



TRANSFORMING LIVES TOGETHER IMPACT REPORT 2025

Dear friends of Sacred Heart University,

At Sacred Heart University, every success story begins with you. Your support transforms lives—opening doors for students, empowering faculty and advancing programs that prepare our Pioneers to thrive in a complex, changing world.

This past year, your generosity has made an immediate difference: students are exploring new opportunities, pursuing passions they once only dreamed of and achieving excellence in academics, athletics and beyond. Our faculty are innovating, inspiring and are guiding the next generation of leaders on a campus that continues to grow as a hub of creativity, discovery and transformation.

Your investment is more than a gift; it is a catalyst for impact. It shapes futures, strengthens our community and ensures that Sacred Heart remains a place where potential is realized and aspirations become achievements.

On behalf of our students, faculty and the entire University, thank you for your vision, your generosity and your belief in what our Pioneers can accomplish. Together, we are building a brighter future, one Pioneer at a time.

With gratitude,

John J. Petillo, Ph.D.

President, Sacred Heart University



YEAR IN NUMBERS

\$16.5M TOTAL RAISED
CASH & PLEDGES
THIS FISCAL YEAR

9,248 NUMBER OF
TOTAL DONORS

5,349 NUMBER OF
FIRST-TIME DONORS

NUMBER OF SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED
405 STUDENTS RECEIVED AN AWARD
FROM 178 NAMED SCHOLARSHIPS

\$133.8M TOTAL RAISED
FOR THE NOW WE
LEAD CAMPAIGN

\$357M CURRENT ENDOWMENT
VALUE AS OF
JUNE 30, 2025

ATHLETIC ACCOLADES

3 TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

8 ALL-REGION

1 REGULAR SEASON CHAMPIONSHIP

3 PLAYERS OF THE YEAR

55 ALL-CONFERENCE SELECTIONS

2 ROOKIES OF THE YEAR

53 ALL-AMERICANS

1 COACH OF THE YEAR

SCHOLARSHIP MOMENTUM

The **Pioneer Scholarship Gala** raised **\$660,000**, bringing together more than 400 alumni, parents, students and friends in the Martire Family Arena.

405 students received awards from **178 named scholarships**.

13 new endowed funds were established including the **Moscola Family Student Crisis, Endowed Fund**, which supports students with financial need related to behavioral health emergencies.



"Establishing this endowed scholarship for the Jack Welch College of Business & Technology is an investment in the power of education and of future generations. Students who benefit will carry our mission forward and continue a legacy of learning and service to society."

RALPH LIM, PROFESSOR
DEDICATED TO EDUCATING
PIONEERS FOR 37 YEARS

A **benefit concert** featuring The Midtown Men at the SHU Community Theatre raised over **\$300,000** for the **John J. Petillo Endowed Scholarship**, supporting **performing arts students**.

In 2024-2025 donors contributed **\$1.4M to scholarship**.



PLACES & SPACES

SHU Dingle achieved a major milestone with the opening a new, expanded campus. This **state-of-the-art educational facility** blends historic 19th-century architecture with contemporary design, creating a premier higher education destination that attracts students from around the world.

Construction is almost completed (expected early 2026) on a new addition to the **Center for Healthcare Education**, equipping students in the health professions and nursing programs with a state-of-the-art learning environment. The **63,000-square-foot expansion** features new bedside skills labs, realistic simulation labs and modern study lounges to enhance students' real-world experience and preparation.

With the newly renovated **William H. Pitt Athletic & Convocation Center**, SHU now has a premier sports venue for fans and student-athletes. The 2,000-seat arena features modern amenities like an **80-foot jumbotron** and enhanced facilities, to better serve our Division I athletes compete in the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference.

A new era for SHU's performing arts program began with the official opening of the **John & Sabina Petillo Center for the Performing Arts**. The newly remodeled facility, which includes a Black Box Theatre, dance rehearsal rooms, and band and choral rooms, was unveiled in a special event honoring the Petillos for their support.



COMMUNITY PARTNERS

WSHU Public Radio earned top honors from the Press Club of Long Island and the Fair Media Council, including "Best Radio News Station," "Best Podcast" and awards for environmental, lifestyle, entertainment and health reporting.

With the merger of **Horizons Sacred Heart University** and Horizons Notre Dame, the program has become one of the largest K-8 Horizons programs in the nation. This tuition-free organization will provide more than 300 Bridgeport students with academic, enrichment and mentorship opportunities to prepare them for high school and beyond.

The State of Connecticut named downtown Fairfield a Cultural District, and the **SHU Community Theatre** is at the center of it all. Cultural Districts help communities to better support and promote arts and culture, attract visitors and provide more arts and cultural opportunities for residents.

The **Discovery Science Center & Planetarium** served over 70,000 individuals, grew box office revenue for the third straight year, expanded partnerships to 270 schools and centers, earned K-12 STEM site approval from the CT State Department of Education and grew summer programs by an entire additional class.



INNOVATION IN TEACHING & LEARNING

In the **Jack Welch College of Business & Technology**, marketing students gained national recognition for a comprehensive marketing campaign that they created for Amazon as part of the Effie Collegiate U.S. x Amazon Brand Challenge. This was the first time a team from SHU competed, finishing in the top six.

Professors Alyssa Woronik and Torrie Hanley, professors in the **College of Arts and Sciences**, sent students to Sweden's Centre for Honey Bee Research for hands-on study of bee health and cross-cultural scientific exchange as part of the Bee Health and Ecology Research Objective program.

Students from the **College of Health Professions**, specializing in the Healthcare Informatics & Administration program, were recently recognized by the New England Chapter of the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society. Celebrating their impactful research on how AI and machine learning can advance patient care. Their work focused on several critical areas, including the potential for earlier Alzheimer's diagnoses, improved breast cancer detection and overall enhanced medical imaging.

Farrington College of Education & Human Development faculty are shaping international conversations on literacy. Dr. K.E. Cunningham delivered keynote addresses in Barcelona (Fall 2024)

and Bangkok (Spring 2025), sharing strategies to reimagine literacy practices and deepen student comprehension.

Health care leaders, students and faculty came together to advance nursing practice, education and research at the Nursing Practice Innovation, Education and Research (PIER) Conference, hosted by SHU's **Dr. Susan L. Davis, RN, & Richard J. Henley College of Nursing** in collaboration with Nuvance Health (part of Northwell Health). The event featured panels, research presentations and a nursing hackathon. Participants explored topics such as workforce retention, digital health, leadership and health equity, establishing the Nursing PIER Conference as a signature annual event shaping the future of nursing and health care.



"To me, a scholarship means opportunity. An opportunity I never thought I'd have. It's allowed me to come to Sacred Heart, play at the Division I level and pursue an education in psychology without the financial burden holding me back. That support has given me the chance to grow, not just as an athlete, but as a student and a person."

TYLER JAMESON '25,
STUDENT ATHLETE-FOOTBALL

"I included SHU in my estate plans because this community shaped who I am. I believe in the power of giving to create opportunity, and I want future students to feel the same sense of belonging and possibility that I did, and to know that their dreams matter."

BARB SUSI-BOTSKO '75



To see the many people who contribute to SHU's momentum, please visit www.sacredheart.edu/honorroll. We are thankful for everyone who plays a role.