COVER STORY
FRANKLIN CELEBRATES THE YEAR OF THE UNIVERSITY
Throughout its relatively short history Franklin consistently has aimed high in its ambitions.

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THE COVER: Celebrating becoming a university, Pascal F. Tone, Franklin founder, first President and current Chair of the Board of Trustees, said, “I’m immensely proud of all that Franklin has achieved. While we had great hopes for the University in 1969 we never imagined it would become the leading force it has in the world of international education. It is truly wonderful to receive such recognition after such a thorough review process by leading educators.”

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As I write, Franklin has just sent off into the world 93 members of the class of 2015 to begin the next stage in their life adventures. Among these were 8 graduates in the 2015 cohort of our master’s degree program in international management, the third such class since we initiated graduate studies in 2012. At that time we successfully petitioned the Swiss University Conference to grant Franklin formal recognition as a university-institution in the Swiss system of higher education. Our cover story recounts how this celebration on campus and the activities of the ensuing “Year of the University.”

One such activity was our hosting and producing TEDxLugano, Ticino’s first and only TED-licensed conference on ideas that matter. Our story in this issue about TEDs is really one about student initiative and leadership, key characteristics of a Franklin education. The wild ride to the top of an international competition undertaken against enormous odds by alumna Moska Najib, ‘05, as recounted in “Moska for the Best Job in the World,” illustrates that every Franklin attitude of perseverance and optimism that tends to serve our students and alumni so well.

As the end of May we welcomed alumni back to campus for our Global Alumni Reunion 2015. It was personally very satisfying and inspiring to witness the passion for their alma mater that these sons and daughters of Franklin brought with them. This time of year, while filled with the excitement and promise of fresh beginnings for our students, is also marked by the sadness of saying farewell. Graduating senior Majda Dakkak’s reflection on saying goodbye, originally posted on Facebook, touched our hearts so much that we asked her to allow us to share some of it with you in our recap of Commencement 2015. We hope it will touch you as well.

The event was marked by recognition of the service of four members of the faculty and staff who were retiring this year: Brian Stanford, Professor of Art History and Studio Art; Melvin Schlein, Professor of Political Science and History; Leslie Guggiari, Dean of Student Life and Engagement; and Robert Pallone, Vice President for Advancement. In honor of their long and distinguished tenure at Franklin, Professors Stanford and Schlein have been named professors emeritus.

Following tradition, the formal ceremony began with the awarding of honorary degrees. Longtime member of the Franklin Board of Trustees and its chairman since 2010, Pascal P. Toune was awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Human Letters. Mr. Toune co-founded Franklin in 1969, served as its first President, its first Director of Admissions and Development, and as Professor of Literature and Dramatic Arts. His contributions over these last 45 years to the life and well-being of the institution are too numerous to list; let it suffice to say that every single member of the Franklin family, past and present, has been affected by Mr. Toune’s devotion to Franklin.

Dr. Nasser D. Khalili, Ph.D., KCSS, KCFO, and founder of the Khalili Collections, was awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters. Dr. Khalili, who also this year’s graduation speaker, is a world-renowned scholar, philanthropist, and collector. Since 1970, Dr. Khalili has assembled eight of the finest and most comprehensive art collections in the world, which include over 25,000 works in Islamic art; Haj and the art of pilgrimage; Arawak documents; Japanese art of the Meiji period; Japanese kimono; Swedish textiles; Spanish metalwork, and enamels of the world. These works have been exhibited in over 45 major museums worldwide and have been documented in 70 printed exhibit catalogues.

Franklin alumna Indra R. Howell was this year’s recipient of the Ursula Gentile Lowere Outstanding Service Award. The award recognized her tireless commitment to improving the lives of others, epitomized by the founding of the Tanzanian Children’s Fund, which today supports and houses over 90 orphaned children in seven homes in the Children’s Village. In his address to the students, Dr. Khalili, who was born and raised in Tiran, told the story of his own life as a young college student in New York, determined to make it on his own in a new country, as metaphor. After first describing his own success over the years in business and in collecting, he challenged students to approach their goals using the “Triangle of Success,” first, allow themselves to dream, next to construct a plan, and then to pursue the dream with passion. But he also encouraged them to reflect on the question of the ultimate meaning of success. If so, would they want wealth in terms of money or instead wealth in the love of family and friends? He suggested that the answer lies in “not how much you make, but how much difference you make in the lives of others.”

