

5-21-2018

May 21, 2018: Commencement Preview, Provost Address, Ryan Coogler Returns, TFT Expands

Saint Mary's College of California

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1 message

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May 21, 2018

Get Ready for Commencement



Saint Mary's 2018 Commencement ceremonies for undergraduate, graduate, and professional studies students are coming up this weekend! The Commencement Mass will take place on Friday, May 25 in the SMC Stadium. [Undergraduate Commencement will be held on Saturday, May 26](#), followed on [Sunday, May 27 by the Graduate and Professional Studies Commencement](#). Congratulations to the SMC Class of 2018!

- [Commencement Mass Information](#)
- [Savannah Mattox '18](#), our Valedictorian and leading Gael

- [Commencement speakers](#) - renowned photographer Michael Collopy '82 and the Honorable Kandis A. Westmore
- The Commencement office has [tips on parking and seating](#).
- Congratulations to the recipients of the College, Service, Departmental, and Dean's [Awards for the Undergraduate and Graduate and Professional Schools](#).

Provost Kasimatis Addresses Faculty

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Margaret Kasimatis [addressed faculty at the end-of-the-year dinner](#) on Friday, May 18, offering her observations on the College as she marked her 107th day at Saint Mary's College.



Acclaimed Director, Former Student Ryan Coogler Returns to SMC



An appreciative crowd of 600 students, faculty, staff, and friends of the College turned out for the special event "Ryan Coogler - Artist, Athlete, Activist in [Conversation with Professor Rosemary Graham](#)." The former Saint Mary's student and acclaimed director of *Black Panther*, *Creed* and *Fruitvale Station* sat down for a conversation with his former English professor in the Soda Center on Wednesday, May 16. President James Donahue expressed pride in Coogler's connection to Saint Mary's. "Every superhero has their own origin

story"- and we couldn't be prouder to have a piece of Ryan Coogler's story right here at SMC."

Expanded Teachers for Tomorrow Program Fast-Tracks Classroom Teachers, Underscores Social Justice



"We're leading the pack," said Professor of Education Tamara Spencer, describing SMC's new accelerated credentialing route for teachers. Long a social justice leader among California colleges, Saint Mary's will underscore its commitment to accessible education [this fall with two new Justice, Community and Leadership concentrations](#) that allow students to jumpstart a professional teaching career, earning both a bachelor's degree and a California teaching credential in just four years.

Retirement Benefits Committee Update



Vice President for Finance and Administration Susan Collins reports on an update by the College's Retirement Benefits Committee (RBC) about the retirement assets held and managed by TIAA. The update notes that the returns on the TIAA retirement assets out performed their respective benchmarks for all timeframes (last quarter, one year, three year, and five year basis). The RBC assists and advises Collins in fulfilling oversight responsibilities with respect to SMC's retirement benefit plans and to

help assure that the plans are being managed in the best interests of the plan participants and the College.

SEBA Student Receives Prestigious McClure Scholarship

Ana Chena Davila '19, a senior accounting major at Saint Mary's College, [was recently awarded SEBA's McClure Scholarship](#). Trilingual in English, Spanish, and French, Chena Davila will serve this the summer as a finance intern at Cisco Systems. She has also volunteered as a technology class assistant at Monument Impact, a non-profit organization dedicated to the Latino community in Concord. Chena Davila came to California by way of Mexico at the age of 3, after her father took a job in the Bay Area.



Esteemed SEBA Professor Rebecca Carroll Retires

[Thursday, May 17, marked Rebecca Carroll's last day at Saint Mary's](#). A professor of rhetoric in the School of



Economics and Business Administration (SEBA), Carroll celebrated by wearing the very same dress that she wore 26 years ago on her first day at SMC. The recipient of the 2018 Teacher Excellence award, Carroll said it's hard to leave her colleagues, but she looks forward to more reading, dancing, singing, and hiking.

Zero Year Reunion 2018



All Seniors were invited to celebrate their academic success and entrance into the Alumni Association on Thursday, May 10 with a cocktail mixer on Chapel Plaza. The festivities included food, beer and wine, a DJ, and a photo booth. The Alumni Office gave out a special graduation gift-an alumni license plate frame!

