A Word about Our Alumni and Faculty Authors

An important chapter in the success story of The University of Scranton is that of alumni and faculty authors. With published works ranging from children’s literature and fiction titles to non-fiction and scholarly books, they make important contributions in the publishing world.

John C. Norcross, Ph.D.
Professor, Psychology
Distinguished University Fellow

Scholarly Writing to a Practical End

John C. Norcross firmly believes that we have been put on this planet to do something for others and the greater good. It is a belief fostered by his parents, both of whom worked in social service. It is a belief that drives him to use his other passions, those of writing, science, psychology and teaching, for their ultimate purpose: to help others.

Originally an English, psychology and philosophy triple major at Rutgers University, Dr. Norcross narrowed his focus to clinical psychology, subsequently earning a Ph.D. from the University of Rhode Island in 1984.

“Psychology is a helping profession. It combines science with service to treat the whole person,” says Dr. Norcross, who also knew that teaching at a university would allow him to combine psychology with his other passion, writing.

A prolific writer and researcher from the start (he published 20 articles as a graduate student at the University of Rhode Island) Dr. Norcross looked for a university that would provide him the opportunity to teach, practice and write. He found that mix at The University of Scranton.

“Comprehensive institutions prize the simultaneous practice of teaching, research and service. The University of Scranton offered me the personal integration of all three,” explains Dr. Norcross, who is nearing his 20th year of service at The University of Scranton.

He joined the University in 1985 as an assistant professor, became a full professor in 1990 and served as chair of the Psychology Department from 1987 to 1993. During that time, he has become an internationally recognized authority on behavioral change and psychotherapy.

While maintaining a part-time private practice, Dr. Norcross has authored more than 200 scholarly publications, and has co-written or edited 14 books, including Changing for Good (Avon, 1995); the Authoritative Guide to Self-Help Resources in Mental Health (Guilford Press, 2000, 2004); Insider’s Guide to Graduate Programs in Clinical and Counseling Psychology (Guilford Press, biannual editions, from 1994 to 2004); Handbook of Psychotherapy Integration (Oxford University Press, 1994, 2005); Psychotherapy Relationships that Work (Oxford University Press, 2002); the Psychologists’ Desk Reference (Oxford University Press, 1998, 2005); and Systems of Psychotherapy: A Transtheoretical Analysis (Brooks/Cole, 1999, 2003). He has conducted workshops and lectures in 24 countries and has served on the editorial boards of a dozen journals, including his current service as editor of Journal of Clinical Psychology: In Session.

Dr. Norcross has received numerous professional awards, including the American Psychological Association’s Distinguished Contributions to Education & Training Award, Pennsylvania Professor of the Year from the Carnegie Foundation, the Rosalee Weiss Award from the American Psychological Foundation, election to the National Academies of Practice and the Provost Award for Distinction in Scholarly Publication from The University of Scranton.

Dr. Norcross is quick to point out the University support, such as a reduced teaching load, that has allowed his research and writing to thrive. He also mentions that most of his publications are collaborative efforts, over 50 with University students.

He thrives on the synergy. He writes and teaches what he practices and tries to practice what he researches.

He also reluctantly admits that 60-hour work weeks are his norm.

However, above all else, Dr. Norcross admits that he loves his work and finds a purpose, not a contradiction, in producing scholarly work that is practical.

“Most of all I want my writing to be useful. Whether it is to help students get into graduate school, assist fellow psychotherapists, or guide people in changing their behavior, I want my books and publications to be scholarly, yet useful,” says Dr. Norcross.
When Dona Carpenter, Ed.D., and longtime friend Helen Streubert Speziale, Ed.D., began writing a book in 1992, there was only one other nursing textbook available addressing qualitative research methods. Twelve years later, it is used nationally and internationally. *Qualitative Research in Nursing: Advancing the Humanistic Perspective* has sold thousands of copies, been translated into Chinese and Spanish and is undergoing revision for its 4th edition. It is currently being translated into Italian. *The American Journal of Nursing* also recognized the textbook with the AJN Book of the Year Award in 1995.

