

# SWEEP

VOLUME NINETEEN • OCTOBER 2016

THE WASHINGTON ROWING MAGAZINE



Annual Report





# THE GAME CHANGER CAMPAIGN *for Husky Athletics*

## What does it mean to be a Game Changer?

It's that awesome, breath-catching moment when a player does something so spectacular that it changes everything. It's when the team, the fans, everyone, can feel the momentum shift. From here on out, nothing will be the same. Because it mattered. Because it made a difference. Because one person stepped up to give it all for love of the game and for pride in the team. **One person became a game changer.**

**The Game Changer Campaign for Husky Athletics** is creating a new opportunity for you to be spectacular, to be part of something big and important and even transformational — to make a game-changing difference for student-athletes, to build winning teams for years to come, and to unite our community around Husky pride. **Today, you can be a game changer.**

**DREAM BIG. ACT BOLD. BE BOUNDLESS.**

### In this issue

Stewards' Letter.....	3
Coaches' Letter.....	4
Annual Report.....	5
Endowments.....	6
Donors.....	8
Donations by the Numbers.....	10

Board of Stewards.....	11
Student-Athlete Recognition.....	12
Summer Rowing Results.....	13
Alumni Feature.....	14
The Boys of '36.....	16
News & Announcements.....	18
Out & About.....	19
Race Schedule.....	20

Cover: Washington Rowing alumnae – Kerry Simmonds, '11, and Katelin Snyder, '09, – earned Olympic gold medals as the United States women's eight continued its 11-year reign with a victory at the Rio Olympics. Photo by Ed Hewitt, row2k.

# Dear Friends,

The excitement of the racing season carried over to the summer with Washington boating rowers in the Olympics, U-23 World Championships and Paralympics. Adding to these strong performances, the airing of the PBS American Experience program 'The Boys of '36' and an August article in the New York Times about the dominance of the US Women's Eight brought further attention and enthusiasm to the entire Washington Rowing program. We are fortunate to have such a strong and recognized program both historically and in present day. Your support has been crucial to this success.

You remain a vital part of the Washington Rowing family, and our student-athletes appreciate all that you do for them, as well as the history you continue to help create. Your contributions to the 2015-2016 Annual Fund raised \$238,000 through gifts of all sizes. We received four new endowments, substantial donations to existing endowments and donations to special projects. A special thanks is due to the Class of 1966, celebrating their 50th reunion, for contributing over \$20,000 to the program.

With your help, we are confident we can reach our goal of \$250,000 for the 2016-2017 season. As you may have heard, budgets have been tightened across all

sports and your support is critical to ensure the program can continue to provide state-of-the-art training and equipment, as well as scholarship opportunities assisting the student-athletes in their pursuits here in Seattle.

This fall the Athletic Department announced the Game Changer campaign with a goal to "provide each and every UW student-athlete with a transformative experience that will prepare them for excellence in their sports, in academics and in life." Many of us experienced this during our time at Washington, and this is the legacy we wish to continue.

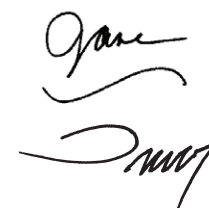
Beyond financial contributions, the program benefits from those who contribute their time. As the spring racing season approaches, please consider investing some time in the program. From helping out at the

starting dock to manning a streaming camera, if you have some time, we would love your help.

We invite you all to join the excitement this fall: at regattas, including our home regatta, The Head of the Lake, the Turkey Trot, the Big W Homecoming Blanket parade, or a ride-along at a practice.

**Go Huskies!**

Sincerely,



Co-chairs  
Washington Rowing  
Board of Stewards



Jane Powers



Trevor Vernon



# 100 Years of Stewardship



By Michael Callahan

I am often asked why, year over year, Washington is so successful at both men's and women's rowing.

I have thought about this for some time. What separates us from our competitors?

Although our academics at Washington are outstanding, we are competing and recruiting against the Ivy League and other top schools. Our setting on Lake Washington is made for rowing, but so too are many of our competitors' practice locations, including Lake Carnegie, the Charles, Cal's Briones Reservoir and UVA's reservoir. Our shellhouse is beautifully set on the lake, but so are the boathouses at Harvard, Princeton, Cal, Wisconsin and Brown, to name just a few.

So what is our difference? I have been around this sport long enough now to know: the difference is in the community that surrounds us. It is the support and stewardship we have consistently and generously received from the Seattle business community, alumni, friends and families for over 100 years. That is our advantage. The advantage is you.

In 1903, when rowing was founded here, the original shells were bought from Cornell by local families eager to see the sport grow on Lake Washington. Coach Conibear realized early on in his career the passion of our Seattle community for rowing, and officially founded the Rowing Stewards in 1916 to look after the welfare of the program. It was an amazing act of foresight, as only three years later the program was saved by these same Stewards from the political upheaval following WWI.

In 1936 at the Olympic Trials the U.S. Olympic Committee needed \$5,000 to send the Huskies to Berlin. Penn, in second place, was eager to write the check on the spot to replace the Huskies. A telegram was sent back to Seattle and the funds were raised within two days.

In the 50's, 60's 70's and 80's, the team would go downtown with their oars and raise funds from the Seattle community on street corners. When the women needed a specific racing shell to win the national championships in the 1980's, a Steward stepped up. They were there again when our women won the first-ever women's 8+ event at the Henley Royal Regatta.

Most recently, in our historic run for five consecutive National Titles we depended on the generosity of our Stewards to raise our endowments, buy our shells, and fund our travel to races. This past year, a Steward funded renovations at Conibear to enhance the experience for recruits and supporters when they visit the home of Washington Rowing.

I have just shared a few examples. Truly that list would be pages and pages long now, dating all the way back to 1903. The Stewards of this program—and that is you—have made the difference year after year after year.

Competing against the wealthiest universities and programs in the world is not easy. But Hiram Conibear knew that from the beginning. So did Al Ulbrickson, and Dick Erickson and Jan Harville and Bob Ernst. Yaz and I know it. When it comes to national recruiting, we are the underdog out there.

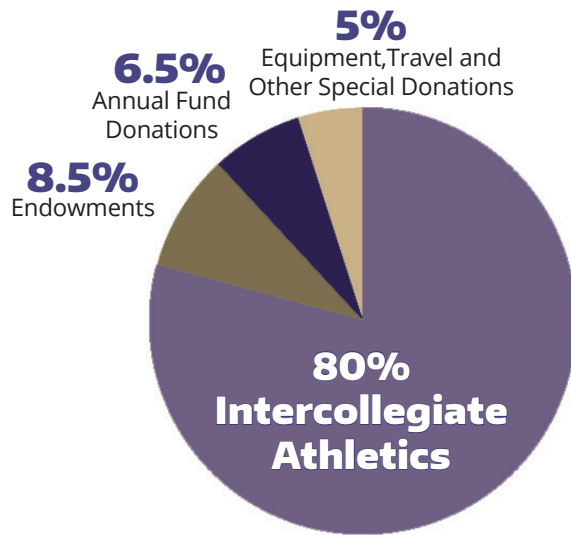
But what separates us from our competition is you. And even though the UW Athletic Department supports us to a level where we can compete, we need you to help us *win*.

