What is the difference between good and exceptional in the workplace? I believe that exceptional happens when we choose a profession and a place of employment where values are so aligned that it feels like a calling, not a job or a career. That’s when we become true owners of our work and exceptional things can happen.

Beyond a specific skill set, what do you look for in a new graduate or job candidate? Positive energy to start. This shines through in many ways, including enthusiasm, posture, a smile, or a good laugh. Equally important is a “we can do this” attitude. Tell me 10 ways to get something done, not 10 reasons why it can’t be done. I also look for capacity — for stress, expanded workload, and general resiliency. And last, will this person inspire others on the team?

What brings you joy in your work? I find joy whenever our organizations find justice for people. I was a cofounder of the Equal Rights Center whose only goal is the pursuit of justice. There has been great success both locally and nationally.

What are the qualities of a good leader? No task being too small or too big. Many confuse leadership with the positional power to grant or deny permission. True leaders provide an environment whereby subordinates have the opportunity to excel, accomplish the mission, and feel professionally and personally rewarded. Ultimately the true mark of a good leader is how successful their one-time subordinates are in their careers.

What career advice do you live by? Make yourself an indispensable part of the team. Be willing to arrive early, stay late, and lend a hand whenever and wherever you can, with no task being too small or too big.

What brings you joy in your work? Nothing brings more joy than seeing students succeed. Great teachers do whatever is needed so all their students succeed. Great teachers solve problems demonstrated expertise and communicating the will to expand their leadership capabilities.

What brings you joy in your work? I have been involved in hiring close to 50 school principals and I look for people who can figure things out. Candidates who stand out share how they solved a problem, demonstrating expertise and communicat-

The 2015 Alumni Awards Celebration was held on Saturday, April 11. It began with Mass celebrated by Rev. James G. Sabah, B.A.1985, M.A. 2002, Ph.D. 2012, CUA Alumni Association national chaplain, in St. Vincent’s Chapel. Then 160 alumni, family, and friends gathered for dinner in Father O’Connell Hall’s Heritage Hall to honor the 2015 alumni achievement award recipients. In keeping with the theme of this special issue of the magazine, we asked the honorees to share their best career advice.

Amy Freeman, B.S.N. 1981
President and CEO, Providence Hospital

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Timothy Shriver, M.A. 1988
Chairman, Special Olympics

What career advice do you live by? Throughout my career, who I work for and with has been more important to me than titles and job descriptions. I want to work with people who inspire me. I’ve taken jobs with unimpressive titles to get the opportunity to work with great people who helped foster my accomplishments.

How did your CUA education prepare you for career success? At the University, I learned to search for and trust that God’s presence is in all things. That’s a great orientation to bring to your work. It allows you to be more present, to see the possibilities that others might not see, and in rough patches to believe that all things will work out.

Emmolee Mendoza Waters, B.A. 2001, M.S.W. 2009
Associate Director of Campus Ministry and Community Service

Can you share one of the best career decisions you ever made? After graduation, I spent two years living and volunteering overseas. It taught me about myself, other people, what I am passionate about, and what I am not passionate about.

How can a new graduate stand out in today’s job market? Be an authentic person — a person of values and passion. Anyone can be taught a skill or “how to do something.” Be passionate about what you want to do.
Board of Governors Nominations

Every odd-numbered year, a committee of the CUA Alumni Association Board of Governors nominates alumni from across the country to serve as members and officers of the board. Nominees are expected to attend semi-annual board meetings, serve on committees, and support the annual fund-raising goals of the University. National officers serve two-year terms and board members serve four-year terms beginning with the fall meeting during Cardinal Weekend. Current nominees for national office and board membership are:

**NATIONAL OFFICER NOMINEES**
- President — Carrie Grundmayer, B.A. 1996
- President-Elect — Rashaun Martin, B.A. 2001
- Vice President — Scott Flesch, B.A. 1994, J.D. 1997
- Vice President — Sheila Brennan Novak, B.A. 1984

**BOARD MEMBER NOMINEES**
- Abby Banholzer, B.S.B.A. 2011
- Phyllis Bottgeal, B.F.A. 1979
- Patricia Clark, B.A. 1980
- Jackie Corbin-Armstrong, M.S.W. 1985
- Lisa Geis, B.A. 1988
- Elisabeth Gooding Crooks, B.A. 1993
- Ellen-Jane Pairo, B.A. 1964
- David Shableski, B.A. 1996
- Thomas Striegel, B.S.Arch. 1984, B.Arch. 1985
- Tara Petrolino Sullivan, B.A. 2003
- Jane Canter Tseronis, B.A. 1959
- James Wyble, B.M.E. 1970

The Board of Governors provides leadership for the Alumni Association regional chapters and activities that serve the mission of CUA. For more information, please contact Kyra Lyons, B.A. 1989, M.A. 1995, assistant vice president of alumni relations and university advancement, at 202-319-5608, 800-288-ALUM, or lyonsk@cua.edu.

Career Development and Networking Opportunities

The Office of Alumni Relations assists students and alumni in their career development, helps them gain real-world skills, and fosters networking through workshops, seminars, and events. The following are scheduled on campus in 2015–2016:

**Sept. 9** — Using LinkedIn for Your Job Search
**Oct. 2** — Fall Career Fair
**Nov. 10** — Build Your Professional Brand Workshop
**Dec. 2** — Business Etiquette Workshop
**Jan. 6** — Young Alumni Business Etiquette Dinner
**Jan. 26** — Managing Your Finances Seminar
**Feb. 16** — Protecting Your Digital Identity Workshop
**March 9** — The Value of a Mentor Seminar
**March 11** — Spring Career Fair
**March 30** — Cooking 101 Class

**STUDENT-ALUMNI NETWORKING NIGHTS**
- Sept. 15 — School of Architecture and Planning, Crough Center
- Sept. 16 — School of Engineering, Pangborn Hall

**MORE UPCOMING EVENTS**
- Alumni chapter career events will be held this fall in Boston, New York City, Philadelphia, and Baltimore. We will also launch an Student-Alumni Mentor Program (September 2015) and a Student-Alumni Shadow Program (January 2016).

Alumni Travel Club Heads to Provence and Alaska

Save the date. See the sights with the Alumni Travel Club. For details and to register, visit cuatoday.com/AlumniTravel. To suggest other destinations you would like to explore, email cua-travel@cua.edu.

**May 24–June 1, 2016** — Exclusive CUA Tour of Provence $3,295 (limited to 36 travelers)*
**July 3–10, 2016** — Glacier Splendors of Alaska Cruise $2,915*  
*Airfare not included in pricing. Trip itineraries subject to change. Tours include an element of walking.

Alumni and current parents of Catholic University students in the St. Louis area gather with University President John Garvey at a reception in April in celebration of The 26th American Cardinals Dinner.