



ACS

Assumption's Current Sharings

Assumption College for Sisters ♣ February 2025

ACS Prepares for the MSCHE Self-Study Team Visit



Anne Clark Bartlett, PhD

On November 13th, ACS hosted Anne Clark Bartlett, Ph.D, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost at Saint Elizabeth University, and the Chair of the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) ACS Evaluation Team. This visit was a prelude to the upcoming Self-Study Team visit scheduled for the last week of February 2025. During her visit, Dr. Bartlett met with various groups, including the Administration, Steering Committee Co-Chairs, Steering Committee members, Board Members, and staff.

The Self-Study is a two-and-a-half-year process that allows for an in-depth, comprehensive, and reflective assessment of ACS. This process not only demonstrates compliance with MSCHE standards and requirements but also identifies opportunities for improvement and innovation. Various stakeholders have participated in working groups throughout the Self-Study process. Please keep us in prayer as we continue this important endeavor toward the goal of re-accreditation.



ACS hosts Dr. Vlad Veksler for AI in Education Presentation

On December 4th, Dr. Vlad Veksler, Assistant Professor in the School of Business and Computer Science at Caldwell University, delivered a presentation on the role of artificial intelligence (AI) in education for the ACS community. This presentation is part of the 2024-2025 Faculty Academic Committee's initiative to develop a comprehensive policy on artificial intelligence. Attendees included members of the Administration, Faculty Academic Committee, Faculty, Academic Affairs Committee, Tutors, and Board.

Dr. Veksler's research and teaching focus on artificial intelligence and human-computer interaction, particularly emphasizing how humans interact with technology and how to design user-friendly software. We thank Dr. Veksler for sharing his expertise with the ACS community as this important work begins.

Dr. Vlad Veksler



President Travels to Germany

President, Sister Marie Pauline Demek, had the opportunity to travel to Paderborn, Germany to celebrate the 175th anniversary of the founding of the Sisters of Christian Charity. During her visit, she explored the birthplace of the SCC Foundress, Blessed Pauline von Mallinckrodt, as well as the Motherhouse of the Sisters of Christian Charity and the burial site of Blessed Pauline.



Members of the Mallinckrodt family join Sisters Marie Pauline, Madeleine, and Gabrielle at the 175th SCC Anniversary



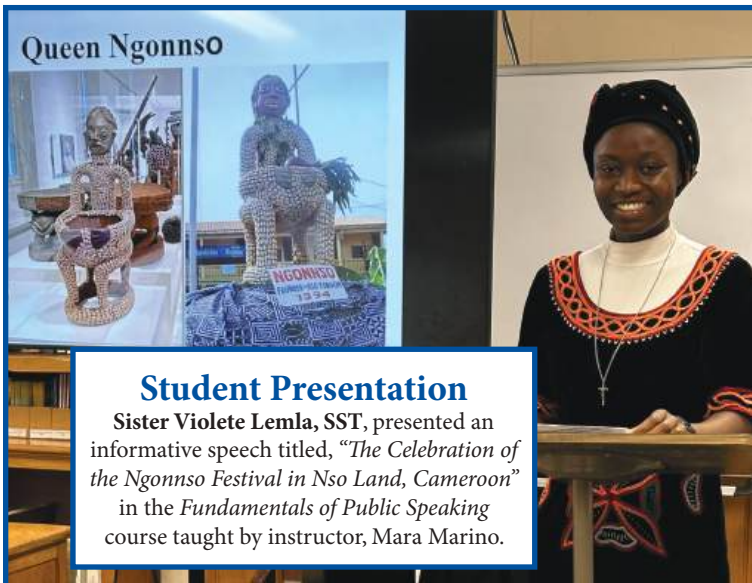
Pictured L-R are Sister Mary Joseph Schultz, SCC, the 5th President of ACS; President Sister Marie Pauline Demek, SCC; and Sister Gabrielle Nguyen, SCC, former ACS Technology Administrator.



Financial Literacy Workshop Held

In October, Bob McGrady, a retired CFO and tutor at ACS, conducted a Financial Literacy Workshop for our second and third-year students. During this workshop, the sisters learned how to create a budget and were provided with tools to develop a financial plan while managing limited resources.

Pictured with Mr. McGrady are L-R: Sister Mary Thu Nguyen, LHC-GV; Sister Mary Duong Tran, MRP; Sister Mary Theresa Lan Nguyen, MRP; Sister Violete Lemla, SST, Sister Mary Therese Huong Tran, FMSR; Sister Theresa Le Nguyen, LHC-V; Sister Mary Therese Mai Ho, FMSR; Sister Letisia Komba, OSB; Sister Maria Magdalene Nhung Nguyen, LHC-V, and Sister Stephen Phiri, OSB



Student Presentation

Sister Violete Lemla, SST, presented an informative speech titled, "The Celebration of the Ngonso Festival in Nso Land, Cameroon" in the *Fundamentals of Public Speaking* course taught by instructor, Mara Marino.

Gratitude for Giving Tuesday Donations!