Dr. Khalili, who founded the Maimonides Interfaith Foundation, also

continued >
How can you say goodbye to a place that means so much? How can you look at the past four years without a tear? How can you move on? How can you say goodbye to such a place? How can you say goodbye to such a part of us, part of us, always cherished and always reflected in my heart, always cherish and always received, the accomplishments, the friendships made, the advice, held a memory and a story. The room, and every single corner in it, felt like a home. This experience, it was a home. This was not just a university, but also feeling like you need just one more day, just for myself as I yearn for just one more tear? How can you move on? How can you say goodbye to such a place?

How can you say goodbye to such a place that means so much? How can you look at the past four years without a tear? How can you move on? How can you say goodbye to such a place, such a part of us, always cherished and always reflected in my heart, always cherish and always received, the accomplishments, the friendships made, the advice, held a memory and a story.

Saying Goodbye
Majda Dakkak, class of 2015, of Amman, Jordan, doesn’t want to say goodbye to her second home, Franklin University Switzerland, although she knows she must. She posted the following thoughts for her friends and family on Facebook three days after receiving her diploma with her gracious permission, we share them with you.

How can you say goodbye to a place that means so much? How can you look at the past four years without a tear? How can you move on? I ask myself as I look around me. I ask myself as I yearn for just one more moment, and one more day, just for a final closure before I leave. It’s a feeling of knowing you have to leave, but also feeling like you need just one more breath of this fresh air before you depart.

Franklin was not just a university experience, it was a home. This home became a safe haven, but also an exciting challenge. Every single room, and every single corner in them, held a memory and a story. Stories that reflect the bonds created, the friendships made, the advice received, the accomplishments, the happy moments, and the tears. Stories reflecting on the unbreakable and the unforgettable. Stories I’ll forever carry in my heart, always cherish and always know they are an indispensable part of us, part of us. How can you say goodbye to such a place?

Franklin Mourns the Passing of Dr. Otto Albert Kaletsch

As we were going to press, the Gazette was saddened to learn of the passing of Dr. Otto Albert Kaletsch, who died peacefully at his home in Connecticut on Monday, May 11, at the age of 87. Dr. Kaletsc was a significant presence in the life of Franklin for over 30 years.

Dr. Kaletsch was elected to the Franklin University Switzerland Board of Trustees in 1982 and served as its Chairman from 1990 to 2000. During his tenure Franklin’s student enrollment doubled and academic initiatives were undertaken that resulted in major growth in both the size of the faculty and the number of academic programs. He also was responsible for investments in Franklin’s physical infrastructure, including acquisition of the Panera residence and purchase of the land on Via Ponte Tesa, where the newest residence halls were later built. He believed passionately in the value of an international education. For his many achievements, Dr. Kaletsch was awarded Franklin’s first Doctor of Humane Letters. Amoreus unus

Born and educated in Berlin, Dr. Kaletsc left Germany in 1951 to work in Canada, Brazil, and the United States before establishing Panta, Inc. in New York City in 1963. The company assisted German corporations with forming subsidiaries in the United States. Dr. Kaletsch was a former director of Mercedes Benz of North America, Deutsche Bank Capital Corporation, and Süd-Chemie, among others. He was active in a variety of civic and philanthropic organizations, including as former president of The German Forum, which he helped found, and the German School New York (now German International School New York) in White Plains.

In recognition of Dr. and Mrs. Nina Kaletsch’s generous contributions to Franklin University Switzerland, the South Campus was named in their honor in 2006. Dr. Kaletsch resided in West Cornwall, Connecticut, with his wife, Nina, who is also a member of the Franklin University Switzerland Board of Trustees. His daughter, stepson, and stepdaughter-in-law graduated from Franklin University Switzerland.

