



BEACOM an ALUM



Goldey-Beacom College



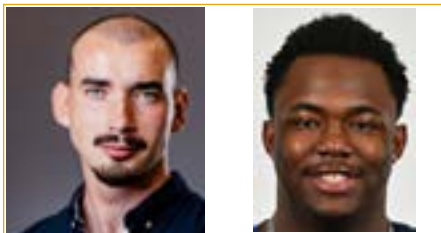
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Staff Photography: LIGHTNING STUDIO



CHARI KONOMI **SEBASTIEN LACROIX**

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Cover: Graduate student Chari Konomi '24 captures class with a group selfie.

Cover Photo credit: Kyle Mapson

Back Cover: Undergraduate student A'mair Buffaloe celebrates.

Back Cover Photo credit: Sebastien Lacroix



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Photo credit: Chari Konomi

A Message from the President Colleen Perry Keith, Ph.D.

Recently I read something that made me stop and think about Goldey-Beacom's 138-year history, 50 years of which has been on our campus in Pike Creek.

The statement went something like this: "a tree grows as tall as its roots are deep. Strong winds may come but deep roots provide stability in the face of a storm."

We all know that a tree's root system is crucial to keeping the tree anchored in the ground. Deep root systems provide stability and keep the tree resistant to wind. If a root system gets compromised (think waterlogged ground), the tree is less likely to withstand high winds.

Goldey-Beacom College is like a tall, sturdy oak that has stood the test of time. We have developed strong and deep roots dating back to our founding in 1886.

Later in this issue of Reflections, you will see a timeline and history of the college; and as you read about each milestone, I invite you to think about how that event deepened our root structure in a way that helped our College to grow and to better meet the needs of our students.

Also in this issue of Reflections, you will read about some of our alumni who have gone on to interesting and successful careers.

Each of the alumni or students who are pictured have become a part of our root structure – like all of you reading this.

You will see pictures from our 137th commencement from May 2024 as guest speaker Howard Eskin addressed the audience to share sage advice with more than 340 graduates.

As we learn about student and alumni success, it gives rise to new ideas for us! It's a full circle moment when that happens.

I hope you enjoy the updates you will read about in the pages that follow. They are pretty exciting, and the work we are doing to advance the College is clearly built upon the strong foundation that all of you have helped to create.

Our new undergraduate degree programs, along with our new stackable graduate certificates, are outgrowths of our existing programs but also developed in response to current and future needs we are hearing from employers.

To keep the imagery alive, we are a green and growing tree! Come back and see us sometime!

All the best –

CONGRATULATIONS

Dr. Colleen Perry Keith was named among more than 200 outstanding leaders and visionaries throughout the state in the 2024 inaugural Delaware Business Times publication, *222 Delaware*.

PROUD TO BE FEATURED IN

222
Delaware
DELAWARE BUSINESS TIMES

AS ONE OF
THE MOST IMPACTFUL LEADERS IN THE FIRST STATE



Photo credit: Kyle Mapson

2024 commencement speaker Howard Eskin is with the GBC Board of Trustees and the Executive Leadership Team several hours before students graduated.



**GOLDEY-
BEACOM
COLLEGE**

MISSION

Empowering learners to achieve excellence linking knowledge to practice.

VISION

To offer attainable, inclusive and career-focused programs responsive to evolving student and workforce needs.

VALUES

- Integrity
- Excellence
- Social Responsibility
- Innovation

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

CORNELIA (CONNIE) N. WINNER, ED.D.
Chair of the Board
College Administrator, retired

LEE H. BURSTEIN
Dynamic Systems, Inc., retired

JAVED GILANI, M.D.
Private Practice Physician, retired

DORRELL GREEN, ED.D.
Superintendent, Red Clay Consolidated School District

R. JEFFREY JOHNSON '79
Principal, Maillie LLP, retired

ERIKA JORGENSEN
Managing Director, JPMorgan Chase

COLLEEN PERRY KEITH, PH.D.
President Goldey-Beacom College

NOREEN D. LASORSA, M.ED.
Principal, Skyline Middle School, retired

MARK R. OLAZAGASTI '85
Immediate past Chair
Info Solutions, LLC, retired
YourMoney101, Founder and CEO

JOHN J. PATTERSON III '94
Union Park Automotive Group, retired

MELODY PHILLIPS
Deputy Director, Department of Parks and Recreation, City of Wilmington

LOURDES PUIG, PH.D.
DuPont, Chemours, retired

CATHERINE M. SEEBER '94
CAPTRUST

JOAN VERBONITZ '93, '04
Vice Chair of the Board
Chief Administrative Officer, Virginia Passenger Rail Authority

MARCIA WOOD '94, CPA, CGMA
Senior Vice President, Accounting and Process Improvement, Transflo

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JEREMY BENOIT, MA
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PETER RYSAVY, MBA
Chief Information Officer

JOEL WORDEN, PH.D.
Provost, Vice President for Academic Affairs



— SINCE 1886 —

IN 2024, GOLDEY-BEACOM COLLEGE CELEBRATES 137 YEARS OF EDUCATING STUDENTS AND 50 YEARS IN ITS PIKE CREEK, DELAWARE LOCATION.



Harry S. Goldey William H. Beacom

It all started with H.S. Goldey opening a school for business in 1886 in downtown Wilmington. The school successfully taught bookkeeping, type writing, stenography and other business skills to provide educated workers to Wilmington's burgeoning businesses. One of Goldey's brilliant students, William H. Beacom, became a popular instructor at the school and held strong opinions about Gregg shorthand being the superior method and advocated teaching that instead of Goldey's favorite Pitman method. Goldey's obstinance and Beacom's zeal resulted in Beacom College

opening for business just down the street from Goldey College. It was not until after the end of WWII and the subsequent surge of college enrollment by the returning military forces that the two archrivals decided to reconcile differences and merge. Goldey-Beacom College then prospered united in downtown Wilmington. In the early 1970s, with so many businesses leaving downtown for the suburbs and taking internship and employment opportunities with them, Goldey-Beacom College broke ground for a residential campus in Pike Creek. Doors opened to welcome students in the fall of 1974, and the campus has been thriving and growing ever since. From three buildings; Fulmer Center, Jackson Hall and Miller Hall; the campus has expanded to include three more residence halls, an annex to Fulmer, the Joseph West Jones Center, and the Event Center between Fulmer and Jones. The campus today has been 50 years in the making, but one thing has remained constant—the commitment to empower learners to achieve excellence linking knowledge to practice.



A brief history of Goldey-Beacom College . . .



September 1, 1886 — H.S. Goldey opened Wilmington Commercial College at the corner of 10th and Jefferson streets in downtown Wilmington with only five students.

1900 — One of Goldey's best instructors, W.H. Beacom parted ways, opening his own school only blocks away at Ninth and Tatnall streets.



1929 — The renamed Beacom College had an enrollment of over 1,000 students and engaged in fierce competition with Goldey for several decades.

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1951 — With both namesakes deceased, the two entities merged, giving rise to today's Goldey-Beacom College.



1974 — Goldey-Beacom College moved to its current location in Pike Creek.

1976 — Goldey-Beacom College became accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE).

1978 — Goldey-Beacom College began offering baccalaureate degrees.

1990's — Goldey-Beacom College established a liberal arts program.

1992 — Goldey-Beacom established its first Master of Business Administration (MBA) program.

1997-1998 — Goldey-Beacom College completed the self-study process for the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP).



2004 — Goldey-Beacom athletics joined the Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference (CACC) in 1999, which achieved full active status in NCAA Division II in 2004.

2009 — Goldey-Beacom College introduced baccalaureate programs in economics and psychology, expanding on their long history of excellence in business education.

2015 — The Goldey-Beacom College endowment surpassed \$100,000,000, ensuring a stable future for the College and financial scholarships for students.



2015 — Goldey-Beacom College was reaffirmed by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE).



