



## Beyond Our \$1M Milestone FONTBONNE COMMUNITY CONNECTION

*Celebrating Our 15th Year of Supporting Academic Hopes and Dreams*

### Simulation Labs Train Future Nurses to Serve the Dear Neighbor

FCC-funded exam tables, cribs and bassinets are key components of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program at Fontbonne — established to fill the current critical shortage of nurses nationwide. The nursing program combines two years of general education and preparatory classes with two years of nursing classes and clinicals. During nursing classes, students spend time in simulation labs and use equipment much like the real-world hospital or outpatient clinic. Training on industry standard equipment has been shown to reduce students' anxieties and improve their clinical experience — and generous FCC funding has helped address these issues.

Nursing is a perfect fit with Fontbonne's commitment to the common good, as it emphasizes critical thinking, integrity and caring for others regardless of their background. To further emphasize the importance of serving the dear neighbor, the program incorporates service-learning opportunities locally and abroad. The program faculty are currently coordinating a global health experience in Guatemala, where student nurses will perform blood sugar and blood pressure screenings or work in a school health clinic.

This fall's first cohort of nursing students has expressed their appreciation for the faculty's passion and support of their needs for success, both in and out of the classroom. There's even a Self-Care of Student Nurses Initiative, to help students develop self-care strategies, manage stress and improve their overall health and well-being as students and healthcare professionals.



Student nurses are using the equipment regularly — learning to assess patients, monitor vital signs and give injections. The faculty is inspired by student excitement and passion to follow their dreams. Using the equipment funded by FCC will ultimately make them better nurses!

If you have an interest in the Nursing program or any questions, feel free to reach out to Nursing Director and FCC member Lisa Merritt, DNP, RN, CPNP, CHSE at [lmerritt@fontbonne.edu](mailto:lmerritt@fontbonne.edu)

## The “Word” is ALIVE!

As part of Fontbonne’s Centennial Celebration, a volume of the magnificent Saint John’s Bible is being displayed on campus and taken into the community. We acknowledge the diligence of Fontbonne President, Nancy Blattner, in making the connection with Saint John’s Abbey and University in Collegeville, MN, to get the Bible to our campus. A 2022 FCC Award funded the purchase of a 40”x32”x15” clear acrylic box with hinged lid and cam lock that rests on a covered and skirted table, thus providing required security while the volume is on campus and displayed in the Jack C. Taylor Library. Thank you FCC!



At Fontbonne on September 20, Tim Ternes, Program Director at St. John’s Manuscript Library, gave an exhilarating verbal/slide presentation on the creation of this masterpiece. Commissioned in 1998 by Saint John’s Abbey and University, it took eleven years to complete — under the direction of Donald Jackson, Senior Scribe to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth’s Crown office. His efforts with a hard-working, dedicated team of theologians, scholars, artists and scribes resulted in 73 books of the Old and New Testaments presented in seven massive volumes, weighing up to 35 pounds each.



Fontbonne is fortunate to have volume six (which includes the four Gospels and the Acts of the Apostles) during the entire year of our Centennial Celebration. Contact any of the library staff at Fontbonne, schedule an appointment and page through the magnificent illustrations and hand-scribed texts to see the “Word” come alive. Docents will open the case and reveal a wealth of amazing contemporary art and traditional calligraphy, explaining the fascinating



process used to create this work of art. If you wish to take this volume into the community and share its treasures even further, ask for the form to be completed, which can ensure specific dates for your use.

FCC members will note that many people may come to campus for the first time to view this incredible work of art — which might inspire those “ripple effects” that we so love.

Yes, the “Word” is alive and well!



## First FCC Hybrid Event Celebrates Our 2022 Awardees

Since 2008, FCC has endeavored to fulfill dreams of Fontbonne faculty, staff and students by funding creative and innovative projects. Each year members, awardees and administrators gathered on campus to celebrate the new awards. Due to the pandemic, these gatherings have been held virtually, as part of Homecoming Weekend. We have realized that the virtual



component also allows our members who live across the country (and the world!) to join us. So, for our 2022 Awardee Celebration, we hosted our first hybrid (in-person AND virtual) celebration, with nearly 50 individuals gathered in the Library Board Room and, virtually, from across the country. The experience demonstrated how important our connections to Fontbonne University and to one another are, as we heard personal stories of our newly funded projects and shared our appreciation for awardees and FCC members' dedication to Fontbonne University.

