

SPRING 2023

THE FRANKLIN GAZETTE

THE MAGAZINE OF FRANKLIN UNIVERSITY SWITZERLAND

FRANKLIN DIALOGUES

A CONVERSATION WITH
PRESIDENT SAMUEL MARTÍN-BARBERO
THE FIFTH PRESIDENT OF
FRANKLIN UNIVERSITY SWITZERLAND



GRADUATING CLASS OF 2023 CELEBRATION
HOTEL VILLA PRINCIPE LEOPOLDO

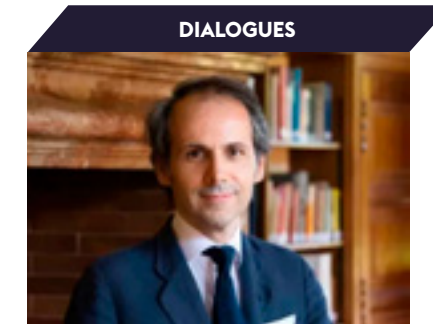
THE JOURNEY OF FINDING
YOUR PLACE IN THE
WORLD IS UNIQUE, AND
FRANKLIN IS PROUD TO
CONTRIBUTE TO THAT.



THE FRANKLIN GAZETTE

THE MAGAZINE OF FRANKLIN UNIVERSITY SWITZERLAND

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THE FRANKLIN GAZETTE

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

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MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR



WHAT IS A UNIVERSITY, AND WHAT IS ITS PURPOSE?

The world is filled with many examples of universities going in different directions. On one hand, there is the traditional knowledge-based university, typical of Europe. On the other hand, modern outlets are encircling more aspects of a student's life in their education models. And then there is Franklin, in its uniqueness. Let us see why Franklin is such a special place.

Our dual accreditation, Swiss and American, allows us to tap from the traditions of two of the best countries in higher education. When you come to Franklin as a student, you do not have to choose between an American and a Euro-Swiss approach because they have both at your disposal, while being immersed in one of the most international melting pots that a university can offer.

Franklin is also student centric. There are very few universities where students are an active part of the nervous system of the institution. Student voice-building is facilitated by students' continuous contact with faculty and staff. Everyone is on a first-name basis, and this is not just a superficial label, but a clear sign of belonging to the same family.

Furthermore, you never cease being a student at Franklin because the family feeling continues, as strongly as ever, with and among alumni. Maintaining relationships with our alumni is one of our greatest strengths, and this Gazette proves it. They are role models, supporters, guides, and we are happy that, after the pandemic hiatus, in-person encounters could resume.

We also must not forget the value of our liberal arts DNA. Our curriculum bases its roots in Europe and has been perfected by America. We do not limit knowledge to mere technicism, but we nurture critical thinking, values, and discourse, all assets that are essential for being a leader. And the success of our ever-growing alumni population is evidence that our model works.

This past academic year witnessed many important changes, the most important one being the appointment of **President Samuel Martín-Barbero** as Franklin's fifth President. You can read his interview on page 4. President Martín-Barbero has a deep knowledge of the higher education landscape worldwide and has embarked on a strategic plan that motivates and leverages all members of the Franklin Community forward. Stay tuned by visiting our website and social media and by reading our monthly newsletter to monitor our progress.

Another important milestone this year was the naming ceremony of the McNeely Center of Ideas & Imagination and the Giardino di Luce. It was named the McNeely Center of Ideas & Imagination to recognize the significant contributions that **Rosemary McNeely and Kevin McNeely** have made over the years to Franklin. You all know that Kevin is an alumnus ('73), and his multifaceted contributions have had a significant impact on Franklin's development. He was justly awarded an honorary degree during the commencement ceremony that took place last May. The Giardino di Luce (Garden of Light) was made possible by the generosity of **Nora McNeely Hurley, '81**. It will be a place to congregate, meditate, and relax for students for years to come.

At Commencement, we were particularly proud that **Dr. Ignazio Cassis**, Switzerland Federal Councillor, and Foreign Minister, delivered a heartfelt and strategic keynote address, and thereafter he mingled with students, parents, faculty and staff. This occasion marked an important moment of recognition of our role in the Swiss Higher Education landscape.

Our journey continues. Next year, Franklin University Switzerland will see additional milestones that will make our great university even greater. The Franklin journey is a lifelong one for all those who embark on it: we all give and receive, and our collectivity is much greater than the sum of each individual.

DAVIDE GAI
Director of Marketing and Strategy



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“ WE SHOULD RETURN TO THE ROOTS OF OUR INSTITUTION TO ADVANCE AND COMPETE AT A GLOBAL LEVEL IN LIBERAL EDUCATION, SERVING OUR STUDENTS’ NEEDS, ABILITIES AND DREAMS. ”

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A CONVERSATION WITH
PRESIDENT SAMUEL MARTÍN-BARBERO
THE FIFTH PRESIDENT OF
FRANKLIN UNIVERSITY SWITZERLAND
BY STINGHOUSE CREATIVE

During his 2022 Convocation speech, **President Samuel Martín-Barbero** invited the Franklin community to recognize and express gratitude towards those unwavering supporters who are always there. He reflected on a mentor who influenced his past and left an indelible mark on his present. Someone who he described as a great friend and a “lighthouse of values and actions.” That speech was for many in our community a first “taste” of his thinking and approach.

We sat with President Martín-Barbero - Samuel, as he insisted we call him - for a wide ranging conversation on topics such as his road to Franklin, his vision for our institution and for the future of learning and work, his collaborative leadership style - he describes his colleagues as his “co-pilots,” and a peek into who he is as a person, beyond his extensive university leadership credentials.



“ We have the potential to become a bridge between the global south and the global north within the higher education spectrum in which we operate. ”



Your career has taken you from your native Madrid, to Miami, and now to Lugano. How have these stops shaped you?

I attribute my identity and success to my parents, who made significant sacrifices to provide their children with an outstanding education. Their legacy is invaluable to me, and I cannot think of Spain without thinking of them.

As for Miami, it's something that it's not really known for; it offers a raw experience of nature, where one feels connected to the basic elements of life and the environment.

One thing I admire about Switzerland is the institutionalization of freedom and civic responsibility. There is no judgment of where you come from. Civic responsibility, individual privacy and respect are ingrained in the mixed cultural identity. This incredible sense of peace, safety and freedom is unique to Switzerland.

You're surrounded by students and faculty from 55+ countries. Have you picked up any phrases or idioms?

There is a particular Italian word that I love, which is **salve**. Salve is a very Roman word, and it has many meanings; it's like a "protecting hello." You can say it at any time of the day. It's not like the usual greetings like "Buongiorno" or "Buonasera." It's an elegant, civilized and musical word that I incorporated into my vocabulary.

Tell us about your journey to Franklin.

I had the opportunity to virtually discover Franklin around 10 to 12 years ago. Given my European university background, exposure to U.S. higher education and strong advocacy for Liberal Arts Education, it felt like a natural fit for me. I was attracted to Franklin based on its size, student profile and interculturalism. The opportunity aligned with my personality, curiosity, and what I value the most in higher education institutions.

What has surprised you since you arrived?

I have been most impressed by the strong educational vocation and passion of our faculty, and the Franklin community's sense of belongingness.

In a recent interview you described two other local institutions as allies rather than competitors. How do you view Franklin's role in the Swiss context?

The first time I heard someone suggest that higher education institutions should view each other as allies rather than competitors was at the Times Higher Education Conference at NYU last year. I prefer the term "ally" because when it comes to public institutions, we are not competing in terms of funds, resources, infrastructure, or educational mission. We all have different roles to play in society and our regions. However, we can add value by working closely together rather than trying to outdo each other in areas where the other excels. Being part of the higher education sector means making strategic and educational choices that benefit the system and our students.

Tell us about the 3 "Vs," values, viability and visibility, that guide your thinking.

Visibility is crucial for us. We are an American-style liberal arts institution in the midst of public research-intensive and comprehensive universities like the Polytechnic Institute of Zurich, where Albert Einstein studied over a century ago. Our institution was founded 53 years ago with a different purpose, content, and approach to education. Visibility is not only about reaching out to external stakeholders, new constituencies, the public, but also inward-looking. Therefore, I think of visibility as a two-way street, focused both outwards and inwards. We must make Franklin much more visible in the sphere in which we operate, to ensure we're seen and recognized. Being part of the Global Liberal Arts Alliance, American Universities Abroad, and other associations helps us in this regard.

In terms of **viability**, we are a small and efficient operation; as I like to say, a "slim fit" institution where every decision and resource matters. We are mindful of our priorities and work hard to maintain our competitive advantage in higher education, while also being conscious of the need for sustainable growth and institutional advancement to support our students' wellbeing and development.



Additionally, finding alternative revenue streams requires careful consideration to avoid any collateral impact on our institution's identity and Liberal Arts DNA. We need to be strategic-minded in a constructive sense, prudent and proactive in seeking out the financial support we need.

Lastly, in terms of **values**, it's not just about agreeing on universal principles, but ensuring that we live and breathe those values in our daily lives. Bridging the gap between our values and our actions towards our work is essential. It requires a certain mentality to demonstrate that we practice what we preach in all aspects of our institution.

You have written about the impact of the pandemic on liberal arts education, and the potential of alternative countries and universities in this context. Can you tell us more?

I've seen examples of liberal arts institutions in the "global south," in Pakistan, India, Ghana, and Kenya to name a few, that have adapted to their specific cultural, regional, and socio-economic contexts, and I believe we can learn a lot from them. It's impossible not to feel amazed by the beauty of those institutions. They're spaces of innovation, of re-creation, that could shape the future of liberal arts education. We have been exporting the Western model for more than a century and it's time to move beyond the conventional paradigm and look for new approaches.

So, how does this relate to Franklin? Our student body is quite diverse, with 50% of students coming from the US and another 50% coming from other regions like the Middle East, North Africa, and Eastern Europe. These students have extraordinary and diverse priorities and perspectives, different life philosophies, different sensitivities, so it makes sense for us to academically curate our curriculum, learning methodology, and career readiness to their backgrounds and international ambitions. As an institution located in the heart of Europe, we have the potential to become a bridge between the global south and the global north within the higher education spectrum in which we operate. That used to be an intuition I had, and now it's much more of a conviction.

What would you like your legacy at Franklin to be?

I'd like to leave Franklin having contributed to it becoming the best version of itself. For me, that means a focus on increasing accessibility for young global talent, integrating a human-centric approach, and encouraging interdisciplinarity across the curriculum. I think it is crucial for any higher education institution to bring in students from all walks of life to fulfill its educational mission. I also consider we are in a unique situation to bring a humanistic outlook to global leadership in the public and private spheres. Leaders should rely on humanities and liberal arts as a way to develop a new vision and understanding of society's changing nature. I believe that institutions like Franklin can help connect with global leaders and become a part of the decision-making process to bring a more human-centric approach to the world's transformation.

We also need to be much more explicit around the virtues of **interdisciplinarity in Liberal Arts Education** as the integration and not the aggregation of knowledge. Academic institutions must find ways to help students connect knowledge and competencies across disciplines. For example, physics can relate to history, literature can relate to math, and computer science can easily integrate with visual arts. I envision a more flexible and open-minded approach where professors from different areas co-teach or collaborate in creating courses that challenge students to tackle 21st century problems. This shift requires a reform in pedagogy too. While feasible, it will take time and effort to achieve.

That's quite an ambitious task ahead of you and your team...

I believe it's important for all of us at Franklin to find joy in the journey towards perfection, even though perfection may not be achievable. The goal is to get as close as possible to it, and in doing so, transform Franklin into a modern institution that others can follow and be inspired by. It will require incremental improvements, doing new things, and sometimes stopping certain things in order to start others. This metamorphosis should involve everyone and allow them to feel ownership of the new Franklin, making every person feel valued and contributing to the collective effort. It's not about creating policies or mandates, but about creating an atmosphere of inclusion. Ultimately, it's a shared responsibility and effort to make this institution better.

“ I have been most impressed by the strong educational vocation and passion of our faculty, and the Franklin community's sense of belongingness. ”



How did higher education become a calling for you?

Overall, obtaining a PhD and entering into the university realm was a transformative experience that allowed me to connect with myself and my passions in a new way. It opened my eyes to the fact that my personality and desire to connect with people from different backgrounds and latitudes was possible through higher education institutions. Later, several administrative and leadership positions helped me realize the relevance, responsibility, and impact of institutions of higher learning with respect to our new generations.

What is the promise of higher education and what is its greatest threat?

Mental health is the most challenging aspect for the future of higher education. How can we fulfill the purpose of imparting wisdom or conducting research, which are the hallmarks of higher education, while also ensuring the well-being of students? To address this issue, we should return to the roots of education and prioritize the human being at the epicenter of everything we do. This will result in a more holistic and intentional curriculum that emphasizes the care and attention that institutions give to students and their personal circumstances.

What is the role of humanities in a world dominated by STEM?

I believe the trend is quite clear. STEM fields are in high demand, and policymakers are encouraging universities to focus on those areas. This concerns me because it leads to extremes, such as new companies in Silicon Valley hiring people without bachelor's degrees and then training them on the job. Universities such as ours should not be distracted from their mission in enhancing human capacities and abilities for a global and complex world. It's important to have a humanistic approach to innovation, to openly debate these issues, and to engage in their application in the workplace.

The term "Lifelong Learning" (LLL) most commonly refers to acquiring digital, analytical, and quantitative skills to remain employable. You have a different interpretation. Tell us about it

Lifelong learning is something I am passionate about. It involves developing habits and an attitude that can be applied both within and outside a university setting. However, adult learning, particularly within elite universities, is a neglected area. I recently read that the generations being born right now in developed countries are expected to live to 125 years old or more, meaning they may have many more years of learning, working, self-employment, or intrapreneurship. It is important that universities make a commitment to lifelong learning to re-engage with their students later in life, not just for business purposes, but to fulfill their mission as educational institutions.

What is your motto?

Rejuvenating curiosity. Sometimes we become fixated on what we know from experience, but there is joy and fulfillment to be found in ignorance and unexpected spaces (mental and physical ones).



10 QUESTIONS

1. Which talent would you most like to have?

Tango Dancing and Singing.

2. What do you consider your greatest achievement?

Helping people and institutions to thrive and grow simply by providing them with alternative visions, settings or realities to better suit their needs and aspirations.

3. What is your most marked characteristic?

Active listening.

4. What is your greatest extravagance?

House museums tours.

5. What do you consider the most overrated virtue?

Fame.

6. What or who is the greatest love of your life?

The ones who brought me to life plus my wife and brothers.

7. If you could change one thing about yourself, what would it be?

My height.

8. What is your most treasured possession?

Having gotten married in Jerusalem.

9. What do you most value in your friends?

Humility.

10. Who is your hero of fiction?

I'm not very much into fiction. I'm more into realism.