For 100 years stewardship has been our differentiating factor, taking us to a championship level. It is our unique and game-changing advantage. I am proud and honored to be, with all of you, committed to championship decisions to preserve and protect the legacy of Washington Rowing today, and for the next 100 years.

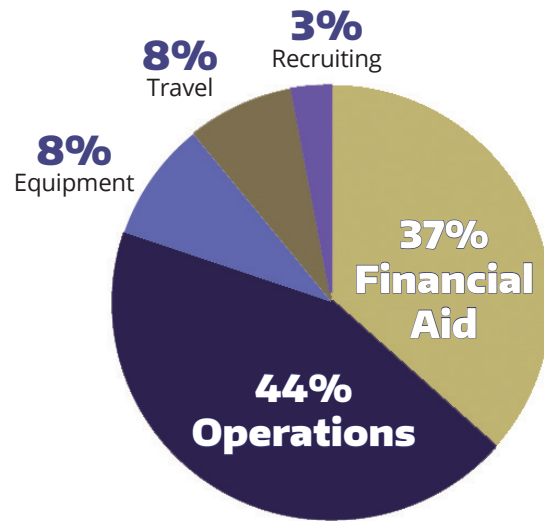


# Input & Output

**2015-16 Rowing Funding Sources**



**2015-16 Rowing Expenditures**



These pie charts represent our last fiscal year, beginning July 1, 2015 and ending on June 30, 2016.

## You Build Champions

Generous donations from alumni, donors and fans are providing the tools to create a competitive edge for Washington Rowing. Just a few of the things your gifts enabled Washington Rowing to invest in last year include: a new trophy case for securely displaying our incredible achievements – including Joe Rantz' 1936 gold medal; a new lounge to host recruits and supporters; four new shells, including two women's Empacher 1x and one women's Empacher 2x and several new pieces of training equipment.





# Washington Rowing Endowments

Endowment donors establish sustaining sources of scholarship and program funds that last through time. Endowments preserve the principal and use the interest from invested funds to cover the costs of program needs and the costs of annual scholarships – the single biggest expense for Husky Athletics. We are deeply grateful to all our endowment donors.

*Alison and Brian Urback Crew Endowment*  
*Carl and Louise Lovsted Endowed Scholarships*  
*Carl M. & Louise C. Lovsted Endowed Crew Scholarship*  
*Charles M. Applegate Crew Endowment*  
*Chuck Holtz Endowed Men's Crew Scholarship*  
*Class of '82 Scholarship Endowment for Men's Rowing*  
*Class of '67 Men's Crew Endowed Fund*  
*Class of '76 Endowed Men's Crew Scholarship*  
*Crew Scholarship and Contingency Fund*  
*Dave McLean Memorial Endowed Scholarship*  
*Diane Miller-Ross Endowment*  
*Dick Erickson Endowed Crew Scholarship*  
*Doug and Nancy Boyden Men's Rowing Endowed Fund*  
*Fowler Family Men's Rowing Endowed Fund*  
*James and Marjorie Beardsley Scholarship Endowment for Husky Crew*  
*James S. Eagleson and Elree Crew Endowment*  
*Jean K. Lafromboise Scholarship for Men's Crew*  
*John D. Bracken Scholarship*  
*John H. and Luanne Isom Mills Endowed Crew Scholarship*  
*John W. and Rosalind Jacobi Endowed Men's Crew Scholarship*  
*John W. Zevenbergen Jr. Endowed Scholarship for Men's Rowing*  
*Jon Runstad 2008 Endowed Scholarship for Men's Rowing*  
*Jon Runstad Endowed Scholarship for Men's Rowing*  
*Kari Osterhaug Endowed Scholarship for Women's Crew*  
*Michael S. Lafromboise Memorial*  
*Ron and Jayne Ranheim Men's Rowing Endowed Fund*  
*Slepyan Family Endowed Crew Fund*  
*Thomas W. McCurdy Memorial*  
*Washington Rowing Stewards Endowment*  
*Wayne E. & Stella S. Graham Crew Endowment*  
*Wilkerson Family Scholarship Endowment for Husky Athletics*  
*Willard Wakeman Endowed Men's Crew Scholarship*

Forever Washington – Your Legacy. Your Huskies.

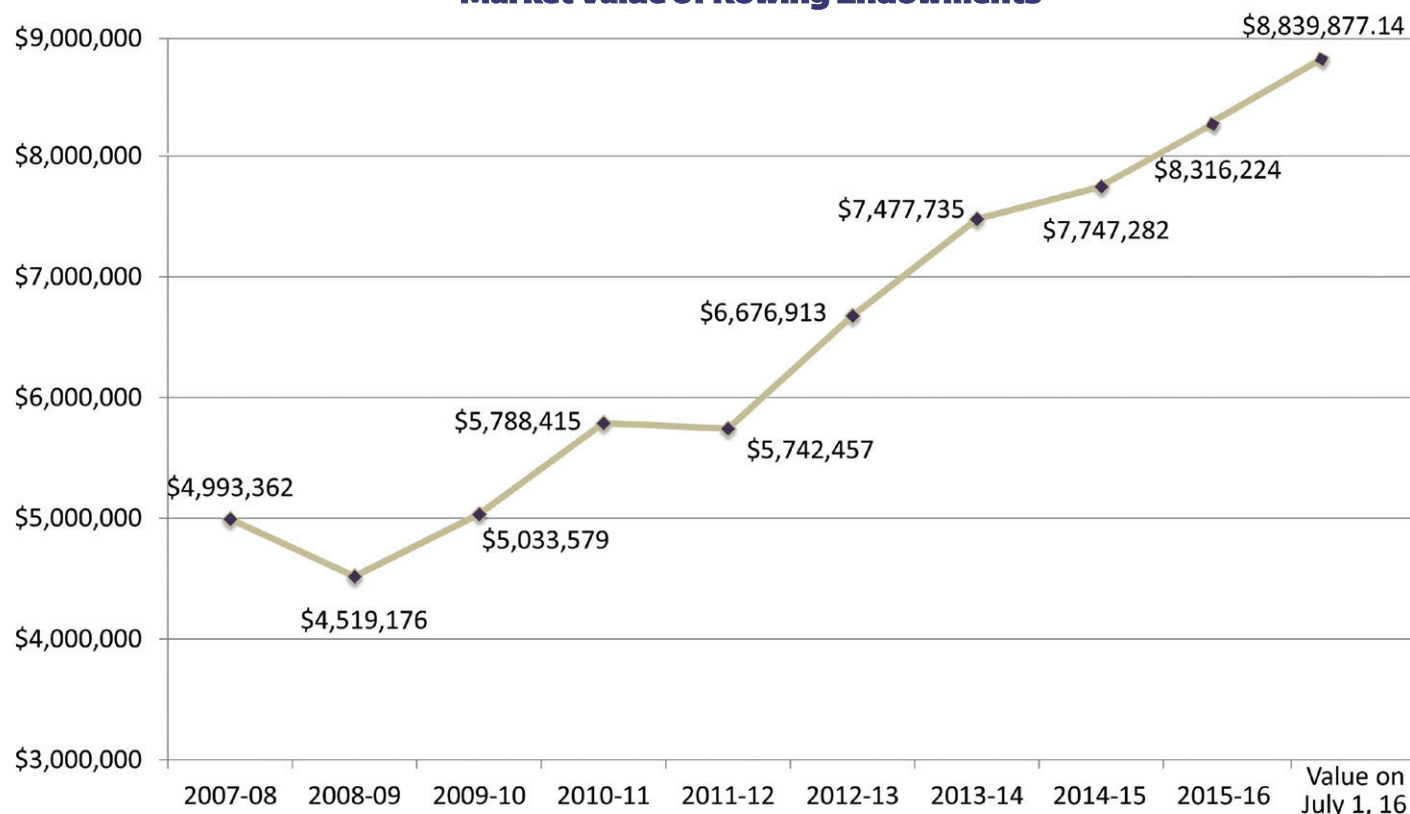
Your dedication to Washington Rowing may last a lifetime, from youth to career, to retirement. By participating in Forever Washington – a giving program for those who remember University of Washington Athletics in their wills or estate plans – your Husky spirit can live on as an enduring personal legacy. Learn more at [Foreverwashington.com](http://Foreverwashington.com)