2015 — Goldey-Beacom College joined the Council of Independent Colleges (CIC) Consortium.



2016 — The Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs reaffirmed accreditation of the business programs at Goldey-Beacom College.



2016 — Goldey-Beacom College and Widener University Delaware Law School entered into an articulation agreement to give GBC undergraduate students the opportunity to attend Delaware Law School and earn a juris doctor degree. Two special admissions programs were introduced: the 3+3 Early Admission Program (EAP) and the Express or Guaranteed Admission Program (EGAP).

2017 — Goldey-Beacom College launched a Doctoral program which has since been discontinued.



2019 — Goldey-Beacom College broke ground on a \$30 million campus expansion and renovation project which included the construction of William A. Franta Hall, a new five-story residence hall as well as a new dining hall, a new event center and new athletics offices.

2019 — Dr. Colleen Perry Keith became the 14th president of Goldey-Beacom College.

2019 — Goldey-Beacom College launched the Master of Arts in Counseling Psychology degree program.

2020 — Goldey-Beacom College launched the B.A. in Human Services and the B.A. in Communication and Media degree programs.



2020 — Goldey-Beacom College joined the Council of Independent Colleges (CIC) Online Course Sharing Consortium (OCSC).



2021 — With approval for a substantive change by the MSCHE, Goldey-Beacom College pushed the limits of instructional delivery and began offering academic degree programs fully online.

2022 — Goldey-Beacom College launched two new degree programs for fall 2022 enrollment.

- ✓ *B.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies*
- ✓ *B.S. in Business Administration with a concentration in Business Analytics*



2022 — Goldey-Beacom College was recognized in four categories by Colleges of Distinction (COD) for its commitment to help undergraduate students learn, grow and succeed.

- ✓ *2022-2023 College of Distinction*
- ✓ *2022-2023 College of Distinction, Delaware*
- ✓ *2022-2023 College of Distinction, Business*
- ✓ *2022-2023 College of Distinction, Career Development*

2022 — Goldey-Beacom College launched five new graduate certificate programs for fall 2022 enrollment.

- ✓ *Certificate in Marketing*
- ✓ *Certificate in Human Resource Management*
- ✓ *Certificate in Health Care Management*
- ✓ *Certificate in Entrepreneurship*
- ✓ *Certificate in Information Technology*

2022 — Goldey-Beacom College,



which ranks among the nation's top 20% of colleges that provide meaningful economic advancement, joined the SAGE Scholars® Private College & University Enrollment Consortium. The Consortium's signature program, SAGE Scholars Tuition Rewards® Program, is a nationwide program for families and their students to earn guaranteed minimum scholarships through a national consortium of over 440 participating private colleges and universities.



2022 — Goldey-Beacom College was ranked in the top 20% of the Economic Mobility Index (EMI) for colleges and universities by Washington, DC think tank – Third Way. GBC was the only institution of higher education in Delaware to achieve this ranking.



2022 — Goldey-Beacom College was ranked by U.S. News & World Report for the first time in the College's history. After being listed as a "specialty school" for decades by the Carnegie Classification®, this designation precluded GBC from being listed by U.S. News & World Report. GBC is now listed as a Master's College.

The College's official ranking reads:

- ✓ *#133-175 out of 181 in Regional Universities North*
- ✓ *#55 in Top Performers on Social Mobility (tie)*



2022 — Goldey-Beacom College joined the Common App giving students

a powerful online college application platform that serves more than three million applicants, teachers, counselors and advisors across all 50 United States and around the world

2023 — Goldey-Beacom College launched new courses for the Master of Arts in Counseling Psychology degree program which was introduced in fall 2019.

- ✓ *Career Counseling*
- ✓ *Human Sexuality*
- ✓ *Research Methods/Statistics*
- ✓ *Counseling Theories and Techniques*



2023 — Goldey-Beacom College was named an Emerging Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI) by the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU).



2023 — Goldey-Beacom College was again recognized in four categories as a College of Distinction (COD) for the 2023-2024 academic year, marking its commitment to providing a high-quality undergraduate education that focuses on hands-on learning, strong student-teacher relationships, a vibrant campus life and successful outcomes.

- ✓ *2023-2024 College of Distinction*
- ✓ *2023-2024 College of Distinction, Delaware*
- ✓ *2023-2024 College of Distinction, Business*
- ✓ *2023-2024 College of Distinction, Career Development*



2023 — Goldey-Beacom College, for the second consecutive year, was ranked in the top 20% of the Economic Mobility Index (EMI) for colleges and universities by Washington, DC think tank – Third Way. GBC was the only Institution of Higher Education (IHE) in Delaware to achieve a Tier 1 ranking.



2023 — Goldey-Beacom College moved up on U.S. News & World Report rankings for Regional University-North category from (#133 - #172) to #123.

2023 — Goldey-Beacom College launched three new undergraduate degree programs.

- ✓ *Bachelor of Science in Digital Marketing*
- ✓ *Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a concentration in eSports & Gaming Administration*
- ✓ *Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a concentration in Cybersecurity*

2024 — Goldey-Beacom College launched five new micro graduate and three new macro graduate certificate programs.

2024 — Goldey-Beacom College celebrated its 50th Anniversary in Pike Creek.



GOLDEY-BEACOM COLLEGE IN THE NEWS



In September 2023, for the second consecutive year, Goldey-Beacom College has risen in the ranks of U.S. News & World Report's Regional University-North category.

Following Goldey-Beacom's reclassification as a Master's Colleges & Universities: Larger Programs by Carnegie Classifications in 2022, U.S. News & World Report began including the College in its rankings last year. In its first year, the College placed in the lower tier of colleges which is grouped at the bottom of the rankings (#133 - #172) as is the case for colleges with no prior year for data comparison.

In 2023, the College moved up the list to #123 alongside its fellow NCAA Division II conference members Felician University and Holy Family University as well as close neighbor Neumann University. As more data accumulates in the coming years, the College expects to climb even higher in the rankings.

In recent years, the U.S. News & World Report rankings have come under scrutiny for placing too great an emphasis on peer impressions. Each year, college presidents, provosts and deans are asked to rate competitors on a five-point scale or mark "don't know" on their survey. This component counts for 20% of the ranking and is regarded by many as subjective and too reliant on hearsay and casual impressions.

Goldey-Beacom President Colleen Perry Keith says, "Understandably, most college administrators in places such as Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont know little to nothing of Goldey-Beacom College, and their 'don't know' responses serve to suppress the College's score in this category, once again reinforcing the College's perennial recognition as a Hidden Gem —great colleges you've never heard of."

"Battling the 'I've never heard of your college' on as many fronts as we can has been one of my primary goals for the College," said Dr. Keith, "and getting listed on this annual ranking helps combat that challenge."

While this is one area in which the College did not fare well, and one that counts the most in the rankings, the College succeeded in Least Student Debt, ranking at #17 and fared well in Campus Ethnic Diversity (#25), Economic Diversity (#58) and Social Mobility (#82) out of 178. The latter categories align with the College's mission and reflect success in the areas most valued by the College.

Goldey-Beacom's strong impact on the lives of its students was nationally recognized when Washington, DC think tank Third Way released its second annual Economic Mobility Rankings for colleges in August 2023. The College was ranked as a Tier One institution, which reflects the top 20%, in lifting its moderate to low-income students up financially beyond graduation. This ranking system has been put forth as a challenge to ranking systems that perpetually rank colleges based on popularity rather than outcomes.



Goldey-Beacom College, for the second consecutive year, has been ranked in the top 20% of the Economic Mobility Index (EMI) for colleges and universities by Washington, DC think tank – Third Way. GBC is the only Institution of Higher Education (IHE) in Delaware to achieve a Tier 1 ranking.

Third Way's ranking of Delaware IHEs:

- Tier 1 – Goldey-Beacom College
- Tier 2 – Delaware State University
- Tier 3 – University of Delaware
- Tier 4 – Wilmington University

Third Way states that, "Over one-third of the 281 institutions in the top 20% of schools on their Economic Mobility Index are Hispanic-serving institutions, a federal designation for schools with an undergraduate enrollment of at least 25% Hispanic students."