LEADERSHIP FOOTPRINT 2022-2023

VALUES

100 VOICES

Stakeholder consultation with one-on-one individual meetings to assess FUS organizational status and institutional alignment

CABINET AS A TEAM (MORE THAN A GROUP)

Molding the President's Cabinet into an active and inclusive platform; aligned cooperation and full concentration on the institution's priorities

WELLBEING

Identification of new challenges and opportunities in higher education, and early outcomes (most notably with the Day of Giving results)

STUDENT-CABINET DIALOGUE

Active listening exercise with students to encourage mutual understanding, cooperation and finding solutions

EMPOWERMENT OF SENIOR MANAGERS

Empowering and promoting administrators in strategic areas (Student Life and Advancement)

CABINET, STAFF AND FACULTY INTERACTION

Active communication to present, communicate and share decisions taken by the administration at regular Faculty Assembly and Staff meetings

EXPANSION OF THE UNIVERSITY ALLIANCES

US-based and different countries and regions of the world (adding prominent Global South institutions)

3-YEAR BACHELOR'S PROGRAM

Establishing a 3-year program to gain competitiveness in Europe, in addition to greater visibility across international secondary schools in Switzerland

FUS REPRESENTATION ABROAD

Launch of employed FUS ambassadors in strategic regions for Admissions, Advancement and Alumni purposes (starting with MENA)

FUS NEWSLETTER

Published stories and updates to increase the awareness and level of belongingness of the entire Franklin community and broader audiences

EXTERNAL EXPERTISE

Executive level conversations and counseling from experts in the fields of fundraising and DEI

SIGNATURE PROGRAMS

Promotion of Franklin's Academic Travel via social media, Alumni events, Admissions presentations and the Commencement Ceremony

ACCREDITATION TASK FORCE

Technical evaluation and assessment of FUS' adaptation to the Swiss Quality System, new Higher Ed-Act and latest US accreditation requirements as set by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education

MSIM PROGRAM

Integration of Franklin's Master's degree within the Academic Affairs structure

STRATEGIC HIRES

Successful global searches (with the cooperation of members of the Board of Trustees) in key-areas of Advancement and Academic Affairs

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS TRANSITIONAL COMMISSION

Organic creation and effective cooperation to accelerate the Academic Affairs readiness to the new vision

INTERNATIONAL BENCHMARKING ANALYSIS

Innovative strategic approach via a global cross-analysis of like-minded institutions and wide participation of internal stakeholders

RESEARCH COORDINATION UNIT

Unification of Franklin's research potential across all academic disciplines by founding a research unit

VISIBILITY

VIABILITY

FRANKLIN'S GLOBAL FOOTPRINT

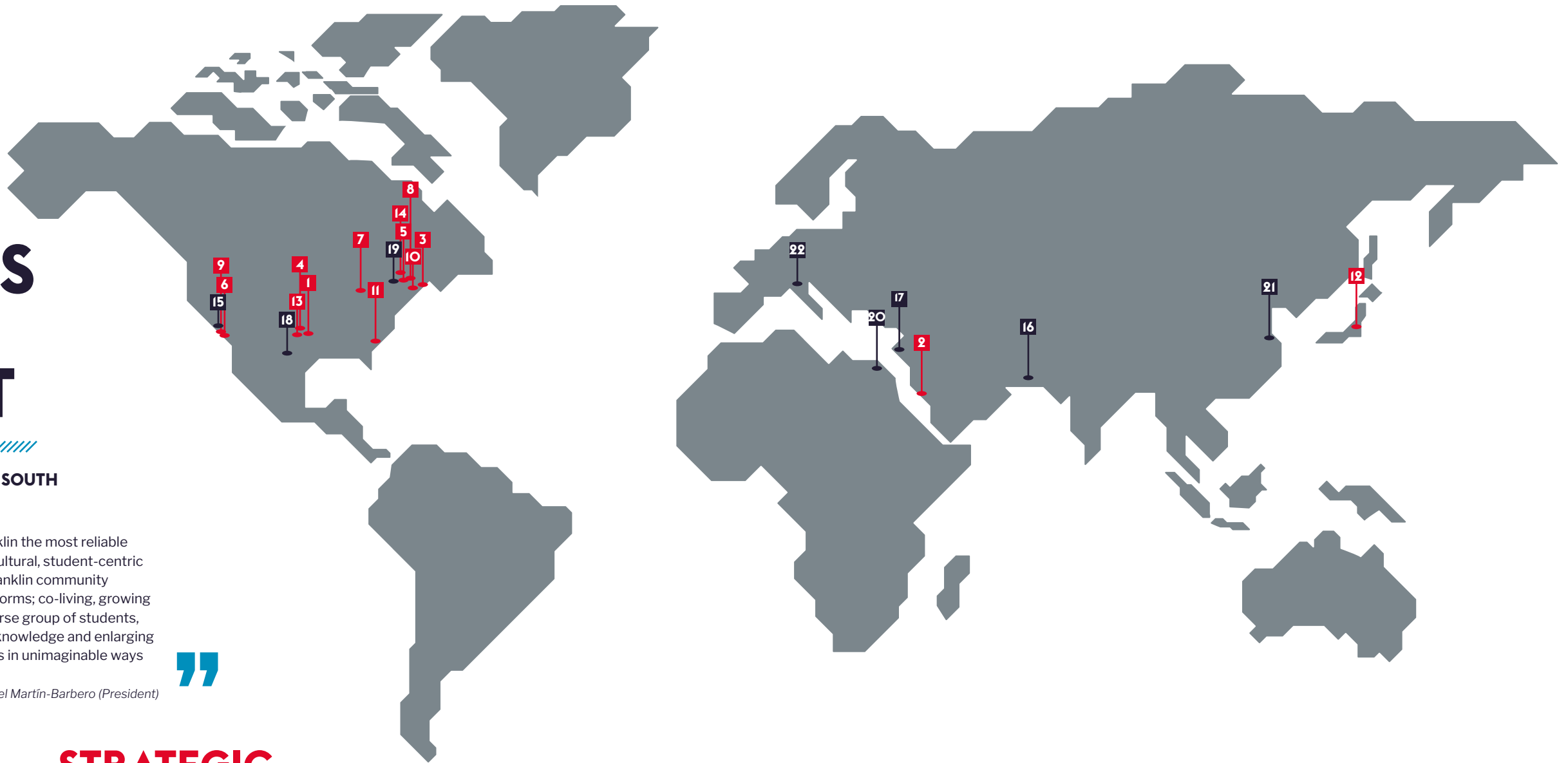
FROM THE GLOBAL NORTH TO THE GLOBAL SOUTH



Top institutions continue to recognize in Franklin the most reliable player in Europe for the provision of a cross-cultural, student-centric and interdisciplinary higher education. The Franklin community benefits from these connections in different forms; co-living, growing and learning with an increasing and more diverse group of students, opening Franklin to operate in other fields of knowledge and enlarging our teaching and research agenda possibilities in unimaginable ways



Samuel Martín-Barbero (President)



Franklin University Switzerland has been committed through the years to further academic, educational, and cultural exchanges with other higher education institutions around the globe. Our University has thus created quite a number of international collaborations and pathways with many different academic establishments. These partnerships include student exchange and study abroad opportunities, joint research projects, collaborative use of academic publications and information, faculty exchange occasions, and study abroad summer programs.

Franklin's Global Visibility expansion is an initiative continually conducted by the President's Office, in collaboration with the Office of Admissions and Enrollment, in an effort to guarantee a strong teaching and research commitment towards interdisciplinarity, innovation and globalization.

STRATEGIC UNIVERSITY ALLIANCES

- 1** Southwestern University, Georgetown, Texas, USA
- 2** Dar Al-Hekma College, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia
- 3** Lasell University, Newton, Massachusetts, USA
- 4** Southern Methodist University (SMU), University Park, Texas
- 5** Lycoming College, Williamsport, Pennsylvania, USA
- 6** University of Southern California (USC), Los Angeles, California, USA
- 7** Maryville University, St. Louis, Missouri, USA
- 8** George Mason University, Fairfax, Virginia, USA
- 9** Chapman University, Orange, California, USA
- 10** Emerson College, Boston, Massachusetts, USA
- 11** College of Charleston, Charleston, South Carolina, USA
- 12** Sophia University, Tokyo, Japan
- 13** University of Texas, Dallas, Texas, USA
- 14** Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, Virginia, USA
- 15** California Lutheran University, Thousand Oaks, California, USA
- 16** Brac University, Dhaka, Bangladesh
- 17** Reichman University, Herzliya, Tel Aviv, Israel
- 18** Tecnológico de Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, Mexico
- 19** Wheaton College Massachusetts, Norton, Massachusetts, USA
- 20** The American University in Cairo, Cairo, Egypt
- 21** Shanghai University of Engineering Science, Shanghai, China
- 22** The University of Applied Sciences and Arts of Southern Switzerland (SUPSI), Manno, Switzerland

- New alliances
- Already existing alliances



TEACHING AND RESEARCH OUTCOMES

FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS



Franklin University Switzerland attracts exceptional scholars from around the world. They are professionals and experts in a variety of fields with an interdisciplinary approach who come from diverse backgrounds. Franklin counts a total of 54 faculty members, divided into four Academic Divisions: Arts and Culture (DAC); Business and Economics (BE); Communication, History and Politics (CHP); and Environment, Math, Psychology and Health (EMPH).

As active scholars, Franklin faculty pursue independent research agendas and publish their work on a regular basis. A strong emphasis on scholarly activity and global perspectives allow them to provide a stimulating and rewarding learning experience, extending well beyond the walls of the classroom.

The following are selected faculty highlights and accomplishments from 2022 and 2023, which encompass a deep dive into interdisciplinary and advanced faculty initiatives, projects, research and insight on today's global challenges of social sciences, liberal arts, education, health, and innovation.



DIVISION OF ARTS AND CULTURES

In August 2022, **Professor Clarice Zdanski** (Instructor, Art History and Art Studio) participated in ISEAS Finland, an international symposium on socially engaged art. She was involved with teams of artists and researchers at work on projects involving different sectors of society, while holding workshops in performance art, dance, sensibility-raising. In December 2022, Zdanski had two exhibitions, the first one on Lake Maggiore, Italy, and the latter at the Bangladesh Biennale. On both occasions she presented a sculptural group. Zdanski also conducted an Academic Travel class, “Studies in Ceramics”, during which she and her students traveled near Perugia, Italy, to take part in a week-long project with the Lungarotti Foundation’s Museo dell’Olio e Vino: making anthropomorphic wine and water pitchers to exhibit. Lastly, during the 2023 Spring semester, Zdanski took part in a painting, photography, and sculpture exhibit in Novara, Italy, an exhibit called “Trees give us life” in Venice, Italy, and was part of a recent book launch for an anthology of stories by and illustrated by various artists, including herself.

For over a decade now, **Professor Gabriel Gee** (Associate Professor, Art History and Visual Communication) has been developing projects with his interdisciplinary research group, Textures and Experiences of Trans-Industriality (TETI). As part of the group’s latest activities, in February 2022, Gee co-organized a TETI co-writing workshop at the Sitterwerk library in St. Gallen, Switzerland, and participated in a parallel symposium on ‘the annotated library’, which explored the particular dynamic order of this library. The workshop echoed principles and ideas associated with the upcoming TETI Press publication “Transbordements,” based on collective writing, which is supported by the Fondation Jan Michalski and Franklin, and will be available in August 2023.

Furthermore, Gee recently contributed to the first issue of the International Committee of the History of Arts (CIHA) journal, edited by Professors Thierry Dufrêne (University Paris X) and Peter Schneemann (Bern University), published in February 2023 and focusing on ‘terms of engagement’. The contribution explores the notion of the fragment in art history, taking the activities of the TETI research group as a starting point to explore dialogues between art history and artistic research.

Finally, in the past few years, Gee contributed ten entries to the “Bloomsbury Art Markets – Protagonists, Networks, Provenances,” which was to be launched in March. The dictionary represents the first comprehensive scholarly reference work on art galleries, auction houses, art fairs, and art dealers in Europe and North America. Gee contributed entries on British and Irish modern and contemporary art galleries, including Gallery One, Beaux Arts Gallery, Roland, Browse and Delbanco, and the Kerlin Gallery. At launch, the resource features close to 2300 entries, while an additional 1700 will be added by early 2025.



DIVISION OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS

During the 2022 Fall semester, **Professor Andrea Terzi** (Professor, Economics and Finance) was invited to give a talk at the Swiss National Bank (SNB) Research Seminar in Zurich, Switzerland. His presentation entitled “Fiscal sustainability under a paper standard: two views from two paradigms,” primarily focused on addressing when and why one should worry about the size of public debt. On the occasion, Terzi analyzed how to use public money in dealing with future challenges, also considering climate change. Along with the Franklin Rethinking Economics Club, Terzi also participated in the “Rethinking Economics Switzerland” national gathering event at the University of Zurich, Switzerland, where he was the keynote speaker on the topic of anti-inflation policies. The event was a full day of panel discussions on topics like inflation, central bank policies, generation change, gender representation, and more, with different policy experts. Terzi also recently published the article “Fiscal sustainability under a paper standard: two paradigms.” The paper opens the 2023 issue of The Journal of Post Keynesian Economics, and investigates the theoretical foundations of fiscal sustainability and of the policy prescription that when the trajectory of public debt is above a certain threshold, priority should be given to fiscal consolidation.

In February 2023, **Professor Vera Dianova** (Adjunct Professor, Economics) completed an abstract to the research “Automation or intuition? Assessing the landscape of future AI-enabled medical decision-making through a dual process theory perspective” with **Professors Mario Schultz** (Assistant Professor, International Management) and **Giulia Miniero** (Associate Professor, Marketing – Chair of the Business and Economics Division) as second and third authors. The findings of the research was scheduled to be presented at the 13th European Decision Sciences Institute conference in Nantes, France in June 2023. Through survey and expert interviews, Dianova showed that significant transformations in the medical profession are on the way, raising a multitude of practical and ethical considerations. AI can free up precious time and cognitive resources that can be dedicated to patient interactions, but the introduction of medical AI also impacts physicians’ knowledge

accumulation as a base for automatic and deliberate decision-making. Building on these findings, she developed a process model to capture physicians’ altered decision-making in light of AI. Finally, Dianova has also contributed a chapter, “Wealth Health”, to The Encyclopedia of Post-Keynesian Economics.

A research paper co-authored by Professor Vera Dianova, and Professors Giulia Miniero and David Suleiman entitled “Towards an open innovation ecosystem in the cultural industry: The bright side of trust and the dark side of measurement,” was published in January 2023 in the Journal of Philanthropy and Marketing. The paper explores and analyzes the concept of open innovation ecosystems in the context of cultural industries, taking inspiration from the real experience of the 2022 Lugano Dance Project. The study seeks to examine the factors that have enabled a nascent open innovation ecosystem to emerge in the cultural industry, given the limited exploration of the concept’s application to the cultural industries, particularly to philanthropically funded cultural initiatives. The analysis employed a primary qualitative data collection method that involved in-depth interviews with stakeholders, observation, and immersion in the field, highlighting the managerial practices and strategies that facilitate the success of philanthropically-funded artistic initiatives, which foster the creation of a new open innovation arts ecosystem. Substantially, the findings of this study can inform the development of policies and practices that foster open innovation ecosystems in the cultural industry.

In February 2023, **Professor David Suleiman** (Assistant Professor, Finance) presented a paper on financial education and literacy at the Academy of Economics and Finance Conference in Orlando, Florida.