“It’s exciting to think that the book has done this well. A lot of hard work has gone into every edition,” says Dr. Carpenter. “Neither Helen nor I expected this when we first started out.”

“In fact, she talked me into writing the book. I had just had a baby and didn’t think I would have time to write. But Helen insisted, and here we are today.”

According to Dr. Carpenter, *Qualitative Research in Nursing: Advancing the Humanistic Perspective* addresses the philosophical underpinnings of qualitative approaches to research as they apply to nursing in particular. Each method addressed in the textbook has a companion chapter that illustrates the application of the method. The book also emphasizes qualitative critiquing skills, as well as proposal development and ethical issues associated with qualitative research.

Dr. Carpenter feels one reason the textbook has proven so popular is that “It provides clear concise information regarding methodology and allows the reader to see the application of the method.” In other words, it speaks directly to the nursing student in easy-to-understand language and explains the methodology in a comprehensible way.

She is quick to point out that she and Dr. Speziale have had help with their endeavor.

“I generally have nursing students help with the book, through the University’s Faculty/Student Research Program,” she says. “This year, I had an e-mail from a former student who is using the text at the University of Pennsylvania in her doctoral program. She worked on the last edition of the text with me. Those kinds of things make the work very rewarding as well.”

In addition to working with Dr. Speziale preparing the fourth edition of the book, Dr. Carpenter plans to write a few articles and has a research project planned.

“There is always another project,” she says.

Dr. Carpenter has also authored and co-authored many scholarly articles as well as two other books: *Doctoral Education in Nursing: The Voice of The Student*, with friend and colleague Dr. Sharon Hudacek; and *Integrating Community Service into Nursing Education: A Guide to Service Learning*, with Dr. Patricia Bailey and Dr. Patricia Harrington. The service learning textbook also received an *American Journal of Nursing* Book of the Year Award.
Len Gougeon, Ph.D.
Professor of English
Distinguished University Fellow

Author’s Works Open up New Era of Emerson Scholarship

The reward of a thing well done, said Ralph Waldo Emerson, is to have done it.

For Len Gougeon, Ph.D., Professor of English, this passage speaks to the gratification that comes from having published two books on the life and teachings of the very man who wrote these words a century and a half ago.

As an author “you believe in what you are doing,” says Dr. Gougeon. “But you have to find a publisher who also believes in you.”

But even if you don’t find a publisher, “the reward comes in doing the work,” he says.

Dr. Gougeon’s own search for a publisher of his first book, Virtue’s Hero: Emerson, Antislavery, and Reform, was met with considerable success. Four of the five publishers to whom he sent queries requested the full manuscript. He submitted to the University of Georgia Press, which accepted his manuscript without change — a rarity in the publishing world.

For the outside observer, Dr. Gougeon’s publishing success seems to have come with ease. But as any accomplished author will tell you, there are months — even years — of research involved before a writer can put pen to paper, or make a keystroke on the computer. Virtue’s Hero was the product of ten years of research. Since Virtue’s Hero was published in 1990, it has had the effect of opening up a new area of Emerson scholarship and has been cited in over 70 subsequent studies.

Dr. Gougeon’s primary research on Virtue’s Hero eventually led to another book, Emerson’s Antislavery Writings, an edited collection that was issued by Yale University Press in 1995 and re-issued as a paperback in 2001. This volume, co-edited with Prof. Joel Myerson of the University of South Carolina, has been recognized by scholars as an important addition to the known canon of Emerson’s writings.

Dr. Gougeon’s interest in and research about Emerson is somewhat of a story in itself.

He was in his second semester of graduate studies at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst when Kent State protests over the Vietnam War resulted in the shooting deaths of four students by the National Guard. Campuses across America were in an uproar — and many of them closed, including the University of Massachusetts.

Unable to finish the semester, Dr. Gougeon began reading Emerson’s Self Reliance, a work that he says “made a big impression on me.” While written about 130 years before Kent State, the work provided Dr. Gougeon with deep insights about “how to live a moral life in what is clearly a fallen world.”