GBC President Colleen Perry Keith said, "The data show Goldey-Beacom's EMI ranking at 24.7% with a 3.36 price-to-earnings premium (PEP) for low-income students: years to pay down total net cost.

This is significant considering we have 64% of students in the low-income PEP percentile rank.

Forty percent of all undergraduate students received a Pell grant in 2021-22 of which 38.6% were full-time students."

GOLDEY-BEACOM COLLEGE IN THE NEWS



Colleen Perry Keith, Ph.D.

NCAA Division II Executive Board Names GBC's Colleen Perry Keith as Chair

Goldey-Beacom College President Colleen Perry Keith, a longtime advocate of bettering student-athletes' lives and a longtime voice within the NCAA, was elevated to Chair of the NCAA Division II Executive Board when the 2024 NCAA Convention concluded in January in Phoenix.

"Dr. Keith's appointment is important for the College and the Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference (CACC)," Director of Athletics Jeremy Benoit said. "Our president continues to make an impact on the College, but she always has her eyes set on the improvement of our community ... whether that means our immediate community or a community as large as the NCAA membership. Her willingness to get involved at this level will continue to ensure that small colleges like Goldey-Beacom have their voices heard in the legislative process. There is no one more well-read and capable to do that than she."

Dr. Keith will also serve as the Division II representative on the NCAA Board of Governors in a renewable one-year term. She is one of nine presidents on the 14-member board out of the 311 Division II institutions who will serve on the Executive Board (formerly known as the Presidents Council).

"I am honored to serve the NCAA Division II colleges and student athletes in this role," Dr. Keith said. "The philosophy of Division II – *life in the balance* – fits well with who I am, but more importantly, who and what Goldey-Beacom and our sister colleges in the division are. At the end of the day, the goal of a balanced approach is to achieve optimal outcomes by considering a wide range of factors and finding the right blend of those factors. Division II student-athletes live that day in and day out: they balance academics with competitive athletics with community engagement with

work and with family and bring it all together as they prepare for their adult lives. It's inspiring and humbling to see our student-athletes balance it all and it is a privilege to serve in this way."

One of the most affable people on campus, Dr. Keith has accomplished a great deal since her 2019 arrival in Pike Creek. Her vision and determination continue to be a reinforcement of all the positives Goldey-Beacom College displays on campus, the Wilmington community and beyond.



Photo credit: Sebastien Lacroix

GOLDEY-BEACOM COLLEGE IN THE NEWS



Goldey-Beacom College Library Joins PALCI Consortium to Enhance Access to Academic Resources

Goldey-Beacom College has joined the Partnership for Academic Library Collaboration and Innovation (PALCI) thus reaching a historic milestone as their first member from the state of Delaware. GBC's participation expands the consortium's reach and enriches its diverse community of 75 academic and research libraries.

A hallmark of this membership is the College's integration into PALCI's renowned EZBorrow resource sharing platform, powered by the open source ReShare platform. This cutting-edge platform streamlines interlibrary loan services, providing library patrons with an efficient means to explore, request and borrow physical library materials, such as books, from more than 60 college and university member libraries throughout the region.

Library Director Rusty Michalak enthusiastically shared his anticipation for this new alliance, expressing, "We eagerly anticipate the wealth of learning and research opportunities this partnership will offer to our students, faculty and staff. This partnership not only broadens our access to a wealth of academic resources but also reinforces the spirit of cooperation among institutions."

Jill Morris, PALCI executive director, conveyed her excitement about this groundbreaking partnership, noting, "PALCI's value proposition epitomizes a true partnership-based approach.

By joining PALCI, Goldey-Beacom College gains access to collections sharing opportunities that are often unattainable when operating independently. Concurrently, PALCI is thrilled to embark on

this collaboration with the College, strengthening our consortium with their unique strengths, expertise and contributions."

The Goldey-Beacom College Hiron Library plays a vital role in supporting the academic and research needs of its students and faculty. As a member of PALCI, the library will further enhance its resources and services to benefit its academic community.

PALCI, well-known for fostering cost-effective access to a wealth of academic resources and opportunities through collaboration, now extends these benefits to Goldey-Beacom College. The institution's faculty, students and staff gain privileged access to PALCI's shared catalog, hosting a vast collection of over 46 million items shared by participating institutions. The College will have the opportunity to participate in PALCI's strategic licensing program offerings for electronic library materials, encompassing eBooks, eJournals, primary sources and more. This initiative broadens online access to materials with innovative licensing terms at significantly reduced rates through collaborative negotiations with publishers and vendors.

PALCI has expanded its membership to encompass institutions in New Jersey, New York and West Virginia – and now, with the addition of Goldey-Beacom College, Delaware. PALCI's diverse membership includes a blend of small,

private liberal arts colleges as well as large public and private non-profit institutions. Their collective efforts leverage the influence and scope of this extensive collaboration.

To explore how PALCI supports academic and research libraries in Pennsylvania and the surrounding geographic region, please visit <https://palci.org/about/members/>.

The Partnership for Academic Library Collaboration and Innovation is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) membership organization that originated in 1996 and was incorporated in 1998 as the Pennsylvania Academic Library Consortium, Inc. Today, PALCI's membership has grown to include more than 70 academic and research libraries in Pennsylvania and contiguous states. PALCI's mission is to enable cost-effective and sustainable access to information resources and services. PALCI is known for its highly-regarded EZBorrow consortial interlibrary loan (ILL) service. Members collaborate to serve over 800,000 students, faculty and staff, focusing on collaborative collections programs, resource sharing services, and innovative technology projects and approaches to library services.



Library Director Rusty Michalak

GOLDEY-BEACOM COLLEGE IN THE NEWS



Goldey-Beacom College has been named a College of Distinction (COD) for the 2023-2024 academic year, marking its commitment to providing a high-quality undergraduate education that focuses on hands-on learning, strong student-teacher relationships, a vibrant campus life and successful outcomes.

GBC has been named in four categories:

- 2023-2024 College of Distinction
- 2023-2024 College of Distinction, Delaware
- 2023-2024 College of Distinction, Business
- 2023-2024 College of Distinction, Career Development

"Receiving four distinctions for the second consecutive year reflects the steady progress the College has made in many areas including increased degree program offerings and additional student opportunities," said Dr. Colleen Perry Keith.

"In addition, the College's 2022 first-time inclusion in the U.S. News & World Report rankings as well as its recent designation in April 2023 as an Emerging Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI) by the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) have further synthesized the College's message of diversity and inclusion," Dr. Keith added.

Colleges of Distinction's selection process comprises a sequence of in-depth research and detailed interviews with the schools, accepting only those that adhere to the Four Distinctions: Engaged Students, Great Teaching, Vibrant Community, and Successful Outcomes.

As a College of Distinction, Goldey-Beacom College has shown excellence in each of these areas, providing its students with a well-rounded, practical education that prepares them for successful careers and lives.

"We believe that engaged students are successful students," said Tyson Schritter, Chief Operating Officer at Colleges of Distinction. "And Goldey-Beacom College's dedication to experiential learning shows us that each of its students has the opportunity to play an active role in their education."

"We don't rank our schools," said Schritter. "Every student has individual needs and flourishes in a specific environment. We prefer to focus on the innovative ways that colleges all around the country are providing an enriching undergraduate experience."

Goldey-Beacom College's inclusion as a College of Distinction is a testament to the way it caters to its own students' potential and goals, helping them achieve success in unique ways that cannot be ranked against others.

To be named a College of Distinction, Goldey-Beacom College demonstrated excellence in undergraduate education in such factors as student engagement, teaching excellence, outcomes-based learning, and community involvement.

