Journalist Nazenin Ansari, MVC B.A. ’80, shared her experiences leaving her native Iran to attend Mount Vernon College at the 2015 Women’s Leadership Conference.

CHARTING A NEW COURSE

2015 Women’s Leadership Conference features keynote address by Iranian journalist Nazenin Ansari, MVC B.A. ’80.

By Brittney Dunkins and Julia Parmley

CHARTING A NEW COURSE

AS A YOUNG COLLEGE STUDENT, JOURNALIST NAZENIN ANSARI, MVC B.A. ’80—the daughter of a diplomat—was bound for a life of public service in her native Iran.

But soon after she entered the Mount Vernon College and Seminary in 1976, Iran was rocked by revolution after a “militant interpretation of religion transformed the government,” she said.

Unable to return to her home or leave the United States, Ms. Ansari found an unconventional family in her “bright, energetic, and fun” classmates and a career path as a journalist and defender of global human rights.

“I had no choice but to chart a new course… We were the hunted in our own lands and pariahs abroad,” Ms. Ansari told an audience of women March 27 at the 15th annual Women’s Leadership Conference. “In these moments of darkness the Mount Vernon College did its best to protect and embrace me.”

Ms. Ansari’s address kicked off the conference that featured breakout sessions on career development tactics, networking, finances, and communication led by friends of the university and GW staff and faculty. The afternoon keynote, a performance, was given by GW Women’s Studies professor Bonnie Morris, who was voted the 2012 GW Professor of the Year. Dr. Morris performed her one-woman play, “Revenge of the Women’s Studies Professor.”

Shelley Heller, associate provost for academic affairs at the Mount Vernon Campus, said that the conference theme, “Charting A New Course,” was a natural fit for modern women attempting to “achieve a balance” among jobs, family, and self.

“Charting a new course is a dilemma,” Dr. Heller said. “But once you chart a new course, you can become a leader.”

In her keynote, Ms. Ansari gave a vivid account of how she leveraged her circumstances for academic and professional success in the wake of the escalating political climate in Iran. She is currently the editor of international Farsi publication Kayhan London (not to be confused with the official Iranian newspaper Kayhan), and serves on the governing committee of the Foreign Press Association and on the board of directors of the Encyclopedia Iranica at Columbia University.

Her commentary has appeared in numerous publications including the Wall Street Journal, The Guardian, and the International Herald Tribune.

Ms. Ansari recounted the wealth of experiences gained on the front lines of global journalism, from entering China in 1979 just after the country opened its borders to western journalists to flying into an Afghani minefield on a C-130 Portuguese military plane just after the fall of the Taliban to report with a team of journalists.

“The only thing constant is change—change is integral to life,” Ms. Ansari said. “We are subservient to providence, but we are masters of our own universe.”

Though Ms. Ansari has not returned to Iran since 1978—she refused to wear a head covering for a new passport as dictated by Iranian law—she remains closely connected to Iranian culture and politics.

She said that she long ago refused to be “a martyr for a story” and—because of her work—contacting her family could endanger their lives. Iranian security officials detained her 85-year-old grandmother for four hours upon Ms. Ansari’s return from a trip to the United States.

“We have spent our lives saying our goodbyes,” Ms. Ansari said. “But we have learned to connect through the heart, and when you do that, it transcends time and space.”

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Ms. Ansari stressed how that connection could be a unifying voice in protecting human rights, especially when positive change is wrought from a feeling of humanity rather than religious zeal.

For example, she said that the widespread outrage and civil demonstrations over the recent mob-killing of 27-year-old Farkhunda—an Afghan woman accused of burning pages of the Quran—is an example of how people around the world are standing up for human rights.

"Under Iranian law a woman’s life is still worth half of that of a man," Ms. Ansari said. "To effect change you need grassroots action and the legal system… We women have powerful potential because of our direct experience with both tradition and modernity."