Franklin University Switzerland extends its heartfelt condolences to Dr. Kaletsch’s family during this difficult time.
The letter was short, but the path to achieving this milestone was long and arduous. The process of applying for full Swiss institutional accreditation began in 2004 when Franklin, under the leadership of then-President Erik Nielsen, applied to have its undergraduate programs of study accredited within Switzerland (U.S. accreditation had long before been granted and renewed regularly). In 2005 this program accreditation was granted, but included a condition that Franklin strengthen its research profile and activities, a key criterion for institutional accreditation as a university, which was Franklin’s ultimate goal.

During the next seven years Franklin re-positioned research and scholarship expectations among the faculty while increasing investment in research support, and in 2012 began the process of applying for institutional accreditation. After submitting an extensive self-study report, to which faculty, students, and staff contributed, Franklin hosted an international expert team, made up of professors and administrators with European, Swiss, and U.S. experience in higher education. The team spent several days on campus interviewing faculty, students, staff, and alumni while also reviewing documentation of all aspects of Franklin’s teaching, research, and administration.

Throughout its relatively short history Franklin consistently has aimed high in its ambitions. Within its first 16 years of existence, after several moves among rented facilities in the Lugano area, our fledgling institution established a permanent campus in Sorengo, and worked diligently to gain accreditation by U.S. education authorities, offering first the two-year associate’s degree, then the four-year bachelor’s, while expanding student enrollment, faculty size, and physical plant. We acquired a second, “north” campus in 2004; but we weren’t done yet. After careful study, Franklin added graduate studies in 2012 and applied to the Swiss University Conference (CUS) for full institutional recognition and accreditation as a university-institution within the Swiss system of universities. Such accreditation and recognition was obtained in April 2013, when President Greg Warden received a letter from the accrediting body announcing the good news.

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In their final report and recommendation to the Swiss University Conference, the expert team observed that Franklin is very international in its course offerings and student body; commended our heavy emphasis on teaching general skills and human values that are especially appropriate for meeting the global challenges of the 21st century; and found our teaching methods to be innovative and our students to have strong feelings of belonging to the Franklin community. The team concluded by writing that it recommended full university accreditation “without conditions.”

During the 2013-14 academic year, President Warden asked representatives of the faculty, students, and staff to plan a campus-wide celebration to honor this achievement. Meanwhile, the campus official seal was modified to reflect our new university status and new signage was designed. On Saturday, April 12, 2014, Franklin University Switzerland opened its doors to the local community in Ticino for a “Porte Aperte” (Open Doors) day of commemoration, socializing, faculty and student research presentations, and celebration. In his remarks that day, President Warden said, “This is the Year of the University, and what better way to celebrate than by bringing together the community, students, faculty, and other individuals who have made this transition possible.”

The day’s events included an opening ceremony on the soccer field behind the Lowerre Academic Center, which featured remarks by Board of Trustees Chair and Franklin co-founder Pascal F. Tone; President Warden; Dean of Academic Affairs Sara Steinert Bottura; Sorengo Mayor Antonella Meuli; and Sandro Rusconi, Director of Ticino’s Department of Culture and University Studies. Chairman Tone provided a personal remembrance of the founding of Franklin in 1969, saying that “our mission was simple: to provide American students with a European experience, thus strengthening the links between the U.S. and Europe. And we were all young enough to believe we could actually accomplish this feat. The immediacy of our relationships, beginning with the first arrival on campus, became a hallmark of the Franklin experience. Students and faculty met not only in class, but also at meals and off campus in faculty homes, local grottos, on academic travel programs and weekend trips. The thought that I was only seven or eight years older than my students was never far from my mind.”

In her welcoming remarks, Mayor Meuli expressed delight at having Franklin—“the place of knowledge and reason”—as a vibrant member of the small Sorengo municipality, which spans less than one kilometer. She said that Franklin’s achievement “is a source of great pride for us,” and expressed the hope that everyone in the community, but especially the students, would be prompted “to meditate on life’s many realities, and expose a true eagerness to discover and play an active role in the social life of this place, which becomes ‘home’ to students during such an important period of their lives.”