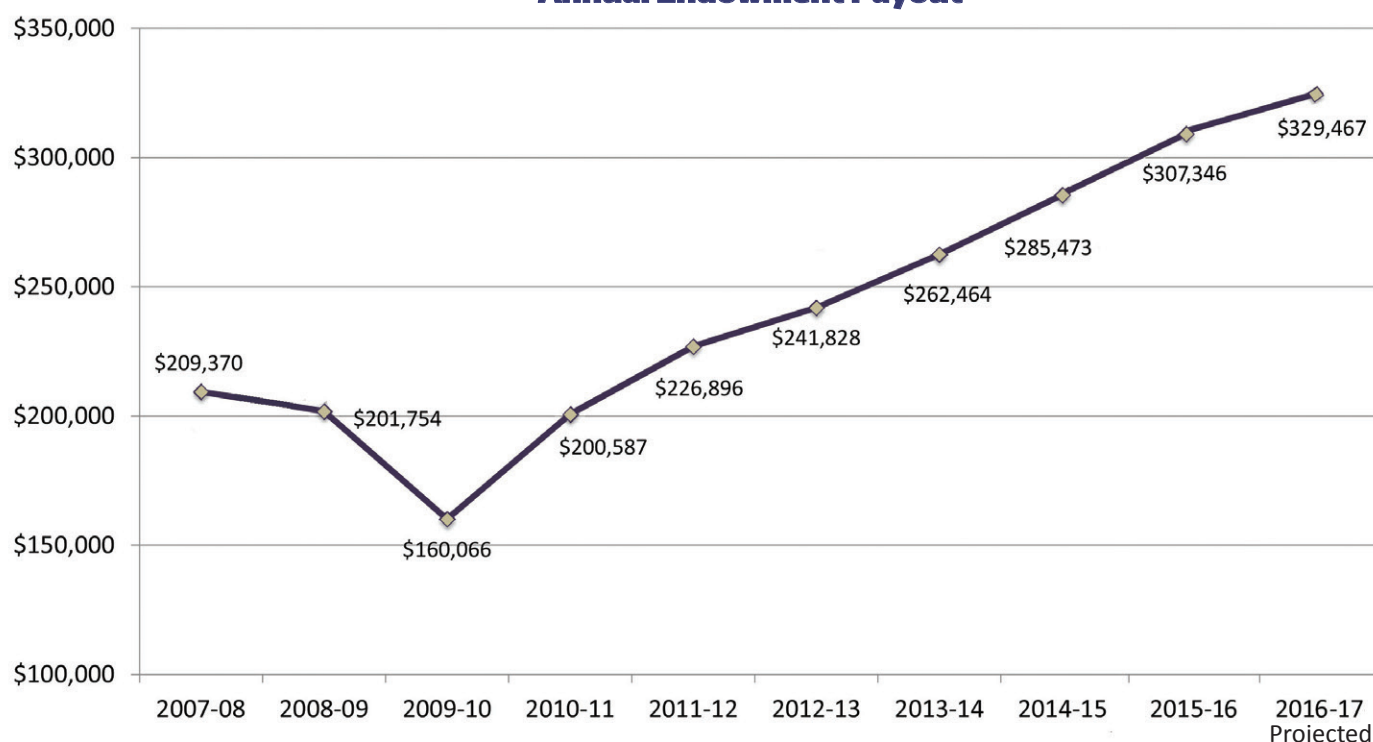
# An Everlasting Donation

*Washington Rowing is grateful for everyone who has set up an endowment, supports existing endowments or is considering a new endowment.*

## Market Value of Rowing Endowments



## Annual Endowment Payout



If you are thinking about establishing an endowment and would like more information, please contact Krista Rammelsberg at [kramm@uw.edu](mailto:kramm@uw.edu) or 206-221-3588.



# Fiscal Year Donors: July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016

Lists include donors who contributed to the rowing annual fund, endowments, equipment and other special projects.

## NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP (\$5,000+)

Mr. Robert Alan & Ms. Brenda Bedell  
Atlantic Comfort Systems, Inc.  
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The Runstad Foundation  
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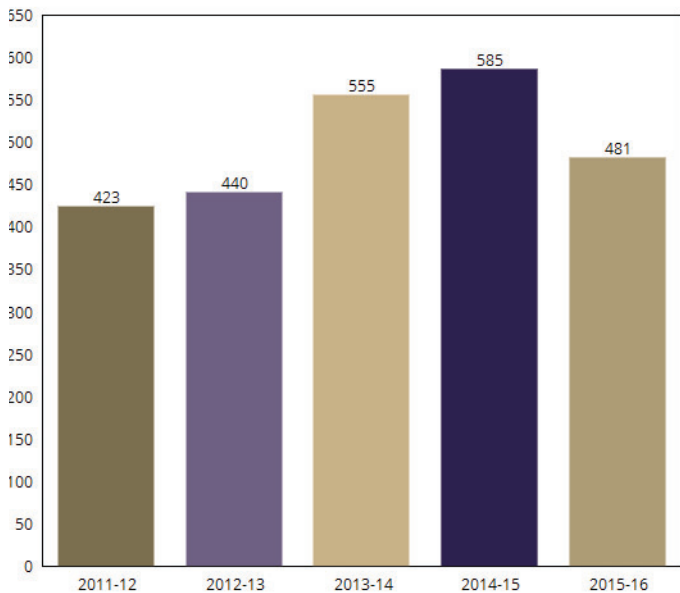
\*We strive for accuracy in our donor lists and apologize for any errors or omissions. Please contact us at 206-221-3588 or [kramm@uw.edu](mailto:kramm@uw.edu) if you have questions or concerns.