The conference theme of "Charting a New Course" carried through to the afternoon panel, "Take Charge of Your Destiny," which featured Vicki Bowman, MVC ’89, program and management analyst for the Department of Commerce under the Chief Administrator’s Office for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; Emily Hewitt, former Federal Judge for the United States Court of Federal Claims; Dhyana Delatorre, MVC ’92, yoga therapist; Karin Jones, educational trainer and historian at the International Brotherhood of Teamsters; and moderator Sharon Hadady, principal at Sharon Hadady & Co.

The panelists discussed the "tipping points" in their personal and professional lives, the importance of advocating for oneself, and how they help other women navigate challenges.

Ms. Jones spoke about her career transition from a psychologist at GW’s University Counseling Center to a historian. She now travels the country to teach labor and women’s history for the Teamsters. Ms. Jones urged the audience to “trust your gut” when it comes to following your passion and defining success for yourself.

“When I was a psychologist, many of my friends went on to private practice and making great money and I was the women’s and crisis counselor at GW. This is where I needed to be," she said. "When I moved on and went into labor history, my friends couldn’t figure out what it was all about. But this was where my skill set worked best. You’ve got to learn how to feel that and step into it.”

Ms. Hewitt spoke about some of her greatest challenges, including being one of the first 11 women ordained as an Episcopal priest in 1974 and being a lesbian during a time when it was not as widely accepted.

“Justice has been the theme of my life,” said Ms. Hewitt, remarking that the day after she was ordained as a priest she took the LSAT in preparation for a career in law and the federal government.

Ms. Bowman talked about the importance of maintaining her core values as she navigates changes in her life.

“My core values don’t have to change even if my path has to be redirected,” she said. “That was really important for me. I’ve had to learn over my professional and personal life that I have to recognize when it’s time to reinvent myself or redefine my goals… success is about recognizing when you’re in that place and redefining what your goals look like, but that doesn’t have to compromise your core values.”
More than 80 GW alumni and friends attended the GW Global Series event in Dubai.

GW GLOBAL SERIES: WOMEN IN BUSINESS WITH HRH PRINCESS REEMA

The Mount Vernon alumna was featured as the keynote speaker for a GW Global Series event in Dubai.

By GW’s International Advancement Team

WHEN HER ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCESS REEMA BINT BANDAR AL SAUD, MVC B.A. ’99, enrolled in Mount Vernon College, she realized the unique education opportunity she would have.

And when the George Washington University merged with the college, Princess Reema took advantage of a broader offering of courses—in museum studies, Islamic art, and architecture at GW, and other member schools of the D.C. Consortium of Universities—to build a personalized curriculum of study.

Her education helped her to become one of the most powerful Arab women in business and a vocal leader supporting women’s economic participation in society. On May 15, as part of the GW Global Series, Princess Reema served as the inaugural guest speaker for the event series in the Gulf Cooperation Council. Her address focused on opportunities to integrate women into the workforce.

“By identifying what I wanted to study, arranging my own curriculum, wading through all the necessary channels to make it happen—that helped me in business as I learned how to figure out what I wanted and to go after it,” said Princess Reema.

And go after it, she did. Princess Reema, former chief executive officer of Harvey Nichols in Riyadh, a luxury retailer in Saudi Arabia, and current board member of Alfa International, is now a globally recognized voice of and leader for Saudi Arabia and the Middle East as a whole, not only contribute to the economic success of Saudi Arabia and the Middle East as a whole, but we also encourage women to become more independent by interacting in society and the world around them,” said Princess Reema.

Princess Reema addressed an audience of more than 80 GW alumni and friends in Dubai, including alumni from the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Oman, Turkey, and Pakistan. Princess Reema referenced her past experience as the chief executive officer of both Harvey Nichols in Riyadh and the retail company, Al Ham, which manages the Donna Karen and DKNY brands in the Middle East, as well as her most recent endeavor: the creation of Baraboux, a new brand of luxury handbags.

