

## SVC appoints Dr. John Delaney Vice President of Academic Affairs

Sean Callahan, News Editor



Dr. John Delaney starts as the new SVC Vice President of Academic Affairs and Academic Dean of SVC on July 1, per Zachary Flock. (SOURCE: AMERICAN.EDU)

On Mar. 21, Zachary Flock, Director of Marketing and Communications at Saint Vincent College, sent a press release email to the SVC community, informing them that Dr. John T. Delaney, Professor of Management and Dean of the Kogod School of Business at American University, has been appointed SVC's new Vice President of Academic Affairs (VPAA) and Academic Dean.

According to the email, the college enlisted the search firm WittKieffer to lead the search for the new VPAA in

the fall of 2021. Delaney was eventually found and appointed by Fr. Paul Taylor, O.S.B., President of Saint Vincent College, with the approval of the Chancellor of the College, Fr. Martin Bartel, O.S.B., Archabbot.

John Smetanka, associate professor of physics, had previously served as VPAA from 2008 until the conclusion of the 2021 spring semester. Fr. Philip M. Kanfush, O.S.B., has since served as Interim VPAA.

Delaney has held tenure at American  
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## The economics of university-sponsored sports

Delaney Fox, Staff Writer

The Center for Political and Economic Thought sponsored a talk from Dr. Jane E. Ruseski on Mar. 22. The lecture, titled Exploring the Role of University Sponsored Sport on Health and Well-being: An Economic Perspective, was held in the Fred Rogers Center at 7:30 p.m.

Ruseski, professor of economics at West Virginia University, presented compiled studies of the various effects of university sponsored sports on students, the university and the surrounding community.

Ruseski explained that well-being is at the core of many economic analyses, as people tend to make choices that maximize utility or satisfaction, and that there are a variety of channels by which university sponsored sports can influence well-being.

According to studies summarized by Ruseski, for students, participation in university sponsored sports can improve well-being through the creation of social networks, capital and identity, the general promotion of happiness, physical and mental health and labor market outcomes. However, university sponsored sports can also potentially lead to negative effects through increased  
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# NEWS



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## Delaney reflects on his journey to SVC

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University since 2016. However, his academic career extends back even further. He served as the Jr. Dean of Business at the University of Pittsburgh from 2006 until 2015. He also held faculty positions at the Columbia University Graduate School of Business, University of Iowa and Michigan

“I’d like to be in a position where I can give back a bit more than I can at a big university,” Delaney said. “I saw the opportunity at Saint Vincent as a chance for me to do what some of my mentors did for me when I was in college.”

Having spent a large portion of his

**“I will learn from the Benedictines, the students, the faculty and staff. It’s not all about me teaching people or being the leader. It’s about me understanding the environment and being part of it.”**

**- Dr. John Delaney**

State University prior to his time with Pittsburgh and American.

Delaney, who earned a Bachelor of Science degree from LeMoyne College and Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy degrees from the University of Illinois, said that his long and successful academic career and small college beginnings led him to further consider his future.

academic career in Pittsburgh, Delaney has long been familiar with Saint Vincent College. He reported that he loves the school’s atmosphere and finds its values and goals align with his own.

Delaney views his journey to and from each university and job position as a chance to leverage, refine and *Continued on page 3*

# Dr. John Delaney appointed Vice President of Academic Affairs

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build up his skills.

“It’s given me the opportunity to see there’s no perfect approach for every university,” Delaney said. “It’s caused me to learn about different types of technology and management, and to meet and learn from different people, including students.”

Delaney is hoping to use various administrative skills he has accumulated to help Saint Vincent students, faculty and staff ultimately succeed. But he also emphasized that he looks forward to learning from this position, too.

“I will learn from the Benedictines, the students, the faculty and staff. It’s not all about me teaching people or being the leader. It’s about me understanding the environment and being part of it,” Delaney said.

As reported in the SVC press release, Delaney is a “passionate advocate for experiential learning.” According to Delaney, experiential learning is the idea that people learn more from practicing or a hands-on approach as opposed to a solely lecture-based approach; this is a process that allows individual learners to practice themes discussed in the classroom in a real-world situation.

Delaney reported that he believes experiential learning provides students with the chance to experience their chosen fields of study while in school, as they would be able to practice and build skills outside the classroom. Furthermore, experiential learning may also open up options for students to

advance further if they enjoy their skills.

“It gives you an opportunity to make mistakes in a safe environment. We often learn from our mistakes and failures more than we do from success,” Delaney said. “It’s easy to say you’re great when you’re successful. But the reality is that we always experience challenges.”