DIVISION OF COMMUNICATION, HISTORY, AND POLITICS

During the 2022 Fall semester, the Communication and Media Studies major, led by **Professors Satomi Sugiyama** (Professor, Communication and Media Studies) and **Alessandro Martinisi** (Assistant Professor, Media and Communication Studies), hosted a guest lecture by Urs Rüst, Deputy Chief Sustainability Officer and Chief Operating Officer of Global Sustainability at Credit Suisse Zürich, on communicating sustainability at Credit Suisse. The lecture encompassed points on strategic communication and sustainability in relation to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) set by the United Nations. In March 2023, Claudia Romeo, a senior editor of the US based media company Business Insider who specializes in food reporting, shared her experiences with the Food Journalism and Culture Academic Travel class. In her lecture, she spoke about the “art and science” of food reviews and gave some insights on food journalism ethics and visual food reporting.

Sugiyama and Martinisi have additionally been working on creating increased opportunities for Communications students to engage with professionals of the field, and to have hands-on experiences, such as the Communications and Media Studies lecture series during the 2023 Spring semester which featured experts from across Europe. Franklin welcomed Rupert Breheny, Emerging Technology Advisory of Google Zurich, in February 2023, to speak about the social implications of the Metaverse.

In April 2023, Martinisi organized a workshop for his students with the Radio-Televisione svizzera's (RSI) WETUBE; a production studio space for digital creatives located in Lugano. The initiative was part of the didactic activities of the course Strategic Communication in the Media and students had the chance to learn to produce podcasts in a professional environment, benefiting from tips and tricks from the RSI digital media professionals. Finally, Martinisi is also a member of the European Communication Research and Education Association (ECREA) and was recently invited to

present a paper on the topic of “Navigating the Noise: Effective Communication for solving political problems” at the Weizenbaum Institute for the Networked Society in Berlin, Germany.

The Franklin Political Risk and Opportunity Index (FRISKOP) initiative was spearheaded by **Professor Oliver Strijbis** (Affiliated Professor, Political Science), with the assistance of **Professor Bernd Bucher** (Associate Professor, Political Science - Chair of the Communications, History and Politics Division), and **Professor Juliette Schwak** (Assistant Professor, International Relations and Political Science). Originally presented during a faculty lecture series during the 2022 Fall semester, the aim of FRISKOP is to make the Franklin more visible both among academics and practitioners by providing frequently updated and accurate political risk assessments. It is a state-of-the-art indicator to assess the risks and opportunities linked to major events at a global level. FRISKOP combines cutting-edge prediction market technologies and expert surveys, providing valuable information to both academics and the private market.

In December 2022, Strijbis published an article on the subject of ethnonationalism in the European Political Science Review in which he demonstrates that the process of deindustrialization has strengthened ethnonationalist movements in Western Europe; the social class conflict was weakened as a result of deindustrialization, thus allowing for mobilization along ethnonational divisions. In addition, Strijbis also participated as co-author in a publication in Nature Human Behaviour, a peer-reviewed scientific journal covering all aspects of human behavior, that investigates how well social scientists can predict societal change and what processes underlie their predictions.

Professor Giorgio Ennas (Post-Doctoral Fellow) published two articles during the 2023 Spring semester, “Connecting the two seas. Italian Ottoman diplomacies in the Suez-Red Sea” and “Negotiating Protection: Ottoman-Swiss Relations and the Inclusion of Switzerland into a Diplomatic Germansphere during the First World War”. The first paper highlights the evolution of Italo-Ottoman diplomatic relations in the Red Sea. It emphasizes how, despite their rivalries and differences, on several occasions, the two states tried to work together to put an end to piracy and smuggling in the Red Sea area, and how, through diplomacy, the Ottoman Empire and Italy created an acceptable arrangement that allowed people to coexist until the First World War. The latter has been featured in *Comparativ* journal and the peculiarities of Ottoman-Swiss relations during the 19th century and the First World War. Essentially, it theorizes the existence, during the First World War, of a German ‘diplomatic sphere’, alternative to and in competition with that of Russia, Great Britain and France, and highlights the role of Ottoman diplomacy in pushing Switzerland to partially join this alternative diplomatic sphere. In both cases, the articles demonstrate the usefulness of researching and studying the history of the 19th and 20th centuries, international relations and diplomacy at Franklin, especially in a complex-globalized world, in which the role of diplomacy and international relations will continue to increase in importance.

Professor Fintan Hoey (Associate Professor, History) participated in the Tenth Review Conference of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) at the United Nations in New York in August 2022. Along with other members of a global research consortium on the Constitutional History of the NPT, he

presented preliminary findings to an audience of delegates, civil society representatives, and NGO professionals. In particular, he pitched his research on Japan's approach to the treaty in the 1960s and 1970s.

Professor Juliette Schwak (Assistant Professor, International Relations and Political Science) is completing a monograph on political economics explaining why South Korean society is extremely competitive. It argues that this competitive society is the result of the political economic process of adapting Korean society to changes in domestic and global capitalism. Two highly prestigious presses have expressed their interest. Additionally, Schwak is drafting an article on the implementation of Saemaul Undong, a Korean rural development program in the Philippines, which analyses the program through post-development theory and was submitted to the *Geoforum Journal* in March 2023. Finally, Schwak has also applied for a SNSF Starting Grant with a project of political economic nostalgia in East Asia, and in the meantime, she is coordinating a special issue project on the politics of benchmarking in European public policy with Ali Saqer from ADA University for the *Journal of European Public Policy*.



DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENT, MATH, PSYCHOLOGY AND HEALTH

In September 2022, **Professor Martin Bullock** (Adjunct Professor, Chemistry) presented the first results of his current research project at the 38th Conference of the Division for Chemistry Education of the Society of German Chemists in Osnabrück, Germany. For the past year he has been working with the Zentrum für Schulqualität und Lehrerbildung Baden-Württemberg (ZSL) to establish augmented reality learning environments for the chemistry curriculum for high schools in Baden-Württemberg. He has developed two units to help students learn organic chemistry reaction mechanisms using different representational systems. One unit covers the radical chain reaction of the halogenation of alkanes, while the other unit, which is a new addition to the curriculum, covers electrophilic aromatic substitution reactions. As a consequence of the first round of study, the data collected and new materials were introduced at the annual training workshops for science teachers in March 2023.

Professor Sanja Dudukovic (Professor Emerita, International Management) has been doing research in Cumulant based Realized Volatility Forecasting. Her research aims to develop and evaluate a new cryptocurrency volatility estimation method by using Higher Order Cumulants. The Empirical analysis of the proposed method is based on three cryptocurrencies, Bitcoin, XRP (Ripple), and Ethereum from 2018 to 2022. Research findings show that pure HOC-HAR parameter estimation, as applied to RV, captures better-stylized facts of cryptocurrency returns. All ARMA models are estimated using intraday observations, and E-Views 12 software, while HOC-AR models are obtained using MATLAB 20a and the HOSA Toolbox. All used algorithms are explained -presented in detail.

Professor Dudukovic presented her research results in person at the 42nd EBES Conference, Lisbon, Portugal, in January 2023, in the conference paper: "A Cumulant based Realized Volatility Modelling - The Case of Cryptocurrency Market." Consequently, the Journal Quantitative Finance and Economics asked her to contribute a paper on the general topic "Volatility Modelling and Forecasting."

Professor Lori Montross (The Nora McNeely Hurley Associate Professor of Psychology) undertook a research project on students' love of learning based on survey and interview evidence drawn from the Franklin community, with assistance from Professor Vera Dianova (Adjunct Professor, Economics). As a result of this research, Montross provided two presentations at the International Conference on Positive Psychology and Well-being in Paris in April 2023. Both presentations involved Franklin psychology seniors as co-authors, offering them direct experience in formulating professional conference presentations.



PANDEMICS AND BORDERS

A RESEARCH GRANT AT FRANKLIN



“ This is something that really puts Franklin’s research on the map in Switzerland and Europe, and it is a wonderful example of how doing cutting-edge research also has benefits for the teaching we provide our students ”

Bernd Bucher (Associate Professor, Political Science and Chair of the Communication, History and Politics division)



Last fall, Franklin announced the launch of a two-year research project funded by the Swiss Network for International Studies (SNIS) entitled “Pandemics as Driver towards Modern Borders and International Collaboration in 19th Century Mediterranean and South-Eastern European Periphery.” The project is led by Franklin’s **Professor Marcus Pyka**, as Coordinator, **Professor Bernd Bucher**, as Co-coordinator, and **Professor Giorgio Ennas**, a post-doctoral researcher from the prestigious European University Institute, who has joined Franklin for the duration of the project and is the project’s principal investigator.

The project focuses on understanding the complex interrelations of managing pandemics and the creation of national borders in the 19th century, especially in the Mediterranean and in South-Eastern Europe. This is not only from a historical perspective but also by understanding how different States managed conflicts, the widespread of diseases, and cooperate nowadays. The research deals with how sanitary and quarantine measures were in the past linked to political and diplomatic decisions and how these were tied to the creation of national identities and borders. Simultaneously, it traces how international cooperation between states became possible. At base, the research aims to answer and examine the following questions:

- How did attempts at sanitary control impact the emergence of national identities and borders between states?
- How were bordering practices tied to international cooperation efforts?
- What were the (unintended) consequences of pandemic control measures on the perception and practice of borders more generally?

Methodologically, the project takes a global approach and studies an abundance of primary sources (ranging from diplomatic notes to medical atlases and even paintings) in several different languages. The geographic focus of the project connects European and non-European discourses on pandemics and adds to a growing body of literature that moves beyond center-periphery logics.

The project strengthens Franklin’s relationships with other Swiss and European academic institutions in eight countries (Switzerland, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Turkey, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Serbia, and Austria), such as University College Dublin, the Italian National Research Council, Università Ca’ Foscari, University of Basel, University of Vienna, Université de Neuchâtel, Geneva Graduate Institute, University of Sarajevo, and the European Center for Peace and Development in Belgrade.

Over these two years, research activities include archival research and visits in Europe and Turkey, international workshops organized by the research team members, structuring the publication process of articles in peer-review journals and with prestigious international editors., and contributing to the activities of the division of Communication, History, and Politics with with the addition of four courses aligned with the topic of the history of epidemics and international relations, namely:

Summer 2023
“From Greece to Ukraine. The Eastern Question between Past and Present” (POL 263).

Spring 2023
“Global Mediterranean Encounters. Inter-imperial Contacts and Competition in the Mediterranean from the Early Modern Age to the 21st century” (HIS 270).

Fall 2022
“From Greece to Ukraine. The Eastern Question between Past and Present” (POL 263).

Summer 2022
“Quarantine: Pandemics and the History of the Fight Against Them” (HIS 296).



During the first year of research, Ennas was able to visit the relevant archives in Bern, Geneva, Genoa, Istanbul, Nantes, Rome, Sarajevo, Turin, and Vienna. Following a trail of scattered documents, Ennas was able to locate and compile an impressive body of primary sources that allowed to generate a much more nuanced and detailed understanding of the relationship between sanitary measures, international sanitary conferences, consular work, and national identities.

The second and current year of the project is now dedicated to further studying the collected corpus of primary sources and adding to the already impressive number of project related publications – both in English and Italian.

Currently, the project is moving toward the final stage. A preliminary draft of the first chapter has already been completed and will soon be reviewed by the project coordinators. It investigates the International Sanitary Conference in Constantinople of 1866, where the representatives of the assembled powers concluded that international collaboration and Pettenkofer’s neo-Quarantinist paradigm, based on the principles of hygienic measures, disinfection and preventive isolation was the best option to preserve Europe from the choleric waves arriving from British India. Based on these sanitary principles, they elaborated a Eurocentric ‘watertight compartmentalization’ system that provided for the closure and isolation of areas compromised by the disease.

This system required the construction of a complex quarantine system between different states based on the reinforcement of borders with the creation of lazarettos and military garrisons to control pilgrims and travelers from regions outside the European continent. To this end, both the principle of the strengthening of Egyptian-Ottoman borders and authority in certain areas of the Red Sea and the expropriation of areas such as the island of Kamaran, which were to be subject to international control, were accepted. At the same time, it ended up reinforcing the division between a generic “Orient” that was considered infectious and a “West” that was in danger of being infected.

Drafting of the second chapter has also been started and scheduled to be completed around June 2023. It will cover the management of epidemics, and especially of migration flows, through the establishment of sanitary cordons and the strengthening of nation-state borders between Croatia, Montenegro and Bosnia between the 1860s and 1870s. Through analysis and comparison of Montenegrin, Bosnian, French, Italian and Ottoman documents, it will be possible to reconstruct this process. Preliminary results will be published shortly with the article ‘Between Diplomacy and Scientific Knowledge: The Work of the Delimitation Commission for Montenegro, 1879-1881’ for the prestigious “Journal of Modern European History.”

PUBLICATIONS

'Confine sanitario o nazionale? L'influenza delle epidemie nell'emergere dei nazionalismi balcanici', in *Malattie e Società*, edited volume by Francesco Cutolo and Costanza Bonelli, *Faestoria, Rivista dell'Istituto Storico della Resistenza e dell'età contemporanea*, 2021, pp. 33-50.

'Non una di queste proposte fu messa in esecuzione. Sarajevo e l'epidemia di colera del 1866', in *Il filo sottile tra stato di emergenza, limitazione delle libertà e consenso*, edited volume by Idamaria Fusco and Gaetano Sabatini, *RiMe, Rivista dell'Istituto di Storia dell'Europa Mediterranea*, 2021, pp. 275-293.

'Dans l'intérêt de la Santé Publique de l'Empire' The Ottoman Consuls during the Cholera Epidemic of 1867', in *Euras Journal of Social Sciences*, Vol. 3, Istanbul, 2022, pp. 225-244.

'An Ottoman-Swiss Doctor Against Cholera. Analysing the work of the physician Josef Koetschet during the Bosnian choleric wave of 1866', forthcoming in the online journal of the *Schweizerische Gesellschaft Mittlerer Osten und Islamische Kulturen (SGMOIK)*, 2023.

'Between Diplomacy and Scientific Knowledge: The Work of the Delimitation Commission for Montenegro, 1879-1881', forthcoming in "Drawing the Line": Border Commissions in Eastern Europe, edited by S. Rindlisbacher, L. Gatejel and N. Baron, *Journal of Modern European History*, 2023.

'Arte epidemica. Rappresentazioni italo-ottomane degli scenari epidemici e delle "misure sanitarie moderne" nel tardo Impero ottomano', with Dr. des. Giulia Bei, forthcoming in *From Dante to the Present Day: disease outbreaks, epidemics and pandemics in language, literature and culture*, in a volume edited by the University of Split, 2023.

PROJECT-RELATED WORKSHOPS AND CONFERENCES

'Italo-Ottoman Cholera. Italo-Ottoman representations of "modern sanitary measures" in the late Ottoman Empire' with Dr. des. Giulia Bei, in the International workshop 'From Dante to the present day: disease outbreaks, epidemics and pandemics in language, literature and culture', University of Split, September 2021.

Participation in the workshop entitled 'Histories of Science and Medicine for the 21st Century' organised by Lauren Kassell at the European University Institute, February-March 2022.

