



From the President

Dear First Name:

As we complete the calendar year, it is fitting to reflect on the tremendous progress achieved and the opportunities for greater growth ahead of us. We will remember 2018 as the Year of the Red Hawk or, in other words, the Year of the Student. While every year at Montclair State is about the students, this year has been notable in that we took an intensive look at the University's resources and infrastructure to support student success. Milestones of the fall semester include the creation of University College, which is already helping 2,070 students navigate their early years in the University, and the public launch of Soar, The Campaign for Montclair State University.

Your support, along with generous gifts from alumni, friends, corporations and foundations, continues to build opportunities that will translate to more students supported by scholarships, funds for groundbreaking research and innovative academic programs, and improved campus experiences for all of our students. Today, the Soar campaign total stands at \$61.46 million. Every dollar raised creates promise, and I thank you for your investment and your continued efforts to invite others to support our mission. I hope you've had the chance to read the latest edition of *Montclair* magazine, which highlights the importance of the Soar campaign and the impact of student scholarship support.

The President's Club

The President's Club recognizes alumni, parents and friends who demonstrate their strong commitment to Montclair State University and its mission of academic excellence by contributing \$1,000 or more annually to the University.

Save the Date!

**Annual Scholarship Dinner -
Saturday, March 9, 2019**



Join us on Saturday, March 9, for our Annual Scholarship Dinner benefiting the Montclair State University Foundation. Help raise much-needed funds for scholarships at Montclair State.

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

Events for First Name:

December

Gandini Juggling: Smashed

December 15 & 16

Alexander Kasser Theater

What do you get when you toss together nine jugglers, 80 apples, and four crockery sets? "Smashed," a tea party you'll never forget,

Over recent years, Montclair State University has grown in depth, scope, and size in many ways, taking its place among the important public universities in the nation. The creation of new colleges, schools and departments, expanded undergraduate and graduate programs, the growth of the faculty, as well as significant advances in Student Development and Campus Life programs support the educational, social and personal well-being of the many thousands more students now being served by the University.

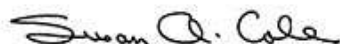
To better align our administration to support this growth, the University has initiated internal structural changes that I am pleased to share with you. We have hired a Vice President for Development, Colleen Coppla, and a Vice President for Communications and Marketing, Joseph A. Brennan, PhD.

Ms. Coppla joins in this newly created position after serving as Assistant Vice President for Institutional Advancement at Florida Atlantic University. She will oversee all aspects of the University's development operation, which includes major gifts, planned giving, corporate and foundation relations, alumni engagement, annual giving and donor relations, in addition to the Montclair State University Foundation. You can read more here. Dr. Brennan, who will join us January 2, 2019, will exercise a critical leadership role as the chief communications and marketing strategist for the University and will oversee all aspects of Montclair State's efforts in messaging, branding, advertising, public and media relations, publications and creative services, digital and social media strategies, and crisis communications. Dr. Brennan served most recently as Vice President for Communications and Marketing at the University at Albany, SUNY. Please read more here. I am delighted these two professionals are joining our team, excited for the energy and talent they bring to our work and am confident you will enjoy getting to know them.

Jack Shannon, who led the Division of University Advancement previously overseeing these two areas, is now serving as Vice President for Strategic Alliances, Economic Development and Civic Partnerships. Also joining this group is Carol Blazejowski, serving as Associate Vice President for Strategic Alliances. The role of this new office is to foster creative relationships and partnerships that enhance the social, cultural, infrastructure and educational assets of both the University and its surrounding communities, while contributing to the economic development, future growth, and overall well-being of the state and the region. These are important outward facing initiatives that are typically part of the mission of successful, nationally recognized public universities. Montclair State is poised to move forward as a dynamic nexus for commercial innovation and economic development.

These organizational changes position us to continue accelerating the University's national reputation as a center of research, scholarship and education and to provide a high-quality, affordable education to our citizenry. Thank you for joining the University on this journey and for your commitment to build possibility for our students and our future. I wish you a wonderful holiday season and a prosperous 2019.