Dr. Gougeon later returned to and completed his graduate studies and went on to receive a Ph.D.; his doctoral dissertation was on none other than Emerson.

Not long after he joined the faculty of The University of Scranton in 1974, he met Louis Mitchell, an exceptional member of the English faculty, who is now deceased. Prof. Mitchell was a blind African-American, a classical pianist and also possessed a Ph.D. in literature. Dr. Mitchell posed the question of Emerson’s view of the slavery issue. After giving what Dr. Gougeon recalls as “a superficial answer,” he looked further into things and saw that there were contradicting views on the subject.

In 1977, Dr. Gougeon was awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities fellowship to study Emerson’s position on slavery. He spent the summer in Concord, Mass. (the birthplace of Emerson) and at the Houghton Library at Harvard University, poring over Emerson’s unpublished manuscripts, letters, and journals. Through this research, he started to dispel the popular belief of many biographers that, while Emerson theorized about social reform, he was aloof from the actual reforms of his day.

“As I got into things, I discovered that he had done a lot of speaking on antislavery that had never been written about,” recalls Dr. Gougeon. “At a certain point, I realized that this was a story that had to be told as a book.”

Virtue’s Hero, the product of this realization, presents a detailed account of Emerson’s career as an antislavery reformer. Dr. Gougeon is currently completing a third book, entitled Emerson and Eros: The Making of a Cultural Hero.

Relating his work as a published author to his career as a professor, Dr. Gougeon believes that teachers have the responsibility of searching for the truth and then articulating the results in the classroom and through continued professional development.

“Published works provide an opportunity to make important contributions to the teaching profession,” he says.

“The reward of a thing well done” also translates into another subject about which Dr. Gougeon is intensely interested: cars.

A frequent reader of Car and Driver, a Corvette lover and backyard mechanic, Dr. Gougeon has been known to rattle off the engine displacements of an extensive range of cars, and even once turned a rundown ‘62 Chevy into a roadworthy vehicle.

In auto mechanics, as in writing, the reward of the work is to have “done it.”
Nearly 20 years ago, Rev. Richard Rousseau, S.J., had an idea. Shortly after his arrival at The University of Scranton in 1978 to join the Theology/Religious Studies Department, he published several books on ecumenical subjects. Other members of the faculty asked him if he could assist with some of their publications, and he saw them through the process.

Father Rousseau thought the time had come for a small university press. No stranger to extensive writing and editing, he successfully launched The Ridge Row Press, which quickly became the University of Scranton Press, in the mid 1980s. “Naturally it was very small with just a few titles, largely of faculty and local authors,” explains Father Rousseau. “This was an experimental period. It took on more titles with the help of Patty Mecadon who assisted me as the Production Manager, and really took off in the 1990s.”

Today The University of Scranton Press has some 81 titles in print as a “print on demand” press with several others in the production process.

Besides the impressive works by faculty, the Press also published many works by authors around the U.S. and abroad.

In 2001, the press published *Listen to the Voices from The Sea* by Midori Yamanouchi-Rynn, Ph.D., Professor of Sociology/Criminal Justice, and Rev. Joseph L. Quinn, S.J. The book is a translation of the *Kike Wadatsumi no Koe*, a collection of letters, notes and wills written by Japanese students who were special forces pilots during World War II. Disturbed by the perception of Kamikaze pilots as “mindless, robot-like figures,” as she says in her book’s acknowledgement, Dr. Yamanouchi-Rynn developed the book because she wanted to change this perception and show readers “how much alike all of us are.”

Mary Muscari, Ph.D., an expert in the field of child and adolescent psychosocial issues and associate professor of nursing at the University, has published two books with the University Press. *Not My Kid - 21 Steps to Raising a Non-Violent Child* examines many issues plaguing today’s society including media violence, drugs, abusive behavior, peer pressure and bullying. *Not My Kid 2 - Protecting Your Children from the 21 Threats of the 21st Century*, addresses the unique threats facing today’s youth, including Internet predators, childhood obesity and other eating disorders, gangs, school safety and concerns about teens driving. *Not My Kid 2* also contains tips on a variety of issues for parents, grandparents and children.