'Documenting Epidemics. Euro-Ottoman Consular Sources during the Cholera Epidemics in Southeast Europe', in the annual conference of the research group "Ottoman Europe" entitled 'Recording, Gathering, and Organizing Information in Ottoman Europe, 15th - 18th Centuries' Institute for Habsburg and Balkan Studies, Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna, September 2023.

'Mapping Ottoman Quarantines. Describing the Ottoman Quarantine System Between the Eastern Mediterranean, the Black and Red Seas', in the 4th 'European Convention on Turkic, Ottoman and Turkish Studies' (Turkologentag), University of Vienna, Vienna, September 2023.

PUBLICATIONS SUPPORTED BY FRANKLIN AND SNIS NOT-STRICTLY RELATED TO THE PROJECT BETWEEN 2021-2023

EDITED VOLUME

Musa Toprak, Emilj Consuelo Malara and Giorgio Ennas (eds.), 'Italo-Ottoman Conversations. A Shared Pathway', Casaltalia, Ankara, forthcoming in 2023.

JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

'Rewriting History. How far did 19th-century Ottomanism impacted 21st-century neo-Ottomanism?', forthcoming in the monographic dossier entitled *The Ottoman Afterlives in Turkey's Projection of Influence on Africa and the Middle East: between nostalgia and amnesia* edited by Nicola Melis and Carlo Sanna, *Afriche e Orienti. Rivista di studi ai confini tra Africa, Mediterraneo e Medio Oriente*, 2024

'New Diplomacy for a New World. The Ottoman adoption of Realpolitik', forthcoming in a volume edited by Routledge, 2024.

'Modernising the Ottomans. Developing an 'Ottoman modernity' between diplomacy and style', with Dr. des. Consuelo Emilj Malara, forthcoming in *Modernising the Unmodern: Europe's imperial monarchies and their path to modernity in the 19th and 20th centuries*, edited by F. F. Sterkenburgh, C. Armenteros and H. Hein Kircher, Palgrave Macmillan, 2023.

'Global Criminal Networks in the Eastern Mediterranean. Illicit connections between Constantinople, the Italian peninsula and New York (1855-1861)', forthcoming in *Levantines of the Ottoman World: Communities, Identities, and Cultures*, edited by E. Blackthorne-O'Barr and B. Çağlar, Libra Kitap, June 2023.

'Tra rivoluzione e diplomazia. Giacomo Durando e lo sviluppo della politica estera sardo-italiana nel Mediterraneo orientale, 1856-1862', *Rassegna Storica del Risorgimento*, February 2023.

'Negotiating Protection. The Inclusion of Ottoman-Swiss Relations in the Diplomatic Germansphere during the First World War', edited by E. Biçer-Deveci and U. Brandenburg, *The Ottoman Empire and the 'Germansphere' in the Age of Imperialism, Comparativ*, 2022, pp. 349-363.

'Connecting the two seas. Italian and Ottoman diplomacies in the Suez-Red Sea area', in *Italy and the Suez Canal. A Mediterranean history, from the mid-Nineteenth century to the Cold War*, edited by B. Curli, Palgrave Macmillan, 2022, pp. 247-260.



Marcus Pyka
(Associate Professor, History)

Ph.D. Ludwigs Maximilians Universität München, Germany
M.A. Rheinische Friedrich Wilhelms Universität Bonn, Germany

Pyka's research interests focus on questions of identity building.

In his book *Heinrich Graetz – Jewish Identity and Historiography* (Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht Publishers, 2008), Pyka addresses the construction of Jewish identity by means of historiography in 19th century Germany. He has received research fellowships from the German National Academic Foundation, the Institute for European History (Mainz/Germany), and Harvard University, among others. Current research focuses on the use of morality and of religious values for identity politics, both with regard to modern Bourgeoisie and the modern understanding of "Europe".

Pyka's teaching experience includes world history and world religions, with a focus on Judaism from the Biblical Times onwards, the Islamic world, India, and the West.



Bernd Bucher
(Associate Professor, Political Science and Chair of the Communication, History and Politics division)

Ph.D. University of St. Gallen, Switzerland
M.A. Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, Germany

Bucher's primary research interests are located at the intersection of International Relations theory and sociology.

Power, language, and contestation practices, as well as security dynamics, are central to his research which utilizes (historical) discourse analysis and draws on qualitative methods. Bucher has successfully published in leading academic journals and is currently part of a number of individual and collaborative research projects which focus on applying processual-relational thinking to International Relations.

He regularly peer reviews for leading academic journals and actively participates in leading international professional associations and conferences.



Giorgio Ennas
(Post-Doctoral fellow at the Communication, History and Politics division)

Ph.D. European University Institute, Italy
M.A. Ca' Foscari University, Venice, Italy

Ennas' primary research interests concern the relationship of cultural and global history with the history of diplomacy and medicine during the "long" 19th century. His research focuses mainly on the cultural aspects of international, diplomatic and personal relations between members of the diplomatic and consular corps, as well as medical practices. In his research, Ennas makes use of the tools provided by cultural and global history, to which he combines a comparative approach with sources from European and Turkish archives.

ACADEMIC UPDATES

POSITIVE PSYCHOLOGY AT FRANKLIN

THE MEANING OF GENUINE HAPPINESS

“ Psychology applies everywhere! I'm particularly interested in empathy and compassion and the way in which we interact with each other, and like teaching students the skills that go along with that. There is something very special about studying psychology at Franklin. There is this nexus of interdisciplinary collaboration, multiple degree programs having merged conversations, and a multinational student body.

Lori Montross (The Nora McNeely Hurley
Associate Professor of Psychology)





Psychology is the science of human emotion, thought, and behavior, including neural, physiological, and cognitive processes, developmental factors, individual differences, and interpersonal, international, and cross-cultural components. At Franklin University Switzerland, the psychology undergraduate major is designed to expose students to a spectrum of fundamental issues currently being addressed in the discipline, the principles of research design and statistics, and theory and research in specific areas of psychology.

During the Fall 2022 semester, **Professor Lori Montross** joined Franklin and was appointed the “Nora McNeely Hurley Associate Professor of Psychology.” This event marked an incredible milestone in Franklin’s history, the university’s first full-time faculty member in Psychology in the Division of Environment, Mathematics, Psychology, and Health (EMPH), and the institution’s first named professorship. With expertise in Positive Psychology and Health & Wellness, Montross fully embraces the vision of the professorship for a “curriculum in Happiness and Wellness.” When **Nora McNeely Hurley ‘81** and her husband **Michael Hurley** learned in 2020 that Franklin wanted to grow its Psychology program, they made a transformative gift by pledging \$2.5 million to establish the Endowed Professor of Psychology for a curriculum in Happiness and Wellness. Nora McNeely Hurley ‘81 primarily focuses her philanthropic giving on organizations that preserve and protect nature and the environment, gardens, art, education, therapy, animals, and other causes addressing wellness.

Montross earned her Ph.D. in Psychology from the University of Kentucky, with additional degrees from Arizona State University and Iowa State University. Her most recent therapeutic and research work as a licensed psychologist in the State of California has been in palliative care, hospice, integrative medicine, dignity, and quality of life. Her academic affiliations have included the University of California in San Diego, California State University in San Marcos, the University of San Diego, and the American University of the Caribbean School of Medicine. In over 15 years of professional experience, Montross has been the author or co-author of nearly 50 peer-reviewed publications and has gathered over US\$1 million in grant funding.

Montross has supported and been supported by Antonio Bova, Adjunct Professor of Psychology, at Franklin, in significantly enhancing the Psychology program. She has introduced courses such as Multicultural Psychology, Research Methods in the Social Sciences, and her first-ever Academic Travel entitled Positive Psychology and Health.



During Academic Travel, Montross’s class traveled to Spain, a location attentively chosen because it offers a unique glimpse into the way people find meaning and vitality in art, music, culture, connectedness, and natural environments. The course examined and applied psychological theories, research, and evidence-based interventions designed to optimize health and well-being. Students explored how human beings can best thrive and reach their full potential by focusing on creativity, happiness, hope, humor, gratitude, mindfulness, resilience, spirituality, and wisdom. It furthermore allowed for an in-depth examination of how people across various generations and cultures use their strengths to help themselves grow and their communities flourish - even during difficult times. Overall, students returned to campus with new perspectives on living a healthy, meaningful life and strategies to authentically advance the greater good for all humans. As Montross grandly put it, “We aim to be reminded that life is about savoring those special ‘micro-moments’ while using psychologist Abraham Maslow’s suggestion to “experience the world fully, vividly, and with full concentration.”

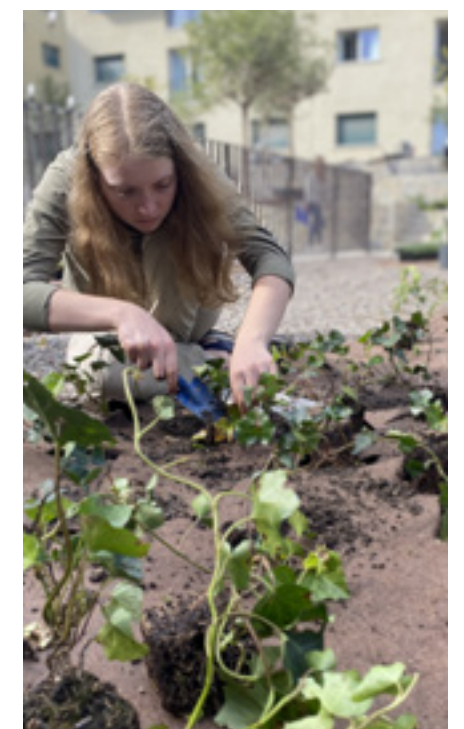
Academic courses that teach positive psychology interventions as part of university degree programs are becoming increasingly popular. In addition, Franklin also strives to promote student happiness and well-being, both inside and outside of the classroom. Nora McNeely Hurley ‘81 also funded the construction of a special wellness garden, dubbed the Giardino di Luce (Garden of Light), where students can enjoy some relaxation, mindfulness, and contemplation surrounded by lush local flora.

With the new building complex nearing completion, the Giardino di Luce (Garden of Light) was likewise under construction and needed attentive and caring hands to shape its future appearance. During Montross’s first-ever academic course at Franklin, the First-Year Seminar (FYS) entitled “Harnessing Happiness: The Power of Positive Psychology in Everyday Life,” she combined her in-class teachings with outdoor learning experiences. On a sunny afternoon in September 2022, her students dug in. They helped shape the new garden, under the direction of Hortensia Garden Design’s expert landscapers. The FYS course explored how happiness is defined and experienced differently worldwide, which seemed fitting given the students themselves were from five countries spanning four continents. Yet, all had chosen to study in Switzerland.

Additionally, contact with nature improves mental health, including focus, mood, and concentration. Essentially, gardening offers a wealth of psychological and health benefits. The students were asked to share their reactions at the end of the day. Their enthusiastic responses revealed how the event allowed them to peacefully “unplug” for a brief time, and the gardening further amplified their sense of kinship and belonging. The added benefit is that those same students watched those garden seedlings grow and develop into their unique beauty over time.

In the Spring of 2023, Franklin hosted members of the ATP: Associazione Ticinese Psicologi, the Association of Psychologists of the Canton of Ticino, on campus for their annual general assembly. Two influential local institutions joined in a mutual effort toward promoting the psychology profession in the Ticino area: for Franklin to build and expand the psychology major and for ATP to support continuous education in the field. The assembly allowed both organizations to consider new initiatives for the future and communicate the possibilities that could come to fruition given their shared interest and the Ticinese landscape.

Because it offers the only Bachelor of Psychology degree in Ticino, Franklin University Switzerland is uniquely situated to prepare students for master’s degrees in psychology at USI and other Swiss universities. Given that Franklin has acquired excellent psychology professors this year, including Montross, the undergraduate psychology degree aims to expand and increase its course offerings given the caliber of instruction on campus. Franklin graduates will be prepared to take on graduate school and the international job market and have joint Swiss and American qualifications. As ATP and Franklin University Switzerland continue collaborating, new psychological research opportunities will certainly emerge. We look forward to witnessing growth in this ever-changing field.



FRANKLIN'S

NEWEST FACULTY MEMBERS

Franklin University Switzerland welcomed seven newly appointed members of the faculty during this last academic year, each of whom embody the idea of the teacher-scholar that helps make a Franklin education so effective. These new appointments have already invigorated the four Academic Divisions, and Franklin has significantly benefited from their experience, expertise, and contributions in new directions, further fulfilling the University's research and educational mission.



FALL 2022



Tatiana Balushkina

(Assistant Professor, International Management)

Ph.D. Bocconi University, Italy

Tatiana Balushkina obtained her PhD degree in Business Administration and Management from Bocconi University in 2021, with her dissertation on the individual-level workplace outcomes of narcissism. Prior to joining Franklin, she was a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Milan-Bicocca.

Her current research explores the effect of personality traits, gender stereotypes, and team diversity on employees' behavior, performance, and decision-making. Balushkina's work has been published in the "Journal of Vocational Behavior." Before joining academia, Balushkina had been working as financial reporting accountant and business planning analyst.



Alessandro Martinisi

(Assistant Professor, Media and Communication Studies)

Ph.D. The University of Leeds, United Kingdom
M.S. Università della Svizzera Italiana (USI), Switzerland
B.A. Università di Torino, Italy

Alessandro Martinisi received his PhD from the School of Media and Communication at the University of Leeds, United Kingdom, with a thesis that explores the use of statistics in journalism practice. In 2018 his doctoral thesis received special mention for research excellence.

One strand of his research looks at the use of data in media storytelling and public discourse, with particular emphasis on data-driven journalism, science communication and constructive journalism. Another strand of research looks at possibilities to broaden the field of media criticism through the theoretical lenses of De-Westernization.

Martinisi helped universities in establishing the learning community as the core of their educational vision. He taught a variety of courses in universities based in Qatar, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, Lithuania, and Italy, developing a teaching portfolio that includes Political Communication in the Media, Media research methods, Health and Crisis Communication, to mention a few. He was also the recipient of grants awarded by National Council of Science and Technology (CONACYT) of Mexico, the British Council, and Annenberg School of Communication.

Martinisi participated as a co-investigator in projects related to Virtual Reality and Augmented Reality. Prior to joining Franklin, he was a postdoctoral researcher and project coordinator for a United Kingdom-wide project funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC), aiming to investigate how constructive journalism could support Covid-19 pandemic recovery in local and regional areas of the UK. He is a member of the European Communication Research and Education Association (ECREA) and the International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR).



Lori Montross

(The Nora McNeely Hurley Associate Professor of Psychology)

Ph.D. University of Kentucky, USA
M.S. Arizona State University, USA
B.S. Iowa State University, USA

Lori Montross is a clinical psychologist, mixed-methods researcher, and educator with over fifteen years of experience. In her clinical work, Montross has specialized in geriatrics, with an emphasis on preserving the dignity and well-being of people diagnosed with cancer or dementia.

As a mixed-methods researcher, Montross has conducted multiple studies and received competitive grant funding from the American Cancer Society, the Brain and Behavior Research Foundation, the Clinical and Translational Research Institute, the MAPI Research Trust, as well as the International Alzheimer’s Association. She has published over 45 peer-reviewed journal articles and book chapters with notable contributions in areas of dignity-conserving care, multiculturalism, palliative care, positive psychology, and suicide prevention.