# STEWARDS (up to \$999)

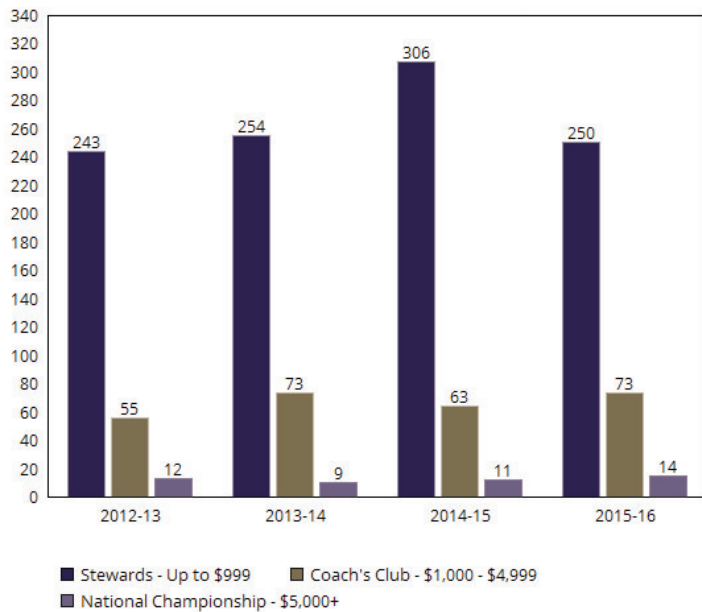
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## Washington Rowing Donors



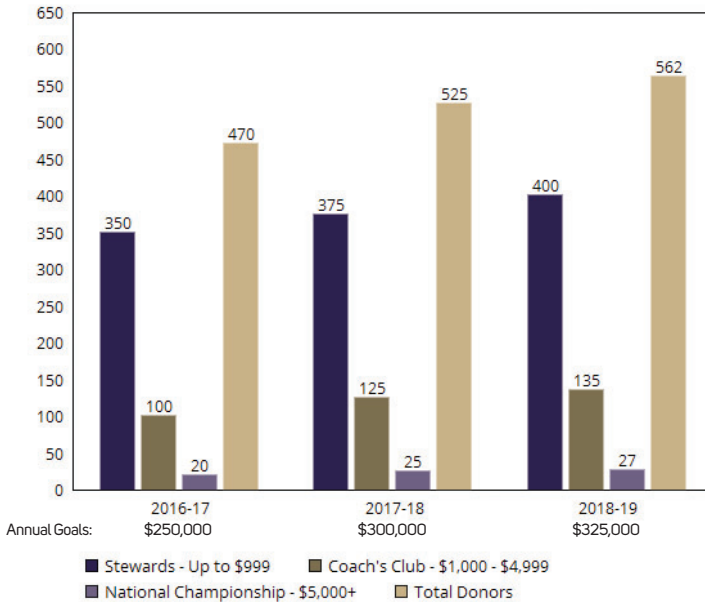
Total number of donors including those who contributed gifts to the annual fund, endowments, equipment and other special projects.

## Rowing Annual Fund Donations by Level



This graph shows the number of donations to the Washington Rowing Annual Fund received by level. Giving to The Rowing Fund provides unrestricted funding that allows Washington Rowing to tackle its greatest needs. Gifts to this fund allow us to provide the best possible experience for Washington Rowers like scholarship support, recruiting, student-athlete wellness and cutting-edge equipment and other special projects that make Washington Rowing the program we all love.

## Rowing Annual Fund Goals



In an effort to continue to grow this fund, we've set ambitious annual goals for the next three years. We will keep you updated on the progress towards these goals throughout the year and ask each of you to help us get there! It takes all of us rowing together to keep Washington Rowing strong.

\*In addition to the generous cash donations, approximately \$750,000 was donated in-kind to renovate the rowing offices and meeting rooms, allowing us to create one of the premiere boat house experiences in the world.

# Thank You!

**481** **32**  
**Gifts** **Active**  
**Endowments**

**\$847,111**  
**Raised\***



# 2016-2017 Board of Washington Rowing Stewards

Betsy Beard-Stillings, '83, Opening Day Stewards Enclosure  
 Andrew Beaton, '08, Outreach Men, 2000-/Class Day BBQ  
 Noelle Broom, '08, Outreach Women, 2000-/Class Day BBQ  
 Scott Carter, '81, Cal Dual Tent  
 Charles E. Clapp III, '82, Head of the Charles Presence  
 Eric Cohen, '82, Team Historian/Gear Sales  
 Leah M. Downey, '09, Database  
 Alan Erickson, DDS, '82, Regattas  
 Alan Forney, '82, Finance  
 Fred Fox, '76, VBC Banquet / Fundraising  
 Jesse O. Franklin IV, '77, Legal Counsel  
 Dave Herness, '91, Alumni Rows  
 Michael Hess, '77, Honorary  
 Adrienne Hunter, '03, Women's Alumnae Rows/Class Day  
 John Kueber, '93, Co-chair, 2013-2015

Kim (Oates) Lawrence, '00, Outreach Women  
 – 1985-2000, Streaming  
 Howard Lee, '84, Current Athletes, Mentorship  
 Blake Nordstrom, '82, Co-chair, 2013-2015  
 Dwight Phillips, '71, Class Day Cruise/Treasurer  
 Jane Powers, '85, Co-chair  
 Jim Pugel, '81, Honorary  
 Jon Runstad, '64, Honorary  
 Frederick V. Schoch, '73, Honorary  
 Jason Scott, '93, Race Day/Outreach  
 Sabina Telenska, '00, Women's Alumnae Rows/  
 Foreign Alumnae Outreach  
 Charles D. Turbak, '61, Chair, 2011-2013, 50 Year Reunions  
 Trevor Vernon, '92, Co-chair  
 John Vynne, '66, Honorary

## MISSION OF THE WASHINGTON ROWING STEWARDS:

TO ENGAGE AND CONNECT ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF WASHINGTON ROWING IN  
 ORDER TO SUPPORT THE CURRENT ATHLETES AND COACHES IN THE PURSUIT OF THEIR GOALS.



## HOW TO GET INVOLVED

**Make a Gift:** Online at [www.WashingtonRowing.com](http://www.WashingtonRowing.com) or contact the Tyee Club at 206-543-2234.

**Volunteer:** We encourage alums to give back with time and energy. We can always use a helping hand at any of our numerous events! Contact Sandy Erickson at [sericksn@uw.edu](mailto:sericksn@uw.edu) or 206-543-1117 for more information.