Gerald Biberman, Ph.D., professor and chair of the Management/Marketing Department at The University of Scranton, co-edited the book *Work and Spirit*, with Michael D. Whitty, Ph.D., University Detroit Mercy, Detroit, Mich. *Work and Spirit* is a collection of articles showing how spiritual principles and practices can be used in a variety of work settings to bring balance and meaning to work life. The book, which features the research, findings and perspectives of more than 40 field experts, is divided into four sections: *Theoretical Perspectives / The Individual Within Organizations / Organizational and Societal Issues and Applications* / and, *The Possible Future*.

Currently the Press is working on some ten new titles for this academic year. Father Rousseau is looking forward to a new Director of the Press in the near future while staying on until next June for the transition period.

“I may not look it, but I’m 80 years old,” he says with a laugh. “Much as I love the Press, I’ve got to retire sometime.”
Faculty Authors

The works of University faculty are published widely. Following is a listing of some of the books that have been written or edited by University of Scranton faculty.

Thomas Baker, Associate Professor, Sociology/Criminal Justice, Introductory Criminal Analysis: Crime Prevention and Intervention Strategies and Effective Police Leadership: Moving Beyond Management

Thomas M. Collins, Ph.D., Professor, Counseling and Human Services, (with Barbara Collins, Ph.D.) Crisis and Trauma: Developmental-Ecological Intervention

Rita P. Cottrell, Instructor, Occupational Therapy, National Occupational Therapy Certification Exam Review and Study Guide, 3rd edition

Harry R. Dammer, Ph.D., Associate Professor and Chair, Sociology/Criminal Justice, (with Erika Fairchild) Comparative Criminal Justice, (with Todd R. Clear) Managing the Offender in the Community, and Religion in Corrections

Michael D. DeMichele, Ph.D., Professor and Chair, History, The Italian Experience in America: A Pictorial History

Roy P. Domenico, Ph.D., Associate Professor, History, The Regions of Italy: A Reference Guide to History and Culture

Michael D. Friedman, Ph.D., Professor, English, “The World Must Be Peopled”: Shakespeare’s Comedies of Forgiveness

David O. Friedrichs, Professor, Sociology/Criminal Justice, Trusted Criminals: White Collar Crime in Contemporary Society

Thomas P. Hogan, Ph.D., Professor, Psychology (2003). Psychological Testing: A Practical Introduction

Frank X.J. Homer, Ph.D., Professor, History, Germany and Europe in the Era of the Two World Wars and Essays in Honor of Oron James Hale

Sharon S. Hudacek, Ed.D., Associate Professor, Nursing, Making a Difference: Stories from the Point of Care

Francis Jordan, Ph.D., Associate Professor, English, Trollope’s Use of Animal Imagery in Barchester Towers and Phineas Finn

Lawrence W. Kennedy, Ph.D., Professor, History, Planning the City upon a Hill: Boston since 1630 (hardcover and paperback); and (with Walter Muir Whitehill) Boston: A Topographical History (3rd edition)


Oliver J. Morgan, Ph.D., Professor and Chair, Counseling and Human Services, (with Merle Jordan) Addiction and Spirituality: A Multidisciplinary Approach; (with Anthony Cernera); Examining the Catholic Intellectual Tradition (with Anthony Cernera); Examining the Catholic Intellectual Tradition: Volume 2, Issues and Perspectives

Susan Poulson, Professor, History, Going Coed: Women’s Experiences in Formerly Men’s Colleges and Universities, 1950-2000

Terri Freeman Smith, Instructor, Health Administration and Human Resources, Instructors’ Manual to Accompany Strategic Human Resource Development by Lyle Yorks; William G. Wallick, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Health Administration and Human Resources, (with W.J. Rothwell and J. E. Lindholm) What CEO’s Expect from Corporate Training: Building workplace learning and performance initiatives that advance organizational goals

Edward Warner, Professor and Chair, Communications, Fundamental Oral Communication

Loreen Wolfer, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Sociology (with Frank J. McVeigh, Professor Emeritus, Muhlenberg College) Brief History of Social Problems

Rev. Scott R. Pilarz, S.J.

