

Alumni E-Newsletter, October 24, 2024



62nd Reunion for the Class of 1962



The Class of 1962 recently celebrated their 62nd reunion with a delicious lunch at the popular Divino Ristorante, followed by a nostalgic tour of the University, led by members of the NDNU Advancement team. Suffice it to say, given the amount of lively banter and laughter that prevailed, a great time was had by all!

The September 11 visit originated in the Gellert Library, where our visitors were welcomed by NDNU President Lizbeth Martin who shared recent academic highlights and answered questions about the University's future. Following her remarks, participants enjoyed a virtual walk down memory lane, viewing a 1961 recruitment film for the then-College of Notre Dame (included [here](#) for your enjoyment).

Next on the tour was a visit to the Cunningham Chapel, where Mary Jo Avila Carroll recounted the story about the day she and her classmates received their school rings and added decorative stones to the cross that now stands behind the altar. The group then moved on to St. Joseph and Julie Billiard Halls, catching Mary Carr Chapman by delightful surprise that her freshman dorm room was open to take a peek into.

At St. Mary's Hall, the group reminisced over the "smoker," a popular common area where classmates gathered regularly to play bridge and chat about the events of the day. They also visited several classrooms. The tour ended full-circle at the library where the group shared goodbyes and received some swag from the University.

One of the biggest reasons this group of women have stayed so close throughout the decades is

Reflections from Some Reunion Attendees



Mary Jo Avila Carroll

"I will be forever grateful for Sr. Wilma, who inspired me to attend CND and helped me earn a scholarship and work grant. In terms of favorite memories, there are so many, I don't even know where to start. Freshman year, I took Logic and just fell in love with it. Dr. Sullivan was a wonderful teacher, and the subject matter clicked so much that I became a study buddy to many of my friends. Because I was an English major, I had a number of classes with Dr. Mary Ellen Boyling who was phenomenal. She was truly a remarkable instructor and person. I also remember the class days when we performed skits for the entire student body, which were so much fun and elicited much laughter. Looking back, it's not surprising that I've made a career out of teaching. Thank you, Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur."



Lori Naughton Picard

"CND has always been a part of my life. In fact, my mother was a long-time French professor and eventual Chair of the Foreign Language Department. It was a natural transition for me to attend. The school had a wonderful reputation for its credential program, and it was my lifelong desire and ambition to be a teacher. One of my favorite people was Sr. Gerard Marie – you could talk with her about anything. We were a small class of 70, but we had students from all over California and beyond, including Hawaii, which at the time was not yet a state. We were and still are a very close-knit group of women. We make a conscious effort to check in with one another frequently and we look forward to seeing each other at reunions."



Carol Kubes Novak

"After 12 years with the Notre Dame de Namur Sisters, I knew I wanted to attend CND and was delighted to earn a scholarship. I majored in music with my voice being my instrument. As part of the



Mary Carr Chapman

"I was looking for a liberal arts college and was fairly set on CND from the get-go. I had just graduated from an all-girls high school in Chico and was used to being around women and nuns. Some of my

scholarship requirements, I frequently sang for special events and visitors. Some of the women and I even recorded an album together! Sr. Emelia taught the chorus and private voice lessons, and I just adored her. She was a real dynamo, as well as supportive, creative, caring and fun! Our 1962 class was also special to me, as was the entire faculty and student body. Being with these extraordinary women was such a blessing because we uplifted each other. And while we were encouraged to be competitive, it was never cutthroat. Being educated at CND opened my eyes to the possibilities of what I could be. I never saw myself in a box or pigeon-holed, and I learned to hold my own in the world with confidence and compassion, all through the '60s and beyond."

favorite memories include watching classmates utilize their talents. Some were great singers and musicians, while others showed their skills as actors. It was so fun being part of it all. Looking back, I realize that my Catholic upbringing and the people I met along the way really influenced how I approached life. I'm thankful for the education, but not just what I learned in the books, but also my teachers and friends that helped me through thick and thin. Friends are everything, and I've needed them to get through the different phases of my life. This group of friends is especially wonderful and its thanks to CND/NDNU."

NDNU Board of Trustees Welcomes New Members!



Dr. Linda Kern

Having successfully led Notre Dame High School in Belmont through the pandemic as Interim Head of School, Dr. Kern is deeply familiar not only with the SNDdN Hallmarks and mission, but also with the challenges and best practices for building effective online learning communities. Dr. Kern began her career in education as a researcher and university professor. While completing her PhD at Harvard University in organizational change, she worked at Harvard's Derek Bok Center for Teaching and Learning, and received six Certificates for Distinction in Teaching. She has also taught at Georgetown, Brown, Rutgers and the George Washington University, as well as in the Great Books Program at St. John's College.