To view Goldey-Beacom College's profile or to find more information about the programs it offers, visit <https://collegesofdistinction.com/school/goldey-beacom-college/>



Photo credit: Chari Konomi

**May 3, 2024
Commencement**

**SPORTSCASTER HOWARD "THE KING" ESKIN
HAS BEEN CROWNED**

By: Janine G. Sorbello

Sportscaster Howard 'the King' Eskin delivered the 137th Goldey-Beacom College commencement speech on Friday, May 3, 2024, on the GBC campus in one ceremony with undergraduate students commencing first, followed by graduate and doctoral students next. A combined total of 346 students received degrees. Students represented 18 different states and 33 different countries with 8% of the total graduating with a perfect 4.0 GPA.

Upon the recommendation of the GBC Honorary Degree Committee and following approval by the GBC Board of Trustees, President Colleen Perry Keith conferred upon Dr. Howard Eskin an honorary Doctor of Media and Communications degree, with all appropriate honors, rights, privileges and responsibilities.

Nationally known sportscaster Howard 'the King' Eskin delivered the commencement address to more than 1,500 family members and students. Dr. Eskin is a sports radio personality for SportsRadio 94 WIP as well as a sports anchor for FOX 29 News in Philadelphia.

Dr. Eskin, a self-admitted "Swiftie" walked onstage to Taylor Swift's "Long Live", whose words he takes to heart. Humbled by the invitation from GBC's President Colleen Perry Keith, Dr. Eskin pointed to the large video screens and said, "I was beyond thrilled at the opportunity. I was so thrilled that I had an artist customize a pair of Vans for just this occasion."

Wearing the Goldey-Beacom Vans throughout the ceremony, Dr. Eskin imparted three personal beliefs to students and their families. First, don't give up on your dreams; second, don't be afraid to take risks - there is no reward without risk; and three, the most valuable advice of all which was given to him by Miami Dolphins Head Coach Mike McDaniel - talent is overrated. Hard work usually beats talent most of the time."

"Your achievement validates your hard work and diligence, the dreams and sacrifices of your family and loved ones and the College's confidence in your knowledge and abilities," said Dr. Colleen Perry Keith, GBC's 14th president as she recognized the students' steadfast efforts.

"Be proud of this goal you have reached. Today is just the start of more great things for you all."



Photo credit: Howard Eskin



Photo credit: Kyle Mapson

Dr. Howard Eskin's customized Vans.

Dr. Colleen Perry Keith presents Howard Eskin with an honorary doctorate.



Photo credit: Kyle Mapson



Photo credit: Howard Eskin



May 3, 2024 Commencement



Photo credit: Kyle Mapson



Photo credit: Kyle Mapson



achieve greater.

Photo credit: Kyle Mapson



Photo credit: Kyle Mapson

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May 3, 2024 Commencement



Spring/Summer 2024 | Goldey-Beacom College magazine



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MEET *Bachir Abba '06*

EARNED: Masters of Business Administration

MORGAN COSMETICS — the making of an award-winning multinational cosmetics corporation

By: Janine G. Sorbello

From Morocco to Wilmington, Delaware to Issaquah, Washington.

Born and raised in extreme poverty in a small village in Morocco, Bachir Abba's father passed away when he was only three years old.

The impact left his mother unable to afford classroom books for him and his siblings. As a result, the older ones could no longer attend school. Abba was fortunate, and with the love and strength of his mother, Abba went on to finish high school and later earned a bachelor's degree in English literature from the University of Morocco.

Despite all the hardships he had faced, he remained willing to work hard toward his lifelong dream to study abroad and to become an entrepreneur. With the help of family, he managed to travel to the United States and enroll in the hospitality management program at a university in Pa. Meanwhile, his best friend was already studying a few miles away at Goldey-Beacom College.

Yemini-born Maeen Al Darwish invited Abba to visit the GBC campus and meet his favorite professor. "My friend brought me to the admissions office where I met Larry Eby who was an English professor," said Abba. "I said, 'Hey Larry, I was an English major for my undergrad' and we started talking about Shakespeare, modern drama and classical drama. I fell in love with it (the College)." By the time Abba left campus, he had enrolled in the master's program to earn his MBA in International Marketing.

Eby was one of two men who became important mentors to a very young and impressionable Abba – the other was another professor – Dr. Hibbital Omar.

Both men provided the knowledge, experience and encouragement that would become a strong foundation for achieving entrepreneurial success.

With Eby's mastery of English and presentation skills combined with Dr. Omar's expertise in international marketing and business, Abba gained the tools and confidence necessary to start his own venture.

Abba graduated from GBC in 2006 with an MBA as well as the determination and willingness to do the hard work to pursue his dream. He soon began experimenting with organic ingredients for cosmetics products.

Originating from the Berber tribe in Morocco, Abba knew the intrinsic value and health benefits of argan oil which is harvested from kernels from the argan tree. In 2012, he brought one gallon to the U.S. and start packaging it in his Newark, Del. apartment, and that's how organic skincare company Morgan Cosmetics was launched.

Today, Abba feels his life has been nothing short of a miracle. Although the odds were stacked against him, his hard work, passion and determination earned him the honor of being the first in his family to graduate high school, the first to graduate college and now the proud owner of a successful multi-national corporation – Morgan Cosmetics.

Headquartered in Issaquah, Washington, Morgan Cosmetics is a premier curator for argan oil and uses the cold press method, preserving the oil in its natural state and structure.

They offer the finest organic face, hair, skin and nail care products.



With operational locations in both Morocco and Seattle, Wash., they currently offer a diverse portfolio of over 60 carefully curated products.

An impressive 85% of the products sold by Morgan Cosmetics are exported to numerous countries on four continents. In addition to selling raw materials to established companies in the United States, they also create private labels for clients including The Honesty Company, Alaina Huffman and NBA player Langston Galloway.

As part of 2024 National Small Business Week, Morgan Cosmetics was honored by the U.S. Small Business Administration's Seattle District Office as the winner of the 2024 Regional Export Firm of the Year for the Pacific Northwest, ranking them number three out of 10 finalists in the nation for the SBA National Exporter of the Year.

Morgan Cosmetics was also honored as the 2024 SBA Exporter of the Year for the Seattle District and the 2024 Small Business of the Year by the city of Issaquah.

CORPORATE GOALS

1. **SOCIAL:** Fight against poverty and promote the status of rural women through strengthening financial power.
2. **ECONOMIC:** Ensure the high quality and competitiveness of our products.
3. **ENVIRONMENTAL:** Adopt a sustainable development approach based on safeguarding the heritage of the Argan forest through the development of forest products to ensure the improvement of living conditions of the population in the region of Argan.

Photo credit: Bachir Abba



Above center: Dr. Colleen Perry Keith, Micah White
Micah's parents: Far left, far right: Brian and Nicole White



Above left to right, Micah's siblings: Elisha, Grace,
(Micah) and his mother Nicole

Black Student Union board members
at the 2024 BSU Fashion Show



Faculty and students poured into many events hosted by the BSU including: left to right: Crystal Smith '24; faculty, Dr. Scott Glenn; BSU President Micah White '24; faculty, Dr. Melvina Brown; Dean of Students, Jocelyn Moses (Byers-Smith), BSU Advisor & Asst. Dir. Res. Life, Tatiana Marshall '16, '17

Below: 2024 Senior men's track athletes: Left to right: Asst. Athletics Director Mike Torres, Micah White, Emmanuel Otsiyna, Tymir Ash, A'mair Buffaloe, Tyzaiah Moss, Khalil Proctor



MEET *Micah White '24*

EARNED: Bachelor of Arts in English with a concentration in Literary Studies

Following graduation, Micah posted the following on LinkedIn. As an aspiring writer, nothing compares to his own words.

His many honors and accomplishments at the College include:

- ✓ *President, Black Student Union*
- ✓ *Resident Assistant of the Year*
- ✓ *2x Cross Country Team Captain*
- ✓ *Highest GPA in Major (B.A. English)*
- ✓ *President's Award for Achieving Greater - Undergraduate*
- ✓ *2024 Commencement Student Speaker*



FAMILY IS IMPORTANT– the family you grow up with – and the people who become your family.

