



OFFICE OF ALUMNI & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

March 2024 eNews

Luck of the Knights



SMC Alpine Ski team, 2/24, at the Middlebury Carnival where seniors took their last run as a Purple Knight



Dear Saint Michael's Community,

As alumni, parents, and friends of the College, we all know what a liberal arts education offers: strong critical thinking skills, the ability to communicate effectively, and the capacity for lifelong learning, just to name a few points. But how do those skills translate to the practical realities of today's workforce – such as getting your first job, finding a career that gives personal and professional purpose, and learning the nuances of networking? In order help bridge the gap, the Alumni Board of Directors hosts an annual Career Symposium. The Symposium brings together current students and Saint Michael's alumni, with alumni sharing how they have successfully navigated their careers, and allowing all participants to build connections that extend far beyond the event.

The 2024 Career Symposium will be held on **Friday, March 22nd**. Following a keynote address and panel discussions, alumni and students will gather in the Roy Room of the Dion Family Student Center for a reception and networking social, beginning at 6:20 pm. All alumni are welcome to attend. If you can't make it to One Winooski Park but still want to engage with current students as they prepare to enter the workforce, please contact the staff of the **Henry "Bud" Boucher '69 Career Education Center**. With your support, we can help better prepare today's students for whatever path they choose after Saint Michael's.

Thank you for your continued support of the College. We hope to see you at the Career Symposium reception.

Very truly yours,

Caitlyn Burke '14 & Trevor Brown '15
Co-Chairs, 2024 Career Symposium



Join Us for Purple & Gold Day

Attention Purple Knights! Mark your calendar for the 11th annual Purple & Gold Day, taking place this year wherever Purple Knights are found across the globe! We're going virtual this year to ensure that everyone can join the fun!

There are so many ways to celebrate – be creative and share it with us! Post photos online of Purple Knight reunions, organize a day of service in your community, create a video sharing what you love about St. Mike's, write a note of thanks to your favorite professor, or make a gift in support of the place we all called home. It's up to you how you celebrate, but however you choose, be sure to take part in this beloved SMC tradition!

Your continued support of St. Mike's is vital to ensure every opportunity for today's Purple Knights. Whether you make a gift, nominate a future Knight, or share what you loved best from your SMC experience, it all builds and strengthens this amazing community for generations to come.

Show the SMC love on March 28th – and every day! Look for more info in the coming weeks – and start making plans for Purple & Gold Day!





Saint Michael's College Recognized as a Top Producer of Fulbright Scholarships

The U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs has recognized Saint Michael's College for being one of the colleges and universities with the highest number of students selected for the [Fulbright U.S. Student Program](#).

Four students from Saint Michael's were selected for Fulbright awards for the academic year 2023-24. They are currently involved in programs in Thailand, Vietnam, Spain, and Mexico. This is the second time the College has been recognized as a Fulbright Top Producing Institution.

[Read more>](#)

The Seventh Annual Rugby Challenge!

It's that time of year again, Rugby Alumni! We are entering challenge season and this is your chance to give back to a team that meant so much! Last year, we raised nearly \$7,000 for men's and women's rugby. This year, we're asking you to go big with your generosity - our new goal is **\$15,000**, and you can help with matching gifts, challenge gifts or any gift that will help OUR St. Mike's rugby experience be as great as yours was! The challenge will run from **March 18th through March 22nd**. We are so grateful for your support, and we can't do it without you! Please consider a gift to the Rugby Teams' Alumni Support Fund this week and help our program grow and be the best it can be. Be on the lookout for links and ways to give on our all-inclusive [Link Tree](#). Thank you!



Saint Michael's Fulbright Scholars Reconnect in Thailand

Two of the four Saint Michael's graduates currently abroad through the Fulbright U.S. Student Program recently reconnected for a weekend in Thailand.

The two scholars – Hayley Jensen '22 and Alexyah Dethvongsa '22, who are in Vietnam and Thailand respectively – sent photos from their meetup with Political Science Professor Patricia Siplon, who also directs the Public Health Program and assists students in applying for Fulbright awards.

Jensen and Dethvongsa are both currently working as English Teaching Assistants through the Fulbright program. While at St. Mike's, Dethvongsa majored in Public Health and International Relations and minored in Peace and Justice while Jensen majored in International Relations and minored in TESOL and Peace and Justice.