This Week on Campus

Events

- 05/22 [MS in Management Information Session](#)
- 05/23 [Research Poster Session](#) - Spring's Student Research Poster
- 05/23 [MA in Leadership Online Information Session](#)
- 05/24 [Twenty-Third Annual Black Graduate Celebration](#)

- 05/25 [Twenty-First Annual Latinx Graduate Celebration](#)
- 05/25 [Commencement Mass 2018](#)
- 05/26 [Undergraduate Commencement Ceremony 2018](#)
- 05/26-27 [Alumni Plot Party](#)
- 05/27 [Graduate and Professional Studies Commencement Ceremony 2018](#)
- 06/09 [Kalmanovitz School of Education Information Sessions](#)
- 06/09 [Leadership Open House](#)

[More Events](#) | [Student Organizations Activities](#)

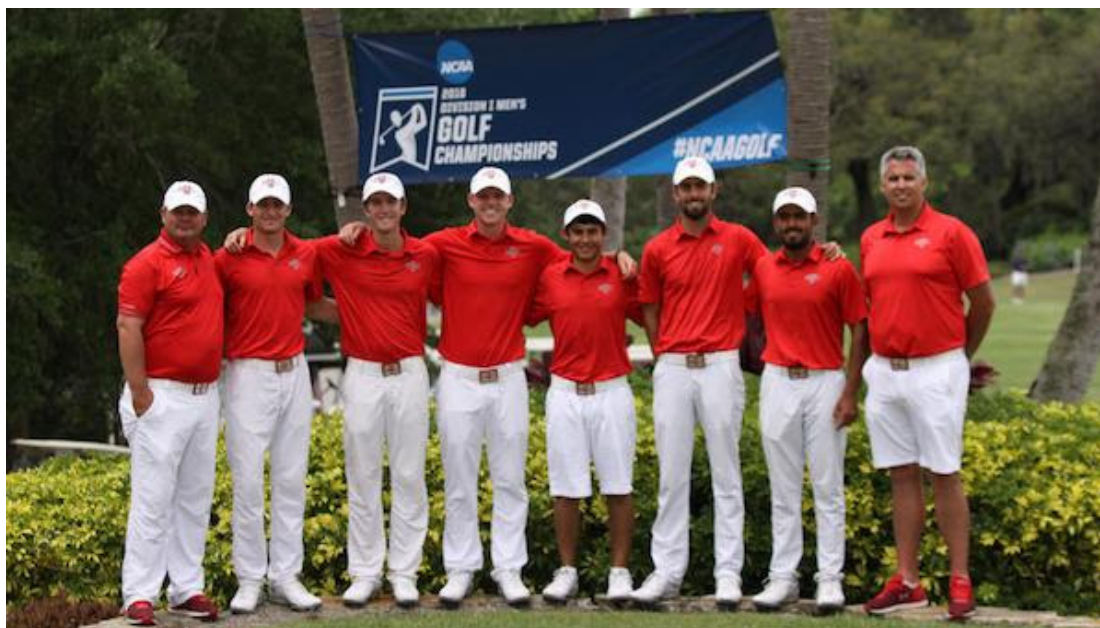
Religious Services

- Sunday Mass in the Chapel. [View the schedule.](#)

De La Salle Reflection

- [For the week of May 21.](#)

Go Gaels



GOLF | Gaels Finish the Season with Strong Round at NCAA Regional

On May 16, the final day of the NCAA Regionals, Saint Mary's golf put forth its best round of the tournament, shooting a final round 6-under 282 to finish in 11th at the Reunion Resort - Watson Course in Kissimmee, Florida.

Did You Know?

Seniors-don't have a job yet? The "Help! I Don't Have Plans After Graduation!" workshop will be held on Friday, June 15 1-5 p.m in the Career and Professional Development Services (CPDS) office (FAH 190). Come and explore who you are and what you want to do. You'll also learn how to make connections via LinkedIn. CPDS staff will review your resume and show you how to stand out in a crowded application pool. [Register today.](#)

Do you have a little-known tidbit or story about Saint Mary's? Send it to [Campus News.](#)

Let us remember that we are in the holy presence of God.

Major learning. Minor pretense.

