. That was one of the ways we got to know each other."

The variety of fellow students was a revelation. "We live in a global world now, but I wasn't very experienced in that then," she said. Academic Travel was a tradition at TASIS, as it has continued to be at Franklin. "We visited all the common-market countries, and it was boots-on-the-ground learning about how the common markets could affect each country," she said. A two-week trip brought Cabell to Moscow, Leningrad, East Berlin, and West Berlin. "We saw how communism worked, and appreciated the freedom [of our own country] and what democracy really means."

#### Only what we give remains our own

Cabell attended the TASIS program in 1965. She then went on to graduate *cum laude* with a Bachelor of Science degree from Virginia Commonwealth University. It was when she attended St. Catherine's as a girl, however, that she learned the motto she has always kept close to her heart: "What we keep, we lose; only what we give remains our own." Her lifelong attitude of generosity has placed her in Franklin's Villa Cirila Associates giving level. By making



**“An investment in knowledge pays the best interest.”**

—BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, diplomat, philosopher, author, inventor, and philanthropist.

gifts in each of the past 50 years, she is also a distinctive member of the Franklin World Citizen Club.

Remaining connected to many of her TESIS classmates and Franklin alumni is important to Cabell. She loves spreading the word about Franklin, frequently accompanying admissions staff members to college fairs in her area and hosting dinners introducing them to local college counselors and students. Twenty-two years ago, Cabell was nominated to join the Franklin Board of Trustees, and has served reliably in that capacity ever since. “I am in Lugano at least once a year for the Annual Meeting,” she said, “I leave Richmond on a Thursday, and I can be at the school by 10 am the next day ready for a meeting. I stay for graduation on Sunday, and return home on Monday.”

Time spent at TESIS was a powerful force that ultimately drove Cabell’s career. “My travel experience at Franklin opened the door for me to eventually design and buy handbags all over the world for a consortium of major fashion department stores,” she said. “I would be in Italy, Israel, Korea, or Brazil at any given time of the year. I believe that my professional career would not have happened or been as successful without the gift of the broad confidence, experiences, and knowledge given to me as a Franklin student. I continue to use these talents that I received from Franklin in my retirement.”

Cabell said that Franklin is part of her life forever. She made that commitment official with a planned gift to Franklin. “I don’t think people plan far enough ahead,” she said. “That’s the reason I am leaving a gift in my will. I could never pay them enough for what they have given me. What I want is to see FUS blossom for many generations to come.” ■ —JJ

# WISDOM. FORWARD THINKING. GENEROSITY. COMMITMENT TO CHANGING LIVES FOR THE BETTER.

*These are qualities associated with Benjamin Franklin and shared by people who make planned gifts.*

If you are considering a legacy gift to Franklin University Switzerland, we encourage you to share your intentions with us, so we can help you choose the type of gift that is right for you.

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# “This place changes your world”

JENNIFER BERG '76



**A**sk this alumna about building an international banking career when few women worked in the field, and she can trace a line straight back to Switzerland.

“Franklin strongly influenced my decision to live and work in London,” explained **Jennifer Berg '76**. “This place changes your world in a profound way and gives students the confidence to feel comfortable in just about any international setting.”

## Independence through Travel

For Berg, confidence grew with freedom. “I vividly recall being at the Lugano train station with my backpack, Interrail pass, and youth hostel card, looking up at the train schedule and realizing I can go anywhere I

want!” She traveled almost every weekend, visiting Italy, former Yugoslavia, Greece, Scandinavia, and beyond.

After convincing Williams College to extend her Franklin semester to a full year, she participated in Academic Travel in Prague and designed an independent study on Jung, taking several classes at the Jung Institute in Zurich. Another favorite memory is hitching a ride with a Franklin cohort to the Interlaken Olympics and somehow talking their way into the U.S. vs. Russia hockey playoffs.

Berg packed her year at Franklin with academic and independent travel and returned to Williams College for her senior year. She later went to Yale University for a master’s in Public and Private Management.