She elaborated on employer benefits and the desire of women to contribute to society and participate in the workforce, as well as opportunities for voluntary organizations to support the workforce development of women.

“Women are beginning to see other women in roles that just one generation ago they were not accustomed to seeing women in. That is very important—to see yourself in leadership roles and executive positions and to know that it’s possible for a woman to be successful,” Princess Reema said.

The GW Global Series provides an opportunity for alumni who are thought leaders in their fields to share their insights and experiences with top executives and professionals.

“This has been an exceptional opportunity to come together with fellow alumni and to spend time with Her Royal Highness Princess Reema whose important work on women’s issues has the potential to improve the lives of women in every Gulf country,” said Zeb Eckert, SMPA ’03, the moderator for the evening who works for Bloomberg Television Hong Kong. “She is a wonderful example of the impact GW alumni can have in their communities around the world using the knowledge and relationships built in Washington, D.C. through an education at GW.”

“By enabling women to enter the workforce, we not only contribute to the economic success of Saudi Arabia and the Middle East as a whole, but we also encourage women to become more independent by interacting in society and the world around them.”

Globally, women hold more than 80 percent of their financial resources, and their talents to make this world a better place.

In its second full year, the GW Alumni Mentoring Program is strong. On our Facebook page, check out the updates about the program and how to sign up. When you look at the article about the WLP Dinner hosted by Kimberly Humphries with a photo that shows eager young women, you’ll see a yearning for our guidance and experience as they shape their future trajectories. I urge you to get involved and help support us as we continue this effort of mentoring the next generation of Mount Vernon women.

Kimberly is Mount Vernon’s co-chair with Cynthia Steele for Making History: The Campaign for GW. Please connect with Kimberly as she endeavors to showcase philanthropists who feel honored by the privilege of our time at Mount Vernon and want to support our legacy-building efforts.

A few Council changes: We welcome Tiffany Palermo as our newest member. Monika Lawes steps up as the Mount Vernon Delegate on the GWAA. Harjinder Gill is Chair-elect of the National Advisory Council. In the last graduating class of MVC 1999, Jinder made a decision to take her degree from Mount Vernon College when she could have created immediate equity by selecting GW as her degree-granting institution. She has held a seat on the Council for the past three years. She has served for us with GWAA. She was recognized by all of GW with an Alumni Outstanding Service Award in the Spring of 2013. Now, she takes the Council Chair and continues to carry the torch at the front of the line to rally in the next generation of alumna mentors and donors who will continue to make history. We’ve come a long way as an organized body. Intrinsically to Elizabeth Somers’ principles, we continue to show our culture of philanthropy.

Sincerely,
Memphis Holland
Chair
MVC B.A. ’88

MEMPHIS HOLLAND
COUNCIL CHAIR

I read recently a broad aspect of the definition of philanthropy includes a love of humanity. As I write my last column as chair of the MVNAC, I reflect on the role of philanthropy and Mount Vernon women. In this edition of Mount Vernon Today, you’ll read about Nazerin Ansari and HRH Princess Reema. Both are giving of their intellectual capital, their financial resources, and their talents to make this world a better place.

More than 80 GW alumni and friends attended the GW Global Series event in Dubai.

Her Royal Highness Princess Reema Bint Bandar Al Saud, MVC B.A. ’99
ALUMNAE HELP MAKE HISTORY

Mount Vernon alumnae raise $2 million for GW’s major philanthropic campaign.

WHEN MOUNT VERNON COLLEGE transitioned into the George Washington University in 1999, Mount Vernon alumnae created a unique pin to honor the special legacy of the college. “Press on Regardless” was the pin’s message, and Mount Vernon alumnae have done just that since becoming a part of GW by continuing to keep the spirit of Mount Vernon College alive through philanthropic support.

