BUSINESS

JOHN CARDINAL O’HARA SOCIETY

2019-2020 Impact Report
Year in and year out, Mendoza alumni and friends show their commitment and loyalty to Our Lady’s University through their membership in the O’Hara Society.

Our members care deeply about the next generation of Notre Dame business leaders and the experiences and opportunities they have while at the Mendoza College of Business.

The generosity of O’Hara members is nothing short of inspirational. In the challenging times that have stemmed from the COVID-19 pandemic and economic downturn, members have come together to ensure that Dean Cremers is able to continue advancing the mission of the College and that our graduate business students are able to afford their education.

You’ve also helped expand the experiential learning opportunities for many students, giving them real-world experience and skills that will help in their career search while also reinforcing the power of business to be a force for good in communities.

On behalf of the many students you have benefited through your membership — thank you. This year more than ever, your commitment and ardent support has made a world of difference. Know that we are continually grateful for your impact on the Mendoza College of Business and on the lives of the students who study and grow here.

The O’Hara Society Team
This year, nearly 40% of MBA students appealed for additional financial assistance. Gifts from O’Hara members helped meet that need.

Songee Barker ’22 MBA

Being the daughter of an ND alum, the love of Notre Dame was instilled early in me. The first time I saw campus after my cross country road trip to start my newest Notre Dame journey as an MBA student I experienced a flood of the same nervous emotions I used to as a young girl. But soon after the rush of nerves passed the reality sank in that I have the opportunity to study here and truly be a part of the Notre Dame family. It is still surreal to be on campus. I try to find time to walk down to the grotto and around the lakes at least once a week and the overwhelming sense of gratitude, pride, and joy that I experienced stepping on campus as a student for the first time has yet to subside, I imagine it never will. Thank you for your continued support of the Notre Dame graduate business students, a huge part of the Notre Dame appeal is the community and you are a large part of what makes it so special.
Claudia Santa Cruz, a native of Lima, Peru, has always been interested in business. After receiving her bachelor’s degree in Business Administration from the Universidad del Pacifico, she worked full-time in consulting while also starting her own business. Looking for MBA programs to continue honing her skills, Claudia was connected by Mendoza to a Peruvian student who was currently enrolled in the MBA program. Hooked by the contagious passion from that one meeting (and after a compulsory viewing of Rudy), Claudia was determined to come to Notre Dame, although she wasn’t sure how she would be able to finance her education.

Upon receiving her acceptance to Mendoza’s two-year MBA program, Claudia says “you can’t even imagine how happy” she was. Thankfully, gifts from O’Hara members gave her the financial assistance she needed to make the program feasible for her. Her happiness was multiplied when her then-boyfriend, Oscar Shimabukuro, ’21 MBA, was also accepted into the program. During Welcome Weekend, they even got engaged at the Grotto.

“I have no words to describe how grateful I feel. What O’Hara members are doing for MBA students is incredible and I just want to say thank you very much from the bottom of my heart. You are helping so many students achieve their goals.”
Rory Kelly ’11, ’21 MBA

Rory Kelly of Omaha, Nebraska knew while he was an undergraduate at Notre Dame that he wanted to serve in the military. He was commissioned as an officer in the Marine Corp in May 2011 and spent his next eight years all over the world, including a tour in the Middle East. When he was ready to make a lifestyle change with his then-fiance, who was finishing her Mendoza MBA, Rory applied to Notre Dame for the second time in his life and was admitted.

He began the two-year MBA program in August 2019. Whether it was getting married during his first week of classes or going through the loss of his father-in-law, Rory says the Notre Dame family has always supported him. “When you come to Notre Dame, you come here for the program and the people.” That community support extended to financial assistance, which Rory received in part due to O’Hara Society gifts, making his decision to return to Notre Dame much easier.

As the President of the MBA Veterans Club, Rory does his own share of giving back, often speaking with service members or veterans about Mendoza’s programs.

“I’m always happy to advocate for Notre Dame because this place has been so good to me.”
Membership Experiences

Members of the O’Hara Society make critical investments in Notre Dame’s graduate business students. These member experiences are our way of thanking you throughout the year.

VIRTUAL ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES
O’Hara Society members receive invitations to virtual events all year, from the Here Come the Irish Football Show, to livestreams with University leadership, to engaging talks with Mendoza faculty and alumni. Keep up to date with happenings around the College with our monthly O’Hara Society newsletter. New this academic year, members can enjoy casual networking and share insight with graduate business students via Zoom with O’Hara Coffee Chats!

FOOTBALL TICKET & PARKING PASS LOTTERIES
Increase your odds in the Notre Dame Football ticket and parking lotteries. The parking lottery is exclusive to O’Hara Blue, O’Hara Gold, and Dean’s Leadership Circle members.

EXCLUSIVE FOOTBALL WEEKEND EVENTS
We look forward to being able to welcome members back to our exclusive football weekend events on campus, such as the Wake Up the Echoes Kickoff Party and Shake Down the Thunder! Tailgate. O’Hara members also receive preferred entry and special perks at the Mendoza Alumni Tailgate.

ONWARDND CONCIERGE SERVICE
Notre Dame has an exclusive concierge hotline for Giving Society members. Call anytime and get answers to all your Notre Dame-related questions from dedicated staff and current students.

PERSONALIZED MEMBERSHIP CARD
Spend less at your favorite spots through the on-campus discounts that come with your personalized O’Hara Society membership card.
## Giving Levels

Each level of membership in the O’Hara Society impacts Notre Dame graduate business students in critical ways, from financial aid to experiential learning. Thank you for giving the gift of Notre Dame!

### O’HARA ASSOCIATE  Classes of ‘16–’20

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### DEAN’S LEADERSHIP CIRCLE

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For more information visit [giveto.nd.edu/ohara](http://giveto.nd.edu/ohara).
Thank You

MAKE A GIFT ONLINE AT:
GO.ND.EDU/GIVEOHARA
OR CALL 574-631-5198