Sincerely,



Susan A. Cole

created by Gandini Juggling, the thinking person's jugglers. [Details](#)

New Jersey Symphony Orchestra and MSU Chorale and Singers: Handel's *Messiah*

December 16

Richardson Auditorium, Princeton & Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Newark

Savor a family tradition as conductor Patrick Dupré Quigley shapes a historically informed interpretation of the *Messiah* in the NJSO's annual presentation of this holiday favorite. [Details](#)

January

Webinar: Cybersecurity (MS)

January 24

Online

The Department of Computer Science is pleased to offer a Cybersecurity (MS) degree starting fall 2019. The master's in Cybersecurity will provide students with a comprehensive and affordable education to meet the growing demand for trained cybersecurity professionals. [Details](#)

A Concert for Franz Schubert's Birthday

January 31

Leshowitz Recital Hall

Join us for this special performance featuring pianist Ruth Rendleman. [Details](#)

February

MSU Opera: *TAMERLANO* by G.F. Handel

February 2

Alexander Kasser Theater

The conqueror Tamerlane mocks his prisoner, the captive sultan Bajazet, while making love to Bajazet's only daughter. How will the outraged sultan avenge his wounded honor? MSU Opera presents one of Handel's richest and most dramatically effective operas. Fully

Holly P. Gera '79

On her first visit to campus as a potential student, Holly Gera was struck by the friendly, welcoming environment that greeted her. It was what convinced her to choose Montclair State University for her undergraduate education, and what has kept her here for an impressive 30 years as a staff member.

Holly was the first in her family to go to college and needed to go to a state school for affordability. Growing up in rural New Jersey, she was attracted to how different it felt to be in a town with sidewalks and to be close to the city. Knowing her career interest early on, she majored in recreation professions in the College of Education and Human Services. She went on to get her master's degree in Recreation Administration at Penn State and started out her career in community recreation, working in the towns of South Orange and Branchburg. [\[Read full story\]](#)

New Jersey First Lady Tammy Murphy Keynotes Latina Equal Pay Day Event

November 1 is designated national Latina Equal Pay Day – a date that draws attention to the fact that Latinas have had to work for one year, ten months and a day to catch up with what white men earned in the previous calendar year. For Latina workers, this amounts to a pay gap of roughly 47 percent. [\[Read full story\]](#)

New CHSS Programs Give Students Competitive Edge in the Job Market

staged and sung in Italian with English supertitles. [Details](#)

Alumni Night with the NJ Devils

February 7

Prudential Center, Newark, NJ

Join fellow Montclair State graduates and friends for a gathering on Thursday, February 7, at Prudential Center. Enjoy an exclusive pre-game reception beginning at 5:30 p.m. followed by the game, which you'll watch from a great seat location in the lower level, as the New Jersey Devils take on the NY Islanders at 7 p.m. The Montclair State group will be seated together in the same area. After the game, the group will have the opportunity to take a photo around the Devils logo at center ice! For more information, contact Katelin Spooner, Office of Alumni Engagement, at 973-655-3323 or spoonerk@montclair.edu.

Information Session: MA in Educational Leadership - Fast Track Option

February 16

University Hall, Room 1010

The Educational Leadership program at Montclair State University is committed to preparing excellent and dedicated school leaders for the State of New Jersey. This practice-driven program will guide aspiring leaders to develop principles of moral leadership and cultivate a democratic vision for schools and learning. [Details](#)

March**Dance Collage**

March 28

Memorial Auditorium

Montclair State dance majors bring their own fresh and innovative choreography to the stage in this performance that also features works by dance faculty members Jessica DiMauro Marks and Nancy Lushington. [Details](#)



Time and time again, in poll after poll, college students report that they are going to college to qualify for well-paying jobs that offer opportunities for professional advancement. Since the recession of 2008, increasing numbers of students, according to a recent article in *The Atlantic*, are choosing majors with clear career possibilities in fields like business and health. [\[Read full story\]](#)

Student Spotlight

Noah Johnston



A recipient of the Conrad J. Schmitt Scholarship, Noah Johnston is in his third year at Montclair State University and is a double major in linguistics and French with a concentration in translation. He plans to go into the fields of interpreting, translation, or possibly higher education.

“I am beyond honored and flattered to have received this scholarship award,” says Noah. “It means that the hard work I am putting into my department and my studies is being noticed and recognized, and it is strong encouragement for me to continue giving 110 percent in all that I do.” [\[Read full story\]](#).

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