Support from alumnae has strengthened academic and cultural programming on the Mount Vernon Campus and increased professional and leadership opportunities for students in the Elizabeth J. Somers Women’s Leadership Program.

Since the launch of Making History: The Campaign for GW, a philanthropic effort to raise $1 billion for GW’s vision and priorities, Mount Vernon alumnnae have donated $2 million to the Campaign. Leading the Campaign efforts for Mount Vernon are Kimberly Humphries, MVC B.A. ’91, and Cynthia Steele Vance, MVC B.A. ’79.

In addition to supporting the Mount Vernon Legacy, Mount Vernon women actively support GW’s Breast Care Center, GW Law School, the George Washington University Museum and The Textile Museum, and Power & Promise Scholarship Fund.

“It makes me enormously proud to count myself as an alumna of Mount Vernon College,” said Ms. Steele Vance. “These are women that know and understand the importance of preserving our legacy, I know that all of our graduates will continue to give to Mount Vernon or to GW depending on their personal passions.”

The university is focused on preserving the Mount Vernon legacy with a $5 million goal to increase Women’s Leadership Program scholarships, strengthen the Women’s Leadership Speaker Series, bolster the Mount Vernon Legacy Fund and Faculty-in-Residence Program, and improve the Mount Vernon Archives.

“Everyone has different experiences like the WLP that shape them into who they are today,” said Ms. Cohen. “The opportunity for students to give back and leave their own legacy is really special and exciting.”

Samah McGona, ESIA B.A. ’15, joined the challenge because she personally understands the impact of philanthropy. She was the recipient of several scholarships while at GW, including the Presidential Academic Scholarship.

“The challenge was an opportunity to give back to a program that impacted a lot of people’s lives, including mine,” she said. “I’ve watched a lot of my friends grow through this program. As a senior, this is my chance to give back in a small way.”

Ms. McGona said the WLP provided her with the opportunity to interact with driven, like-minded women as a freshman. She was a member of the International Politics cohort and said the experience helped expand her academic interests and connect her to some of her best friends.

“The WLP shifted my interest to women’s rights and law on an international scale,” she said. “The symposiums allowed me to interact with local women leaders and I’ve had dinner with female ambassadors. The experience helped me with a different perspective.”

Ms. McGona has stayed connected to the WLP and MVC alumnae through programs like the MWVAC mentorship program, where she met her mentor Monika Carter Laws, MVC B.A. ’91.

Mary Buckley, program coordinator for the International Arts and Culture cohort, said WLP provides a special academic and social framework that helps students to foster strong connections that last well beyond their freshman year.

“The idea of creating a legacy and pulling our students back into us so they know there’s always a home for them is important,” said Ms. Buckley. “We value that long-term connection. This kind of event is a nice staging ground to renew our network with the graduating class.”

“We also love having the strength of many years of women who have graduated from Mount Vernon College as our base so students can recognize the strong legacy of alumnae,” she added.

For more information on how Making History: The Campaign for GW can enhance opportunities at the Mount Vernon Campus, visit go.gwu.edu/mvmakinghistory or contact Liz Raymond at enraymond@gwu.edu or 202-242-6506.

CHALLENGE SECURES GIFT FOR MOUNT VERNON PROGRAM

Seniors and Mount Vernon National Advisory Council members team up to support the Women’s Leadership Program.

THE WOMEN OF GW’S ELIZABETH J. SOMERS Women’s Leadership Program do not back down from a challenge.

So when the Mount Vernon National Advisory Council (MVNAC) challenged the WLP Senior Class to reach at least 60 percent participation in the Senior Class Gift Campaign, the women rose to the occasion—and secured a $10,000 gift for the WLP.

On April 13, generations of Mount Vernon women came together in Post Hall to celebrate their challenge victory and the impact the WLP has had on their lives. The event included a toast by Maddison Bruer, ESIA B.A. ’15, a member of the WLP International Politics cohort, and remarks by MVNAC Chair Memphis Holland, MVC B.A. ’88, and Associate Provost for the Mount Vernon Campus Rachelle Heller.