## 2015-16 Men's & Women's Dean's List

Hannah Allen, F  
 Sophia Baker, F, S  
 Allison Barstow F, W  
 Melanie Barstow, S  
 Weston Brown, S  
 Laney Butler, W, S  
 Guglielmo Carcano, F, W  
 Lindy Chang, W, S  
 Gabby Chilczuk, W  
 Elena Conforti, W  
 Braedan Daste, W  
 Eliza Dawson, F  
 Allie DeLarge, F, W  
 Sarah Dougherty, S  
 Amanda Durkin, W  
 Emily Eich, W, S  
 Eleni Englert F, W, S  
 Abigail Ernst, F  
 Shelby Fanning, W, S  
 Anouschka Fenley, W, S  
 Rose Filer, W  
 Andrew Gaard, W  
 Maddie Gebbie, W  
 Oscar Golberg, W  
 Graham Henry, W, S  
 Landon Hopkins, W  
 Marlee Hopkins, W  
 Emily Jones, F  
 Charlotte Kehoe, F, W  
 Harrison King, W, S  
 Luke Khoury, F, W, S  
 Arne Landboe, F, W  
 DeeDee Logan, W  
 Luca Lovisolo, W, S  
 Nancy MacGeorge, S  
 Jernej Markovc, F, W, S

Phoebe Marks-Nicholes, W, S  
 Parker McKean, S  
 Jacob Morton, W  
 Corinna Niebur, W  
 Samuel Nunn, S  
 Alyssa Oldroyd, S  
 Kieran O'Sullivan, S  
 Blake Owen, F, W, S  
 Grant Peszynski, F, S  
 Samuel Pettet, W  
 Maggie Phillips, F, W  
 Ivan Piton, S  
 Viktor Pivac, S  
 Anna Porteous, W, S  
 Benjamin Pratt, F  
 Lia Roberds, F, W, S  
 Calina Schanze, W, S  
 Jacob Schmidt, S  
 Finn Schroeder, W  
 Spencer Schulz, W  
 Meagan Smith, F  
 Kurt Songer, F  
 Phoebe Spoors, W  
 Jalyn Stinardo, F, W, S  
 Sam Storey, W, S  
 Marissa Therriault, W, S  
 Courtney Thompson, W, S  
 Kenzie Waltar, F, W, S  
 Philip Walczak, W, S  
 Josh Warnick, W, S  
 Vanessa Whattam, F, W, S  
 Jennifer Wren, W, S

*F - Fall Quarter  
 W - Winter Quarter  
 S - Spring Quarter*

### National Scholar Athletes

Phoebe Spoors

Vanessa Whattam

### CRCA Pocock All-Americans

Sarah Dougherty,  
First Team

Danielle Olson,  
Second Team



## 2016 Intercollegiate Rowing Association All-Academic Team

To be eligible for recognition, a student-athlete must have a cumulative GPA of 3.35 or higher, completed one full year at their institution, be a letter winner and competed at the 2016 IRA National Championship Regatta.

Eric Benca  
 Guglielmo Carcano  
 Braeden Daste  
 Luke Khoury

Harrison King  
 Arne Landboe  
 Luca Lovisolo  
 Jernej Markovc  
 Rielly Milne

Lia Roberds  
 Finn Schroeder  
 Philip Walczak  
 Jake Zier

## 2016 Academic All-Pac-12 Teams

In order to be recognized as a PAC-12 All Academic athlete the student must maintain a 3.0 GPA and row in at least half of the team's regular season events.

### Men's 1st Team

Eric Benca  
 Guglielmo Carcano  
 Graham Henry  
 Luke Khoury  
 Harrison King  
 Arne Landboe  
 Jernej Markovc  
 Lia Roberds  
 Philip Walczak  
 Jake Zier

### Women's 1st Team

Hannah Allen  
 Eliza Dawson  
 Eleni Englert  
 Anouschka Fenley  
 Charlotte Kehoe  
 Phoebe Spoors  
 Jennifer Wahleithner  
 Vanessa Whattam

### Men's 2nd Team

Oscar Golberg  
 Luca Lovisolo  
 Andre Mattus  
 Finn Schroeder  
 Pietro Zileri Dal Verme

### Women's 2nd Team

Allison Barstow  
 Melanie Barstow  
 Sophia Dalton  
 Margaret Phillips  
 Jalyn Stinardo  
 Courtney Thompson



### Pac-12 Co-Newcomer of The Year

Washington's Katy Gillingham was named the Pac-12 Women's Co-Newcomer of the Year. Gillingham, a freshman from Seattle's Holy Names Academy, rowed in Washington's varsity eight for the majority of her first season with the Huskies. Last summer, along with fellow Husky and high school classmate Marlee Blue, Gillingham won a gold medal in the women's four at the 2015 World Rowing Junior Championships in Brazil.



# Hot Summer for Washington Rowing



## Rio Olympics

Four Husky rowers earned a spot on the podium this summer in Rio with Katelin Snyder, '09, and Kerry Simmonds, '11, bringing home gold in the women's 8, Patricia Obee, '14, earned a silver medal for Canada in the lightweight women's double sculls and Danielle Hansen won a silver medal in the United States leg, trunk and arms mixed four with coxswain at the Paralympic Games.

The United States women won their 11th consecutive major regatta – World Championships and Olympics – a streak that dates back to 2006. Snyder had coxed four of those World Champion crews, while Simmonds rowed in two, but both were competing in their first Olympics. There has been at least one Husky in all 11 of those championship crews.

In the women's gold-medal race, Canada started out in the lead but by 1,500 meters, the Americans were six seats in front of the second-place Canadians and moving well. While other crews battled for silver and bronze medals, the U.S. shell maintained nearly a boat-length lead across the finish line, while the British edged

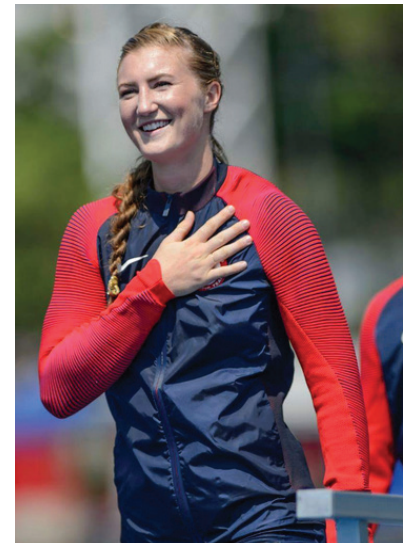
Romania in a photo finish for the silver. The Americans won the gold in 6:01.490.

Patricia Obee and fellow Victoria, BC product Lindsay Jennerich made a late dash in the final 500 meter of the women's lightweight double sculls to earn second behind the Netherlands and followed by China.

At the Paralympics Dani Hansen, from Patterson, Calif., and her American four finished the 1,000-meter course in 3:19.61, 2.44 seconds behind gold medalist Great Britain. Hansen's crew led after the first 250 meters, but the Brits moved ahead and Canada won bronze.