As an educator, Montross was voted “Faculty of the Year” twice and has been regarded for her ability to creatively blend active learning with inspired action. She later cultivated that commitment to action by living abroad and teaching behavioral medicine on the Dutch Caribbean Island of Sint Maarten.

Today, Montross brings her multi-layered experience to Franklin where she enthusiastically teaches critical thinking and psychology while conducting research that promotes cultural awareness, positivity, and a sense of sanctuary for people of all ages.



Oliver Strijbis

(Affiliated Professor, Political Science)

Ph.D. University of St. Gallen, Switzerland
M.A. University of Zurich, Switzerland

Oliver Strijbis received his doctorate in International Affairs and Political Economy from the University of St. Gallen, Switzerland, and has been head of the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) funded research project “The Effect of Campaign Events on Direct Democratic Decisions: Evidence from Forecast Markets”, also a principal investigator of the research project “Ethnic Voting in Latin America” (funded by the German Research Foundation), head of the research project “Scientific Analysis of the Effect of Ballot Paper Design and List Position on Voting Behavior in the Canton of St. Gallen”, on behalf of the State Chancellery of the Canton of St. Gallen, and co-leader of “The Swiss Political Survey Garage.” In his research, Strijbis focuses on elections and direct democratic votes, migration and nationalism, comparative methods and prediction markets. He is an editor of “Struggle over Borders: Cosmopolitanism and Communitarianism”, Cambridge University press, and has published more than twenty peer-reviewed journal articles. Professor Strijbis has been an appointed member of the Carlos III-Juan March Institute (IC3JM), receiving a Young Scholar Award for the best journal article, and a Swiss National Science Foundation Research Fellowship for young researchers.

Strijbis is a dedicated lecturer and has received training in higher education with regards to Adaptive Leadership, Supervision in Higher Education, Gamification, and Didactica Mobile Voting and Feedback Systems, among others.



Elisa Volpi

(Assistant Professor, Comparative Politics)

Ph.D. European University Institute, Italy
Master of Research European University Institute, Italy
M.A. Università di Firenze, Italy
B.A. Università di Firenze, Italy

Elisa Volpi received her PhD from the European University Institute, Florence, Italy, in 2019. Her dissertation was awarded the prestigious ECPR Jean Blondel PhD Prize in 2020. Before joining Franklin, she was a post-doctoral researcher at the University of Geneva where she also coordinated the doctoral program in political science.

Volpi’s main research interests are political elites and political parties that she studies with a comparative approach, using historical techniques and experimental designs. She also participated in several international conferences and was invited to give talks at leading foreign universities. Her work has been published in prominent peer-reviewed journals, such as “European Journal of Political Research”, “Party Politics” and “Parliamentary Affairs”.

Volpi is currently working on a project in collaboration with the University of Geneva on citizens’ and elites’ perception of economic inequality. She is also part of an international project (including the Swiss universities of Geneva and Lausanne) on how elected politicians perceive the public opinion and relate to the inputs coming from it. In the framework of this project, Volpi interviewed several Swiss national legislators.





Charles Burke
(Assistant Professor, Data Science)

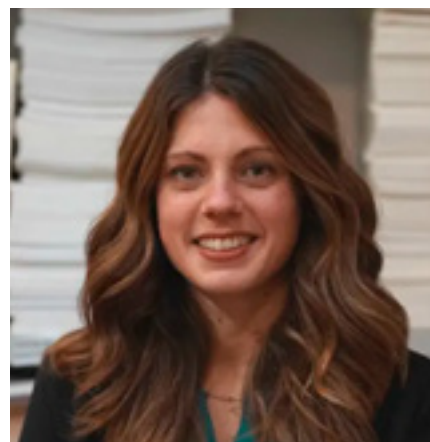
Ph.D. McMaster University, Canada
M.A. University of Windsor, Canada
B.A. Bishops University, Canada

Charles Burke is an Assistant Professor of Data Science. He received his PhD in Transportation Geography from McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. For his dissertation, Professor Burke used Open Data to simulate and analyze the City of Toronto’s traffic network, with the goal of creating safer and more efficient road cycling for urban cyclists. He turned that research into a brief tenure as Founder and CEO of the bike share company - Start the Cycle in 2014.

His work has been published in journals such as Transportation, The Professional Geographer, and Transport Policy, as well as publications that focus on business and innovation, and Canadian Geographic magazine. His research and teaching interests include Quantitative Methods and Data Visualization, as well as Quantitative Geography and Spatial Analysis, with a particular focus on sustainable transportation, demographic change, and human-computer interactions.

Burke has received awards for both his teaching and research, as well as athletics. His past research received a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Fellowship from the Government of Canada, and in 2021 Charles won an Annual Teaching Excellence Award for the University Scholars Programme, and in 2022 an Annual Digital Educator’s Award at the National University of Singapore for teaching excellence. While receiving his Bachelor’s Degree, Professor Burke was a two time Academic All Canadian and Lord Strathcona Award winner as Quebec’s top scholar athlete for Football.

Burke joined Franklin from the National University of Singapore after working five years as a Quantitative Reasoning Lecturer for the University Scholars Programme, and after serving as its Director of the Quantitative Reasoning Centre in 2020.



Silvia Piccinelli
(Assistant Professor, Environmental Science)

Ph.D. Università di Insubria, Italy
M.S. Università di Insubria, Italy
B.S. Università di Milano, Italy

Silvia Piccinelli received her Ph.D. in Chemical and Environmental Science at Insubria University, Italy, coupled with a PhD Visiting at Geneva University, Switzerland. Her research studies focus on climate change impacts on vegetation, with a particular interest in species colonizing pre-alpine and high-elevation alpine ecotones, permafrost environments, and high-latitude peatlands. Her expertise includes both dendroecological and phytosociological approaches, investigating plant responses to climate variability, from trees and shrubs to alpine grassland, snowbed and pioneer ecological series. Her work has been published in high-level peer-reviewed journals such as *Catena* and *Frontiers in Plant Science*. Piccinelli’s teaching interests include all areas of Environmental and Natural Science, with a particular focus on recent Climate Change.

Before joining Franklin, Piccinelli worked at Geneva University, Switzerland, as FNS Postdoc in the Project “TURBERAS - Reconstruction of Holocene hydro-climatic fluctuations based on multi-proxy peatland records” in collaboration with Lund University, Sweden.

Piccinelli is currently working in the Swiss Polar Institute (SPI) Project “PAMIR - From ice to microorganisms and humans: toward an interdisciplinary understanding of climate change impacts on the Third Pole” within the Cryospheric hazard Cluster (Geneva University), analyzing rock glaciers and surface instability through a multidisciplinary approach in Pamir, Tajikistan.



HONORING OUR EMERITI

INSPIRING AND INSTILLING A LOVE FOR LEARNING OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

“ Our Emeriti professors have served Franklin well over their many years at the institution and have made significant contributions to the education of a great number of Franklin graduates ”

Andrew Starcher
(Vice President of Academic Affairs)

As a selected group of world-class and accomplished scholars, skillful experts, respected researchers, and innovative thinkers, Franklin University Switzerland professors are committed to the mission of excellence in academic research, holistic and experiential education, social justice and responsibility, and students’ personal and professional development.

For some of these academic professionals, Franklin grants the Emeriti honorary titles, as a mark of their distinguished service and these professors stay active in scholarly activity and the Franklin community following retirement.



Sanja Dudukovic

(International Management)



Emerita since 2021

Ph.D. University of Belgrade, Yugoslavia

M.S. University of Belgrade, Yugoslavia

B.S. University of Belgrade, Yugoslavia



Since 1991, **Professor Sanja Dudukovic** has taught a number of courses in Business Analytics, including Data Mining for Business Analytics, Management Science, Management Information Systems, Quantitative Methods & Dynamic Forecasting, Statistics and Computing. Her long-term theoretical research interests include Non-Gaussian Time Series Modelling, Entropy Maximization and Information Theory. Since 1997, her empirical research interests cover the fields of Financial Modelling, Credit Spread Modelling, Stock Market GARCH and RV Volatility Forecasting, Machine Learning and HOC ARMA Modelling with MATLAB and EViews software. She has published numerous publications on Non-Gaussian Time Series Analysis and Volatility Forecasting in Forex Market, International Stock Markets and Crypto-currency Market. She has considerable private-sector experience in Management Information System Development. She has a particular interest in Educational Data Mining, Machine Learning and Deep Machine Learning methods. She is engaged in discovering the methods needed to trigger student research interest by including notions of creativity in philosophy, psychology and logic. She established and directed Franklin's Center for Quantitative Research (CQR) with the aim of achieving results worth presenting at professional international conferences. She is a member of the Bernoulli Society for Mathematical Statistics, the American Statistical Association and the IEEC Computer Society.

1) What do you consider your biggest academic accomplishment at Franklin?

I genuinely believe that the engagement of undergraduate students in research promotes the most potent form of curriculum. Thus, I created and ran the courses in the International Management major by including computer-based active learning, research-based learning, and problem-based learning. Since 2013 I also worked on the cutting-edge machine learning methods and created new courses in Business Analytics. In 25 years, different students and different Deans always evaluated my teaching as excellent.

2) Among your many publications, which is the one you are the fondest of and why?

Ever since Dr. Robert Engle got a Nobel prize for "Volatility Modeling" for the case of normally distributed squared returns, the scientist tried to improve the shortcomings of his model. After many years of research and publications, I got close to the solution. It is published in the article "Evaluating Realized Volatility Models with Higher Order Cumulants: HAR-RV Versus ARIMA-RV." Results revealed the beauty of trans-discipline thinking.

3) Which was your favorite class to teach at Franklin and why?

My favorite course was Quantitative Method (BUS 306) which I created and ran. The course generated many undergraduate research projects focusing on real-world problems in Management, Economics, and Finance. It helped students to understand and apply Time Series Analysis. "Alumni memorized BUS306 classes that created intellectual camaraderie and have carried them into their present-day careers."

4) What is your relationship with Franklin since becoming Emeritus Professor?

Former President Gregory P. Warden encouraged me to maintain strong ties with the school by continuing to do research under Franklin's umbrella and promised support. As Professor Emeritus in 2022 I did research in Cumulant based Forecasting. I presented results in person at the 42nd EBES Conference, Lisbon, Portugal, in the conference paper: "A Cumulant based Realized Volatility Modelling - The Case of." Consequently, the Journal "Quantitative Finance and Economics" asked me to contribute a paper on the general topic "Volatility Modelling and Forecasting." I plan to continue to do research.



Penelope Margaret Mackworth-Praed

(Studio Art and Sculpture)



Emerita since 2020

Diploma, Epsom School of Art and Design, United Kingdom

Professor Penelope Margaret Mackworth-Praed studied at Wimbledon, Falmouth and Epsom schools of art and design, in the United Kingdom, and graduated from Epsom School of Art and Design in 1976. Between 1969 and 1972 she constructed her first pieces using a numerical base, which characterizes most of her future work. Following this from 1972 to 1974 she made a prolonged research journey, which took her through Europe, the Middle East and South Asia, studying the common numerical basis at the root of the art and architecture of many different cultures. In 1977 she married the composer Paul Glass and moved to Carona, Ticino, Switzerland. In the course of her life she has had more than 70 exhibitions of her work in museums and galleries in various European countries; among them, a solo exhibition in 2008, at the National Gallery in Sofia, Bulgaria. From 1982 to 2017 she was Associate Professor of Studio Art and Sculpture at Franklin University Switzerland. In 2018 she and her husband moved home and now live and work in Magadino, Ticino, Switzerland. Her works are to be found in national and public collections in Bulgaria, Switzerland and Germany as well as in private collections in Bulgaria, Canada, France, Germany, Holland, Japan, Great Britain, Italy, the United States, and Switzerland.

1) What do you consider your biggest academic accomplishment at Franklin?

The founding of the Studio Art and Sculpture Department at Franklin University Switzerland, then Franklin College, which consequently grew with the college and then the University, until my retirement in summer 2017. When I joined Franklin, after having been interviewed and invited onto the faculty, in the 1982 Spring semester, it was because the Art and Art history department needed someone to take on the teaching of three-dimensional studio arts. Professor Brian Stanford, who was teaching both the Contemporary Art History courses and Studio Art Painting, was finding, as the numbers of students grew, that it had become impossible to seriously cover the three-dimensional/sculpture courses as well. He was also at that time, leading an academic travel course every semester. I had absolutely no idea at that time, where the job, that I had just taken on, would lead, or that I would still be at Franklin teaching in 2017.

2) Among your many publications, which is the one you are the fondest of and why?

It is not really possible to answer this question, as every exhibition in my life has led in one way or another onto the next, each has both positive and sometimes, also, negative memories. Each shows me, in a new way where my work is going and confronting my sculpture in a public space, is always a new experience from which one can learn. There are so many memories that sparkle, so many wonderful things said to me or written to me in my visitors' books. Or about my work in articles in newspapers, TV interviews etc. Knowing that I have given, perhaps even only for a few moments, a feeling of wonder or joy to another human being is an amazing thing. In the end, the last exhibition, whether in a large public space, or a small intimate one, is always the one that one is fondest of, because each piece of work, or installation, takes me a further step on my journey. I am so very grateful for all the people who have helped me through the years whether they are friends, museum directors and their staff, and also, most especially, the help given to me by some of my students, who remain very dear to me as a result.

3) Which was your favorite class to teach at Franklin and why?

I didn't have a favorite class, for me each class, 105 Introduction to Sculpture (STA 105), Intermediate Sculpture (STA 205), Higher Sculpture (STA 305), and Senior project, or an internship, were planned to automatically lead from one to another, for those that wanted to follow the classes up to their graduation. STA 105 was almost always full. For security reasons, because of the restrictions of space and the materials and tools being used, it was necessary to keep the numbers doing any one of these classes small. For Sculpture there could never be more than maximum 12 students in the studio space working at the same time. The fun part was the discovery, the adventure, of learning to construct, to use the tools successfully (and often what they were even called). And the feeling of achievement on the part of the students at the end of the semester when they saw their own results, and the laughter and joy and camaraderie that went with it. STA 205, 305, and senior project, were officially programmed in the same time slot, though, in fact, where possible, we staggered the starting of the classes, using the office hours. To give an hour of attention to each level individually. I suppose I did enjoy this class more, as all the students were motivated, we had all become friends and over the years some wonderful work was made – which was often evident in the final exhibitions. I have lots of photos of many memorable moments going back over a long period of time. The studio assistant was an important figure in all of this, as when I was off campus, it was he or she who had to know what to do and where things were kept in the cupboards and toolboxes. They were all very good, I was very lucky.

4) What is your fondest memory at Franklin?

The students, and the fantastic mix of cultures, walking into a new class and not knowing in that little group, what the majority language of the class was going to be. In my own experience through my years of teaching, it could have been anything, Chinese, German, Arabic, Italian, Japanese, Spanish, Russian or even sometimes English!