Ms. Holland thanked her fellow council members, including Kimberly Humphries, MVC B.A. ’91, and Dr. Heller for their support of the WLP and the Mount Vernon legacy. Ms. Humphries serves as Making History: The Campaign for GW co-chair for the Mount Vernon Campus along with GW Trustee Cynthia Steele Vance, MVC B.A. ’79.

Ms. Holland challenged the seniors to think about how their lives were impacted by their time in the WLP and on the Mount Vernon Campus and to stay connected to the campus and each other.

“Be sure to stay in touch with all of us—we want to know how you’re doing. We all care,” she said. “Please stay involved. The world’s competitive and it’s complicated. Friends make it easier to navigate. We hope you will allow us to have the opportunity to share in your joy.”

Senior Class Gift Coordinator Alix Cohen, SEAS B.S. ’15, said campaigns like the WLP Senior Gift Challenge are a way for seniors to leave their mark on the university.

“I am proud to represent Mount Vernon alumnnae for the Making History Campaign,” said Ms. Humphries. “If all our alumnae support the Campaign, we could exceed our goal of $5 million. Let’s Make History!”

Campaign Priorities — $5 million goal

$5M Mount Vernon Legacy Fund

$500K Faculty-in-Residence Program

$2M Women’s Leadership Program Scholarships

$1M Women’s Leadership Speaker Series

For more information on how Making History: The Campaign for GW can enhance opportunities at the Mount Vernon Campus, visit go.gwu.edu/mvmakinghistory or contact Liz Raymond at enraymond@gwu.edu or 202-242-6506.
TIFFANY PALERMO

Giving back through mentorship.

By Melissa Apter

TIFFANY PALERMO, MVC B.A. ’91, joined the Mount Vernon National Advisory Council this past fall, bringing with her a strong business background she plans to use to help develop and further her alma mater’s legacy.

“Tiffany has shown a willingness to become engaged and lend her expertise to all matters, when necessary, to further our mission of [enhancing] the legacy of Elizabeth Somers,” said Council Chair Memphis Holland, MVC B.A. ’88. “We’re proud and honored to have Tiffany on our Council.”

Ms. Palermo earned her undergraduate degree in political science and described the “wonderful opportunities” she had during her four years at MVC, including a memorable internship with Sen. J. Bennett Johnston, Jr. and partaking in a United Nations simulation at Harvard University.

“I had a great four years and established wonderful friendships that stand to this day,” said Ms. Palermo. “I thought very highly of the professors and the campus environment.”

Visiting the campus is sentimental, but overall she finds the changes “very positive” and she is “pleased with how GW has kept the campus active” and provided opportunities for women.

She reiterated her belief that the Women’s Leadership Program “is a necessary tool for the future women leaders to appreciate the thread of history from female pioneers and linking this thread to the present development of their individual self.”

This past year, she mentored WLP sophomore Carolina Cardoso, a psychology student. Ms. Palermo offered Ms. Cardoso advice on what classes to take, internships to apply for, and on occasion served as a sounding board.

“It is important to contribute to today’s students, to cultivate future leaders,” said Ms. Palermo. “It is such a fulfilling way to give back to our undergraduates.” She added that she plans on mentoring again this fall.

Ms. Palermo earned a full master’s fellowship to Tulane University and graduated in 2010 from the Freeman School of Business, during which time she successfully completed a doctoral level human resource management course and was selected to the Tulane Leadership Circle for the Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Honor Society.

In addition to serving as an adjunct professor at Tulane’s business school, Ms. Palermo is the marketing director for a company in the food and beverage industry. She resides in her native New Orleans with her teenage daughter, who she is raising with “an emphasis and understanding about self-awareness and self-confidence.”

COLETTE COLEMAN

Creating connections through events.