President, The University of Scranton

New Book Explores Works of Jesuit Renaissance Poet


Published by Ashgate Publishing, the 332-page hardback book, which includes 11 black and white illustrations, addresses the literary legacy of St. Robert Southwell, S.J., who was martyred at the age of 33 in England. St. Robert, a Jesuit priest, was arrested and imprisoned in an age when the English government routinely persecuted Catholics. His works have been largely overlooked since his death.

According to Fr. Pilarz, the book attempts to illustrate how St. Robert’s poems “mark the point of convergence of aesthetic, theological, political and personal influences that determined the ethos of the period.”

Fr. Pilarz, who has served on the English faculties of Saint Joseph’s University and Georgetown University, received his bachelor’s degree in English from Georgetown University and a master’s degree in philosophy from Fordham University. He went on to earn a Ph.D. in English at the City University of New York.
Actor, award-winning author, playwright, director and champion of local theater: these words describe the late Jason Miller ’61, H’73.

Although he is well known for his Oscar-nominated role as Father Damien Karras in the 1973 horror film “The Exorcist,” it was Miller’s skills as a writer that won him both a Tony Award and a Pulitzer Prize. His play “That Championship Season” was made into a film in 1982 starring Robert Mitchum, Martin Sheen, Paul Sorvino and Bruce Dern.

Born in Long Island City, N.Y., the son of an electrician and a special education teacher, Jason Miller moved to Scranton as a young child. He would later immortalize the Electric City in “That Championship Season,” the story of four middle-aged former basketball players who reunite yearly to reminisce about their coach and team. The play won the 1972 New York Drama Critics Circle Award, the 1972 Best Play Citation, the 1973 Antoinette Perry (Tony) Award, and the 1973 Pulitzer Prize in Drama. 1973 was also the year he was nominated for an Oscar for Best Supporting Actor.

He lived for several years in New York City and New Jersey, writing scripts and taking small film and television roles, including the role of “F. Scott Fitzgerald in Hollywood,” for which he was nominated for an Emmy. His play, “Nobody Hears a Broken Drum,” about downtrodden Irish coal miners, was produced Off-Broadway. Yet he never lost his love for Scranton, and returned here in the late 1980s to make it his permanent home.

In 1986, he received a Frank O’Hara Award for distinguished alumni from the University. He became artistic director of Scranton Public Theater, and productions under his tutelage included “Inherit the Wind” and “The Caine Mutiny Court Martial.” He also established the Pennsylvania Summer Theater Festival, now named in his honor.


In 2000, he received the inaugural Pennsylvania Film Festival’s Keystone Award in Scranton for excellence and outstanding lifetime achievement in film and the arts.

Miller’s last play was “Barrymore’s Ghost,” a one-man production that played to critical acclaim coast to coast in 2000. It told the story of legendary actor John Barrymore’s journey through the afterlife.

Jason Miller died of a heart attack on May 13, 2001, in the town that he loved. At his alma mater, a specially framed photograph has been placed in the Green Room (the pre-stage area for student actors) of the McDade Center for Literary & Performing Arts, a gift from his friend and classmate, George Holmes, Ph.D., ’61.
Susan Campbell Bartoletti G’82
A Teacher of Writing Whose Writing Teaches

It is difficult to tell what Susan Campbell Bartoletti G’82 loves more: teaching or writing. The fact that she teaches writing and that her books, both fiction and non-fiction, are educational only further complicates the matter.

A leading author of children’s books, Susan Campbell Bartoletti, Ph.D., taught 8th grade English for 18 years before leaping into a writing career. A highly disciplined writer, for years she awoke early to write from 4 a.m. to 7 a.m. before putting in a full day of teaching at North Pocono Middle School.

Now most of her time is devoted to writing and researching. She still finds time to teach; only now her students are in graduate school. She teaches creative writing in a brief-residency Master of Fine Arts program at Spalding University, Louisville, Ky., and at a summer graduate program in children’s literature at Hollins University, Roanoke, Va.