## Investing in Change

Berg took positions at three prominent investment banks working primarily with institutional clients. That Franklin confidence served her well when she was asked to build a global product from London and was then asked to create the company’s first diversity network with another female managing director.

The group, named “AllBarNone” after a nearby pub, was initially focused on retention and promotion of female talent. They successfully created an annual conference for women. In its third year, to accentuate the value of gender diversity, they invited a handful of male managing directors to experience being a minority. “AllBarNone hopped the pond and has since become a big deal in the U.S.,” Berg said.

## Focus on Franklin

Berg now splits her time between New York City and Vail, Colorado. She sits on several boards but devotes much of her time as an involved Franklin trustee, adding value to that group. “The skills I picked up during 30 years in banking were more varied and valuable than I thought.”

She has especially enjoyed Franklin’s 50th-year celebrations. “It’s been wonderful renewing friendships with classmates and professors while meeting alumni spread across more than 70 countries,” Berg said. “It’s been a time to reflect on the impact that Franklin had on every one of us.”

She hopes the anniversary will spur more alumni to get involved in Franklin’s future. “The challenge is to give back to the university that gave us so much and help ensure a celebration of its 100th year!” ■ –SG

# REPORT of GIVING

ANNUAL REPORT

JULY 1, 2018 TO JUNE 30, 2019

## The Franklin University Switzerland Villa Society

Franklin's leadership gift society, the **Villa Society**, offers annual membership to alumni, parents, and friends who make a gift of \$1,000 or more. The Society was founded to recognize the critical difference leadership gifts make and to thank these donors for their special commitment to the University. Annual membership and recognition is based on an individual's personal gifts and corporate matching gifts received in a single fiscal year.

## The Franklin World Citizen Club\*

The **Franklin World Citizen Club** recognizes loyal, annual giving to Franklin at any gift level. When a donor has given a gift to Franklin five fiscal years in a row, or every year since graduation for young alumni, the donor becomes part of the Franklin World Citizen Club. The membership will continue as long as the donor continues to give each fiscal year. This recognition of alumni, parents, and friends who show a special commitment to Franklin was created to acknowledge outstanding, yearly dedication to the school.

Franklin gratefully acknowledges all alumni, parents, and friends who contributed during the 2018-2019 fiscal year.

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# CLASS NOTES

## 1974

**Sandra Washburn** is the founder of Oysters & Pearls, a Uganda-based educational NGO. Her story can be seen on YouTube at [tiny.cc/oysterpearls](https://tiny.cc/oysterpearls).

**Peter Lilienthal** sold his company HOMER Energy to global safety science giant UL in December. Peter writes, “Franklin was instrumental in launching me on an international career path that ultimately led to HOMER Energy being one of the leading companies helping developing countries provide electricity access to underserved communities. I’m sorry that I will miss the reunion.”

## 1976

**Margaret Van Vliet** is living in Denver, Colorado and working for a nonprofit. She would love to see fellow alumni.

## 1978

**Deamer Dunn** published his 16th book in 2019. Equally exciting was the TV adaptation of the first book in Deamer’s series including recurring character chef Omar T. Black. Voyage Media and producer Daniel Schnider are marketing it with actors, studios, production companies, and showrunners. Deamer writes, “Fingers and toes crossed that someone joins us in taking the project to the next level. Know anyone?”

## 1981

**Patty (Soble) Cali** writes, “I had the chance to visit Lugano in summer 2018, and it was such a huge treat! I’d be thrilled to let fellow Frankliners know that I can be of help to them should anyone find their way to Malibu or any of the surrounding areas. Buying, selling, or leasing, it would be a pleasure to be of help.”

## 1982

**Robin Huntington** has relocated back to her home state of New York—this time in Old Chatham, a lovely, horsey community east of the Hudson River. Robin begins anew her acupuncture practice, while now living in closer proximity to family.