By Melissa Apter

COLETTE COLEMAN works tirelessly behind the scenes planning, organizing, and overseeing the execution of successful events on the Mount Vernon Campus.

As director of events and special services, Ms. Coleman handles the rental of all non-classroom event spaces, coordinates summer conferences, and manages all events at the Alumnae House, including Mount Vernon College alumnae reunions, faculty receptions, and the ever popular “Pancakes with the Provost” breakfasts held monthly with campus Provost Steven Lemann.

“I like the face-to-face interaction,” said Ms. Coleman. “I know we’re in a digital age, but sometimes we need the raw space to connect with one another. I love the fact that many events bring together different populations.”

Indeed, Ms. Coleman has helped cultivate a welcoming atmosphere at events like the annual Vern Harvest, formerly known as Octoberfest, where community members are invited to mingle with students and alumnae while partaking in pumpkin carving and yard games on the Mount Vernon Campus Quad.

Ms. Coleman got her start in event planning as a student at nearby Howard University. She took a position coordinating events for the school’s auditorium and found that she had a knack for logistical planning from start to finish.

Following school, Ms. Coleman went into the non-profit world and spent two years living in Australia and Fiji working for the non-governmental organization Hope Worldwide. She returned to the D.C. area and ran her own event planning company before joining GW as a student at nearby Howard University. She took a position coordinating events for the school’s auditorium and found that she had a knack for logistical planning from start to finish.

Following school, Ms. Coleman went into the non-profit world and spent two years living in Australia and Fiji working for the non-governmental organization Hope Worldwide. She returned to the D.C. area and ran her own event planning company before joining GW full time six-and-a-half years ago.

Helping Ms. Coleman craft and execute memorable events are five faculty workers, 15 student staff members, and one full-time event planner. Her team works closely throughout the year to pull together campus favorites like the French Film Festival, the outdoor summer series, and the Mount Vernon Bazaar. Last year, the bazaar featured a carnival theme and this year will feature an around the world theme and will showcase student performances.

“Events are a way to enhance the experience of students and alumni at GW,” said Ms. Coleman. “To me, a good event is more than just a party, it’s about creating connections.”

Colette Coleman
Going into her seventh year with GW, Stephanie Travis, director of the Interior Architecture and Design Program, continues to push the vision of the school forward.

“I saw so much potential for an interior design program at a research university,” said Ms. Travis. “You have an interdisciplinary base that you don’t always get in a design school.”

To emphasize the opportunities available at GW, Ms. Travis implemented an overhaul of the undergraduate and graduate curriculums of the design program housed on the Mount Vernon Campus. A renewed emphasis has been placed on studio time, bumping the course credit from three to six credit hours per semester beginning the second semester sophomore year for Bachelor of Fine Arts students and culminating in a capstone project. Supporting coursework has been better integrated, she said. Master of Fine Arts students follow the same five-semester studio-based curriculum.

Each student is given the opportunity to meet with working professionals from leading architecture and interior design firms and undergraduate students in their capstone semester are paired with a mentor.

“We’re thinking ahead to keep our students competitive,” said Ms. Travis. “Every student really needs to take all these things to be employable.”

Ms. Travis is additionally responsible for the continued integration of the George Washington University Corcoran School of the Arts and Design in her role as interim co-director. She is pleased with the ongoing collaborations with the Corcoran faculty and she is helping to guide GW through the National Association of Schools of Art and Design accreditation process. Ms. Travis oversaw the successful reaccreditation for the interior architecture and design program last year.

“The merger really shows that GW places an emphasis on the arts, is very invested in arts and design,” said Ms. Travis.

Despite the demands of her directorships, Ms. Travis remains dedicated to being in the classroom. She teaches graduate level history of modern architecture and, in an effort to expose interior architecture and design to a wider audience, she teaches a freshman-only dean seminar open to all majors. She will also lead the first undergraduate capstone studio in spring 2016.