“I can never give up teaching. I love connecting with students – no matter what age,” says Dr. Campbell Bartoletti, who also speaks at numerous conferences at schools and universities around the country.

Teaching 8th grade English actually inspired her own writing.

“Every time I gave my class a writing assignment, I did it, too,” says Dr. Campbell Bartoletti.

Her teaching techniques were heavily influenced by the late Dr. Phil Tama during her undergraduate studies at Marywood University and by the late Dr. William Rakauskas as a graduate student at The University of Scranton.

“As a young graduate student during my first year of teaching, I remember Dr. Rakauskas’s enthusiasm. He had love for teaching and a huge impact on the way I taught writing. He always said ‘what is written must be read’,” says Dr. Campbell Bartoletti.

So, naturally, when Dr. Campbell Bartoletti wrote, she wanted her work to be read.


From there it seems to be just one award-winning book after another.

Her non-fiction books include, Black Potatoes: The Story of the Great Irish Famine, 1845 to 1850 (Houghton Mifflin, 2001); Kids on Strike (Houghton Mifflin, 1999); and Growing up in Coal Country (Houghton Mifflin, 2001). Her fiction books include The Journal of Finn Reardon: Newsie, New York City, 1899 (Scholastic, 2003); A Coal Miner’s Bride: The Diary of Anetka Kamińsk: Lattimer, Pennsylvania, 1896 (Scholastic, 2000, part of the “Dear America” Series); and No Man’s Land: A Young Soldier’s Story (Blue Sky/Scholastic, 1999).

Her picture books include Nobody’s Nosier than a Cat (Hyperion, 2003) and The Flag Maker: A Story about the Star Spangled Banner (Houghton Mifflin, 2004). Her forthcoming book is Hitler Youth: Growing Up in Hitler’s Shadow (Scholastic Nonfiction, 2005).

Her books have been given the Sibert Medal for Distinguished Nonfiction and “Notable Book for Children,” and “Best Book for Young Adults” awards by the American Library Association. Her work has also won awards from the National Council of Teachers of English, the School Library Journal and the Society of Children’s Book Writers and Illustrators. In 2001, she was named “Outstanding Pennsylvania Author of the Year” by the Pennsylvania School Librarians Association.

Dr. Campbell Bartoletti, however, doesn’t focus on the awards.

“Hope is what I try to get across in my books. I don’t tell children how good they have it today. I write about people in history who have made a difference – the extraordinary lives of ordinary people, and I hope my work gives readers courage to make a difference,” says Dr. Campbell Bartoletti. “Once a book goes out into the world it no longer belongs to the author. It now belongs to the reader.”
When Tracy Perhac Fobes graduated from The University of Scranton in 1987 with a bachelor's degree in computer science, she had no plans to become a writer. She’d always been an avid reader, enjoying both horror and romance novels, and had considered a career in journalism. But after taking a few computer science classes, her interest turned to the more lucrative field of computer programming.

It wasn’t until her first child, Emily, was born in 1991 that she decided to take some time off from her job as a systems analyst for a Fortune 500 pharmaceutical company, and write a novel as a hobby.

Now Ms. Fobes is a full time romance writer, and her six books, which have been called “splendid and imaginative” by Literary Times, are available in the United States and worldwide in English, and have been translated into Italian and Polish.

The author of such titles as To Tame a Wild Heart, Touch Not the Cat and My Enchanted Enemy, Ms. Fobes shares her secrets on writing.

“My advice for an aspiring writer is to sit down in a chair and write,” she says. “Write every day. Establish a daily page count for yourself and stick to it. And don’t ever quit. What separates many people from published authors is the fact that published authors have the discipline to sit down and get the book written, while many people just dream about it or write a few pages, here and there. If you keep writing, you’ll get really good, and if you get really good, eventually someone will notice you and publish you.”

She points out that a Jesuit education taught me to look beneath the surface of a situation at its moral and ethical conflicts—which are the essence of any interesting book.”