In the near future, Delaney hopes to advocate for and help implement more experiential learning on campus.

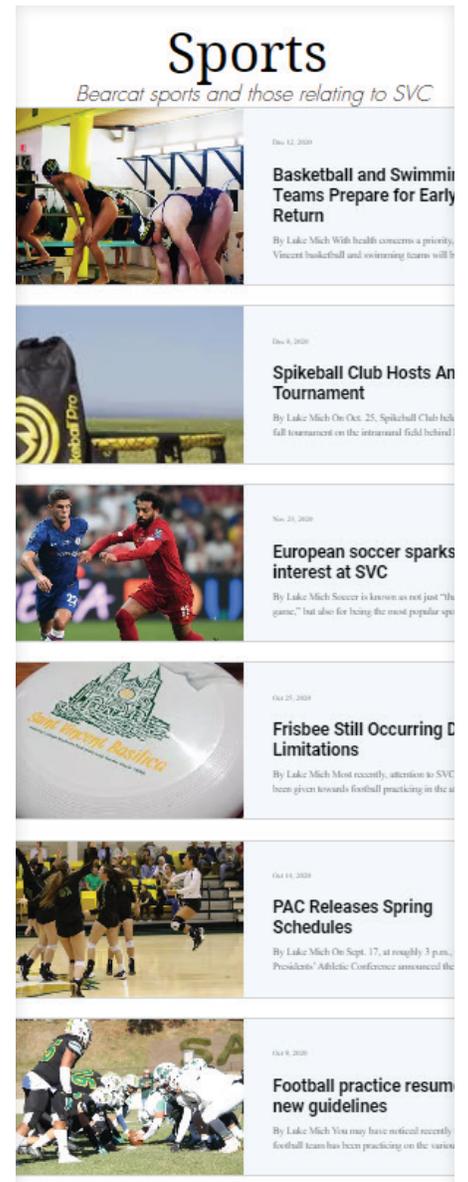
“It’s an effort to transition students from sitting in a class, where it’s possible to be passive—that is, to not speak and to listen to other students—to being in a position where not only do you have to do something, but it will be fun to do it,” Delaney said.

Delaney reported that his favorite part about his academic career has been seeing people around him succeed, such as a professor getting tenure or having a research journal published. He also enjoys staying in touch with students over the years; one of the references Delaney cited in applying for SVC’s VPAA position was a student he had taught over 20 years ago.

“I enjoy creating an environment where people can be successful and seeing the results of that. To me that’s the best part of life,” Delaney said. “If I can help other people succeed, then I feel I am making a difference.”

Delaney will officially begin as VPAA of Saint Vincent College on Jul. 1.

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# Sports and well-being from an economic perspective

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Dr. Jane E. Ruseski delivered a talk sponsored by the Center for Political and Economic Thought. (SOURCE: FOX)

risky behaviors.

Studies specifically on risky behavior showed that sports were linked with higher gambling rates and increased drinking on game days. Ruseski also cited higher alcohol-related arrests, specifically for football game days as compared to alcohol-related arrests on holidays.

Ruseski also presented studies which demonstrated that, for the university, sponsored sports can positively influence well-being through improvements in school status, increased donations, state appropriations and increased applications. Generally, sport success was positively associated with donations.

Sponsored sports also impact communities in proximity with universities. While there is a positive impact on community identity, there is also a negative impact through increased crime

surrounding sponsored sports events.

According to a 2009 study that Ruseski consulted, local communities saw a statistically significant increase in assaults, vandalism, DUIs, disorderly conduct and liquor law violations during home games.

Ruseski concluded that economics suggests a way to evaluate significant impacts of various life events on happiness and well-being. University sponsored sports can affect health and well-being in many potential ways, and they occur at different levels: individual, university and community at large.

Ruseski's talk was the final stand-alone lecture organized by the Center for Political and Economic Thought for the semester. On Apr. 8 and 9, the Center will host the 2022 Culture and Policy Conference, titled Politics, Policy, and Panic: Governing in Times of Crisis.

# New stop signs surprise SVC drivers

Erin Brody, Arts & Culture Editor



A vehicle seen driving in the 2021 Homecoming and Fall Family Weekend parade. (SOURCE: SVC FLICKR)

Drivers of Saint Vincent College may have been surprised to see two new stop signs at the Beatty County Road and Monastery Road intersection or, perhaps, drivers have been unknowingly running these new stop signs.

