

Alumni eNewsletter - June 19, 2025



NDNU Honors Alumna Kris Crowe Zavoli ('68, '73) Indefatigable Award Celebrates Individuals Who Make the World a Better Place

We are thrilled to honor NDNU alumna Kris Crowe Zavoli ('68, '73) as this year's **Indefatigable Award** recipient.

The annual award, named for the vessel that carried six Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur from Belgium to the United States in 1844, is given to an individual whose body of work exemplifies the Sisters' "unflagging, inexhaustible determination to make the world a better place."

The award was presented to Kris at a private event on the Notre Dame de Namur University Belmont campus earlier this month. At right, Kris is pictured with her husband Walt Zavoli and NDNU President Beth Martin.



[Click here](#) to view an NDNU-produced video that captures her many accomplishments and achievements.

"We are delighted to present this award to Kris—she is truly a force for change," says NDNU President Beth Martin, Ph.D. "In the spirit of the Sisters of Notre Dame, Kris embodies leadership, courage, and an unwavering passion for education—qualities that both inspire others and drive meaningful action. As a former Director of Admissions, she connected hundreds of students to NDNU, and through her work with the College Board and beyond, she has been a steadfast champion for equity and access in education."

"We are so appreciative of Kris' past service on the NDNU Board of Trustees, her current participation on the Alumni Advisory Council, and as a Trustee Emerita," Martin continues.

During her 15 years of full-time admissions work at NDNU, she was able to earn two teaching credentials and a master's degree in teaching English at night tuition-free. Kris also worked in a variety of leadership positions at the College Board for 28 years. Her experiences provided a platform to educate teachers, district administrators, and legislators to the staggering differences in academic preparation. During her tenure with the College Board, Kris fought strongly to implement advanced placement courses into low-income schools.

Kris currently volunteers teaching English as a Second Language to adult learners participating in Sequoia District Adult Education, while giving time to other educational

associations committed to access to higher education.

"I would like to think I inspired change," says Zavoli. "That is why I do what I do."

NDNU Announces Sales Agreement with UC Investments Reflects a Win-Win for Both Organizations, Education and the Region

In late May, NDNU announced the pending sale of 96.5 acres of property, including the historic Belmont campus and Water Dog Lake, to UC Investments, the investment arm of the University of California system.

The transaction will ensure that the campus will continue to serve the region through a long-term investment strategy aligned with both institutions' missions. Once the transaction closes, UC Investments will lease the existing campus facilities back to the university for up to five years, allowing NDNU to continue in-person instruction while planning the next phase of its campus location. Additionally, UC Investments has committed to renovating Ralston Mansion and Carriage House, both listed as National and California-registered Historic Landmarks, and maintaining the Campus Chapel.

NDNU is awaiting final approval from the Vatican.

[Click here](#) for more information.

NDNU: A Great Place to Work!

The Office of Enrollment has two exciting job opportunities. We are currently seeking two passionate and dedicated individuals to join our team as temporary Admissions Counselors through September 30th.

As an Admissions Counselor, you will play a crucial role in guiding prospective students through the admissions process, providing them with the information and support they need to make informed decisions about their education. This position offers a unique opportunity to contribute to the growth and success of our university while helping students achieve their academic goals.

For more information, please [visit our site](#).

Celebrate NDNU with a Charitable Gift to the Annual Fund



Around campus, there's a distinct feeling of excitement and anticipation in the air. The future is looking bright!

As an alum, friend or supporter of our beloved university, you know first-hand the value of NDNU's educational program. You can help future generations of students enjoy the same high quality education with your tax-deductible gift. Gifts to our **Annual Fund** support scholarships, programs, and critical operational needs.

Make your tax-deductible gift by [clicking here](#). Thank you for your generosity!

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