President Warden summed it up best, perhaps, when he thanked the many people who worked so hard to make this milestone a reality, noting that recognition as a university did not happen overnight. He singled out for praise the leadership of former President Theo Brenner, who developed the nascent idea of Franklin as an entity with a permanent home. He also thanked former President Erik Nielsen, “who initiated a process that led to growth—both quantitative and qualitative—of the campus, the student body, the faculty, and the staff.” He reminded those present that, “while Franklin has always been an exceptionally fine teaching institution, President Nielsen created a campus environment where faculty members are excellent teachers as well as actively engaged in research, bringing it into the classroom and empowering students to engage in research as well.”

President Warden also offered that “our faculty members deserve a special vote of thanks for devoting their time and talents to create an environment worthy of a university,” and that our far-flung alumni exemplify the loyalty that Franklin elicits.

The ceremony concluded with President Warden and the three former presidents, Pascal Tone, Theo Brenner, and Erik Nielsen, unveiling the new Franklin University Switzerland seal. The “Porte Aperte” continued with a barbeque luncheon featuring live Ticinese music, and an afternoon showcase of faculty and student research.
Franklin is the way the world should be.

Twelve visiting scholars from Australia, China, Italy, Portugal, Switzerland, Thailand, and the U.S. came together to discuss topics including issues of urban development and natural resources, the urbanization of mountain landscapes, the metamorphosis of post cities in the late 20th century, frontiers between nature and artefacts, industrial change, and urban remotes.

In September 2014 Franklin hosted an English language session of the Lugano Human Rights Film Festival and Forum, which addressed such issues as where human rights violations take place and how (and why) we should react. Building on previous successful editions in Geneva and Zurich, the Lugano Festival comprised four days of screenings, exhibitions, and debates focusing on the defense of human rights in Switzerland and in the world.

Through testimonies by film directors, producers, journalists, international experts, and witnesses, the Festival addressed the issue of human rights violations in areas currently making headline news, such as Ukraine, Syria, and the Middle East, as well as focused on the long-time struggles of many oppressed populations, such as the people of Tibet. The main theme of the Festival was “women on the front, in defense of human rights.” Franklin Professors Caroline Wiederer, Melvin Schlein, and Marcia Pyka engaged with other scholars from Geneva and Milan in panel discussions following the two films that were screened at the Nikeles Auditorium on the Kalanch campus.

In October, Franklin formally inaugurated a new organization, “The Friends of Franklin,” a group of individuals who share an interest in the programs and well-being of the University. Its ultimate goal is to provide ways for people in Lugano and beyond to get involved in the life of Franklin and to help Franklin become more engaged with our wider community. A 12-member steering committee, whose volunteers represent a vibrant slice of local families, businesses, the arts, and higher education, was recruited to guide the association’s activities. In a very short time the Friends group facilitated Franklin’s participation in an important Lugano business conference and organized a series of three lectures in the winter and spring on the subject of “Giardini” (Gardens). The association continues to attract new members and is planning its fall agenda.

Throughout the year, from September through March, President Warden led a series of open forums among alumni to offer their thoughts about Franklin’s achievements and their dreams for its future direction. These took place at alumni events in London, Denver, San Francisco, Los Angeles, New York, and Washington. In true Franklin fashion, alumni were enthusiastic and forthcoming about where the University should invest its energies going forward and what they felt makes Franklin truly special. In New York, one recent alumna spoke for everyone when he suggested that, “Franklin is the way the world should be.”

In the spring Franklin prepared to accept the stunning gift of the entire scholarly library of Professor Jonathan Steinberg, the former Franklin trustee and distinguished historian of Switzerland, who is retiring from the University of Pennsylvania. This substantial collection of books in German, French, English, and Italian represents a lifetime of important scholarship and research on Switzerland and Europe. It will be housed in the conference room in the main Villa on the Kalanch campus, where it will be available to future generations of students and scholars. It is a truly valuable asset for Switzerland’s newest university.
Did you know? Our very own Franklin student, Esraa Al Shafei, ’18, was both a TED Fellow (2009) and a TED Senior Fellow (2011). The prestigious TED Fellows program supports the work of individuals who are considered to be among the best of the world’s thought leaders and innovators, connecting them in a global network of like-minded people.