The US men's eight, featured UW alums Sam Ojserkis, '12, Sam Dommer, '13, Rob Munn, '12, and Hans Struzyna, '11, missed the podium by one position. Conlin McCabe, '11, and Will Crothers, '09, rowed for Canada in the men's four, finishing sixth in their final.

U.S. Olympic team veterans Adrienne Martelli, '10, and Megan Kalmoe, '06, were both named to the quad sculls lineup, where they took fifth.



Top: Katelin Snyder, '09, and Kerry Simmonds, '11, brought home gold in Rio in the women's 8. Above: Dani Hansen took home silver in the LTA mixed 4 at the Paralympic Games. Photos: USRowing.

## U-23 Championships

There were 17 Huskies who saw action on the water at the World Rowing Under 23 Championships in Rotterdam. Plenty of them helped dock their boats on the podium. Sarah Dougherty, '16, kicked things off, winning a championship in the women's four for the USA.

In the single sculls B final, American Ben Davison led wire-to-wire to earn a win. In the men's coxless four B final, Husky Luca Lovisolo and his Italian crew finished second, surging from fourth place at the 1,500-meter mark. In the men's coxed four A final, an all-UW American crew of Rielly Milne, Sean Kelly, Ezra Carlson, Arne Landboe and Sam Pettet finished in sixth place, with New Zealand taking the gold medal.

Dougherty wasn't done yet, she would go on to claim gold with the women's 8 the next day. Husky teammate



Viktor Pivac, third from right, representing Serbia along with partner Martin Mackovic, led wire-to-wire to earn the gold medal in the men's pair. Photo: USRowing.

Anna Thornton taking silver in the same event. Viktor Pivac won the men's pair and Michiel Mantel won the men's eight.

At the Senior World Championships former Washington rower Fiona Gammond, '15, won a gold medal in the Great Britain women's four, wrapping up a strong week for UW alumni at the World Rowing Championships in Rotterdam.

# Olympic Profiles: Kerry Simmonds and Rob Munn

**W**ashington Rowing women's head coach Yaz Farooq is no stranger to the Olympics Games. She coxed the U.S. women's eights at the 1992 and 1996 Olympics and worked as a rowing commentator for NBC's Olympic broadcasts in Sydney 2000, Athens 2004, Beijing 2008 and London 2012. In Rio, she was a researcher for former UW coxswain Mary Whipple, '02, who served in her first year as a rowing broadcaster during the Games.

In Rio, Farooq caught up with Rob Munn, '12, who rowed in the U.S. men's eight that took fourth. She also talked to U.S. women's eight gold medalist Kerry Simmonds, '11, about her Olympic experience.

## Kerry Simmonds

**Hometown:** San Diego, CA

**USRowing Teams:** Senior 2013-16;

U-23 2010-11

**UW Major:** Biology

**Personal:** Basketball, making/editing home videos and finding new music

**Yaz Farooq: Can you tell us about earning a seat in the US women's eight and what it was like going into the Olympics with the pressure of the 11-year undefeated streak weighing on you?**

**Kerry Simmonds:** It's really fun every summer when a boat gets named and you're in it. You know you have a seat and you're finally "boatmates." The stress of competing against each other is gone, and it becomes all about, "How fast can we make this boat go?" Then the hard work becomes a lot of fun. The hype around the 11-year streak was there. Honestly, it was more pressure than I thought it would be, but it also brought a lot of recognition to the sport. Internally, you're thinking, "Everyone on our team deserves that recognition," but in the end, the fact that it brought more attention to women's rowing was really cool.

**YF: What's your favorite Olympic memory from Rio?**

**KS:** By far, being on the medals podium and seeing my family's faces and making eye contact with each of them and having a moment there. I was extremely



Kerry Simmonds and the US Women's 8 took the gold in Rio.

Photo by Benoit Cortet.

*"You're not just a Husky when you're there,  
you're a Husky for life!"*

*- Kerry Simmonds, '11*

emotional. I didn't realize I would be so overwhelmed by it. I had nine people there. Being able to look at them and them at me recognizing and sharing how awesome that moment was. Looking back, I am incredibly thankful for the journey. There were a lot of ups and downs, especially this last year for me with injury.

There were times I didn't think I would be able to pull myself out of this hole. My family kept reminding me about the journey, whether the destination takes you to the Olympics or not. I'm incredibly thankful for having a family that did not put any extra pressure on me. I'd hope that I could be that way with my kids.

**YF: Why have so many walk-ons at UW been so successful at the NCAA's and the Olympics?**

**KS:** So many generations have built this amazing culture, with walk-ons being a huge part of the program. I went in without expectations, and then you just start to build



them as you go, which I think is healthy. We were so well integrated. There is such a tradition with UW rowing. I remember feeling more a part of the school because of wearing the W. It's a huge honor. We looked at those who came before us, and now there's "The Boys in the Boat" building it up even more. Rowing at UW is a big deal and I appreciated that people treated us that way. The alumni network now is so awesome. Our coaches stayed in touch with us even after we graduated. You're not just a Husky when you're there, you're a Husky for life!

**YF: Kerry is currently pondering her rowing future. If she retires as a competitor, she is considering coaching. I made sure to let her know that the door at Conibear is wide open either way!**

## Rob Munn

**Hometown:** Redmond, WA

**USRowing Teams:** Senior 2013-16;  
U-23 2010-12; Junior 2008

**UW Major:** Political Science with a  
Minor in History

**Personal:** Eagle Scout

**Yaz Farooq: How did training at Washington help you prepare for the Olympics?**

**Rob Munn:** The biggest thing was that the environment at UW was so competitive. Every day you were fighting for your seat. Practices were tough. You were expected to excel every day. You were expected to perform in school. For national team, it's training without the school, but you need to bring that mental attitude every day. You can spend three years working hard without seeing where you're going before you have a breakthrough. Having the right kind of work ethic here helped me stay focused there, and was the biggest thing for me personally.

**YF: What was your favorite Olympic memory from Rio?**

**RM:** I got to watch the U.S. women win the bronze medal in beach volleyball. They had just come off of a tough match before that in the semis (against Brazil) and

to see them come back and play for a medal against the Netherlands was really cool. We had met them during Olympic processing on our way to Rio, so getting to see them do that was pretty awesome.

**YF: What is your biggest takeaway from the experience?**

**RM:** When you cross the finish line you think about all the work that it took to get there. Everyone's journey is different, but it's a very emotional moment, especially when you get fourth and you were trying to get on the podium. It's a pretty overwhelming feeling, but you also remember the support of Husky Nation and your family and your friends and it all comes rolling in at that moment. I had the opportunity to represent my country and compete on the highest stage in the world of rowing and I got to do that. Now I'm taking some time to relax in Seattle. I could come back and row again, or I could go into the workforce. Whatever I plan, I know I need to stick to it.

**YF: What's your favorite UW memory?**

**RM:** Winning the IRA's in 2012 was a pretty big highlight for me. I had been in the V8, but never for the IRA, and we won and we set the course record on the Cooper River. That was a very special memory for me and for all the guys in the boat.