Following a welcome from FCC Past-Chair Joan Kelly and an opening prayer from Sr. Rita Schmitz, the Awards Co-Chairs, Mary Lee Walter and Susan Lenihan, thanked their committee members and noted how our giving circle had now funded 217 projects totaling over \$1.2 million. Hearing each awardee describe his/her project highlighted the celebration. Projects spanned departments and will have extensive impact on the University. Several focused on our Centennial Celebration — including the display case for the St. John's Bible, the service trip to Peru and enhancing our archives. New programs, such as Nursing and the speech/language/hearing clinic in Kansas City, also were described. Fontbonne faculty and staff's ability to work creatively, as team members, was demonstrated by

collaborative project awards — the inter-professional clinical simulation experience of specialized training for students in dietetics and speech language pathology, and the nutrition support and education program developed by coaches, athletic trainers and dietetics faculty. Finally, we applauded projects to streamline day-to-day University life, such as electronic billing, donor software and visitor parking.



Thanks, awardees, for sharing your hopes and dreams with FCC! We look forward to the implementation and impact of these projects during our Centennial Year. We also expect to continue using hybrid events to bring our FCC community together. Win-win!



## Our Annual Planning Meeting: Time for Dreaming and Strategizing

On August 10, FCC members gathered by Zoom to make plans for the 2022-23 academic year. Chair JoAnn Donovan opened the meeting with a quick review of FCC's 15-year history. As of this year, when FCC donated \$90,591 for another 25 Fontbonne projects, the organization has funded a grand total of 217 projects, totaling \$1,261,695. Imagine all the hopes and dreams of faculty, staff, and students that your membership funding has fulfilled! Several of these projects were highlighted during the FCC Golden Arcade Tea and Tours event this past May. Especially admired by touring alumnae were the Center for Bosnian Studies, the Library archives, the pergolas outside Medaille Hall, and equipment purchased for Fontbonne's new Nursing Program.



The planning session was the inaugural meeting for two new FCC officers, Treasurer Kathy Tanner and Recording Secretary Barb Stroer, who join with JoAnn Donovan, Past-Chair Joan Kelly, Vice-Chair Connie Diekman, Corresponding Secretary Ruth Ann Kerr and Advancement Liaison Wendi Valenti to face the challenges of a new academic year. These officers — along with committee chairs Joan Kelly (Events), Connie Diekman and Lucy Hahn (Membership), Susan Lenihan and Mary Lee Walter (Awards), Joan Falk (Communications), Nancy English (Archives) and Barb Atteln (Bylaws) — make up the governing body of FCC, referred to as the Executive Advisory Committee (EAC). *(Cont'd on page 5)*

### Reminder: FCC Strategic Planning Hybrid Session

Wednesday, November 9th - 9:00 am to 12 noon (CT)

### COME DREAM WITH US!

Bring fresh opinions and suggestions, as we brainstorm and envision future possibilities and directions for FCC. Moderated by professional planner Mary Ann Moore, MFA. [CLICK HERE](#) to register for either in-person (Library Board Room) or via Zoom.

**Thanks for dreaming with us about the future of FCC!**



(Cont'd from page 5)

The Membership Committee continues to diligently pursue its Centennial Goal of 100 FCC members by the end of 2023. There is particular interest in expanding member diversity, to more accurately reflect the diversity within the University itself. Three questions were posed: (1) Who do you know who could be a member? (2) Can you help with recruitment? (3) Would you be a new-member mentor? It was noted that, rather than focus primarily on alumnae, attention must be directed toward any woman for whom Fontbonne has significant meaning. Belonging to FCC gives those who care deeply about the future of Fontbonne a purposeful connection to its importance in their past — and in their future, as well.