[Read more >](#)



Career Center Micro-Internships



Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow - Reunion 2024

Please join us Friday, May 31 – Sunday, June 2, 2024, for Reunion! If your class year ends in a 4 or a 9, it's your turn to

If you've been wanting to help current undergraduate students gain valuable career insight, now is your chance! Choose a professional project that you haven't been able to get around to – one or multiple that would add up to 10--40 hours. We will find a motivated St. Mike's student to complete it with your guidance while learning about real-world projects. You will receive the help you need and they obtain career readiness and a notable bullet point on their résumés. [Sign up today!](#)

be celebrated, but all alumni are welcome to join the party,

Registration opens on April 1st. Visit the [Reunion](#) page for details on accommodations, the weekend schedule, an online ticket link, and [making a gift](#) in support of the place that gave you so much.



The Annual Career Symposium is Back and Better Than Ever!

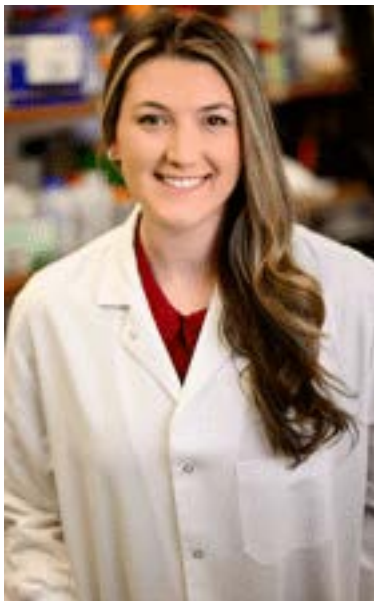
The Alumni Board of Directors is excited to host the 16th Annual Career Symposium for students with alumni panelists on Friday, March 22nd. This is a wonderful opportunity for students to explore a variety of career paths available based on real-world alumni experiences and advice. Programming has evolved to cover the following broad-reaching topics, attracting students from many majors to join the conversation:

- Doing Good, Doing Well
- Alternative, Entrepreneurial, & Freelance
- Getting Your First Job
- Exploring the Liberal Arts
- Grad School
- Tech World
- Going Green

To learn more about each panel and our alumni panelists please click [here](#).

We are also excited to announce this year's keynote speaker – Daniel Sullivan '87, Director of Sales for Rome Snowboards.

The end of the day will include a networking event for students and alumni from 6:20 - 7:30 pm in the Dion Student Center on campus. We invite you to [Register today](#) to make connections with current Saint Michael's students and share leads on internships, post-grad employment and other opportunities, career advice, and more. Food and non-alcoholic beverages will be provided.



Samantha Delaney '19 on Defending her Ph.D.

On Monday, February 12th, Samantha Delaney '19, Alumni Board of Directors member, defended her Ph.D. in Biochemistry. Her thesis was titled "Positron Emission Tomography in Oncology and Environmental Science." Defending a Ph.D. is no small feat, and Delaney took time to acknowledge St. Mike's in her presentation, stating, "The biochemistry faculty, my religious studies and art history professors,

the Alumni Board of Directors, and the Office of Institutional Advancement all got a big thank you from me, because I simply would not be where I am today without them all. Even after graduation in 2019, Saint Michael's played a vital role in my Ph.D. journey."

Delaney came to St. Mike's with med school on her mind but quickly realized that she had passions beyond the natural sciences. She minored in French and Religious Studies and was dedicated to finding a career path that allowed her to explore these other fields.

What's next for Delaney? She will be conducting her post-doctoral research fellowship in the Department of Drug Design and Pharmacology at the University of Copenhagen. She notes that she is "so excited to live in Denmark, to continue [her] research in developing novel radioactive probes for nuclear imaging and therapy of cancer and disease, and to keep traveling and working with like-minded scientists and clinicians all over the world!"



Alpine and Nordic Skiing Sending Four Qualifiers to NCAA Championship

Four Saint Michael's College skiers have been chosen for the NCAA National Collegiate Championship, it was announced on Tuesday, qualifying for an event that involves student-athletes from Division I, II and III. This marks the fifth time in

seven years at least four Purple Knights will attend the championship, with this year's four-day event which began on March 6 in Steamboat Springs, Colorado.