Dr. Kern has also had a lifelong passion for iterating on creative, research-based solutions to optimize student learning. Her successful education start-ups have included Wonder Kids!, a popular, award-winning STEM summer camp, and MathStrong, a highly effective online math program that integrates Math, Brain and Education research, rebuilds math foundations and quickly closes learning gaps. Dr. Kern's most recent start-up, Studia, develops custom software solutions to help schools manage logistics - including the ever-increasing demand for supplemental programming - and liberate the precious human work of teaching, learning and leadership.



Dr. Kimberly Mayfield

Dr. Mayfield serves as Mayor Thao's representative to advance the policy agenda of the office and work on special projects at the direction of the mayor, in partnership with education, nonprofit and community leaders. A significant goal for Dr. Mayfield is to attract and retain a HBCU to the City Oakland, an accomplishment that will accelerate the diverse vitality and opportunity generated by institutions of higher education for youth in the region.

Dr. Mayfield is a published author and a longtime community activist. She served as the convener of the Effective Teachers for Oakland Taskforce from 2006-2011 under Mayor Ronald V. Dellums. Currently, she serves as education policy adviser for the BWOPA state board and is a past president of the Oakland/Berkeley chapter. She is deeply committed to ensuring that Oakland youngsters have a stable permanent racially diverse teaching force composed of Oakland residents.

She is a proud alumna of the University of San Francisco where she earned her master's and doctoral degrees. She started her career as a teacher in the Oakland Public Schools before joining the faculty at Holy Names University in 2001. Dr. Mayfield was the first African American to earn tenure at Holy Names University. Prior to joining the mayor's team she was the Dean of the School of Education and Liberal Arts and Vice President of External Relations and Strategic partnerships.

Dr. Giselle Parry

Dr. Parry has a unique and impressive background as a seasoned business executive with 25 years of academic and executive management experience in the technology sector. She has proven expertise with Fortune 500 corporations directing sales and service organizations, new business development, strategic alliances/OEM sales and operations. She has a reputation for exceptional



negotiation and leadership skills.

She has been a director and chair in the academic sector and has extensive teaching experience at both the MBA and doctoral level. Dr. Parry teaches in the areas of strategic management, leadership, international marketing, new venture management business development and organizational development.

Dr. Parry is an active member of the Bay Area community and on the East Coast where she currently resides. She has served on committees including the planning and budget review committee at the University of San Francisco, the multicultural grant committee, women in technology, and the national association of women business owners and the national association of female executives. She has served on the Board for the San Francisco Chapter of Phi Delta Kappa as officer and research director. Dr. Parry has served as president of Ballet San Jose's Operating Board, and currently serves as president of the ballet School Committee designed to raise scholarship money for students in need. She is also an active member of the American Heart Association.

Congratulations to Board of Trustee Vice Chair and Alumnus, Manny Nungaray!

We are pleased to share that Manny Nungaray, NDNU Board of Trustees Vice Chair and alumnus, has been awarded *The Hank Rosso Outstanding Fundraising Professional Award*, which honors an individual fundraising professional who practices their profession in an exemplary manner. This prestigious award will be presented by the Golden Gate Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals on National Philanthropy Day, November 15, 2024, in San Francisco.



National Philanthropy Day celebrates the important contributions that philanthropy – and those individuals and organizations active in the philanthropic community – have made to our lives, our communities, and our world. As part of National Philanthropy Day, individuals and organizations are honored for their work and impact in their local communities and beyond.

Congratulations, Manny Nungaray, for all the work you do to improve the lives of others!

Join us for an Alumni Happy Hour on November 7th!

The NDNU Alumni Association is pleased to invite you to join us for a happy hour gathering. Come have a drink and appetizers on us. All students, faculty and alumni are welcome to participate. We hope to see you there!

When: November 7 from 5pm-7pm

Where: Divino Ristorante | 968 Ralston Ave, Belmont, CA 94002

RSVP [here](#) to reserve your spot.



Heads Up - November is Our "Month of Giving" Campaign

Hurray! NDNU's Month of Giving is just around the corner. Throughout November, you will be treated to vignettes, reminisces and anecdotes about campus life from NDNU alumni and current students. We hope you find them compelling and are inspired to make an Annual Fund gift to support our beloved alma mater during this important time of year. Contributions to the Annual Fund support scholarships, programs, and other critical

operational needs.

Want to get a head start on your year-end giving?
[Click here](#) to make a gift today!



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