President’s Ball
In celebration of
The 2016–17 President’s Medallion Winners
And the Inauguration of
Jo Ann Rooney, JD, LLM, EdD
As the 24th President of Loyola University Chicago

Friday, November 4, 2016
6:30 p.m.

Grand Ballroom
Navy Pier
Chicago, Illinois
JO ANN ROONEY, JD, LLM, EdD, is the 24th president of Loyola University Chicago and the first lay president in the University’s history. She joins Loyola with a diverse background that includes various positions in higher education, law, business, health care, and public service. Most recently, Dr. Rooney was managing director at Huron Consulting Group in Chicago with responsibility for developing strategies to advance Huron Healthcare’s Federal Government Sector consulting practice.

Dr. Rooney’s appointment returns her to leadership in higher education, as she has served as the president of both Spalding University—a private, Catholic, doctoral-level university in Louisville, Kentucky—and Mount Ida College, a baccalaureate-level college offering undergraduate and graduate degrees in Newton, Massachusetts. She has also spent more than 22 years in the classroom connecting with students and teaching at the graduate and undergraduate levels.

During her eight-year tenure at Spalding, Dr. Rooney led an impressive turnaround of an institution facing severe challenges. Leveraging her strong business, finance, and operational experience—and engaging support from the internal university community, the Archdiocese of Louisville, local business and community leaders, and alumni—she was able to stabilize the university and set it on a course of continued growth, allowing it to thrive to this day. In 2006, Dr. Rooney was named “Most Admired Woman in Education” by Today’s Woman magazine.

In July 2010, Dr. Rooney was appointed president of Mount Ida College. After only months in the position, she was called by the Obama Administration to serve her country—a life-changing event that led her on an unexpected career path as the nominee for principal deputy under secretary of defense for personnel and readiness in the U.S. Department of Defense. She was confirmed for the position by the U.S. Senate in May 2011.

Within the U.S. Department of Defense, Dr. Rooney served as senior advisor to the under secretary of defense comptroller, principal deputy under secretary of defense for personnel and readiness, and acting under secretary of defense for personnel and readiness. As senior advisor to the secretary of defense, she managed a broad portfolio encompassing recruitment, career development, health care, readiness, pay, and benefits for approximately 1.4 million active-duty personnel, 1.3 million Guard and Reserve personnel, and their families. She had direct responsibility for more than 30,000 employees and a budget of more than $70 billion, and she served as a senior spokesperson for defense-wide issues.

In 2012, former Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta awarded Dr. Rooney the Department of Defense Medal for Distinguished Public Service, the highest award given to a civilian by the secretary of defense.

Dr. Rooney holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Pennsylvania, a Juris Doctor from Suffolk University Law School, a Master of Laws in taxation from Boston University School of Law, and a Doctor of Education in higher education management from the University of Pennsylvania. Other affiliations include various positions in the legal and business sectors. She is a member of the American Bar Association and three state bar associations and has served as a board member with a variety of civic and corporate organizations, including the board of directors of the Catholic Education Foundation, and as vice chair of Jewish Hospital & St. Mary’s HealthCare—a Catholic Health Initiatives organization—in Louisville, Kentucky. She currently sits on the board of trustees for Regis University, a Jesuit institution located in Denver, Colorado.

“BUILDING A MORE JUST, HUMANE, AND SUSTAINABLE WORLD”

The theme of Dr. Rooney’s inauguration is “Building a More Just, Humane, and Sustainable World,” which is also Loyola’s current strategic plan, Plan 2020. This plan is grounded in over 450 years of Jesuit, Catholic tradition and the collective wisdom of faculty, staff, students, alumni, and trustees. It is also informed by the present realities of our city and world and seeks to shape a better University and—through that University—a better future.

Plan 2020 is a framework to focus our energies on improving the quality of education, so our students are prepared to be agents of change affecting their families, careers, and communities. It organizes how we will leverage the resources of the University to meet the needs of our city and our world and deepen our identity as a Jesuit, Catholic enterprise for learning.