Alpine senior [***Simen Strand***](#) (**Nedre Høvik, Norway/Dønski VGS**) and junior [***Helene Kristoffersen***](#) (**Rælingen, Norway/Dønski VGS**) will make their third NCAA appearances, while sophomore [***Gray Flanagan***](#) (**West Burke, Vt./Green Mountain Valley School**) is set for his second. First-year [***Henrik Wist***](#) (**Trondheim, Norway/Heimdal VGS**) provides the Nordic squad its first NCAA qualifier since 1999.

[Read more>](#)

[To stay updated on results >](#)



Men's Basketball to Play Historic Home Quarterfinal on Sunday

It's been 23 years since Saint Michael's men's basketball has had a season this spectacular. On Feb. 27, they clinched their final win of the regular season, making them the No. 1 seed in the Northeast-10 (NE10) Conference playoffs. It's the first time in 23 years that they've won the regular season title, seizing 21 wins.

On Sunday, March 3, they will play in the NE10 Championship quarterfinals, a home game taking place at Saint Michael's Ross Sports Center at 4:00 p.m.

"It's been a really fun year for our guys. They put in a ton of work," men's basketball Head Coach Eric Eaton said. "I have to give every single ounce of credit to these guys. They have been locked in and have been bringing energy every single day."

[Read more>](#)

[To stay updated on scores >](#)



Dr. Paul Reiss

Our prayers and deepest condolences are with the family of President Emeritus Dr. Paul Reiss, who passed away February 28. Dr. Reiss was President of Saint Michael's College from 1985 to 1996.

Dr. Reiss and his wife Rosemary were deeply committed to Saint Michael's community and mission both during and after his tenure as president. While president, Dr. Reiss oversaw the construction or renovation of about 80% of the College's buildings and facilities, and his name still adorns the President's House on campus, which he had built and donated to the College. Find a full obituary for Dr. Reiss [here](#).





Updated Contact info? Let us know!

If you have moved, received a new phone number or name change, please click [here](#) or on the icon to update this information so we have it moving forward! We rely on submissions of updated contact details to keep YOU up to date on college happenings, so please take a minute to make sure we know how to reach you.

Schedule of Events:

In addition to the events highlighted below, we have plans in the works in a city near you! Keep an eye on [our events calendar](#) as details are confirmed. Interested in planning an event in your area? Email events@smcvt.edu.

March 16th: The Naples, FL, St. Patrick's Day parade will be held once again and it's not too late to join up with St. Mike's! The parade will be held on **Saturday, March 16th at 10:30 am**. Meet SMC at the staging location, which will be announced the week of the parade. [RSVP here](#). More information above!

March 22nd: Join us for our annual **Career Symposium!** Current Saint Michael's students will be able to attend panel presentations and network with alumni across industries to get a head start on their postgrad career. If you're interested in attending, participating, or being part of the planning process, please reach out to events@smcvt.edu.

March 28th: Join us for our 11th annual **Purple and Gold Day!** More details above.

April 3rd: The Solar Eclipse! Saint Michael's College Physics Professor and astrophysicist Alain Brizard will discuss the different types of eclipses and some of the history of their discovery at **5:00 pm on April 3rd, in McCarthy Arts Recital Hall**. He will also focus on what to expect during the total solar eclipse on April 8th, 2024 – especially during totality. Professor Brizard will explain how that might affect what we see on April 8th as well.

April 24th: In the spirit of the Edmundite tradition of service to others and as part of National Volunteer Month, the **Saint Michael's Alumni Club of Hartford** invites you to join fellow Purple Knights in a community service project. Join us as we cook and serve dinner together at a local homeless shelter. The event will take place at Immacare at 5:30 pm. For more information contact events@smcvt.edu

May 20th: In the Connecticut River Valley area? Join the 'Lunch Bunch' for the first ever Connecticut Purple Knights Golf Outing! It will be **Monday, May 20th with a 10:30 am shotgun start.** The event will be held at Keney Park Golf Course in Hartford, CT. If you are interested please reach out to Andy McElroy, andymcelroyjr@gmail.com, by **May 14th**.

May 31st - June 2nd: Save the date for **Reunion 2024!** We will be celebrating all class years that end in 4s and 9s, but as always, all are welcome! Bookmark smcvt.edu/reunion for forthcoming information about the weekend. Interested in serving on your class committee? Email events@smcvt.edu.

September 20th-24th: Save the date for Alumni & Family Weekend 2024! More info to come.

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