### BEST OF FRANKLIN

**IN THE SPIRIT OF IDEAS WORTH SPREADING,** TEDx was created as a program of local, self-organized events that bring people together to share a TED-like experience. As newly graduated senior Kasimir von Koblinski, ’15, discovered, playing a major role in organizing a one-day conference of many such talks might best be described as a learning challenge.

Von Koblinski, an international management major who hails from Munich, and his team of Franklin student volunteers successfully produced Ticino’s second annual TEDx conference on campus on Saturday, April 18. TEDx is an offspring of TED (which originally stood for Technology, Entertainment, and Design), a nonprofit organization devoted to “Ideas Worth Spreading.” It started as a four-day conference in California almost 30 years ago and has grown to support these world-changing ideas with multiple initiatives. The two annual TED conferences invite the world’s leading thinkers and doers (think Bill Gates, Jane Goodall, and Sir Richard Branson, for example) to speak for 18 minutes on a diverse mix of topics. Many of the best of these talks have reached large audiences on the TED website and YouTube.

In the spirit of ideas worth spreading, TEDx was created as a program of local, self-organized events that bring people together to share a TED-like experience. How TEDx came to Franklin is a story of the chance meeting of two like-minded people. In 2013 Serghii Adilbekov, a Lugano-based entrepreneur and founder of social networks, accidentally sent von Koblinski a contact request on LinkedIn, the business network site. Von Koblinski replied to ask how they knew each other and after a few more exchanges and a meeting in person, they became friends as well as business contacts.

Adilbekov had the idea of applying for the (exclusive) license to host a TEDx event in Ticino, a first for the canton. Their application to the TED office in NY was initially turned down by p

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**TEDxLUGANO SHINES A LIGHT ON THE BEST OF FRANKLIN**

Building on the success of this venture, Adilbekov teamed up with von Koblinski again in 2015 to produce Lugano’s second TEDx event, (Hy-)performance, which focused on “pushing any activity in your life through its obvious limits, over-performing, reaching hyperborea, making the unreal real, trailblazing, discovering the undiscovered.” Speakers “pushing any activity in your life through its obvious limits, over-performing, reaching hyperborea, making the unreal real, trailblazing, discovering the undiscovered.” Speakers from around the world were identified (including Franklin marketing professor Pamela Adams) and several even offered to pay their own travel expenses just to be part of the ambitious program.

The Franklin team, led by von Koblinski, worked throughout the year and included fellow seniors Emily Feavel, Christina Lang, Martin Kandus, Gray Griffin, and Samantha Schonefeld. In addition, marketing for the event was carried out by Franklin alumna Frieda Guggiari, ’12. Students were responsible for all logistics associated with helping to find exceptional speakers and curate the selection of talks, raising funds from sponsors, managing the ticketing process, and orchestrating the day’s event, including the flow of the eight talks, and three live music and athletic performances.

Von Koblinski’s role also included overseeing the communications process among the teams external to Franklin, including marketing, web design, and finance.

While he described his own TEDxLugano experience as an opportunity to grow personally, von Koblinski said that he was most proud of having “helped team members move beyond their comfort zones.” He was unsurprised in this praise for fellow students and Franklin staff members “who worked very hard as a community to show that we could participate in a world class event and make it such a success on our own campus.”

In the audience on April 18 was someone who could not agree more about its success. Ticino native Bruno Giussani, the curator of TED Global and director of TED Europe, said, “This is everything a TED event should be.” Planning is already underway for next year’s TEDxLugano event, to be hosted by Franklin, of course, thanks to the hard work and leadership of our students.

For more information about TEDxLugano go to their website: [TEDxLugano.com](http://TEDxLugano.com).

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In the audience for a talk or presentation by an expert in a field is generally acknowledged to be a learning experience. As newly graduated senior Kasimir von Koblinski, ’15, discovered, playing a major role in organizing a one-day conference of many such talks might best be described as a learning challenge.