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## Welcome to our new FCC member

### Janet Carmack Trimble '91

Definitely one who appreciates CSJ values, Janet graduated from St. Joseph Academy in 1987 and from Fontbonne in 1991. She received a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Accounting. Currently, Janet is a Tax Director for Watlow, a manufacturing company in Westport. She has three grown daughters and lives in University City, along with her toy poodle. Janet loves spending time with friends and family, including her mom (and fellow FCC member) Jeanne Carmack. And she also enjoys long walks, home improvement projects and gardening.



Here's how Janet expressed her perspective on being a new FCC member: "I'm looking forward to being part of the Fontbonne community again, helping to support the faculty and students." A warm welcome to you, Janet! Your enthusiasm for connection with Fontbonne through FCC is truly appreciated. And thanks, Jeanne Carmack, for recruiting such a lovely new member!



**Our sincere thanks and appreciation to the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet for inviting us to place the names of our dearly departed on the altar at their Motherhouse and to join in prayer at the November 2nd Mass of Remembrance.**

## Message from the Chair



Excitement is in the air this fall with events to mark Fontbonne's Centennial and Homecoming. This newsletter highlights just a few FCC awards to the University, like Nursing Program equipment and a display case for the priceless St. John's Bible.

Your membership and participation make these awards possible.

This is why your attendance (in person or virtual) is so important at the FCC Strategic Planning Session on November 9. Please keep the date open, and join in sharing ideas to chart our future. FCC memberships have a lasting impact on Fontbonne and on our community. What a marvelous legacy the founders of FCC, and all of you, have passed on over the years.

To cherish and protect that legacy, we periodically come together to assess, ask questions, share ideas and imagine what the future can hold — just what our FCC founders did 15 years ago. Now it's our turn to imagine the future together. More details and a registration link are in the emailed invitation to the session.

A warm welcome to new member Janet Carmack Trimble, '91 — and thanks to her mother, FCC member Jeanne Carmack, for recruiting her.

The Sisters of St. Joseph have again invited us to join a live-streamed All Souls Day Mass (Nov. 2) at their Motherhouse. FCC has specially requested prayers in remembrance of Nina Bryans, one of our beloved founders of FCC.

Sending my heart-felt thanks to all of you for your membership, and wishing you and yours the blessings of health and happiness.

**JoAnn**

JoAnn Donovan, FCC Chair

## Coming Events (Central Time)

### November, 2022

- 11/1 - 2023 Award Season Opens
- 11/2 - Mass of Remembrance, Livestream from CSJ Motherhouse
- 11/9 - Hybrid Strategic Planning Meeting, Library Board Room and Zoom
- 11/23 - 11/25 - Thanksgiving Break

### December, 2022

- 12/11 - Lyon Society Mass/Brunch, 10:00 am CT, Doerr Chapel — Ryan Hall
- 12/19 - 12/30 - Christmas Break

### January, 2023

- 1/11 - FCC EAC Meeting 8:45 - 10:00 am CT (Zoom)

## FCC Officers & Chairs 2022-23

### OFFICERS

- Chair: *JoAnn Donovan*
- Immediate Past Chair: *Joan Kelly*
- Vice-Chair: *Connie Diekman*
- Corresponding Secretary: *Ruth Ann Kerr*
- Recording Secretary: *Barb Stroer*
- Treasurer: *Kathy Tanner*

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

- Archives & History: *Nancy English*
- Awards: *Susan Lenihan & Mary Lee Walter*
- Bylaws: *Barb Atteln*
- Communications: *Joan Falk*
- Events: *Joan Kelly*
- Membership: *Connie Diekman & Lucy Hahn*

## Fall 2022 Newsletter Staff

- Joan Falk, *Editor*
- Barb Atteln
- Connie Diekman
- Nancy English
- Susan Lenihan
- Jaimette McCulley
- Rita Marie Schmitz, CSJ
- Wendi Valenti, *Advancement Liaison*
- Maria Dietrich, *Advancement Intern*