“Wait, they put in stop signs,” Catie Dzikowski, freshman math major, said.

Despite the stop signs being on the edge of the Saint Vincent campus, SVC was not involved with implementing the signs.

Vaughn Neil, county engineer of Westmoreland County Public Works, explained that his department of the Westmoreland County government made the decision to replace the yield signs.

“Our department has mainte-

nance responsibility for Beatty Road,” Neil said. “My department thought it was necessary to update the signage to modern standards.”

According to Neil, Monastery Road — formerly named St. Vincent Drive — was under PennDot’s jurisdiction but was “vacated” since it “is now classified by the County Road Department as a private drive subject to the requirements of highway code where it enters the County Road.”

Both students and staff seemed surprised upon hearing about the stop signs, perhaps wondering how long they have been treating these signs like the former yield signage. Anticipating this reaction to the change, the Westmoreland County Roads Department took an extra step to ensure road safety. By add-

ing red flashing lights to the signs, the department is hoping to draw more attention to the new signs.

However, while a yield and a stop sign have vastly different meanings, Neil said there is “no traffic impact anticipated,” as it should only take drivers a few more seconds to come to a full stop rather than yielding. Failing to stop at these new stop signs, nevertheless, could still result in a fine for the driver.

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# ARTS & CULTURE

## Sports Friendship Day back for its 36th year

Erin Brody, Arts & Culture Editor



Buddies and participants made crafts together in front of the Shack. (SOURCE: BRODY)

After a two-year hiatus due to COVID-19, the beloved Saint Vincent tradition of Sports Friendship Day came back for the 2021-22 school year, and the response was as exciting as ever.

Jessica Parsons, Campus Ministry office and service coordinator, hosted this year's Sports Friendship Day for the first time. She reported that 102 students physically signed up to be buddies or volunteers at the event.

"But, we've probably had [about] 30 walk-ins that also just showed up, whether they were part of a sports team or just decided to come," Parsons said.

While not everyone who originally signed up to volunteer attended the event, the 30 extra volunteers made

up for the difference, according to Parsons.

As for participants, 98 signed up, but around 75 to 80 participants showed up, likely due to the sudden snow.

From Parsons's research, the average number of participants and students each was between 100 to 120, which means this year's attendance rate was "slightly smaller" than it had been in previous years.

However, this slight decrease in attendance did not hinder the events.

After registration, buddies, participants and volunteers went to the opening ceremony in the Carey Gym where the excitement really began to rise.

"It was a lot of fun!" said Rev. Clark Kerr from Campus Ministry. "There

had to be about over 200 people in the gym."

Fr. Maximilian Maxwell said an opening prayer and Kerr reported that Maxwell "got the wave going once or twice on the bleachers" as the excitement for the event continued to build.

After the ceremony, participants and their buddies went through the Carey Center for different events, like sports activities in the gym, making crafts in front of the Shack, getting painted tattoos and balloon animals in the Lounge and singing karaoke in the Performing Arts Center. Everyone then went to the Mary, Mother of Wisdom Student Chapel for Mass and then returned to the gym for dinner.

Swing Dance Club also volunteered at the event, teaching and dancing with participants throughout the day.

Miriam Donovan, junior digital art and media major, volunteered to attend and participate at the event with the Swing Dance Club.

"I just love seeing all the people come in, enjoying music," Donovan said. "Whether they're learning swing dance or not, they're just jamming out. It's amazing."

Despite the smaller number in attendance, everyone at Sports Friendship Day seemed to have a great time, from coloring Vinny the Bear-cat masks to sporting hats made from balloons.

"I'm very happy with our students and participants numbers," Parsons said.

# SPORTS

## Men's tennis begins season with spring break trip

Luke Mich, *Sports Editor*



Mauricio Sanchez, senior marketing major, returns a serve in a match against Mount Aloysius on Sept. 12. Saint Vincent won 5-2. (SOURCE: ATHLETICS.STVINCENT.EDU)

During spring break, when most students enjoyed the week off from school by going home or traveling south for the warm weather, the men's tennis team ventured to Hilton Head, South Carolina, to start their spring campaign.

Junior player Evan Ray, double majoring in accounting and finance, expressed his thoughts on the spring break excursion.

"The Hilton Head [trip] was good this year. We had two matches over break and played two very good teams," Ray said.

While the two matches, one against Hanover College and the other against Bridgewater College, did not go SVC's way, Ray stated that the

competition was beneficial for the team.

"The matches we played were a good test for us," he said.