ACS extends a heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed to the ACS *Giving Tuesday* campaign, which aimed to raise funds for a commercial-grade refrigerator and two ovens. Special thanks to Louis Scarpa, Patricia McGrady, and Jean Wedemeier



for organizing the campaign, and to our residential students for posing for lighthearted photos to help promote the campaign. We are pleased to report that our fundraising goal was exceeded. *Giving Tuesday* is an annual campaign created in response to Black Friday, one of the busiest shopping days in the United States. Thank you, again, to all the generous donors who participated in *Giving Tuesday*!

ALUMNA REFLECTION



Sister Advera Maxmillian Jeremia, IHSA (ACS class of 2024), wrote a reflection in which she compared herself to a seedling on the path to transforming into a tree. She took a seedling from ACS property. Sister reflected, "I am like the roots of that tree, where it will be medicine and relief for all people. Children will be taught, young people will get advice, mothers will be comforted, and the elderly will find hope. These are my strategies in Sociology because I will 'Teach a sister...touch the world.'"

Gratitude to Former Faculty

Ms. Michelle Cortese
ESL Reading

Welcome New Faculty

James Puckett, Ph.D
ESL Intermediate Reading

Sister Carol Makravitz, SCC
Introduction to Biology

Gratitude to Board Member

Kristy Goulart
2024 Gala Honoree

Celebrating Christmas



Above: Parishioners, students, and catechists from St. Joseph's Parish in Mendham visit ACS students and present Christmas gifts. Sister Luiza Simon, SCC, is the Director of Faith Formation/Family Life at Saint Joseph's.



Left: ACS students celebrate Christmas with gifts and a visit from Board member Ellen Sandman and Santa, Ellen's husband, George.

CONGRATULATIONS SISTERS!

Sister Theresa Kelly, FMA

In July, Faculty member, Sister Theresa Kelly, FMA, celebrated her 65th anniversary of Religious Profession as a Salesian Sister of St. John Bosco, Daughters of Mary, Help of Christians.



Sister Geralyn Schmidt

Sister Geralyn Schmidt, Assistant to the President and Director of Student Services will celebrate her 40th anniversary of Religious Profession as a Sister of Christian Charity in August 2025.



FIELD TRIPS

Students Visit SHU Seminary

Our third-year students enjoyed an enriching visit to Seton Hall University's College Seminary of the Immaculate Conception. The visit included a Mass, dinner, and a campus tour. The connection between Assumption College for Sisters (ACS) and Seton Hall University (SHU) dates back 75 years, when ACS was established under the auspices of Seton Hall College, now University. Thanks to Father Peter Cho, the rector, Father Luis Garcia, the vice-rector, and the seminarians for their hospitality! The visit was organized by Louis Scarpa, ACS Director of Institutional Advancement.



Sisters Go Hiking

Residential sisters enjoyed a Thanksgiving weekend hike to Tripod Rock on Pyramid Mountain in Boonton Township, NJ, led by JR Falcone, friend of ACS, accompanied by Board Chair Angelo Sansano. The group offered songs and prayers of thanksgiving at the top of the mountain, followed by a lunch hosted by Mr. Falcone at ACS.



Sisters Attend Great Denville Duck Race

On September 28th, several ACS students and Sister Marie Pauline attended "The Great Denville Duck Race," sponsored by the Sunrise Rotary Club of Denville in honor of Carol Jacko, the sister of ACS Board member, Ellen Sandman. The proceeds from this event are donated to local and global charitable projects.



Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition Visited

Sisters join Moira Phelan-Dziomba, Director of Faith Formation at St. Matthew's Parish, at the Eucharistic Miracles display.



Family Fun Day Enjoyed

On September 14th, students participated in a Family Fun Day event on the property of the Sisters of Christian Charity, Mendham, NJ.

Sisters Walk for Life

ACS Students, accompanied by Jean Wedemeier, participate in the Trenton NJ Right to Life event on September 26th.



ACS Blessed with Generous Donation

Art History students are pictured with Instructor, Patrick Gallagher, who arranged for ACS to purchase new textbooks through a generous benefactor donation.

Pictured with Professor Gallagher from L-R: Sister Stephen Phiri, OSB, Sr. Mary Duong Tran, MRP, Sister Violete Lemla, SST, Sister Yunita Jebia, FSSE,

Sister Maria Magdalene Nhung Nguyen, LHC-V, Sister Theresa Le Nguyen, LHC-V, Sister Ermelinda Raba, FSSE.



ASSUMPTION COLLEGE *for Sisters*

200 A MORRIS AVENUE
DENVER, NJ 07834

Teach a Sister...
Touch the World!

With gratitude to God,
Assumption College for Sisters
and the
Sisters of Christian Charity
cordially invite you to
save this date...

**Thursday,
March 27, 2025**

Invitations to follow

Please join us to support the mission of Assumption College for Sisters and congratulate our honorees.

Twenty-Fourth Annual Caring Basket Gala



**Rod Donnelly
Chris Powers**

The Spirit of the Heart Award



Steve & Kristy Goulart

The Family Life Award



**Rev. Msgr. Eugene Sylva, STD
(Geno)**

The Education Award

Date: Thursday, March 27, 2025

Time: 6:30 pm

Location: Sheraton Parsippany Hotel
199 Smith Road
Parsippany, NJ 07054

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