In fall 2020, Goldey-Beacom College welcomed Micah White into an extraordinary family of students, student-athletes, faculty, coaches, staff and alumni – a family of people who care about the education, career and future success of each student.



Micah White
Aspiring Professor of English | Assistant Resident Director at Duquesne University |

I have officially graduated from Goldey-Beacom College, May 3, 2024.

Throughout my journey at GBC, I've been able to connect with a plethora of extraordinary individuals. Not just extraordinarily talented but extremely down to earth. I've also had the chance to be involved with many different groups. I'd like to give them all their flowers now.

First, I'd like to thank President Colleen Perry Keith for not only awarding me the President's Award for Achieving Greater but for serving on the committee that

selected me to be the student speaker at Commencement. Speaking at graduation had been a goal I set, and I'm more than appreciative that I was able to see that through with the help of many.

Furthermore, I'm super grateful for the amazing board I had around me for the Black Student Union. We put on some amazing programs throughout the year, did great work for the community and overall represented the entire college in a positive light. Everyone on the board played a pivotal role in making sure the club was a success. I love y'all and thanks for staying on me to make sure things got done!

I also want to send a huge shout out to Red Clay Consolidated School District and Skyline Middle School's AVID program. You all allowed me in and got me involved with the community doing something I love – teaching. Volunteer tutoring for two years has been great, and it was awesome to see the 8th grade students graduate. Thank you Lindsey Bulla for supporting me and being my host teacher!

To all my coaches and athletics staff, thank you for helping my dream of being a collegiate athlete come true. It's been a rough four years, riddled with injuries, but my people helped me get through it. I learned a lot and met some great people. Thank you Andrew L. Shearer for bringing me to GBC through track and cross

country. Without you, I would've never been here. Much appreciation to Coach Joe Dare for letting this injured senior come back as captain for his last year.

To my residence life family, thank you. You all have supported me, mentored me and let me follow through my plans. A special thank you to Jocelyn Moses (Byers-Smith) for showing me a side of res life I never would've known existed. Forever grateful to you for being a continued source of inspiration and mentorship. Much love to you all!

I couldn't forget about my brothers at Lightning Studio. Thank you Geoff Stone and Chari Konomi for letting me walk into the studio with a camera and no skill. I've learned much more just being around you guys these three years than I ever would've expected. I look forward to seeing you both progress as photographers, videographers and as great human beings.

I'd also like to thank Traci Currie, Ph.D. for getting me out of my shell to fully dive into poetry. I really appreciate you giving me the opportunity to share my work, for the first time, in a public setting.

Lastly, I want to thank my family for pushing me to be great.



Photo credit 24, 25: JUDS

“Sadie’s consistent dedication and strong work ethic has made her a reliable and trusted member of our management team here at JUDS. Her positive attitude makes her a pleasure to work with on a daily basis.”

Roger Reed '87

Reed has been a member of the JUDS team since 1988 and a stockholder since 2000. Reed holds a Bachelor of Science in Accounting from GBC.



Roger Reed '87



MEET Sadie Jones '12, '13

**EARNED: Bachelor of Science in Accounting '12
MBA with a concentration in Financial Management '13**

By: Janine G. Sorbello

Sadie Jones grew up on her family farm in Milford, Del, so it doesn't come as a surprise that her childhood dream was to become a veterinarian. But eventually, her love for sports – particularly softball – would triumph.

“Growing up, my family pushed me to play softball, starting lessons when I was around six years old,” said Jones. And because she had spent so many years playing softball for little league, high school and travel teams, she said, “I decided it was worth pursuing a sports scholarship for college.”

After graduating Sussex Technical High School in 2008, Jones applied to Goldey-Beacom College. But like many students, her family wasn't able to pay for college.

Jones was thrilled to receive a financial aid package which included a softball scholarship making Goldey-Beacom's generous scholarships the game changer she needed. In fact, if it wasn't for a grant, an athletics scholarship and an academic scholarship as well as additional outside scholarships, Jones would have been forced into debt and ultimately wouldn't have come to GBC.

“With the scholarships I had through Goldey-Beacom and other resources, I was able to attend with almost no financial burden,” said Jones. “I only had to take out a student loan for one semester to make ends meet.”

Just over an hour from home, it was an easy decision to enroll, but the next big decision was to choose a major. Since Jones was good at math, she chose accounting.

Although she didn't plan to become an accountant, she had established a connection and secured a part-time position with Jefferson, Urian, Doane & Sterner, P.A. (JUDS), a CPA firm in

Georgetown, Del. At the same time, she enrolled at GBC to earn an MBA.

“When I was working on my MBA, I worked as a tax temp for JUDS,” said Jones. “That was my first time working on any tax-related work, and I really enjoyed the environment – fast paced and pressure to get as much done as possible in as short amount of time as possible.”

“As I was finishing up the temp role, I let them know that I was looking for a full-time position and would be very interested in staying,” continued Jones. “I had also applied for an accounting position with the state of Del. at that time, but when tax season ended, JUDS offered me a full-time position.”

Jones began to build on her solid start as a tax temp with JUDS and joined the firm full time as a junior accountant. As a new employee, Jones knew she still had a lot to learn, and said, “It takes time for everything to click into place and for you to realize *this* is why we are doing something and how it relates to what we were taught in class.”

During her tenure, she has worked on audits as well as tax work for businesses and individuals. She was later promoted to senior accountant, and then a supervisor position.

In fall 2023, Jones was promoted to her current role as a manager. Although she supervises the staff, she maintains her own client base as well as clients whom she services for JUDS partners. Jones is one of the leaders on the JUDS Coaching program for staff which includes a focus on recruiting new hires, professional development for staff and completing performance evaluations.

As Jones reflected on her time at Goldey-Beacom, she recalled that college life wasn't always easy saying, “While some things I encountered were overwhelming, I believe Goldey-Beacom gave me a good set of skills that

I could use in my career. Some of those skills came from extra credit courses that I had no idea would benefit me at the time. For example, I took Excel for a base knowledge of how to do formulas and a class for QuickBooks which helped me tremendously. I also had a good handle on debits, credits and journal entries which was a huge help when I was working on business returns at JUDS.”

While Jones advanced through each course, she said, “I learned a lot about teamwork and developed interpersonal skills that enabled me to excel in my current role of focusing on staff. Seeing how much the professors wanted me to do well really helped me understand that we (as a company) need our staff to do well, and we want them to want to succeed.”

Today, Jones looks back with appreciation for (her words) “great professors in both my undergraduate and graduate years who were willing to answer questions and help in any way – even after graduation.” Jones has earned her CPA and is a member of the Delaware Society of Certified Public Accountants and the American Institute of CPAs. She enjoys being involved in professional events and spending time in the community. In her time off, she likes to travel, work on her family's farm and spend time with family and friends.

We offer a hearty congratulations to Sadie Jones who just celebrated 10 years with JUDS and earned a promotion into a management position.



Sadie Jones '12, '13

MEET *Cynthia Karnai '08*

EARNED: Master of Business Administration with a concentration in Financial Management

Cynthia Karnai Confirmed as Director of Delaware State Housing Authority

In March 2024, Cynthia Karnai was nominated by Governor John Carney and confirmed by the State Senate as the Director of the Delaware State Housing Authority (DSHA) as well as Cabinet Secretary. Karnai's promotion to the chief position comes after serving as its deputy director since 2022.

Since joining DSHA in 2005 in the Housing Finance Division, her work has focused on promoting homeownership, from managing programs during the height of the housing boom with annual funding of over \$420 million to challenging economic times.

Karnai has served in several positions at DSHA including director of housing finance where she guided homeownership and foreclosure prevention; and chief operating officer where she was charged to oversee its daily operations.