## 1983

**Molly Hays** (*above*) visited campus in February 2019 with her daughters Alysa and Lilly. Molly writes, “We had a great trip visiting Franklin and were so impressed and excited to see the new campus and all the growth at the school! It was a wonderful journey for me to return and reminisce on my time in Lugano and share that with my daughters. The charm of Lugano still captures my heart. I can’t wait to return.”

## 1989

**Scott Licamele** attended the School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA) at Columbia University after Franklin, where he specialized in Russian-related matters. Scott recently gave a lecture at the Harriman Institute at SIPA on U.S. foreign policy to Russia, as part of their Program on U.S.-Russia Relations.

## 1992

**Andreaa Porcelli** has been running her own investment banking/financial relations firm for 23 years. Specializing in bringing U.S. companies to Europe for institutional financing and stock exchange listings, her firm has represented more than 400 companies, including Twitter in their last private equity round. Based in New York, Las Vegas, and Italy, Andreaa’s company, Swiss Growth Forum, acts as a bridge between European capital and North American growth companies. Andreaa writes that one, if not both, of her children plan on applying to Franklin. They are currently attending high school in Manhasset and will graduate in 2021 and 2022.

## 1993

**Nadia Allam** (*below*), former Alumni Council trustee, visited Franklin in April 2019 with her husband Dimitri. Nadia is a professional certified coach and has founded Core Cultivator LTD to help people reach goals that truly matter to them. She was invited to present at the Higher School of Economics in Moscow and does pro bono coaching for the National Health Service Leadership Academy in the United Kingdom and Save the Children UK. She is also working toward a master’s degree in Neuroscience and Psychology at King’s College London.



## CLASS NOTES



### 1994

**Matti Lilljegen** founded Nordic m2 Investment AB, a company that invests in the Swedish real estate market, located in Stockholm and Örebro. Matti currently lives in Stockholm with his wife Susanna and children Charles, 20, and Filippa, 15.

### 1995

**Elizabeth Oxley** (Carolyn Kribbs) received her B.A. in Literature from Georgetown University in 1999 and is now a poet in Longmont, Colorado. She recently won a competition for her poem, "After April Rain." Franklin is mentioned in her bio at [www.frontierpoetry.com/2019/10/30/poetry-elizabeth-oxley/](http://www.frontierpoetry.com/2019/10/30/poetry-elizabeth-oxley/). Elizabeth is currently applying to Trinity College Dublin for a master's degree in Creative Writing. More about her writing can be found at [www.ElizabethOxley.com](http://www.ElizabethOxley.com).

### 2001

**Tamer Atia** and **Majda Dakkak '15** married in 2017 and had a baby girl, Ayla, in May 2019, who they say is a future Frankliner as well.



### 2004

**Johanna Porr Yaun** (above) and her husband Douglas visited Lugano while on vacation in Europe and took a tour of campus; Johanna wanted her husband to see the school that she has often reminisced about. They visited family near Rome, Italy and then traveled to the Bernese Oberland region of Switzerland. Johanna is employed as Orange County Historian in New York's Hudson Valley.

### 2005

**Selin Erdem** recently moved to Montreal, Quebec. She has a three-year-old son and a 10-month-old daughter.

**Falguni (Vyas) Smith** (below) married Gareth Smith on December 29, 2018 on the beach in Goa, India. They moved from Atlanta to New York City and even managed to sneak in a quick trip to Lugano and Valle Verzasca between work and settling into their new home.





## 2006

**Rachel (Hill) Laureyns** was married last June. Many Franklin alumni friends attended the wedding, making it practically a reunion in itself.

*Pictured above, left to right: Christopher Tung '06, David Stein '05 and his wife Zhenya, Freddie Middelstaedt '05 and Sivieta (Mejia) Middelstaedt '06, Evan Hanrahan '04 and his wife Annie, Jarett Gilbert '07, Max Budnikov '07, Christine (Nitescu) Bradford '06, and Nicole (Frei) Barton '06.*

## 2009

**Timothy Eachus** was married to his husband Logan Arrowood on October 12, 2019 in Acadia National Park on Mount Desert Island in Maine.