She cites Charles E. Taylor, Associate Professor, Computing Sciences, and Joseph W. Connolly, Ph.D., Professor, Physics/Electrical Engineering, as two of her favorite teachers.

“They helped me develop a strategy for success and were supportive.”

In addition to being a full time author and an editor at an advertising agency, she is also mother to Emily and her sister, Brianna, both of whom are considering careers as veterinarians.

“This changes fairly frequently, so I’m not certain where they’ll end up, but I know that The University of Scranton provides a solid background for most of the science majors, and I’m hoping they’ll agree to attend Scranton,” says Ms. Fobes.

Attending the University is a Fobes/Perhac family affair. Ms. Fobes’ husband, Daniel, is a 1986 computer science grad, and his sister Nancy S. (“Sue”) Fobes Fiduk, is a member of the Class of ’87. Dan’s sister, Mary T. (Teri) Fobes Cosentino is an ’81 grad, and her husband, Tom Cosentino, graduated in ‘80. Tom’s sister, Joanne Cosentino Veschi, graduated in 1983. And Ms. Fobes’ younger brother, Andrew Perhac, received his University degree in 2003.

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**Paul Gillette ’59**

**Play Misty for Me**

Top 62 Published Titles

He may not have been a household name, but he published more than 62 books and hundreds of articles, and was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize.

The late Paul J. Gillette, Ph.D., ’59, was a prolific author, scriptwriter, wine enthusiast and psychologist. He also served in the U.S. Army, acting as an assigned escort when John F. Kennedy visited the Scranton area to campaign for his presidential election.

A Carbondale native, Paul Gillette earned his bachelor’s degree at The University of Scranton and a doctorate from the University of Florence, Italy. When not writing, he was the head of the psychology department of the U.S. Army Induction Center, Wilkes-Barre.

His most well-known novel is *Play Misty for Me*, which became a popular movie in 1972 starring Clint Eastwood as a disc jockey stalked by an obsessive fan. Among his many other works are the novels *Carmela*, for which he was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize in 1972, *Cat o’ Nine Tails*, which was made into a film in 1971, *The Chinese Godfather, 305 East*, and *One of the Crowd*.

Dr. Gillette also published articles and books on the wine industry, which spawned a PBS television program entitled *Enjoying Wine with Paul Gillette* in 1974. As a psychology expert, he authored several books such as *Depression: A Layman’s Guide to the Symptoms and Cures* and *Win-Win Negotiating: Turning Conflict into Agreement*, and served as editor for such nonfiction works as *The Complete Guide to Student Financial Aid* and *The Complete Medical Encyclopedia*.

Paul Gillette died in 1996 in Los Angeles, Calif.

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**Warren Sloat ’57**

Journalist turned Author;
Advocate of the Truth

Being an advocate of the truth might seem like a lofty ambition to some, but to veteran journalist and author Warren Sloat ’57, it is as natural - and as essential - as breathing.

After nearly two decades of covering political graft at four daily newspapers in New Jersey, Mr. Sloat decided to try his hand as a history author by applying what he learned in field.

“The investigative work taught me how to do research,” explains Mr. Sloat, who also wrote for *The New York Times Magazine* and *The Washington Post Magazine*. “I learned how to find the hard-to-discover documents, how to conduct an interview, how to find sources.”

Mr. Sloat remembers when he decided to change careers.

“I was covering a Thomas Edison celebration in New Jersey,” says Mr. Sloat. “During the celebration, (a presenter) mentioned this big party hosted by Thomas Edison that included everyone – every leader at the time was there and the party was just days before the crash. I saw this as the resonant moment in American history that could capture the time period in one event. I just knew that there was a book there.”

*1929 America Before the Crash*, published in 1979 by MacMillan Company, was re-released in paperback this year by Cooper Square Press.

Through his histories, Mr. Sloat tries to provide his readers with a “sense of place and time” of the period about which he is writing. In order to do this, he writes from the context and point of view of the period, a perspective that he develops through extensive research.

“I read many newspapers from the period to get an understanding of what is happening and the way that people think about things during that time period. I then write from that perspective,” says Mr. Sloat.