During her tenure, she has launched innovative resources to revitalize Delaware's housing market, including emergency foreclosure assistance for senior citizens and low-rate mortgage rates for new construction and veterans. She launched the first-time homebuyer federal tax credit in Del. As a unique initiative for the agency, Karnai developed and launched, in 90 days, the Delaware Mortgage Relief Program, the state's mortgage assistance program for those impacted by COVID-19.

Under Karnai's leadership, DSHA has been awarded the Government

Photo credit 26, 27: DSHA

Finance Officers Association National Accounting and Financial Reporting Award, received national recognition by the National Council of State Housing Agencies, and received the National Award of Merit from the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials.

"Thank you to the members of the Delaware Senate for their votes confirming Cynthia Karnai as Director of the Delaware State Housing Authority," said Governor Carney. "With her tenure and expertise with the Housing Authority, Cynthia is well positioned to lead the difficult but rewarding work of helping Delawareans obtain safe and stable housing, creating affordable housing options, and strengthening neighborhoods. I appreciate her willingness to continue to serve the First State."

I am honored and humbled to serve as the new Director of the Delaware State Housing Authority," said Karnai. "I'm proud to work with a diverse group of housing experts and look forward to advancing DSHA's mission."

About the Delaware State Housing Authority

The Delaware State Housing Authority (DSHA), formed in 1968, provides quality, affordable housing opportunities and appropriate supportive services to low- and moderate-income Delawareans. In addition



to its role as the State's Housing Finance Agency, DSHA is unique in that it serves as a Public Housing Authority and Community Development. As a Public Housing Authority, DSHA receives funding from HUD to build, own and operate public housing in Kent and Sussex counties, two of Delaware's three counties.

ARTICLE EDITED AND REPRINTED WITH PERMISSION FROM: <https://news.delaware.gov/2024/03/18/cynthia-karnai-confirmed-as-director-of-delaware-state-housing-authority/>



Cynthia Karnai '08



Photo credit 26, 27: DSHA

Delaware State Housing Authority office in Dover, Del.

"I started my introduction to Goldey-Beacom College by meeting Larry Eby, then director of admissions and current executive director of Institutional Advancement. Combined with the warm welcome and resources Larry presented, DSHA supported my attendance and continued education with financial resources to cover the costs of tuition. GBC offered courses in the evenings and on weekends which allowed me to continue to focus on my family and work. I valued the diverse student population which offered both new students and seasoned professionals a networking and learning environment to hear different perspectives and experiences. I am grateful this opportunity was presented to me.

My husband, Robert Crossan, is also a fellow GBC alumnus who graduated in 2008. He pursued an MBA and graduated in 2011.

Upon returning to our home state of Delaware after Robert served in the United States Marine Corp (1987-1994; Gulf War Veteran), I enrolled at the University of Delaware. With my combined bachelor's and master's degrees from

the University of Delaware, I am the first in my family to graduate from college.

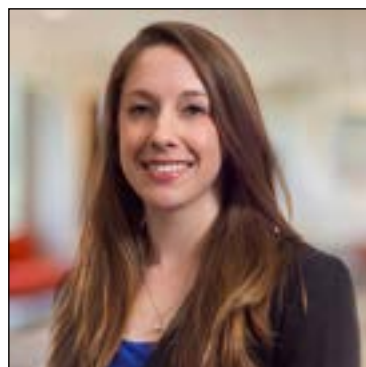
Pursuing my MBA at Goldey-Beacom with a concentration in Financial Management boosted my career with DSHA and allowed me to make a bigger impact for fellow Delawareans as I took the reins of the Housing Finance division in 2009.

One of my great professors was Dr. Fatma Abdel-Raouf, Economics and Finance. I was able to directly apply my GBC education through the issuance of bonds and accessing other financial markets. I am thankful for this foundation to serve our state. Working closely with bankers and investors, DSHA is a key partner and resource to Delaware's home buying and real estate community. I truly enjoy this work, our staff, partners and my career of service. I am thankful to GBC and all those who have walked this journey by my side."

Cynthia Karnai '08
Director, Delaware State Housing Authority

MEET *Jennifer M. Rybicki, '15*

EARNED: Master of Science in Taxation



Santora CPA Group recently announced the promotion of Jennifer M. Rybicki, CPA, MST, to the position of tax manager.

Rybicki began her 14-year career at Santora CPA Group through an internship in 2009 while completing her

undergraduate degree. She officially joined the firm in June 2010, contributing her expertise and dedication to the organization. Currently, she focuses on taxes, including trusts, estates and SALT (state and local taxes).

Rybicki enjoys spending time with her family – husband, Greg, children, Matthew and Emily, and dog, Ellie.

When asked her favorite places to vacation, she'd say trips to Disney World and Ocean City, NJ.

Rybicki is a member of the American Institute of CPAs (AICPA) and the Delaware Society of CPAs (DSCPA). She also serves on the Board of Directors of the Grand Opera House. Rybicki earned a Master of Science degree in Taxation from GBC to enhance her proficiency in tax-related matters.



achieve greater.

MEET *Gregory J. Fleck '19*

EARNED: Master of Business Administration



Gregory Fleck recently joined Associated Bank with the commercial banking team in Madison, Wis. as vice president, relationship manager. This new, senior-level position follows a 15-year career at JPMorgan Chase in commercial and private banking as a commercial

banker and vice president of client services, respectively.

As Associated Bank continues to advance in the next phase of its people-centric, digitally empowered strategic plan, Fleck will assist the expansion of its commercial middle market team in focus markets such as Milwaukee, Madison, Chicago, Twin Cities and St. Louis. He joins several other new relationship managers to focus on attracting and deepening customer relationships in meaningful ways including loans, deposits, treasury management and other services.

In an April 2024 press release, Phillip Trier, executive vice president, commercial banking group leader welcomed Fleck and other new leaders in three of the bank's largest commercial markets saying, "Their proven expertise and dedication to fostering valuable client relationships will strengthen our commercial banking offerings and will be a great benefit to the business communities in Milwaukee, Madison and Chicago."

Fleck earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Delaware and an MBA from GBC.



MEET *Jamie Vari '09*

EARNED: Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a concentration in Marketing Management



Executive vice president at Jones Lang LaSalle (JLL), Jamie Vari as recognized in fall 2023 by Delaware Business Times as a DE 222 honoree. Vari joins the list with GBC President Colleen Perry Keith who was also honored.

Located in the Wilmington office of JLL, Vari specializes in landlord and tenant representation services for corporate and institutional clients throughout Delaware and the greater Philadelphia region. In 11 years with the firm, Vari has secured more than \$40 million in tenant representation deals and obtained more than 1 million square feet of agency representation for clients. He's worked closely with major landlords like Delle Donne & Associates, The Commonwealth Group and Harvey Hanna & Associates, including leasing the forthcoming Tower at Avenue North.

With a passion for community service, Vari is a member of several boards including ABC Delaware, Delaware State Chamber of Commerce, University of Delaware, Kent Sussex Leadership Alliance, WSFS Southern Delaware Advisory Board, Easterseals Delaware and Maryland's Eastern Shore Advisory Board.

Vari earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Marketing Management from GBC.



MEET *Natalia Richards '22*

EARNED: Bachelor of Science in Finance and Business Administration with a concentration in Management



In fall 2023, Neffs Bank promoted Natalia Richards to the position of a credit analyst II. Richards began her career with the bank in 2020 and was hired full time in May 2022 as a credit analyst I.

She currently serves on the board of directors

for the Lehigh Valley Risk Management Association and is the co-chair of the Chester County Economic Development Council (CCEDC) Women in Business Committee. She is also involved with the Carbon County Community Foundation where she is a 20/20 circle member.

Richards earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Finance and Business Administration with a concentration in Management from GBC.



THANK YOU for your giving. The students of Goldey-Beacom College are grateful for your generosity.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees and the greater Goldey-Beacom College community, we extend a heartfelt thank you to all our valued donors who gave students an opportunity to achieve greater.