Morris Mottale

(International Relations and Political Science)



Emeritus since 2022

Ph.D. York University, Canada

M.A. San Diego State University, USA

B.A. San Diego State University, USA



Professor Morris Mottale's main teaching and research interests are in international political economy, strategic studies, energy, international relations, comparative politics, Middle Eastern politics, and mass communication. He has taught in the United States, Canada and England, and has been a research scholar at universities in North America, Europe and the Middle East, including the Harvard Center for Middle Eastern Studies. His publications include several articles and reviews on international and Middle Eastern politics, and several monographs and books.

1) What do you consider your biggest academic accomplishment at Franklin?

The creation along with other faculty colleagues of Franklin's first undergraduate academic program, International Relations, in 1986.

2) Among your many publications, which is the one you are the fondest of and why?

My research papers on Mediterranean Politics, for instance "Middle East: New Configuration of Power in the Post-Trump Era", "Eastern Mediterranean, the Return of History: Greece, Turkey, Italy and the Great Power Game, and "The United States and China in the Mediterranean: New Great Power Conflicts in an Ancient World." These articles speak to several causative factors, such as the refugee crisis, conflicts over resources, and the politics which threaten stability and globalization efforts in and around the Eastern Mediterranean.

3) Which was your favorite class to teach at Franklin and why?

"Introduction to Political Science" (POL 100), Division of Communication, History and Politics, as this is one of my specializations.

4) What is your fondest memory at Franklin?

The class of 1987's Commencement ceremony, there were ten students or less, who graduated in the Nielsen auditorium.



George Rocourt

(International Management)



Emeritus since 2022

Ph.D. study (ABD) The Johns Hopkins University, USA

B.A. Northwestern University, USA



Professor Georges Rocourt was formerly Adjunct Professor, Economics and Finance, Andreas School of Business, Barry University, Miami, Florida 1991-2003. Other past academic appointments include Towson University (Maryland), Loyola College of Baltimore, and The Maryland Bankers School (University of Maryland). He currently serves as Assistant Program Director, Programa Forum/Nexus (summer study/travel abroad). He is also President of GRE Services, Inc., an economics and capital markets consulting firm. His past private sector experience includes positions as Chief Economist, Mercantile Safe Deposit and Trust Company, in Baltimore; and Vice President Economics & Investment Strategy, Ganz Capital Management, in North Miami Beach. His research interests include financial theory, multinational corporate financial strategy and corporate exchange rate hedging.

1) What do you consider your biggest academic accomplishment at Franklin?

Playing a pivotal role, along with other fellow International Management Department colleagues, in the increasing professionalization and credibility of the International Management major. Together we gave the major more power and consistency, in teaching and practical experiences, creating an academic program that is constantly evolving and improving.

2) Among your many publications, which is the one you are the fondest of and why?

For many years now, I have been writing weekly and monthly columns and articles on economic, political and banking analysis and forecasts for relevant banking and investment clients. These are mostly commentaries on economic and financial developments and contemporary topics from the business-related sector. I have enjoyed this because it taught me how to develop my own tone of voice, with the ability to cut through the news-cycle nonsense and offer the reader something beyond mere headlines.

3) Which was your favorite class to teach at Franklin and why?

(BUS 115), where I myself had to sharpen my understanding of the hows and whys of accounting, since this was not previously my specialty. This academic course taught me how to become a better theorist and practitioner in accounting, developing new skills and knowledge. In addition, teaching first-year students also enabled me to discover students' business sensibilities, how to make a class interesting, and how to engage with students. My second favorite class to teach was the senior capstone course on Country-Risk Analysis (BUS 415) where students had to put together their notions and findings on history, politics, economics and more. The topic was very technical, but dealt with many different realities, such as political environments, climate change, financial risks and social factors. These two courses are somehow at the end of a spectrum from each other. The first one requiring a lot of theoretical work on the books, while being offered to freshmen students. The latter as a real-world and hands-on learning experience offered to senior students in their last semester as undergraduates.

4) What is your fondest memory at Franklin?

Commencement is always a happy moment as you witness the culmination of students' growth and achievements. However, my favorite thing about Franklin is the ability of the institution to enable lengthy and deep connections and relations between faculty and students. I have learned so much about different countries thanks to our students' diverse backgrounds. In addition, being a small community, students have the opportunity to get to know and trust their professors, and come to you not only for academic advice but also personal matters.

Armando Zaneccchia

(Political Science
and International Management)

Emeritus since 2021

Ph.D. University of Oregon, USA

M.A. Old Dominion University, USA

B.S. Old Dominion University, USA



Prior to Franklin University Switzerland, **Professor Armando Zaneccchia** was affiliated with Berkshire College (Massachusetts), the University of Oregon, Old Dominion University, and Golden Gate University. He was a Summer Fellow at the Cooperative Institutes of Moscow, Gomel (Belarus), and Poltava (Ukraine), has performed scholarly and consulting work in Europe, Central America, Southern Africa, and Asia, and conducted research and training in the former Soviet Republics and Nepal. As the former Academic Dean of the College, Professor Armando Zaneccchia was instrumental in Franklin's initial Swiss University accreditation. His research interests include financing sustainable, community-based economic development in the North as well as the South, international organizational analysis, institutional strategic planning, and issues of labor and capital mobility in global markets. He has received grants from the Massachusetts Department of Food and Agriculture, National Endowment for the Humanities, the Eurasia Foundation, and the US Department of Education to conduct research and training seminars abroad. He has served on a number of foundations, NGO, and private investment company advisory boards.

1) What do you consider your biggest academic accomplishment at Franklin?

During my tenure as Dean of Academic Affairs, I led the team in 2002 that submitted our first and eventually successful application for Swiss accreditation. At the time, we were called Franklin College Switzerland, and the Swiss accreditation authority accredited all of our programs of study at the undergraduate level as being consistent with similar programs at Swiss universities. In my opinion, this was a big deal, as it finally gave us host country recognition that has served us well over the years for our student recruitment and global academic standing.

As a Professor of Political Science, in the early 2000s I introduced the first political science courses in sustainability, to include environmental politics, sustainable development in Africa, and others. I was very satisfied to see courses with a sustainability theme develop in other majors, to include academic travel.

Finally, as I reflect on my career at Franklin, I am grateful for my relatively long tenure as both a professor and dean. I now teach the sons and daughters of my first students, and I'm proud to continue this wonderful academic legacy at Franklin.

2) Among your many publications, which is the one you are the fondest of and why?

I think I'm most fond of my first academic paper that I presented at the European meeting of the International Society of Political Psychology at Oxford University back in the early 1980s. That paper distilled my keen interest in the political strategies and behavioral considerations required for sustainable social transformation. We still have a long way to go, but it's satisfying to see how the environmental movement has progressed over the last 50 years.

3) Which was your favorite class to teach at Franklin and why?

As you can probably appreciate by now, I love teaching courses related to environmental politics and sustainability, particularly when I can incorporate academic travel into the courses. In my opinion, it's important for students to appreciate not only theoretical considerations, but also experience examples of sustainability in the real world - whether it's a sustainable farm in Malawi, Massachusetts or Zermatt. I also include aspects of international political economy in these courses so that students can appreciate the broader institutional and international relations context of the course themes.

4) What is your fondest memory at Franklin?

I think my fondest memory at Franklin was the day I received an offer of employment as a full professor back in 1998. I have come to love this place, as it has provided a multitude of memories and opportunities, to include almost 30 academic travels from New York and Boston to Namibia and Botswana. Along the way, I have been grateful for the opportunity to collaborate with talented and dedicated colleagues within the faculty, administration, staff and Board of Trustees. I was also very proud to see my oldest son graduate from Franklin with a major in visual communication arts, a degree that has served him well in the corporate world. Franklin continues to be a special place for me as new memories surface in my role as Professor Emeritus and advisor to our dynamic new President, Samuel Martín-Barbero.

PROJECTS & EVENTS

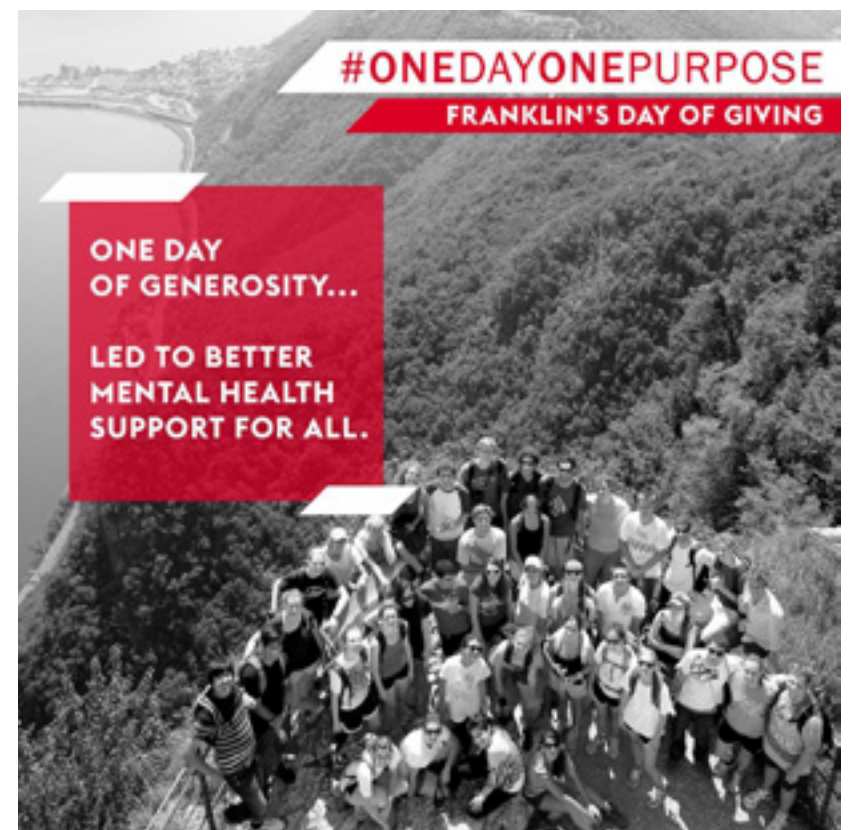


ONE DAY. ONE PURPOSE. DAY OF GIVING 2023

FRANKLIN UNIVERSITY SWITZERLAND DAY OF GIVING:
SUPPORTING THE MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF STUDENTS

At Franklin we are driven by the principles of confidence, curiosity and connection. Our unique educational model empowers our students to become creative problem solvers, ready to tackle the challenges of an increasingly connected world. Therefore, when they came to us with the mental health challenges they are facing, we made student mental health and wellness our annual #OneDayOnePurpose Day of Giving initiative.

The percentage of university students reporting mental well-being concerns has been increasing steadily. While these issues impact students everywhere, at Franklin we are determined to tackle this challenge head on. Studies have shown that immersive education, the kind Franklin excels at, has a positive impact on the mental health and well-being of students.



LEARN MORE
ABOUT DAY
OF GIVING



Our goal is to create the conditions for Franklin students to thrive in mind, body and spirit, by providing increased resources and support. This year we held a round table at the Falcon's Nest to connect with our students and identify the mental health and wellness initiatives they believe will have a positive impact on their experience, such as increased availability and access to counselors and advisors; wellness and stress management resources, nutrition and health-focused workshops; and offering more group and peer-to-peer activities.

Franklin's Day of Giving took place on April 19, 2023. With the involvement of alumni, trustees, parents, faculty, staff and students, we surrounded our students with a community that prioritizes mental health, fosters curiosity, and encourages connection. The generosity and participation of the Franklin community resulted in our most successful Day of Giving to date with \$104,649 raised!



PROJECTS & EVENTS



Our goal is to create the conditions for Franklin students to thrive in mind, body and spirit, by providing increased resources and support.



FRANKLIN AND THE LUGANO DANCE PROJECT

PUT ON YOUR DANCING SHOES!



Franklin is a citizen of the world, with students coming from more than 55 nations, an equally international faculty, and partnerships scattered around the globe. Through its involvement in the Lugano Dance Project, our university also wants to emphasize being a proud citizen of Lugano, and linked to the city's cultural, academic, media and business hub. In this sense, Lugano also belongs to the whole world.



Kim Hildebrandt '90 (Chairman of the Franklin Board of Trustees)



As an incredible collaboration between Franklin University Switzerland, the Lugano Arte e Cultura (LAC), and the City of Lugano, the Lugano Dance Project has provided an important opportunity to create a positive and lasting impact on both the local and international community. To date, the project has explored the legacies of early twentieth-century experimental dance rooted in the Monte Verità community and pursued through influential practices in the 1950s and 1960s and was specifically designed as a platform for exchange and production in contemporary dance through international networks connecting Switzerland with Europe and North America.

Since October 2022 the Lugano Dance Project's managers from Franklin, **Professors Hrisanta Trebici-Marin and Fabio Ferrari** from the Arts and Cultures Academic Division, have been in close contact with the LAC and the City of Lugano. They have both been working tirelessly to connect Franklin with the community and broader Ticino region by reaching out to internationally renowned local talents and artists and building collaborations to further develop the learning environment through a series of educational initiatives and partnerships.



The Lugano Dance Project's first edition, launched in May 2022, proved to be the perfect opportunity for students to learn about and appreciate the cultural and historical dance background in Lugano. Throughout the entire Spring 2022 semester, Franklin proactively promoted the event to a diverse public, from school children to a wider audience of adults and international professionals, while leaving a significant and lasting impression on the Ticino community.

Franklin students participated in the coordination and management of various elements and activities in support of the project. Franklin professors integrated their curricula significantly, and introduced specific courses to provide students with both theoretical and practical tools useful for analyzing the Lugano Dance Project by evaluating its artistic, historical, managerial, and communicative aspects.

Specifically, three classes were involved in the promotion of the event:

- Students from the International Management major contributed to the organization and dissemination of the project. They liaised with representatives of the LAC and the City of Lugano to understand, measure, and communicate the social impact of the Lugano Dance Project by promoting arts philanthropy, and creating and maintaining a high level of engagement with various stakeholders, including the artist, and both the local and Franklin community.

- Students from the Communications and Media Studies major supported **Professor Elettra Fiumi**, an award-winning documentary film director, producer and editor, in the creation of a documentary entitled "Dancing Free: the LAC Dance Program," along with additional accompanying videos about the project. Involved in filming and video production, students learned the various phases of filmmaking while discovering different methods and styles of telling stories through a lens.

- Finally, students studying Arts and Cultures were involved in the Lugano Dance Project through a pilot course in creative practices. They analyzed performance art and the historical framework of the Ticino region's dance legacy inspired by the Monte Verità community. Using these insights as common ground for approaching the world of creativity, students later created a practical project using a medium of their choice.

By the beginning of the Spring 2023 semester, the first open dialogue between students, faculty, and internationally renowned Swiss composer-choreographer, **Maria Bonzanigo**, co-founder of the Compagnia Finzi-Pasca, permanent collaborator of the Cirque du Soleil, and co-creator of an experimental technique called "Teatro della carezza" was held on campus. Ms. Bonzanigo offered an open dance workshop, a special project of movement expression for students, which took place during the 2023 University Day and Day of Giving in April 2023. The theme of the workshop, called "Equilibrium," was connected to Franklin's focus on well-being. Students, faculty, and staff were invited to participate in an afternoon workshop on the President's Lawn following the community's sustainability lunch, sponsored by the Green Office and Senior Class. The goal of the workshop was to explore the intersection of emotional and physical well-being and the equilibrium one can create, as with with dance and music. Two additional workshops of the same nature were offered during graduation week, and students once again had the opportunity to experiment with contemporary dance in the beautiful setting of Franklin's campus.