Mr. Sloat also uses events and the people involved in them to bring momentum to story.

In *A Battle for the Soul of New York*, published in 2002 by Cooper Square Press, Mr. Sloat writes about what he sees as the transition of America from a farming to an urban nation.

The book chronicles New York at the turn of the century, depicting a city filled with immigrants, corruption, vice and an untapped desire for change. The catalyst Mr. Sloat found through which to tell the story was Rev. Charles Parkhurst, a Presbyterian pastor who plunged into the criminal underworld to expose political corruption and subsequently lead the reform movement.

“Rev. Charles Parkhurst is a great hero, but a forgotten one. One that history passed by,” says Mr. Sloat, who tries to set as much of a story as possible while remaining true to historical data.

A Scranton native now residing in Santa Fe, N.M., Mr. Sloat says his advocacy for the truth saw its beginnings in classes at The University of Scranton and especially through his work at the school’s newspaper, *The Aquinas*.

“Writing for *The Aquinas* was a critical experience for me,” says Mr. Sloat, who was an English major and wrote for the paper all four years at the University. “It shaped me and gave me the confidence that I could actually write for a living.”
Writing a book, says Tom McGrath ’86, is like juggling. “You have to keep all these different things airborne at the same time – then try to finish as gracefully as you can.”

The “different things” he is referring to are the various characters and stories that make a good book … the very things he found himself juggling in writing MTV: The Making of a Revolution.

A seasoned journalist who has worked at Philadelphia Magazine for the past two years and was previously the Executive Editor of Men’s Health Magazine and Editor of Atlantic City Monthly, Mr. McGrath says he decided to write a book about the coming of age of MTV because of the generational connection he felt to the era of cable TV.

His research spanned two years and 100 interviews. Of all the people he interviewed for the book, he says some of the most interesting were the original VJs like Mark Goodman, JJ Jackson and Nina Blackwood.

“They were really the public face of MTV in its early days, and they became celebrities in their own right – at least briefly,” says Mr. McGrath.

“What was interesting was that they’d really been plucked from obscurity before going on MTV,” he adds.

For example, Nina Blackwood had previously played the harp in hotel lounges, and Martha Quinn was an intern at a radio station.

In the course of his research, Mr. McGrath also discovered that he was distantly related to MTV President Judy McGrath, a native of Scranton whom he had the opportunity to interview.

The more he talked to the early pioneers of MTV, the more he got a sense of what it is like to launch a creative project. Created from the idea of putting a radio station on television, MTV ultimately became a much larger phenomenon than anyone ever expected.

“No one anticipated the cultural ramifications,” says Mr. McGrath.

In his book, Mr. McGrath tells the story of how MTV became a pervasive, contemporary cultural force. He also takes a behind-the-scenes look at how MTV’s leaders handled the successes – and the controversies - surrounding its growth and evolution.

For his own part, the book provided Mr. McGrath with insight into the creative process, from the tensions to the exhilaration that’s felt when it all comes together. Even though his writings have been published widely in magazines, he remembers thinking, “It’s going to be tough to throw this away!” when he held the hardbound book in his hands for the first time.

Reflecting back on his years at the University, where he was a member of the Special Jesuit Liberal Arts Program, Mr. McGrath says his career as a writer was influenced by Rev. Edward Gannon, S.J., as well as Carol Wallace, a former Professor in the Communications Department.

In his spare time, Mr. McGrath enjoys reading nonfiction, especially The New Yorker and the Sunday New York Times magazine. His interest in nonfiction dates back to the days when he was a young man growing up in Clarks Green. The son of Henry McGrath, Esq., ’51 and Mary Ann McGrath, a librarian, the younger Mr. McGrath was an avid reader and a huge sports fan.

“I read more than my share of sports biographies,” he says of his childhood.

By the time he got to the University, he says he’d discovered great nonfiction writers like David Halberstam, Hunter Thompson and Tom Wolfe.

“They made me see that nonfiction could be as creative and powerful as great fiction.”

Mr. McGrath’s own nonfiction title is yet another case in point.