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 NovaCare Rehabilitation
 Kindra Reed
 Lui Sa
 Sherwanda Speaks
 David Yoder

Men's Basketball
 Dr. Scott Glenn
 Joseph P. McGlynn

Men's Cross Country
 Pete Woelfl

Men's Soccer
 Dr. Scott Glenn

Women's Basketball
 Britani Loraine Bryson
 Dr. Scott Glenn

Women's Soccer
 Kristin Novak-Csapo

Women's Volleyball
 Megan Nicole Chesser

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GBC students truly appreciate your generosity. It's never too late to GIVE.

Visit: <https://www.degives.org/fundraisers/annual-scholarship-fund> to donate to the 2023 Annual Scholarship Fund or email diamona@gbc.edu for more information.



As students graduate, they look back to say THANK YOU!

Dear gracious donor, Thank you kindly for your donation to GBC. As a student working to get an accelerated degree, the financial aid I have been provided due to your donation has helped me greatly. Thank you again for your generous donation to GBC in furtherance of mine, and so many others degrees. I wish you all the best.
 -Bernie Piller (2010 of 2025)

Dear GBC donors, Thank you so much for your support and it is much well respected and appreciated around the school!

Thank you so much for the financial assistance. The help has meant so much to me. The financial aid staff (En. Mrs. Azra (Candy) are so helpful it's made me asking for help much easier. Thanks again!

Thank you for your generosity! Without your support I wouldn't be where I am today!

My time at GBC has been nice so far. Getting a scholarship has helped me so much and has helped my family with financial situations.

Thank you for everything you've done for us here at Goldey-Beacom. You guys make us and our parents lives easier. Thank you for the donations.

Dear GBC Donor, Thank you so much for donating to the GBC Annual Fund. Your donation has made it possible for me to chase the dream I once believed wasn't meant for me. As we just, young to college wasn't the center for me, but it is able to get an education and live the college experience that changed that for me! I have a great internship and hope to be back for summer. Thank you again.
 -GBC Student



Photo credit: Kyle Mapson

New Undergraduate Degrees Meet Future Demands

Goldey-Beacom College has added three new Bachelor of Science undergraduate degree programs.

1. **Digital Marketing**
2. **Business Administration with a concentration in eSports & Gaming Admin.**
3. **Business Administration with a concentration in Cybersecurity**

Program descriptions:

Digital Marketing

The Bachelor of Science in Digital Marketing is designed to provide the student with foundational skills in business with a focus on marketing. The goal of the program is to combine traditional approaches to market planning strategies with 21st century digital marketing and data analytics. Students will develop expertise in the areas of market research, sales and distribution management, advertising, international marketing, analytics and digital marketing. When combined with the communications, quantitative, and interpersonal skills developed in the liberal arts and business courses, this curriculum prepares students to assume a wide range of careers in marketing and business.

Business Administration with a concentration in eSports & Gaming Administration

The Esports and Gaming Administration concentration of Business Administration is designed to provide students with a strong business foundation in management, marketing, economics and finance/accounting. In addition, industry leaders at Capcom, Riot and other esports adjacent companies were consulted in the creation of the courses that comprise the Esports & Gaming Administration concentration to result in graduates who are significantly more employable within the games industry.

Business Administration with a concentration in Cybersecurity

The Cybersecurity concentration of Business Administration is designed to provide students with a strong business foundation in management, marketing, economics and finance/accounting. As part of the Cybersecurity concentration area, students will assess modern cybersecurity challenges that threaten our privacy, security and safety, and gain both the knowledge and hands-on technical skills to protect digital assets from cyber criminals who leverage sophisticated social and cyber tactics to facilitate attacks. Students learn how

to “harden” networks, systems and endpoint devices against cyber attacks, topics which are covered in the course Modern Cybersecurity. Additionally, they will learn how to perform cyber forensics to investigate, collect and preserve digital evidence associated with a breach.

“Adding Cybersecurity and eSports Management & Gaming Administration at the undergraduate level aligns with the goal of ensuring our students have the knowledge and skills they need.



We continue to focus on sharpening our tech offerings, recognizing that the speed with which technology advances means our classrooms need to help students develop skills, but more importantly, these courses will challenge students to think and understand deeply.”

Dr. Joel Worden, Provost, Vice President for Academic Affairs

The path toward additional skill sets can be gained through stackable certificates.

Goldey-Beacom College has added Micro and Macro Graduate Certificate Programs.

Micro-Graduate certificates: Five certificates, nine credits each

1. Graduate Analytical Business Skills
2. Graduate Certificate in Business Processes
3. Graduate Certificate in Financial & Economic Analysis
4. Graduate Certificate in Leadership
5. Graduate Certificate in Management

Macro-Graduate certificates: Three certificates, 18 credits each

1. Graduate Business Leadership/Power Up Certificate
2. Graduate Traditional Business Administration Certificate (“Pocket MBA”)
3. Graduate Quantitative and Analytical Business Certificate

Goldey-Beacom College has recognized a consistent need for workforce training. With President Keith’s previous experience as a former president of two colleges and her current involvement in the local community, she offers a viewpoint on what’s happening in higher education both nationally and regionally.

“I am involved in many organizations locally, regionally and nationally, and I learn at every turn about what workforce leaders are needing,” Dr. Keith expounded. “I get very excited to take notes at those meetings and bring that information back to the faculty and staff at GBC to consider, and if it fits our mission and vision, for them to act upon. We’ve made great strides in our program offerings as a result of careful listening to employers and others around us.”

GBC’s longstanding involvement with the business community is exemplified by the ongoing engagement and support of its Career and Employer Advisory Board that meets at least once per semester to talk about the challenges employers have and the curricular innovations the College is developing.

Dr. Joel Worden, recently appointed vice president for academic affairs and provost, said, “Goldey-Beacom focuses on preparing students for strong careers.” He continued, “We have seen a proliferation of short-term credentials from a variety of providers – both inside and outside of higher education.”

GBC’s current offering of stackable credentials will enable students to quickly gain much-needed industry skills. Dr. Worden added, “Over time, earning a combination of those certificates will stack into a full-fledged master’s degree.

“Workplace training needs are discussed in the media almost daily, and Goldey-Beacom



has a 137-year history in meeting workforce training needs of employers in our region,” said Dr. Colleen Perry Keith. She continued, “As we listen carefully to area employers about their needs, it made sense to create shorter-term programs to help meet employer needs.

A full college degree is still of great value, but so are certificate programs. It all depends on what an individual needs in order to meet their career goals.

Goldey-Beacom College was created for the purpose of providing training for area employers. What we are doing now is just a continuation of what we have always done – and done well.”

Dr. Colleen Perry Keith, President

GOLDEY-BEACOM COLLEGE ANNOUNCES NEW TRUSTEES

Effective July 1, 2024, the Goldey-Beacom College Board of Trustees welcomed Catherine M. Seeber and Dr. Lourdes Puig.



Catherine M. Seeber

TRUSTEE Catherine M. Seeber '94
CFP, CeFT
Principal, Financial Advisor

"I earned my Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a concentration in Finance while raising two children and working full time. GBC's unwavering support and commitment were instrumental to my success. The financial services industry and higher education are similar in that change is constant, and we need to be innovative and open to the evolution. I am honored to begin my service on the board of trustees and eager to give back to my alma mater."

With an influential career in the financial industry, Seeber's advice has been featured in a variety of national, local and industry media outlets including the Wall Street Journal, New York Times, Financial Planning, Fox Business, MarketWatch and Advisor Perspective. She is also a guest columnist for Rethinking65 and various financial blogs.

Seeber joined CAPTRUST in 2017 and serves as a principal and financial advisor responsible for providing comprehensive wealth management to high-net-worth investors, private foundations and corporate executives. Prior to joining the firm, she was a principal, senior financial advisor at Wescott Financial Advisory Group LLC for 16 years – working in the industry since 1998.