Ms. Travis is soon to be a published author. “Sketching for Architecture and Interior Design,” a practical guide to looking and sketching by hand, will be available later this summer.

She earned her undergraduate and graduate degrees in architecture from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor before heading to New York where she worked as an architect for 10 years.
NEWS FROM CAMPUS

This past semester the Mount Vernon campus hosted a number of student events such as the MVC FLY 5K, Back to Mount Vernon, and Fountain Day.

THE MVC FLY 5K

The MVC FLY 5K, supported by SPEAK GW, was an activity designed to promote a healthy lifestyle for students as well as to raise awareness on eating disorders and disseminate information on how to be healthy and where to go for support.

BACK TO MOUNT VERNON

The Grad Week tradition of Back to Mount Vernon continued this year. All graduating seniors who lived on the Vern were invited back to campus for a celebratory brunch and toast. Reflective remarks were offered by Associate Provost Shelly Heller, who recognized Carly Walsh, B.B.A. ’15, a graduating senior who lived on the Mount Vernon Campus for all four of her college years. Michelle DuBow, M.A. ’15, assistant program coordinator for the Center for Student Engagement, helped coordinate the event along with Mount Vernon Events and Venues.

FOUNTAIN DAY

On a beautiful spring day in April, the Mount Vernon Programming Council hosted their annual Fountain Day, a campus tradition where students officially welcome spring by starting the iconic campus fountain. Vern residents Mimi and Graham—the school-aged children of Faculty-in-Residences Dr. Melissa Keeley and Dr. Chris Klemek—assisted in cutting the ceremonial ribbon. Guests enjoyed field games, giant inflatables, food trucks, and student performances ranging from improv to a cappella.

CLASS NOTES

Nina (Chaconas) Mitchell, MVC ’54, has been happily married to her husband for 60 years. They’ve raised great daughters, all married to wonderful sons-in-law. Her four grandchildren give her great pleasure, though they do not live near enough. Nina has fond memories of Mount Vernon College and is proud of the WLP.

And What About You?

Please send your news and address updates to eraymond@gwu.edu.

MEET YOUR CLASSMATES

The Mount Vernon College & Seminary annual alumnae reunion is set for the weekend of September 24 to 27. Professor Otis Graham will receive the Elizabeth Somers Faculty Award at our annual Elizabeth Somers award dinner and reception on Friday, September 25. Other exciting events are planned to round out the weekend. Be sure to mark your calendars now and plan to attend. And bring a friend!

IN MEMORIAM

We mourn the loss of these beloved members of the Mount Vernon community:

Elizabeth Wilson Brown, MVS ’58
Julia Donelson Ehhardt, MVC ’52
Amy Bond Lynge, MVS ’48
Laura Mae Kress van Westendorp, former assistant to the Dean and house mother of Merriweather Hall
If you have a retirement plan, it’s easy to help deserving students receive a world-class education in the nation’s capital. You can name the George Washington University Mount Vernon Campus as a beneficiary of some or all of the funds that may remain in your IRA, 401(k), or other plan after your lifetime. Just complete a new beneficiary designation form that includes GW and its Tax ID number (53-0196584) and submit it to your plan administrator.

A few of the benefits:
- No change in lifestyle since your gift comes from leftover funds.
- Elimination of income and estate taxes that otherwise would be due.
- Flexibility to support the program of your choice.

We can answer your questions to help make it even easier. Contact us today!

CALL: 877-478-7590
EMAIL: pgiving1@gwu.edu
ONLINE: go.gwu.edu/plannedgiving

Shannon is supporting student aid, with a preference for women with financial need, through her gift to the Power & Promise Fund.

"It’s incredible that you can transform someone’s life by providing them with opportunities to excel.

– SHANNON MOUTON GRAY, MVC BA ’90

We want to hear from you! Visit go.gwu.edu/mvtsurvey and let us know what you think of this issue.