It articulates the University’s collective aspirations to act more for transformative justice by contributing to a more just, humane, and sustainable world.
PROGRAM

WELCOME
Jane Neufeld
VICE PRESIDENT, STUDENT DEVELOPMENT

INVOCATION
Thomas J. Regan, S.J.
DEAN, COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

DINNER SERVED

PRESENTATION OF MEDALLIONS
Jo Ann Rooney, JD, LLM, EdD
PRESIDENT

Margaret F. Callahan, CRNA, PhD, FNAP, FAAN
PROVOST, HEALTH SCIENCES DIVISION

MENU

APPETIZERS
Michigan Farm Stand Salad
MIXED GREENS AND CHOPPED ROMAINE WITH DRIED CHERRIES, WALNUTS, AND FUJI APPLES IN A GREEN APPLE WHITE BALSAMIC VINAIGRETTE

Assorted Dinner Rolls
SERVED WITH SWEET CREAM BUTTER

ENTRÉE
Pancetta Chicken Breast
ROAST CHICKEN BREAST WITH CRISPY PANCETTA, ROAST TOMATO AU JUS SERVED WITH GARLIC MASHED POTATOES AND BROCCOLI WITH BABY CARROTS

VEGETARIAN ENTÉRÉE
Vegetable Risotto
WITH BABY ZUCCHINI, RED PEPPERS, ASPARAGUS, AND SCALLIONS

DESSERT
Bite-sized Desserts

DRINKS
La Terre Cabernet Sauvignon
La Terre Chardonnay
THE PRESIDENT’S MEDALLION

LEADERSHIP. SCHOLARSHIP. SERVICE.

Those three words are etched onto the President’s Medallion that Loyola awards annually to its most outstanding students, one from each of its 14 colleges, institutes, and schools. They are words that neatly summarize all that the University represents. And they also sum up the 2016–17 President’s Medallion recipients—students who excel not only in the classroom but also in the world and are dedicated to helping those around them.

AWARD RECIPIENTS MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING QUALIFICATIONS:

• Be a currently enrolled student expected to graduate in the 2016–17 academic year
• Exemplify a combination of outstanding scholarship, leadership, and service
• Rank academically in the upper 25 percent of his or her class
• Be a person of integrity and good reputation
• Manifest leadership in serving others through involvement in student organizations or volunteering in community settings

2016–17 MEDALLION RECIPIENTS

CARLOS LUNA ARRUEPE COLLEGE

In addition to maintaining a 4.0 GPA, Carlos is also fulfilling a fellowship with America Needs You, participating in a research study about undocumented students, and working as a math tutor. He is deeply committed to the campus community through his work with Arrupe Student Government, Dreamers and Allies, and Inside Government. His extraordinary drive and work ethic is in preparation for a life devoted to social justice and advocacy for marginalized communities of undocumented immigrants.

CRISTINA RODRIGUEZ COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Cristina embodies the purpose of the President’s Medallion—excellence in leadership, scholarship, and service. From her work with Loyola’s Student Diversity and Multicultural Affairs office as an ACE Scholar Mentor and STARS Lead Mentor to the excellence she exhibits in the classroom, Cristina has left an indelible mark on the Rambler community. She is a Gannon Scholar, McNair Scholar, Johnson Scholar, and Maroon & Gold Society Member.

AUSTIN V. GANA TOLENTINO MICHAEL R. QUINLAN SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

Austin excels in all of his coursework at the University and is in the top 2 percent of all cumulative GPAs for Quinlan students. He serves on the student community board for the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution and the executive board of the Information Systems and Operations Management Club. He also works with LUC@1871. A dedicated researcher, Austin has been awarded four Loyola Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program fellowships and won the Outstanding Undergraduate Researcher Award in 2016.

GRACE ANNA RUNKEL SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION

Grace ranks among the top in her class and is extraordinarily creative and a strong leader. She has been executive producer, reporter, and anchor for Rambler Sports Locker; a member of the WLWU Lunchtime News team; and a mentor for the School of Communication’s Summer High School Digital Storytelling Workshop. As an executive board member of the Loyola chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists, she organized a group of Ramblers to mentor journalism students at Senn High School. Grace is currently editor-in-chief of the Loyola Phoenix.

NICOLETTE R. PRPA SCHOOL OF CONTINUING AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

Nicolette wants to not only champion outstanding scholarship but also see that her colleagues embrace the same. As a peer tutor, she offered support and assurances to students who displayed anxiety and self doubt, and she celebrated their academic achievements with enthusiasm. In her role as a student ambassador, Nicolette inspired others with her ambition and ability. She has found a true community within Loyola and the School of Continuing and Professional Studies.
KATINA MARIA TOLE  SCHOOL OF EDUCATION
Katina spent six consecutive semesters on the Dean’s List. She has received seven academic scholarships and is a member of Alpha Sigma Nu. She tutors at the Chicago Youth Program in Rogers Park, volunteers on Loyola’s Ignatian Service Day, and is a fixture at Loyola service events. Additionally, Katina is captain of the Loyola Dance Team, an elected member of the Student Athlete Advisory Committee, and a member of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars. She also mentors girls in engineering, mathematics, and science.