**YF: You love the Mariners, so what should every Seattle fan know about them?**

**RM:** They should know about this young closer Edwin Diaz. He's going to be an exciting player for the team. I hope they keep him around for a while!



Rob Munn worked year after year to earn a spot on the US team for Rio 2016. Photo by Benoit Cortet.

# The Boys of '36

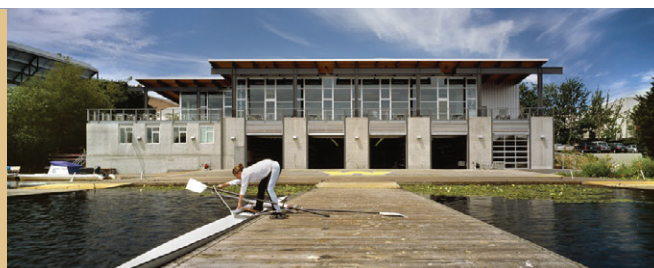
*Exclusive interview with the producers*



**"T**he Boys of '36," a PBS American Experience documentary that debuted this summer, details the story of the Washington crew that won gold at the 1936 Olympics. We caught up with producers Mary Carillo and Margaret Grossi to get a behind-the-scenes look at the making of the film. Carillo was recently in Rio covering the Olympics for NBC. She provides her unique perspective here.

## Boathouse Tours

Experience the unique opportunity of a guided tour through Conibear Shellhouse. Tours are led by Washington Rowing alum Melanie Barstow, '16, and specifically focus on the history and legacy of the team of 1936, highlighted in Daniel James Brown's book, *The Boys in the Boat*. Tours are offered on Sundays from 12 p.m. – 1 p.m. For more information and to purchase tickets go to [www.washingtonrowing.com](http://www.washingtonrowing.com).





**Q. How did this documentary come together? When did you first see this project for what it could be?**

**Margaret Grossi:** Mark Samels, the executive producer of American Experience, had seen some of the documentary work that Mary and I and our team had done in the past and he got in touch and asked us to read this very popular book called *The Boys in the Boat*. I read the first few chapters, put the book down for a second and thought—this is a screenplay. I immediately got into it and started to think about how to tell the story visually.

**Q. This story resonates with everyone, not just rowers. Why is that?**

**Mary Carillo:** The story resonates far beyond the rowing community because it so well captures the tenor and character of the time. Margaret (Grossi) rightly describes how the effort made by these boys and by Al Ulbrickson and George Pocock almost made her feel wistful, because during a very difficult time in America they all were motivated and measured by the things that truly matter in life - lofty goals, team work, trust, resilience, friendship.



On location at Conibear Shellhouse last October, from left to right—Samson Chan, Margaret Grossi and Mary Carillo—captured footage of the current UW crew for the film. Photo: Helen R. Russell

**Q. From what you have learned about the current Washington Rowing program, what are the parallels with the '36 crew?**

**MG:** From what I've observed, the work ethic is the same. Rowing is such a beautiful sport but I've learned that it takes an enormous amount of physical and mental energy. For me, the most impressive part of the whole deal is the ability of these men and women to give up thinking about their individual selves and trust their teammates. That's tough in most sports, in any era, but in rowing you'll fail if you can't do that.

**Q. As a former professional tennis player and someone close to the Olympic experience, what athlete are you drawn to in this story?**

**MC:** The athlete I'm most drawn to is Don Hume—a singular talent who had to overcome serious medical issues and did—and who was so vital a part of the team that, quite literally, everyone else in the boat had his back. Those kind of athletes can be found in every Olympic Games, and they are the stories that resonate most with me.

**Q. The footage used in the film is phenomenal. Where did you get it?**

**MG:** We got some great footage from the UW Archives.

We also got some amazing footage from the Ulbrickson Family Collection, brought to us by UW rowing alum, Lenville O'Donnell. Really, the entire community pitched in—family members and friends of the '36 crew—and then it was a matter of some very hard work on the part of our archival producers—making calls to various archives, digging it all out. We also shot original footage of the current UW team in Union Bay for most of a day last October.

**Q: What similarities did you see with the Rio Olympics and the Berlin Olympics with regards to rowing, if any?**

**MC:** The Rio Games continued to add luster to the dynastic US women's eight, which was a tremendous thing to see. Boy, they were impressive, and they seem like a great bunch, too. We immediately started calling the gold medal champions *The Girls in the Boat*.

**Q: In the book, Joe Rantz assumes the role of main character. In the film, we get to know coxswain Bob Moch. How did you decide to emphasize Moch and the role of the**

**coxswain?**

**MG:** When we were framing the story we came to understand pretty quickly that we were going to concentrate on Joe Rantz, Don Hume and Bobby Moch, because those three were so vital to the success of the crew. Bobby's smarts, guts and personal power truly helped to propel both the boat and our story.

**Q: George Pocock is central to the story. What made him so special?**

**MC:** George Pocock was an artist, a craftsman, a poet, and a gentle soul. He must have been a source of comfort to everyone in that boathouse. He loved his work and he seemed to live his life with great grace. He was my favorite person in the story.

**Q: What surprised you most when making the film?**

**MG:** I think what surprised us both was the tremendous outpouring of help that we got along the way - from the University of Washington, Daniel James Brown, from relatives and the rowing community. It made this project something very special.

## How to Watch *The Boys of '36*

Members of local PBS stations can access the film online at <http://www.pbs.org/show/american-experience/>. It is also available on iTunes and Shoppbs.org.

## Coaching Updates

Josh Gautreau, Melisa Ongun and Colin Sykes have been named to the Washington's women's rowing coaching staff. Gautreau comes to the UW from the University of Virginia and will serve as the Huskies' lead recruiter. Ongun joins the Husky program after having worked on the staff at Michigan, where she was a standout rower, while Sykes returns to his alma mater, where he'd previously rowed and served as an assistant coach for both the men's and women's teams.

"We're very fortunate to have assembled a staff that brings so much coaching and recruiting expertise to the UW," women's head coach Yaz Farooq said. "All of



Josh Gautreau



Melisa Ongun



Colin Sykes

us are committed to helping this team achieve its full potential."

Gautreau was an assistant coach at Virginia for the past five years. During his tenure, crews he coached medaled at four of the last five NCAA Championships. Recent achievements include coaching the varsity four to a national title in 2015 and the second varsity eight to bronze in 2014.

Ongun completed her outstanding career as a rower at Michigan in 2013. In 2009, she was named the Big Ten Freshman of the Year and finished her tenure with the Wolverines as a Pocock All-America first-team selection in 2013. Since completing her undergraduate and master's degrees, she's worked in the UM program and coached the U.S. junior national team selection camp.

Sykes lettered at Washington in 1990 and 1992, winning Pac-10 titles in the varsity eight in each of those years. He went on to serve as an intern coach for the Washington men's program from 2003 to 2007, coaching Husky fours to Intercollegiate Rowing Association championships six times. In 2008, he moved into a coaching job with the Washington women, coaching the varsity four to the NCAA title that year.