## 2012

**Ryan McCarthy** was so busy at Franklin eating sandwiches at Val Fiorita, sampling local beverages, and hiking the mountains of Ticino that he forgot to think about what he wanted to do after Franklin. He bought a one-way ticket out of town after graduation and migrated around the world, traveling to the Middle East and teaching English, living in Brooklyn and being a hipster, and joining the Peace Corps in Central Asia where he explained to locals why he wasn't married, frequently drank rehydration salts, and occasionally wrote grants. He gained so much experience in migrating that he received a master's degree in the subject from DePaul University. Ryan now lives by the beach in sunny Southern California and works as an asylum officer, which means he gets to work with migrants every day.

## 2014

**Nick Basile** and **Hillary Halik** welcomed their daughter, *Beatrix (below)*, into the world in May 2019.



**Charlotte McKernan** completed a master's degree in Architecture and is currently sitting for her exams while pursuing architectural licensure in the U.S.

## 2016

**Marina Lorenzini** is currently pursuing a Master of Arts in Law and Diplomacy at the Fletcher School at Tufts University. She is concentrating in International Negotiation and Conflict Resolution, as well as Southwest Asia and Islamic Civilization.

## 2017

**Alyssa Wilson** recently finished a short-term contract in New York with the U.S. Mission to the U.N. She is currently at the OSCE Presence in Albania completing an internship and will be heading to NATO's headquarters in Brussels in September.

## 2018

**Shannon Fennell** moved to Denver, Colorado in June 2019 and has been working as an education coordinator for college admission experts Crimson Education. A recent success was one of her students receiving an acceptance from Oxford University.

## IN MEMORIAM

**HEATHER FRANK '09** passed away on August 9, 2019 surrounded by her loved ones after succumbing to complications of a rare neurological disease. She was a native of San Mateo, California. She earned her B.A. in International Management from Franklin in 2009, followed by a master's in International Education Management at Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey. For the last four years, Heather was a respected and admired employee at LinkedIn. She was also an international educator with a passion for diversity and inclusion. Heather is survived by her parents, sister, brother, and extended family.

## IN MEMORIAM

### ANN GARDINER

**Professor Ann Gardiner** passed away unexpectedly on September 22, 2019. Perhaps most fondly remembered as the caretaker of Franklin's sustainable garden, she nurtured much more than just the plants that bloomed under her care. She cultivated an awareness of both sustainable living on campus and the continual growth of students. Gardiner chaired the committee on Student Learning and Outcomes Assessments and, as a thesis advisor, mentored countless students in her 11 years at Franklin. A lecturer in the Department of Languages, Literature, and Cultures, she taught many classes in writing and also directed the Writing and Learning Center. In a letter to the Franklin community, President Warden said, "We could not have asked for a better colleague and friend. She will be sorely missed."

The sustainable garden that gave Professor Gardiner such joy and satisfaction will be dedicated in her honor. The ceremony has been postponed to the Global Alumni Reunion in May 2021 so that alumni as well as the Franklin community can join in celebrating her life.

### Ann Gardiner Scholarship Fund

A scholarship fund has been established in Professor Gardiner's name. To inquire or contribute, contact Anne Marie Judge, vice president for advancement, at US +1 212 922 9650 or [advancement@fus.edu](mailto:advancement@fus.edu).

**"I think gardens have great things to teach you about the world: commitment, patience (which I would connect with commitment), and a certain peaceful mindfulness that you don't necessarily get in the world of social media that we have today."**

—Ann Gardiner

# LAST LOOK



**“DOST THOU LOVE LIFE?  
THEN DO NOT SQUANDER TIME,  
FOR THAT’S THE STUFF  
LIFE IS MADE OF.”**

*—Benjamin Franklin*



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