CHRISTIE LYNN KOCHIS  INSTITUTE OF ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY
Christie entered Loyola as a member of the Greenhouse Learning Community and immediately stood out as a leader among her peers. She is the president of the Student Environmental Alliance and works as a campus sustainability intern, leading on-campus tours, zero-waste events, and other sustainability programming. Her application to the Green Initiative Fund led to the installation of a solar-powered charging station and picnic table on St. Ignatius Plaza, a highly visible demonstration of clean energy.

MEGAN RIGSBY KLEIN  THE GRADUATE SCHOOL
Megan exemplifies the Jesuit ideal of working toward justice in all aspects of life. Her dissertation examines how school closings and the subsequent redistribution of students into new schools shape residents’ views on integration and diversity. Megan is currently an assistant professor at Oakton Community College. She works closely with Spanish-speaking students, teaches ESL classes, and is learning an Andean Indian language to better communicate with immigrant students from that area.

HEATHER JEAN NELSON  SCHOOL OF LAW
Heather is an exemplary legal scholar, ranking at the top of her class. She is a Civitas ChildLaw Fellow, a member of Alpha Sigma Nu International Jesuit Honor Society, and a CALI (Center for Computer-Assisted Legal Instruction) Excellence for the Future Award winner. Heather serves as the student articles editor of the Loyola Law Journal and was a semifinalist in the National Moot Court Competition in Child Welfare and Adoption Law, where she earned first place for best brief. She has also served as an academic tutor and consistently made the Dean’s List.

LAUREN HOLLY KUNZER  MARCELLA NIEHOFF SCHOOL OF NURSING
In addition to possessing an outstanding GPA, Lauren has been awarded a Nasenberry Scholarship and a Loyola Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program Provost Fellowship to conduct research this academic year. She is president of the Undergraduate Nursing Research Council, has volunteered to tutor her peers, and belongs to the Pediatric Nursing Society and the Association of Women’s Health, Obstetrics, and Neonatal Nursing. Lauren also participated in a service immersion trip to Lourdes, France, and volunteered at Lurie Children’s Hospital.

CORY D. MITCHELL  INSTITUTE OF PASTORAL STUDIES
Cory served in the U.S. Navy and was awarded the Bronze Star in 1994. After his service, he chaired an international refugee committee for Phi Beta Kappa, served as treasurer for the American Public Health Association, and oversaw financial management for a federal grant aimed at assisting homeless or at-risk HIV/AIDS patients. He recently presented a paper entitled “The Appropriation of Evil and Fleecing of African-Americans: Is Catholic Health Care Complicit in Health Disparities and What Are the Ramifications and Remedies?”

MICHAEL JOSEPH MALUCHA  SAINT JOSEPH COLLEGE SEMINARY
Michael is highly regarded among his peers and professors for his passion and dedication toward academia and living a life in service of God. He consistently takes advantage of the opportunities at Loyola to explore Catholic traditions. He has volunteered at the Lake Shore Health Care and Rehabilitation Center, Ignatian Services Food Pantry, and the St. Thomas Soup Kitchen. He also taught religious education at St. Ita Catholic Church. During the summers, he interned at Catholic Financial Life Insurance and the Vocations Office of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, assisting people who are considering entering the seminary.

BENJAMIN S. MARTON  SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK
Benjamin is a student who exemplifies cura personalis in his thoughts and actions, not only remaining true to the tenets of Jesuit philosophy but also to those of the social work profession. He is a recipient of the Interprofessional Practice for At-Risk Youth stipend. Benjamin has also maintained an excellent GPA while completing a field internship requirement, supporting two faculty members with graduate and research assistantships, and serving as president of the School of Social Work Student Organization.

SARAH ELIZABETH HALE  STRITCH SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
Sarah will earn her MD in May 2017. Her academic career is filled with scholastic achievement, research accomplishments, leadership potential, and overall excellence. She earned early induction into the Alpha Omega Alpha National Honor Medical Society and was a co-coordinator for Proviso United with the Loyola Students for Educational Enrichment program. Sarah has been involved in the Society of Women’s Health, Alpha Sigma Nu, and the Pathology Honors Society.
BUILDING A MORE JUST, HUMANE, AND SUSTAINABLE WORLD

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