"Colin bleeds purple and is one of the most experienced and respected assistant coaches in the country," Farooq said.

## O'Connell Named Senior Associate Director of Athletics

Director of Athletics Jennifer Cohen announced the hiring of Senior Associate Director of Athletics Erin O'Connell, '96. O'Connell, who will fill the vacant Senior Woman Administrator position at the University of Washington, has been serving as the President and Chair of the U.S. Rowing Board of Directors since 2014. A UW graduate and former Husky rowing team coxswain, captain and coach, O'Connell was the Director of Athletics at Seattle Pacific

University from 2009-2015.

"Erin has over 20 years of professional experience in athletics, has served as an athletic director, and - perhaps most importantly - has a deep, deep understanding of this place and what it takes to be successful here," Cohen said. "Her commitment to excellence and drive to support students and coaches at the highest level will be a terrific fit within our organizational culture, and I'm thrilled to welcome her back to UW."



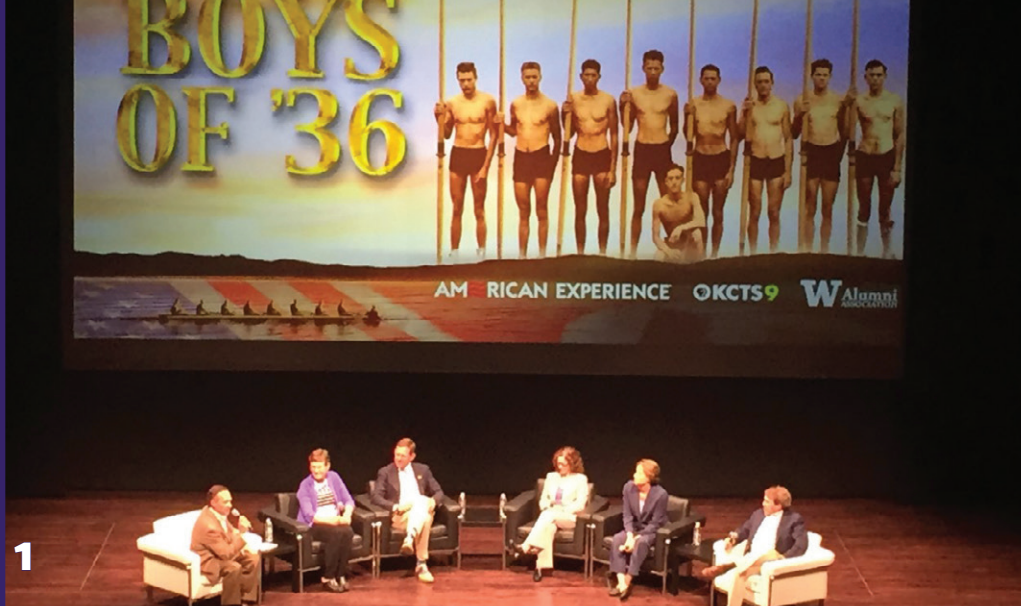
Erin O'Connell



## "Hello Dawg Fans" Shell Dedication

The "Hello Dawg Fans" shell, named for former UW stadium announcer and rower Lou Gellermann, '58, was dedicated in July. The memorial ceremony was attended by several 1958 classmates. Gellermann would greet Husky fans with a bellowing "Hello, Dawg fans" at the beginning of each event he announced. The fans would often reply with a heartfelt "Hello, Lou!"





# Out & About



**1.** Eric Cohen, '82, (left) moderated a panel discussion following the premier of The Boys of '36 film at Meany Hall in July. Panelists include from left to right: former UW women's rowing head coach Jan Harville, UW men's rowing head coach Michael Callahan, producers Mary Carillo and Margaret Grossi, and Boys in the Boat author Daniel James Brown. **2.** Noelle Broom, '08, Tristine Drennan, '97, Erin O'Connell, '96, and Sophia Dalton, '16, gathered at coach Yaz Farooq's welcoming party. **3.** Cynthia Biles, '88, Trudy Ockenden Taylor, '88, Sarah Lopez, Liese Hendrie Rajesh, '85, and Eleanor McElvaine, '85 were also in attendance at Yaz's party. **4.** Yaz Farooq, Anna Mickelson Cummins, '02, Betsy Beard Stiilings, '83 and Jan Harville, '74, at Yaz's party. **5.** Husky alums Alex Bunkers, '13, Kelsey Jackson, '13, and Maddie Cordner, '14, cheered on their former teammates in Rio. **6.** Amy and Dan Ojserkis (left) and Jay and Jan Snyder, parents of U.S. coxswains, Sam Ojserkis, '12, and Katelin Snyder, '09, connected in Rio during the Summer Games. **7.** Trevor Vernon, '92, (left) and Fred Fox, '76, participated in RAMROD (Ride Around Mt. Rainier in One Day) 2016 in July.



# 2016-17 Washington Rowing Schedule

EVENT	DATE	LOCATION
Head of the Charles	October 22-23   All Day	Boston, MA
Head of the American (w)	October 29   8am	Rancho Cordova, CA – Lake Natoma
Head of the Lake	November 6   8am	Seattle, WA – Montlake Cut
Head of the Lagoon (w)	November 13   9am	Foster City, CA
Turkey Trot	November 18   4pm	Seattle, WA – Conibear Shellhouse
Women's Brunch	February 4	Seattle, WA – Conibear Shellhouse
Stewards All-Call Meeting	February 8	Seattle, WA – Conibear Shellhouse
National Champion Donor Breakfast	February 25	Seattle, WA – Conibear Shellhouse
VBC Banquet	March 24   6pm	Seattle, WA – Don James Center
Class Day Regatta	March 25   10am	Seattle, WA – Montlake Cut
Husky Open	April 1   8am	Seattle, WA – Montlake Cut
Pac-12 Invite (w)	April 1-2   7am	Redwood Shores, CA
WSU (m)	April 8   9am	Lewiston, ID – Snake River
OSU (m/w)	April 8   9am	Dexter Lake, OR
Stanford (m)	April 15   9am	Redwood Shores, CA
Cal Dual	April 22   9am	Seattle, WA – Montlake Cut
WSU Dual (w)	April 29   9am	Lewiston, ID – Snake River
Windermere Cup/Opening Day	May 6   10:20am	Seattle, WA – Montlake Cut
Pacific Coast Rowing Championships (m/w)	May 13	Rancho Cordova, CA – Lake Natoma
Pac-12 Championships (m/w)	May 14	Rancho Cordova, CA – Lake Natoma
NCAA Championships (w)	May 26-28	Mercer Lake, NJ
IRA National Championships (m)	June 2-4	Lake Natoma, CA

**[www.WashingtonRowing.com](http://www.WashingtonRowing.com)**

For more information on receiving SWEEP, to submit story ideas or to update your personal contact info contact Sandy Erickson at [sericksn@uw.edu](mailto:sericksn@uw.edu) or 206.543.1117.