Back in the fall semester, the tennis team played four matches, winning all four by a comfortable margin. The team then did not play for nearly six months before playing their first spring match in South Carolina.

After another long trip—this time to Western New York—on the weekend of Mar. 19-20 to play Daemen College, the schedule has now shifted to strictly conference play.

"We are excited to get going with conference play. We are expecting to compete with some of the top teams in the conference this year," Ray

said.

Of all the in-conference matchups yet to come, one match stands out to most of the team: the match where SVC hosts Grove City on Apr. 5.

"We are looking forward to [playing Grove City] the most. They beat us pretty bad last year, but we got a lot of new freshmen this year that will help us compete against them," Ray said.

Grove City, the defending conference champions, swept through the PAC competition last year, winning every conference matchup last season and going 8-0 overall in the PAC.

Yet, with an influx of fresh talent this season, the Bearcats tennis team, who were seeded second in the conference tournament last year, have much higher expectations for this year.

"We feel like if we play well, our team goal to win the PAC Championship is well within reach," Ray said.

With conference play already underway—the team's first conference matchup was a 5-0 win against Waynesburg on Mar. 25—every match is crucial, not just for the record, but also for seeding purposes. As the conference tournament begins in less than a month, the team will have little time to focus on past performances and must look forward to upcoming games to build off last season, when they were unable to compete in the playoffs due to COVID-related reasons.

# Team Standings

## Baseball

Team	W	L	Streak
Grove City	12	4	W3
Franciscan	9	3	W2
Westminster	7	4	W4
Bethany	9	6	W1
W&J	7	6	W1
Chatham	6	5	L4
Thiel	5	7	L1
Saint Vincent	4	6	L4
Geneva	5	12	L3
Waynesburg	4	10	L2

**Schedule:** Chatham 4/2 1 PM, @Chatham 4/3 1 and 4 PM, @Geneva 4/6 3 PM

## Softball

Team	W	L	Streak
Saint Vincent	10	0	W10
Westminster	9	2	L1
Waynesburg	11	4	L1
Thiel	5	3	L2
Geneva	8	6	L2
Bethany	7	6	L1
W&J	4	4	L2
Grove City	6	6	W4
Chatham	5	7	L1
Franciscan	2	8	W1

**Schedule:** @PSU-Altoona 3/31 3 PM, @Grove City 4/2 1 PM, Franciscan 4/6 3:30 PM

## Men's Volleyball

Team	W	L	Streak
PSU Behrend	18	6	W2
PSU Altoona	13	8	L1
Hiram	16	11	W3
Geneva	17	12	L1
Medaille	9	14	L3
Thiel	8	16	L1
Saint Vincent	5	16	L2
Mt. Aloysius	4	20	L7
Hilbert	2	21	L8

**Schedule:** Carlow 3/31 7 PM, Medaille 4/2 12 PM, Hiram 4/2 5 PM

## Women's Lacrosse

Team	W	L	Streak
Grove City	7	1	W7
Chatham	3	2	L1
Franciscan	3	2	W3
Saint Vincent	4	4	L3
Westminster	2	2	W1
Thiel	2	2	L1
Bethany	4	5	L4
W&J	2	4	W1
Waynesburg	0	3	L3

**Schedule:** @Franciscan 4/2 1 PM, @Waynesburg 4/4 6 PM, Muskingum 4/6 4 PM

## Men's Lacrosse

Team	W	L	Streak
Saint Vincent	5	0	W5
Bethany	5	2	W3
Westminster	4	2	L1
Grove City	5	4	W3
W&J	4	3	W4
Franciscan	3	3	W1
Thiel	2	4	L2
Chatham	2	7	L2

**Schedule:** @Grove City 4/2 3 PM, Bethany 4/9 Noon, Westminster 4/13 4 PM

## Men's Tennis

Team	W	L	Streak
Westminster	5	1	W5
Grove City	6	2	W3
Saint Vincent	5	3	W1
Waynesburg	3	3	L1
Franciscan	3	5	L2
Geneva	1	4	L1
W&J	1	4	L1
Thiel	0	3	L3

**Schedule:** Geneva 3/31 4 PM, PSU-Behrend 1 PM, Grove City 4/5 4:30 PM

## Men's Outdoor Track & Field

**Schedule:** @Slippery Rock 4/2 9 AM, @Westminster 4/9 10 AM, @Bethany 4/20 2 PM

## Women's Outdoor Track & Field

**Schedule:** @Slippery Rock 4/2 9 AM, @Westminster 4/9 10 AM, @Bethany 4/20 2 PM

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