Seeber holds both the CFP (Certified Financial Planner) and CeFT (Certified Financial Transitionist) designations indicating expertise in financial planning and managing financial transitions. She is motivated by effectively helping her clients align their monetary choices, decision-making behavior and their investment habits with their goals.

In 2024, CAPTRUST awarded Seeber with Advisor of the Year, the highest honor the company bestows upon an advisor. The honor

is a peer-nominated award out of more than 650 advisors across the U.S.

Seeber is extremely committed to the community in which she lives and works. She previously served for three years on the board of directors of the Financial Planning Association and currently serves on several board committees to continue her focus on advancing the profession.

She is a member of The Forum of Executive Women, a membership organization of women of influence in Delaware. Seeber currently chairs the CAPTRUST AdvisHers Initiative whose mission is to grow a more diverse community of advisors by raising each other up along the way through mentoring, encouragement and collaboration.

Seeber graduated cum laude from GBC and holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a concentration in Financial Management.

When she is not in the office or with a client, Seeber enjoys exercising, traveling, volunteering and spending time with her family. She resides in Lewes, Del. and loves spending time with family and participating in outdoor activities.



Joan Verbonitz

GOLDEY-BEACOM COLLEGE ANNOUNCES NEWLY APPOINTED VICE CHAIR JOAN VERBONITZ '93, '04 WILL SUCCEED DR. WINNER FOR CHAIR POSITION

The Goldey-Beacom College Board of Trustees congratulates Joan Verbonitz for her appointment to

serve as the vice chair of the Board. She is slated to succeed Dr. Cornelia "Connie" Winner as chair of the board of trustees beginning July 1, 2026.

Verbonitz has served as a trustee since 2011 and was also honored in 2017 with the Distinguished Alumni award, the College's highest honor bestowed upon alumni.

In October 2021, Verbonitz joined Virginia Passenger Rail Association as the chief administrative officer and is responsible for human resources and procurement as well as external affairs and communications.

Prior to joining VPRA, Verbonitz was the vice president of human resources for Amtrak, where she was responsible for talent acquisition, learning and development, and talent and performance management. Her 29-year career in business includes leadership positions at Comcast, Chase, Sallie Mae and Wells Fargo.

Verbonitz holds a Bachelor of Science in Marketing Management and an MBA with a concentration in Human Resource Management, both from GBC. She resides in Wilmington, Del. with her two children.



Dr. Lourdes Puig

TRUSTEE Lourdes Puig, Ph.D.

Retired, DuPont, Corteva

"I am honored to serve on the GBC board of trustees and look forward to working with the team to support its goal of becoming a strong Hispanic serving organization. I have a strong passion for education and this provides another vehicle to support students pursuing further growth and development."

Dr. Puig retired from Corteva in December 2019 after leading the efforts to spin and stand the Global

R&D organization after the separation from DowDuPont.

For more than 28 years, she has held different roles in research and manufacturing with various businesses within DuPont and Corteva. She started as a research chemist with the Crop Protection business at the Experimental Station in Wilmington, Del.

At DuPont and Corteva, not only was she a strong leader, but also showed strong commitment to the Hispanic community with her involvement and leadership of the DuPont Hispanic Network (HISNET). Dr. Puig has been involved for many years in volunteer activities through

church, school and community. She is currently the Chair of the Board of Directors for the Delaware Theatre Company and the Vice-Chair for the Delaware Foundation for Science and Math Education (DFSME). She serves on the board of Serviam Girls Academy and United Way of Delaware and is a steering committee member for the Delaware Million Women Mentor organization. She was also a member and founder of ASPIRA of Delaware and past Chair for Las Americas ASPIRA Academy Charter School. She was appointed to the Delaware Hispanic Commission by Governor Carney in December 2023.

Dr. Puig holds a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry from the University of Puerto Rico and a Master's degree and Ph.D. in Analytical Chemistry from the University of Michigan. She was an assistant professor at Eastern Michigan University for a year before joining DuPont in 1991.

A Message from the Alumni Association Board President



Evren D. Ford '97

On behalf of the Goldey-Beacom College Alumni Association, congratulations on your graduation! I'm honored to welcome you into the Alumni Association family. You and your graduating class have been put to the test, and you've passed with flying colors. You are now officially a graduate of Goldey-Beacom College, and I want to take the opportunity to make you a promise.

Your Alumni Association is going to be here for you because we are fearlessly committed to your success.

I encourage you to make a commitment to your alma mater by joining your Alumni Association. By becoming a Bolt for life, you will leave your own legacy and show your support for Goldey-Beacom College.

Your Alumni Association, through your membership, will help you stay in touch with friends you made on campus, prepare you for your career through networking and professional development, and will keep you informed about alumni and campus news. You can also take advantage of our newly expanded member benefits, including career and industry networking and lifelong learning

opportunities, to help you develop both professionally and personally.

It is my wish that as alums, you will wear our colors proudly and continue to demonstrate the high-quality education GBC provides. In turn, Goldey-Beacom will continue to educate students from 22 states and over 60 nations, pursue cutting-edge technology, encourage innovation and entrepreneurship, and defend our athletics titles.

As a student, and now as a graduate, you will always be a Bolt and have a home at Goldey-Beacom. The Board of Directors and I encourage you to share and use the campus site to engage with the Alumni Association to maintain your connection to the College.

Now go forth with the strength of your Goldey-Beacom degree and remember that your Alumni Association is here to help you stay active, stay informed, stay connected and stay forever fearless.

Evren D. Ford

Evren D. Ford, President
Board of Directors
Goldey-Beacom College Alumni Association



Alumni Events – Fall 2023 and Winter 2024 Recap

October 6 – 8, 2023 Homecoming Weekend



The outdoor Homecoming Weekend sports games were dampened by the rain, but students, alumni and their families celebrated indoors with the men's and women's basketball games, food and a recognition ceremony for athletes.

March 2, 2024 – Hoop it Up



November 4, 2023 – 2nd Annual Fall Craft Fair



Guests overflowed the parking lot for the 2nd Annual Fall Craft Fair with over 50 vendors and two tables full of fabulous raffle prizes. The Alumni Association raised almost \$3,000 for their Scholarship Fund and future Alumni Association activities. Shoppers experienced one-of-a-kind gifts – all hand made by local crafters.



The Men's and Women's Basketball Teams played the final home games on March 2 at Hoop It Up, against local rival Wilmington University. The Alumni Association hosted the Hospitality Suite with corndogs, nachos and more for alumni and friends, while fans cheered along with

the cheerleading team from Skyline Middle School. Guests took a spin on the prize wheel to win a myriad of prizes, including coffee with the (GBC) President.

April 27, 2024 – Drives for Education Golf Outing



The Alumni Association Drives for Education Golf outing hosted a record number of golfers at Deerfield Golf Club with more than 80 golfers and 40 sponsors. Ending with a carving station dinner and delectable desserts, alumni and friends were

able to catch up while exchanging friendly banter on the day's golf game – the good and the not-so-good.

As the largest fundraiser of the year, the Alumni Association raised over \$10,000 for their Scholarship Fund and future Alumni Association activities. Golfers received lunch, a swag bag and a wonderful dinner. One lucky player won over \$600 from the 50/50 drawing.

SAVE THE DATE

October 4 – 6, 2024

Homecoming Weekend

Saturday, November 2, 2024

Fall Craft Fair

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at the GBC Event Center

October 6, 2023 – Donor Dinner, 50th Anniversary Celebration at Pike Creek Location

Goldey-Beacom College celebrated faithful supporters with a Donor Reception in the Event Center with several guest speakers including Senator Tom Carper, Representative Mike Ramone and Councilman Brandon Toole. They recalled the history of the College and the importance of giving back to support scholarships for the next generation of students. Guests enjoyed a lovely catered dinner and went home with an exclusive 50th Anniversary coin.



Goldy-Beacom College



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