

GANNON UNIVERSITY

Under the Arch
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Our Events

Tuesday, March 20

● Women's History Month:

Gathering in Praise: Celebrating Women.

11 a.m., Mary, Seat of Wisdom Chapel.
Followed by Community Luncheon.

Wednesday, March 21

● Soup and Social Issues.

12:15 p.m., Club LaRiccica. Featured speaker, Ibrahim Abdil-Mu'id Ramey. Topic, Sanctions in Iraq.

Thursday, March 22

● Women's History Month:

"Hallie Flanagan: Theatre for the People, By the People, Of the People."

9:30 a.m., Schuster Theatre. Presentation by William Doan, Ph.D., who will introduce the audience to Hallie Flanagan, artistic director of the Federal Theatre Project of the 1930s.

● Racial Wealth Gap Workshop.

7 to 9 p.m., Yehl Alumni Room, Waldron Campus Center. Facilitator, Ibrahim Abdil-Mu'id Ramey. Sponsored by Center for Social Concerns.

Saturday, March 24

● International Night.

6 p.m., Yehl Alumni Room, Waldron Campus Center. Hosted by Gannon's international students and featuring foods and cultures of 23 countries. Tickets \$12 adults and \$6 students with ID, available at Waldron Information Desk.

Our Big News

Engineering gets \$29M software gift

The largest single gift ever received at Gannon University has been made in the form of nearly \$29 million worth of advanced engineering software and licenses from an Oregon firm.

"We are overwhelmed by the generosity of Mentor Graphics Corp.," said Thomas S. Ostrowski, Ph.D., acting Gannon president. "A gift of this size is unmatched in the history of Gannon, and we are deeply appreciative that Mentor Graphics is making such a substantial investment in the future of Gannon University and its students."

With this \$28.9 million gift, students in Gannon's School of Engineering and Computer Science will learn to use advanced engineering design and development software to which many universities would not have access, said Hamid Torab, Ph.D., director of Gannon's School of Engineering and Computer Science.

"Mentor Graphics is one of the leading companies that offer electrical and computer systems design, simulation and verification tools," Torab said of the Wilsonville, Ore., company. "They offer a huge product line that not only increases productivity but also makes the learning process a fun experience in many areas of electrical and computer engineering."

"It would be highly unusual for a university to have these types of higher level design tools available," Torab said. "It's a very good design tool that makes the design process simple."

Aydin Yesildirek, Ph.D., assistant professor of electrical and computer engineering, was instrumental in securing the software through a written proposal.

"I was not aware Mentor would donate such a large amount," Yesildirek said. "I described our program and requested the software for academic use, and the \$29 million was a surprise. We did not know the actual value of the software until we received the confirmation letter from the company. This state-of-the-art software gift will transform our engineering curriculum."

The company donated 10 licenses of the advanced programs, and faculty members are working with the software to prepare for use in the classroom this fall.

"When you get that comprehensive of a program, you have to change

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Our Folks

Thank you

*“David, Mark, Angela, and Sally LeVan thank the Gannon community for their many prayers, thoughts, cards, kind words and gestures in memory of our dear brother and son, **Jeremy.**”*

--Sincerely, Dr. Sally LeVan,
associate professor, English.

Prayers requested

✠ Prayers were requested March 13 for **Stacy Miller**, daughter of **Jim Miller**, assistant professor, Accounting, and sister of **Scott Miller**, assistant professor, Accounting. **Stacy** was scheduled to undergo surgery March 14.

✠ Prayers were requested Feb. 21 for **Phyllis Shioleno**, assistant professor, School of Education, who is undergoing chemotherapy for a recurrence of lung cancer.

✠ Please remember her in your prayers.

Happy Birthday to...

☺ March 19... **Gerald Barron.** ☺ March 20... **Richard Hammar, Deborah West.** ☺ March 21... **Susan Sapone.** ☺ March 22... **Sonya Adams.** ☺ March 23... **Christine Elliott.** ☺ March 24... **Alexander Wojtalik, Robert Sparks.** ☺ March 25... **Thomas Szendrey.** ☺ March 26... **Mary Todd, Marilyn Rositer.** ☺ March 27... **Dolores Corsi, Mary Al-Hasnawi.** ☺ March 29... **Donald Gunter, Stephen Schillo.** ☺ March 30... **Ginny Caldwell, Robert Nelsen, Msgr. Michael Gaines, Jodi Kest.** ☺ March 31... **Kerri Shaughnessy.**

Welcome to GU

✧ **Patricia DiPanfilo**, communications coordinator, Communications Office. ✧ **Luis Pagan**, grounds worker, Physical Plant. ✧ **Debra Peffer**, graphic designer, Gannon Press.



Our Big News

Engineering gift

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your courses, so we are working to incorporate the use of this software into our curriculum,” Yesildirek said. “Most undergraduate and graduate courses will be transformed, especially the labs.”

The software will be used by both undergraduate and graduate level students in both electrical and computer engineering, giving them an edge in vying for jobs upon graduation.

“Having knowledge of this type of software makes the students much more marketable when looking for a job,” Torab said.

Yesildirek echoed that statement, noting that many leading companies use this type of software. “When our students graduate and gain employment, they will have a very short learning curve at their new jobs.”

He said the software decreases a company’s costs by dramatically increasing productivity.

“These software tools are very comprehensive and help electrical and computer engineers to expedite the design cycle, so they have a cutting edge advantage in a field where ‘time to market’ defines the future of a company,” he said. “Computer engineering is changing everyday, and these tools are much more powerful and make your engineering cycle very short.”

The software will be used to teach students system level design and verification; design and analysis of printed circuit boards; design, simulation and verification of integrated circuits; and embedded software uses, Torab said.

Gannon’s School of Engineering and Computer Science is comprised of about 80 undergraduate students, 30 graduate students, six full-time professors, and four adjunct professors, Torab said.

Mentor Graphics Corp. is a world leader in electronic hardware and software design solutions, providing products and consulting services for the world’s most successful electronics and semiconductor companies. Established in 1981, the company employs approximately 2,750 people worldwide.



Our Sympathies

Sympathy extended

Please remember all in your prayers we regretfully announce the deaths of:

✠ **Jean Tomecsko**, grandmother of Gannon student **Jennifer Tomecsko.**

✠ **PFC Michael Wozniak**, nephew of **Nancy Kelly**, executive secretary, President’s Office, and cousin of **Christine Kelly**, coordinator, Center for Experiential Education, **Meghann Kelly**, senior Psychology major, and **Dave Prizinsky**, custodial worker, Physical Plant. **PFC Wozniak** was killed in a car accident March 11 at Fort Benning, Ga.