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Suzuki – Toyota – Volvo
At Franklin, I learned the true meaning of the saying, "The world is a book and those who do not travel read only one page."
1970
Lee Sublett is happily married for 15 years. Rosett is splitting his time between his home in the woods of northwest Wisconsin and his "urban cabin" in the sportsman’s neighborhood of Minneapolis, Minnesota. Lee recently reconciled with Judy "Red" Whitall, after having "lots" for 50 years.

1971
Katrina Moscuta Wolfebanker decided to not rush into another career after finding a self-carry day-walk and gowns-on-the-salon in 2012. Living in Dubuque, she keeps busy with aquaculture, gardening, reading, and cooking. Both are married and she has two daughters. Katrina remains active with Franklin alumni and potential students, with whom she enjoys sharing her enthusiasm. Katrina thanks those who were able to contribute to the Franklin Fund and encourages those who have not yet to please consider giving because alumna said support makes it "fun for Franklin" to attract gifts from foundations and others.

1972
Ellie Hoyt keeps in touch with Macey Martin and enjoys seeing the Franklin videos. Ellie’s husband Bob passed over a few years ago and fortunately she has a wonderful network of friends which is why Ellie enjoys living in a small "WY town. She is working at the local grocery store and plans to visit her brother in Chicago, Idaho, and North Carolina. Ellie hopes to visit Franklin soon.

1973
Carl Humeau is in touch with Richard Teacher and his family. Carl was a very happy grandparent. Carl and Elinna Teacher have kept in touch and hope to see each other this summer. Carl reports that Mark Molewants has shared some beautiful photographs from near his home with some classmates on Facebook. Marcin Murnaus and his wife Maja Dzuba visited Cindy (Rebecca) Nuncere and her husband, Chris Markin in Soquel, California, after not having seen Cindy since 1973. They did not miss a beat in their friendship and welcomed us as family into their beautiful home high in the hills overlooking Monterey Bay. They also spent time with Ken Poyker Clark and his family. The Apple Blossom School and Family Community, a teaching school for Early Childhood in Wilson, Connecticut, co-founded by Marcia, celebrated its tenth anniversary and added a thrilling, healthy annual tradition of family with young children. Brian Stanford had sparked Marcia’s interest in Waldorf education with a trip to visit the Goetheanum. Stanford, principal in-Dornach, Switzerland designed by Rudolf Steiner, the architect of Waldorf (or Steiner) education. In 2012, Marcia Osborne’s Swiss high school hand, band, whose 1972 album, "Everybody’s Own," has

1976
Lee Gehrke and Carl Hamann of Minneapolis, Minnesota. Lee recently retired last year to pursue other interests. Robert weems, “my bucket list is two pages and growing! i hope someday to come back and visit some of my old haunts in panama, maracaibo, columbia and, of course, luann’s coffee & ciga.”

1979
Jenny Wears has been a broker in Chicago, Ill. since 1979. Her daughter Chloe now works for Merrill in London in their International in Washington, D.C. Jenny would love to hear from friends visiting her area. Jenny@jennyweby realty.com. David Kopfberg and his wife Mary Kaye were able to spend some time with his Navy great旋转church in San Diego. Their oldest daughter is also in San Diego, teaching in National Elementary School District. David and Mary Kaye are both visiting to San Diego to see both of them. David sends his greetings to his friends. Frank Scull Stetson updates that her trip to Cuba this past year was a 2015 highlight, and that Cuba is a “must visit” spot. Business-wise, Frank is launching one of the most exciting projects ever with his company, Creative Producer International. The product, proMOtion, is a lightweight, affordable VIDEOS PR tool. Frank states that 2015 is sure to be an amazing year.

1980
Anna Tautavil菩萨 D’Raimondo heads the University of California, San Diego’s American Indian Education Outreach. Her two children are in Cambridge, Mass. and got a “first class experience” in Georgia Tech with a biomedical engineering degree, and is currently lovely and lightskin. What's next? She will be entering medical school in fall. Anna, who graduated with a double major and double minor in political science/philosophy/economics in 2014.