During the upcoming academic year, the Lugano Dance Project will once again offer an important opportunity for community engagement and offer an exciting combination of programming and initiatives. Through the design of specific public events, promotion of

the project, and activities in the local area, Franklin will again contribute to the project's resonance as well as its own image and identity in Sorengo and the Lugano area. This new edition will focus on dance and architecture and involve many more members of the Franklin faculty, who are creating academic courses and workshops specifically related to the project. Classes will be linked and adapted to offer learning outcomes intertwined with the festival during both the Fall 2023 and Spring 2024 semesters. Among these are topics including Public Speaking; History of Ballet and Dance Music; Sustainability and Art Studio; History of Photography; and many more.

Throughout the previous and upcoming editions of the Lugano Dance Project, Franklin continues to have a significant and lasting impact on the Ticino community. Additionally, this opportunity and its many resulting partnerships enable the University to extend students' cross-cultural and multi-sectoral learning experience by linking this event to professional and pedagogical contexts.





IMPLEMENTING SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES ON CAMPUS AND BEYOND

“ The FUS Green Office is not just a hub for sustainability initiatives, collaboration, and real-world applications of sustainability policies. It’s an inclusive center for sustainability programs, where people, who are committed to improving the state of the world, can come together to bring positive change. ”

Jean Wu (Founding Director, Green Office Sustainability Programs)



Climate change and sustainability are front and center in today’s world. Businesses and institutions are driving a rapidly growing demand for sustainability professionals. Higher education plays an essential role in meeting that demand, forging future global citizens that are equipped to tackle climate change challenges and goals.

As a prominent member of society, Franklin University Switzerland is committed to investing in sustainability agendas and to driving conversations around sustainability, both on campus and globally. With the aim of leading the university’s sustainability work, the Franklin University Switzerland Green Office (FUS GO) was established to consolidate, develop, and implement sustainability-related activities.

The FUS GO serves as a space for collaboration, joint initiatives, and real-world applications of sustainability policies, research, and practice within Franklin and other global communities.

The idea for the FUS GO was originally proposed by the Spring 2021 Environmental Studies Capstone Project, where social responsibility, educational innovation, and achieving a positive environmental footprint were addressed. The capstone project was the effort of students **Grace Kotnik '22, Naomi Lear '21, Alejandra Malavenda '22, Gabriella Teerlynck-Aviles '22, and Peter Waszkis '21**. In May 2022, after University and Giving Day raised a total of \$50,000 to establish the FUS GO, an official FUS GO mandate was signed by former **President, P. Gregory Warden**, a selected list of students, staff and faculty. The mandate was an expression of Franklin’s official support for the work of the FUS GO.

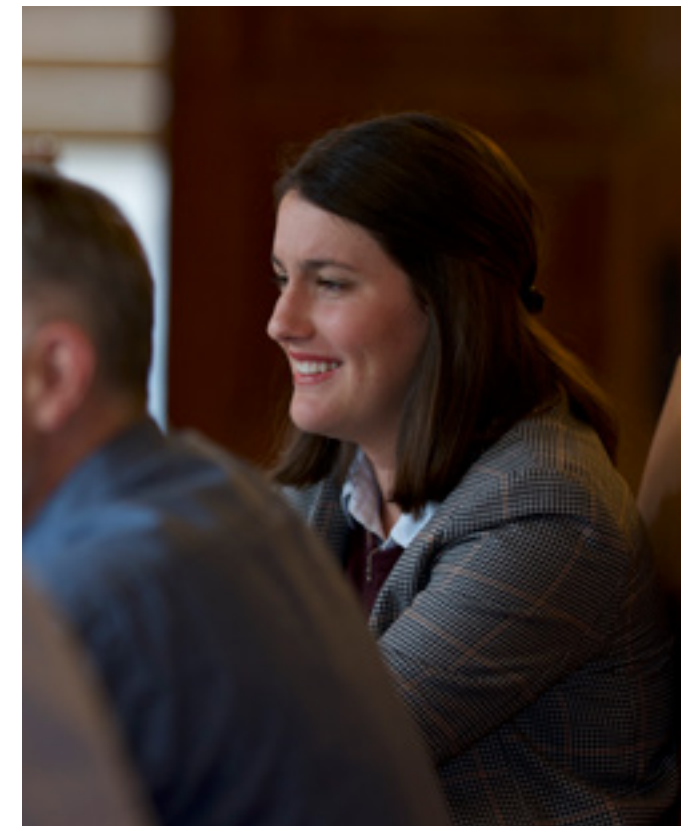
As a student-driven initiative, the FUS GO operates within five different branches, including campus operations; event coordination; education and research; external affairs and projects; and marketing communications. It is part of the Green Office Movement as the first-ever Green Office officially recognized at a Swiss and an American university. It is also as member of both the Higher Education Sustainability Initiative (HESI) and the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE).

As of the Fall 2022 semester, the FUS GO has its own team, made up of staff and students. **Jean Wu**, a UC Berkeley School of Law graduate with a Certificate of Specialization in Environmental Law, joined the team in August 2022 as the founding Director of Green Office Sustainability Programs.

Under Wu’s leadership, the FUS GO team of GO Scholars and Sustainable Garden Interns have spearheaded several initiatives, meeting weekly as a group and individually. Together, **Ghala Ashoor '25, Jordan King '25, Skylar Temple '24, Grace Meller '25, Aly Mitu '23, Tristan Cousin '24, Sophie Kendrick '23, Emily Scheibler '24, and Rosie Turbyville '25**, have established several efforts to create a healthy environment, conserve energy, reduce pollution and promote sustainability-related initiatives at Franklin.

Since August 2022, the FUS GO has held numerous events and activities on and off-campus, like the Sustainability Scavenger Hunt, Gently Used Item Exchange, Green Day Field Trip, the Sorengo Neighborhood Clean-up Day, and the Residence Hall Energy Saving Competition, to name a few.

The Residence Hall Energy Saving Competition, for instance, wanted not only to encourage students to adopt an energy conservation mindset, but likewise be a chance for the University to measure its energy usage in the residence halls.



SOME OF THE GOALS OF THE FUS GREEN OFFICE INCLUDE

- Incorporating sustainability into all academic disciplines.
- Partnering with the local community and other organizations to further promote sustainability.
- Proposing sustainable and responsible Academic Travel activities and itineraries.
- Fostering an inclusive community that promotes sustainability in every aspect of campus life.
- Striving to reach a carbon-neutral campus by 2050.

SUPPORT
FUS GO





Measuring the University's energy usage is just one of the ways the FUS GO is helping the University understand its sustainability profile. In addition, the FUS GO has been hard at work updating the University's Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System (STARS) report. STARS is a reporting framework developed by AASHE to help universities identify the ways in which sustainability is integrated on campus, in curriculum and within community. Participating in STARS reporting helps the University better set sustainability targets, develop and manage sustainability programs, and assess and report on progress.

One of the first programs launched by the FUS GO is a companion to Franklin's Academic Travel program, called the Academic Travel Carbon Trading Program (ACT Program). The ACT Program is an innovative approach designed by the FUS GO to reduce the overall emissions generated by the University as part of its goal of helping Franklin reach carbon neutrality. This program enables participants to calculate, reduce and offset their AT carbon footprint. During the Fall 2022 semester, the ACT Program's carbon credits were applied to fund the replacement of heavily polluting landscaping equipment with sustainable electric-powered equipment. The overall results were as follows: 100% participation in carbon calculation, 76% participation in carbon offset credits, and 67% of the program goal reached.

Another project led by the FUS GO centered on its role as part of the Education Coalition supporting the Right Here, Right Now, Global Climate Change Summit, co-hosted by the University of Colorado Boulder and the United Nations Human Rights. During the Summit, the FUS GO members hosted watch party sessions to enable participants in Europe to benefit from the Summit program. As part of these sessions, the FUS GO led discussions to broaden the understanding of how human rights are impacted by global climate change.

On campus, the FUS GO has initiated a Campus Compost Program, educating students and the rest of the Franklin community on what items can and cannot be composted. The GO Scholars have identified compost collection points, worked on the procurement of compost bins, researched collection methods, and stocked the campus composting center with starter worms. The compost is currently used in Gardiner's Garden on North Campus, which is slowly flourishing again with a big help from the Garden Interns.



Furthermore, members of the FUS GO participated in a service project at a community garden in Chamonix, France, during the Fall 2022 Academic Travel season with **Professor Brack Hale**, where they had the opportunity to learn more about permaculture gardening.

In January 2023, Wu participated in several sustainability-related events in Davos, Switzerland, at the World Economic Forum's annual meeting, where she represented Franklin and promoted the ways in which higher education can play an active role in forming partnerships with business and public leaders to achieve climate goals. Next year, Wu hopes to bring a group of GO Scholars to the annual meeting in Davos in order to participate in the important sustainability conversations happening at the event.

Perhaps one of the most impactful events hosted by the FUS GO was the Earth Day Summit in April 2023, a weekend conference showcasing multidisciplinary and transdisciplinary approaches to sustainability. By bringing together a wide diversity of academic and community thought leaders, the Summit addressed the interconnectedness that explains why sustainability is a shared goal. Its aim was to include faculty and students from all academic disciplines, as well as community advocates for sustainability from Ticino and beyond, emphasizing the unique connections we all have to each other and to our planet.

From making digital business cards for the Franklin community, to working with the Dining Halls to offer more sustainability food choices, to promoting sustainable transportation, the FUS GO works in both small and large ways to make Franklin more sustainable. The FUS GO hopes to continue its important work of integrating sustainability into every aspect of Franklin and supporting impactful sustainability initiatives beyond the campus. Don't forget that you too can contribute to a more sustainable and environmentally friendly University and future by supporting the FUS GO.

FUS GO MEMBERS STATEMENTS



Jean Wu

(Founding Director, Green Office Sustainability Programs)

"I am proud of our GO Scholars, who work tirelessly to transform Franklin into a more sustainable and just University. I am proud of our administration for their support of sustainability and the Franklin values. And I am proud of our faculty and staff, who inspire with their innovation, passion and kindness. On behalf of the Green Office: thank you Franklin community."



Grace Meller

(GO Scholar - Education and Research)

"Working in sustainability and facing the depths of climate change isn't a light task. But the community and passion the Green Office provides have proven that there are so many ideas and solutions out there, we just need to work together and build on others' ideas!"



Skylar Tempel

(GO Scholar - Event Coordination)

"My name is Skylar, and I am a third-year student at Franklin University Switzerland. I am an Environmental Science major and I am the Event Coordinator for the Green Office. I have been working in the Green Office since it began in the spring of 2022. My favorite part of being a GO scholar is having the resources to take what I am learning in the classroom and using them to create change in our community. It is so nice to be actively working towards improving our school and our local community. I have been learning a lot about how intersectional environmentalism really is and how important it is to collect different perspectives. One of my favorite memories from the Green Office is our Earth day garden party. It's so much fun to come together as a group to celebrate our work and our beautiful planet. It makes me so proud to be the first Green Office in Switzerland and to be a leader in our community as we address issues that effects all of us."



Rosie Turbyville

(Sustainable Gardener)

"Being a sustainable garden intern has been a great learning experience and it is very important to me. I think gardens are a beautiful way to bring a community together and promote a more sustainable way of living through the composting initiative and planting produce we can use ourselves."



Ghala Ashoor

(GO Scholar - Campus Operations)

"Something I learned this year working with the GO is that no idea is too ambitious when you are working with a team equally as ambitious and passionate as you are."



Tristan Cousin

(GO Scholar - Marketing and Communications)

"Being in the garden and at the Green Office, I have learned the importance of having a clear strategy and common goal. Working alongside a small team and with limited resources has helped me practice adaptability and creativity. I have been able to practice working with people that I might not interact with on a daily basis, and have gotten some insight into the amount of work and energy it takes to build an effective campaign from the ground up, and put systems in place so that it can be passed on to future leaders."



Aly Mitu

(GO Scholar - External Affairs and Projects)

"Working at the Green Office has shown me that change is much more feasible when you work with people who are passionate about their cause."



Sophie Kendrick

(Sustainable Gardener)

"Working in the garden has taught me the importance of connecting with others through a mutual love and appreciation for the natural world. It's always so exciting to eat something you grew from a seed with other amazing students."

A NEW LANDMARK FOR FRANKLIN

BUILDING OUR FUTURE

“ Today we begin a transformative and ambitious new chapter at Franklin and in our community, and by creating a facility that not only fulfills our current needs, we continue to enhance our campus and inspire our community in order to fully uphold the University’s mission well into the future ”

P. Gregory Warden (Former President of Franklin University Switzerland)



Franklin University Switzerland has been investing in its campuses to ensure that students, faculty and staff can live and work in an environment that inspires them to excel. Providing a highly visible “face” for the University, the construction of the new and modern student residence complex has been one of the most exciting projects at the heart of Franklin. In the Fall 2022 semester, the residential part of the complex welcomed its first cohort of residents. The four floors of 29 modern and comfortable apartments, with design furniture and views of Lake Lugano, allow students to share the common kitchen, living room, and bathrooms with up to four roommates.

On May 19, 2023, **President Samuel Martín-Barbero and Chairman of the Board of Trustees Kim Hildebrant '90**, together with Franklin leadership were honored to celebrate the naming of the McNeely Center of Ideas & Imagination and the Giardino di Luce.

Named after **Rosemary McNeely and Kevin W. McNeely '73**, Trustee, the Center offers a space for students to engage and strengthen their interdisciplinary and experiential education at Franklin and promote our sense of community. The Giardino di Luce, or Garden of Light, created and donated by **Nora McNeely Hurley '81**, is a special wellness garden filled with more than 24 types of lush local flora in the naturally terraced slope. The garden encompasses a space between all three residences and serves as a holistic learning environment. It is the perfect spot for students to gather in good weather, reflect and find peace.

Designed in collaboration with the Industrial Companies of Lugano (AIL) SA, and with the Innovative Envelope research team of University of Applied Sciences and Arts of the Southern Switzerland (ISAAC-SUPSI), this photovoltaic system was born after a full year of research and development, and represents one of the few dynamic Building Integrated Photovoltaics (BIPV) systems in all of Europe designed to track the position of the sun in order to increase performance by 20% compared to a conventional photovoltaic louver.





The Naming Ceremony further acknowledged **Angela W. Fowler '75** for her support in creating the Angela Fowler Atrium, and Trustee and co-Founder **Pascal F. Tone**, for his continued support of student wellbeing initiatives, through the funding of a second Tone Athletic Center.

Franklin's campuses are remarkable for their setting, landscaping, and beauty, and without a doubt the tower is one of the most striking features of the complex. This modern, elliptical building is expected to be completed soon, and is made of opaque glass and covered by innovative mechanical photovoltaic louvers that protect the building from the heat of the sun while converting the sunlight into clean energy. Overall, for the entire complex of the A, B and C buildings the environmental benefit is quantified in 60 tons of CO2 emissions savings on a yearly basis, eleven of which being from the tower alone.