1986
Marc Osborne’s new album, “St. Ives,” was written and recorded for Golden Pavilion Records. The album includes some unpublished songs, performed and arranged by Marc. The album was honored with a reissue of the record in 1990. Marc is thrilled with the music that the band has made, and with the cross-continental bonds of friendship that they have established. Check out their website at bandhand.org.

1974
After 35 years of continuous service to the airline industry, Robert Weish is...
Joburgre Drusze Smith moved from Arizona to Coral Springs, Florida, a few years ago with her husband John, and they are working to open a business, which she gave up a few years ago and now is focused on special needs and substance use.

Karen Butler Pruett returned to Lugano in the summer of 2015 for a visit. During her visit to campus, Wael met up with Professor Melish and enjoyed showing Janna where he had studied and lived for three years ago with her husband John, and during his visit to campus, Wael had studied and lived for three years ago with his wife Emilia and daughter Gaia (13).

Jacqueline resided in Lugano last summer during a family trip to Nevada and California with her husband Emilio and daughter Gaia (15).

2012

Collie Robinson Hamilton was married in August of 2012 and currently lives in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. She is the great-grandaughter and development officer for Ballet Palm Beach and makes grants for them as a professional ballet dancer and dance teacher around south Florida.

2013

Jeanie Vaughn Zeckroen (MSM) was married in 2012 to Zane Zekroen on July 12, 2012 at the Villa Capricornia in Lugano, Switzerland. The couple now live at VF International, where they both work for the finance department of North Face. They now reside in New York City where Jami works for LVMH and makes grants for museums and acquires at MUGF.

2015

The Franklin community extends its condolences to the families of the bride and groom, among them, Amanda Schenck Drets, Paulo Dantas, Amanda Dantas, Penelope Stevens, Laura Marsala, Marco Petroni, Annarose Dantas, and Stephanie Luck '05, who were members of their Franklin family for many years ago with their Franklin family for many years ago with their Franklin family for many years ago.

2016

The Franklin community regrets to announce the passing of colleague Michael Bruno Guarco, III '06, of Granby, Connecticut, beloved son of Michael Guarco and Brigitte Guarco. He was born in 1981 and passed away suddenly and unexpectedly on September 1, 2013. The ceremony took place in Gordexola, Spain, on June 14, 2016. The ceremony was attended by the families of the bride and groom, along with the couple’s close friends. The Franklin community regrets to announce the passing of colleague Michael Guarco, III '06, of Granby, Connecticut, beloved son of Michael Guarco and Brigitte Guarco. He was born in 1981 and passed away suddenly and unexpectedly on September 1, 2013. The ceremony took place in Gordexola, Spain, on June 14, 2016. The ceremony was attended by the families of the bride and groom, among them, Amanda Schenck Drets, Paulo Dantas, Amanda Dantas, Penelope Stevens, Laura Marsala, Marco Petroni, Annarose Dantas, and Stephanie Luck '05.
Giving liberates the soul.

– Maya Angelou (1928-2014)
Holi
celebrating the festival of colors

Since 2012 students at Franklin have organized a Holi celebration on campus, complete with the traditional frolic using brightly colored powders. It is an age-old Hindu festival, which today has become popular with non-Hindus around the world. In its global manifestation Holi might be considered a joyous celebration of spring—it occurs near the vernal equinox—as well as a day to laugh and play with others, forget and forgive previous trespasses, and share food and drink with friends old and new.

FRANKLIN REUNION 2020

IN MAY 2015 we welcomed members of our Franklin alumni back home to Lugano for a fun-filled three-day weekend. Together, we saw old friends and professors, remembered the life-changing Franklin experience and celebrated the many accomplishments that we as a community and University have achieved over the years. We look forward to meeting again in Lugano in 2020 as Franklin celebrates its 50th Anniversary. We hope to see you there!

VISIT fus.edu/alumni to see the reunion photo gallery.
Al Ristorante Santabbondio il mare non è poi così distante...

Cucina mediterranea fatta di sapori genuini e prodotti di prima qualità.

Ristorante Santabbondio, via fondino 10, 6924 Sorengo.