Already a landmark in the Sorengo community, this five-story modern residence complex connects the Kaletsch and North campuses. We are truly proud of our supporters for fostering exceptional growth in our academic and creative pursuits.



The new building complex represents a transformational journey in Franklin's history and opens the doors to a new Franklin future.



CONSTRUCTION TIMELINE

MAY, 2019



Groundbreaking Ceremony celebrating the start of construction of the new building complex during which a transformative lead gift of \$4 million received from an anonymous donor was revealed.

APRIL, 2021



Topping Out Ceremony celebrating the completion of the roof and the final construction phase of the complex.

MAY, 2022



State of the University and new building complex celebration during Commencement weekend at which the P. Gregory Warden Student Center was unveiled.

AUGUST, 2022



The residential complex opens its 29 apartments (67 beds) to students.

MAY, 2023



Naming Ceremony during Commencement weekend of the *McNeely Center of Ideas & Imagination* and the *Giardino di Luce*.



COMMENCEMENT WEEK EVENTS

The most exciting time of the year included Franklin Commencement week. The events took place during the week of May 16-May 21, 2023, and each day was comprised of memorable events for attendees. Just prior to commencement week, members of the Franklin Senior Class and friends took a two-hour tour of the Duomo in Milan, Italy accompanied by **Professor Fabio Ferrari and Ebonie Rayford**, Assistant Dean of Student Life and Career Strategy. Through their guided tour, students learned about the history and architecture of the cathedral. Students reported that the interplay of private enterprise in the creation and upkeep of the Duomo was particularly fascinating.

All enjoyed a walk around the city center after a long, memorable day at one of the largest cathedrals in the world, second only in Italy to St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican City. The day was bittersweet as some seniors viewed it as their last venture outside Lugano together before graduation. The Duomo tour in Milan was a fitting farewell to the Italian-speaking region of Europe for departing students, and it is a new tradition that Franklin hopes to continue in future years.

On Tuesday evening, the Academic Awards Ceremony took place in the Nielsen Auditorium. Students, faculty, and staff were recognized for their hard work and achievements. The ceremony was followed by a reception and dessert was held al fresco as gelato—in an old-fashioned novelty truck and an assortment of colors and delicious flavors—was served to the honorees. On Wednesday, graduating seniors celebrated together at the picturesque Hotel Villa Principe Leopoldo at a special event hosted by **Rosemary and Kevin**

McNeely. It was a great party for hardworking seniors to enjoy their success together one last time.

On Thursday, the second workshop of the Lugano Dance Project, "Equilibrium," convened in the open space of the David R. Grace Library, given unfavorable weather conditions. **Maria Bonzanigo** of Compagnia Finzi Pasca led dancers in a warm-up and choreography session that integrated each dancer's movement choices into a cohesive choreographic piece. The first workshop on University Day had a great turnout, and the second workshop also included new participants who contributed creatively to the overall project. The workshop lasted 3 hours, and it was a rejuvenating experience for all. In the evening, graduating seniors were joined by alumni, trustees, faculty, staff, and friends during the traditional Alumni Council Sponsored Graduates' Boat Cruise on Lake Lugano. A cruise on the lake at sunset was the perfect occasion for remembering the "bella vista" of Lugano.

The Graduating Student and Family Send-Off Dinner atop Monte San Salvatore took place on Friday evening. Amidst breathtaking views looking down on Lugano, graduating seniors and their families had the opportunity to meet, connect, and say goodbye before the excitement of commencement.

The Franklin Commencement Ceremony on Sunday, May 21 was an incredibly special occasion as it was held for the first time at the LAC (Lugano Arte e Cultura) in central Lugano. What a beautiful vista for concluding the academic year!



COMMENCEMENT 2023

With great anticipation and pride, friends and family of this year's senior class convened at the Lugano Arte e Cultura (LAC) in Lugano city center to celebrate together at the Graduation and Commencement Ceremony on Sunday, May 21.

This year's procession was memorable as the LAC venue provided a grand, luxurious space for students to be conferred their degrees. Students were welcomed before the ceremony in their caps and gowns which they received during rehearsal earlier in the week. After opening remarks and a warm welcome from **President Samuel Martín-Barbero** and Board of Trustees Chairman **Kim Hildebrant '90**, **Dean Deborah Knaust** and **Professor Fabio Ferrari** announced this year's Franklin Values Awards. Award recipients included **Grace Bacon** for Academic Excellence, **Arpi Khachatryan** for the Gerta Holmann Award, and **Spencer Landry** for the Presidential Leadership Award.

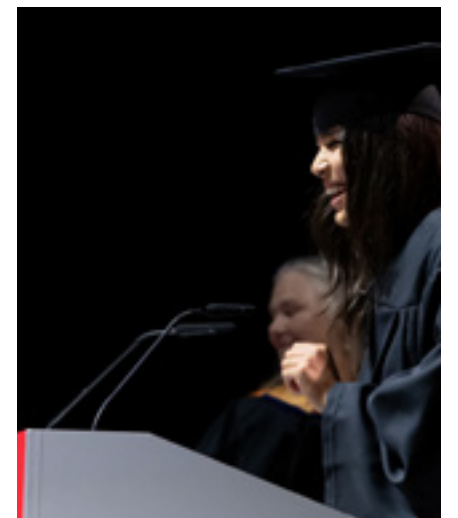
Noteworthy speeches included those presented by Swiss Federal Councillor **Ignazio Cassis**, Former **President P. Gregory Warden**, **Kevin McNeely '73**, and students **Paige Arellano** and **Majda Halim**.



In his commencement address, Swiss Federal Councillor and Head of the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs Ignazio Cassis commended graduates on their commitment to study, to remain curious, and to expand their skills on the journey toward earning their university degrees. He emphasized his pride as a Ticinese that the students had chosen Lugano and Franklin in particular as the university in which to pursue an education. He observed that the cohort of new graduation candidates before him read like a list of delegates of the United Nations. The tone of the first half of Cassis's speech was sobering, as he pointed out that the world is becoming less global and less democratic, more fragmented and more dangerous, where there are many geopolitical, economic, and technological transformations going on—and that the world is becoming more pluralistic—that we are confronting a series of crises such as war, energy and food insecurity, inflation, and climate change. The second half of his oratory changed to an uplifting tone: None of the negative observable trends in 2023 are irreversible, he countered.

Cassis introduced the idea that what is needed today are bridge builders—not only at the federal level such as what is being accomplished by Switzerland but also on the individual level, such as change makers, those newly graduated from Franklin. Because Switzerland is a country that relies on the co-existence of different cultures, Cassis reminded students that a global outlook is key to promoting cooperation and peace, and overcoming the major challenges referenced earlier in his speech. Cassis concluded his oration by encouraging students to use the intercultural skills learned at Franklin to find common ground and consider themselves responsible citizens of the world and to think critically to make a difference. It was truly an honor to have Swiss Federal Councillor Ignazio Cassis at the ceremony and to hear his words of affirmation and encouragement.

Kevin McNeely's incredible history as a former study abroad Franklin student, film industry supporter, and Franklin philanthropist were acknowledged as he took the podium to accept his well-deserved honorary doctorate. McNeely reminded students that he spent his winter semester at Franklin 50 years ago and that the experience had an indelible influence on his life. His humility, humor, and generosity were shown through his gracious speech. We are so proud to have recently named, the McNeely Center of Ideas & Imagination, in his honor, which will continue to promote student excellence for years to come.



After a 30-year illustrious career as an archaeologist and professor at Southern Methodist University, P. Gregory Warden joined Franklin as its fourth president from 2012-2022. His tenure saw many accomplishments, acknowledged and confirmed by presenter Dr. Andrew Starcher. Warden expressed his gratitude to the Board of Trustees, faculty, and students—many of whom he knew personally from his past years as President. Congratulations to Dr. Warden on his honorary degree and continued success.

Paige Arellano, a master's graduate, dedicated her speech to her uncle Louis who had passed away only the week before the ceremony. Aptly dubbed "An Ode to the Experience We Call Life," Arellano's speech reminded fellow students to continue to create serendipity by taking time and savoring the "sweetness of the now," taking delight in the ability to receive another day.

Majda Halim, undergraduate, encouraged her fellow students to remember the times spent together, including surviving the pandemic years and the unique problems and perseverance that era brought and continues to bring. Her witty anecdotes of individual shared moments special to the current Franklin cohort elicited laughter from the audience as the room's ambiance shifted into celebration after the degrees were finished being conferred.

Following the ceremony, newly minted Franklin graduates and guests enjoyed a reception and took in the splendid sight of Lugano from the LAC's glass-paneled vantage points. The Sunday afternoon festivities swelled as celebrants exited the venue, spilling onto the outside terrace to take photos and videos with Lake Lugano in the background. Proud parents, faculty, and staff watched on as the graduates said their final farewells to Lugano and, in the end, to each other.



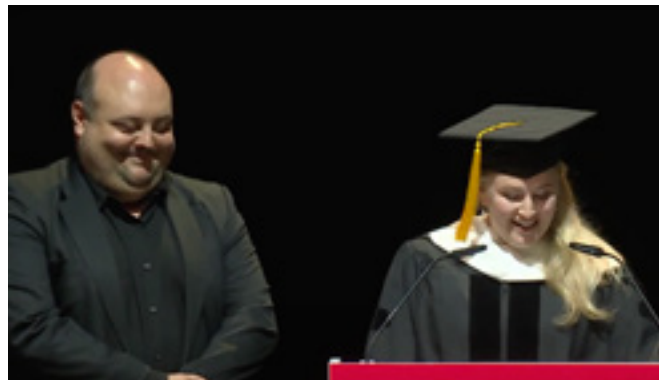
URSULA GENTILE LOWERRE OUTSTANDING ALUMNI SERVICE AWARD

We were honored to present the Ursula Gentile Lowerre Outstanding Alumni Service Award to **Conner Crawford '12** at Commencement this year in recognition of his dedication and long-term commitment to Franklin. The award was established by the Board of Trustees in 2006 to recognize outstanding members of the alumni community for exemplary service to the University and for their enthusiastic leadership and support of its mission and goals. The award reflects the honor and credit that recipients bring to the University through their actions and contributions.

Crawford has been working closely with Franklin in various roles as a student and since graduating in 2012 with a major in History and Political Science. While studying at Franklin he sought an active role; serving for four years in the Student Government Association, including as its President. He also worked tirelessly to assist a number of Franklin clubs, served on the editorial board of the campus paper, and was an LLLS scholar for the IT and Registrar's offices. For his hard work and involvement, he received the FUS Outstanding Freshman Award.

Crawford joined the Franklin Alumni Council in 2012 immediately after graduation and has served as its Funds Officer since 2016. He is also Chair of the Franklin Club of Southern California and serves as an Admissions Ambassador. In 2019 Crawford served as the alumni representative on the University's VIEW committee to establish and articulate Franklin's core values.

Upon accepting the Ursula Gentile Lowerre Outstanding Alumni Service Award, presented to him by Kim Hildebrant '90, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, together with Emily Boynton '09, President of the Alumni Council, Crawford stated "I am deeply honored to be considered among the alumni that won this award before me. It is something that I deeply appreciate... Advice to Class of 2023: Don't wait too long. You'll never be younger than you are now. I look forward to meeting more of you as I go forward with our work on the Alumni Council and I want to leave you just with this: we want to hear from you, we want to earn your support, and we want to learn how we can work together to support this University that we adore."



RECONNECTING IN NEW YORK CITY

We were thrilled to host a cheerful gathering in New York City on Friday, November 11, 2022. The event was generously sponsored by Franklin Trustee **Lucius Fowler** and took place at the Links Club, a historic social club established in 1916 that is located in a beautiful townhouse on East 62nd Street.

President Samuel Martín-Barbero, accompanied by members of the leadership team, welcomed alumni, parents, trustees, and guests in this beautiful setting, and was grateful for the opportunity to meet everyone during the cocktail reception. The alumni who attended represented many different Franklin generations and reminisced about past shared experiences, such as Academic Travel, life on campus and in Switzerland and learned more about the university's new achievements and exciting initiatives.

A highlight of the evening was a presentation by **Professor Elettra Fiumi**, founder of Fiumi Film Studios, journalist, award-winning documentary film director, producer and editor, and Adjunct Professor of Journalism at Franklin. Followed by a warm introduction by **Rosemary McNeely P'23** and Trustee **Kevin McNeely '73, P'23**, guests were shown a special preview of the video documentary depicting Franklin's signature program, Academic Travel, the production of which has since been completed by Fiumi Film Studios.



ALUMNI WEEKEND 2022

More than 150 alumni and nearly 250 people reunited, reconnected, and reminisced during the Franklin Alumni Weekend in Lugano on May 12 - 15, 2022. Alumni and friends had a chance to enjoy the Taste of Switzerland buffet at the Grotto and lawn on Kaletsch Campus, take a beautiful cruise on Lake Lugano, tour our new building complex, sample the amazing food during the barbecue on the North Campus field, tour the campus, hike to the top of San Salvatore, celebrate our newest alumni at Commencement, and so much more.



REPORT OF GIVING

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 at the University and 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*

Loyal support from donors who contribute year after year is vital to the University's success. **The Franklin World Citizen Club** recognizes sustained annual giving to Franklin at any gift level. Donors who contribute to Franklin for five successive fiscal years, or every year since graduation for young alumni, become members of the Franklin World Citizen Club. Membership continues with sustained annual giving each fiscal year. This recognition of alumni, parents and friends who show a special commitment to Franklin was created to acknowledge their outstanding, yearly dedication to the school.

Alumni class years follow the alumni donor names.

*Franklin World Citizen Club members: Donors who have made gifts in each of the past five years or each year since graduation.

CONTRIBUTORS: ANNUAL REPORT

July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

YOUR ENGAGEMENT AND GENEROSITY WILL ENSURE FRANKLIN'S CONTINUED SUCCESS.

FRANKLIN GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES ALL ALUMNI, PARENTS, AND FRIENDS WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE 2021-2022 FUNDRAISING YEAR.

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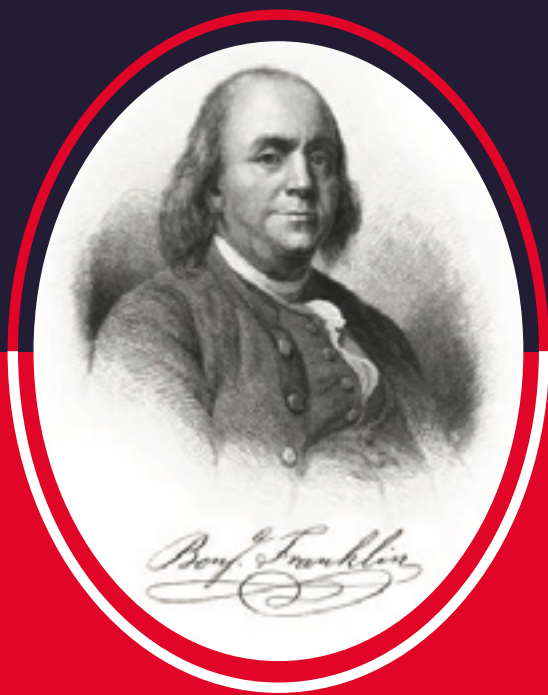
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