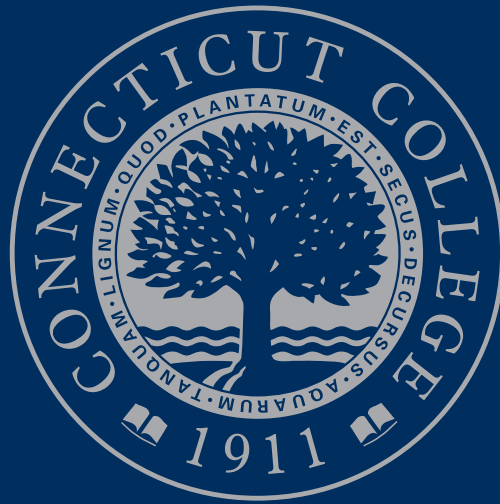


CONNECTICUT COLLEGE



SENIOR ATHLETIC BANQUET

Tuesday, May 18, 2021
Dayton Arena

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THE AWARDS

The Andrew H. Chait Service Award

The Andrew H. Chait Award was established in 1986 by Andrew H. Chait '82 to honor a member of the College community who has shown outstanding service and commitment to the Connecticut College Department of Athletics.

2021 Recipient: CC Curtiss (Wellbeing & Health)

The Erica M. Bos Award

The Erica M. Bos '92 Award was established in 1990 to honor an athlete whose courage, motivation, and relentless determination serve as an inspiration to others.

2021 Recipient: Bryan Ackil (Ice Hockey)

The Brown/Brooks Award

Established by the class of 1984, the Brown/Brooks Award is given to the outstanding male and female student-athletes who best represent the graduating class in scholarship, leadership, and sportsmanship. The award is named after its first recipients, Tammy Brown '84 and Jim Brooks '84.

*2021 Recipients: Stephania Lopez (Water Polo), Liam Donelan (Soccer),
& Brett Stirling (Ice Hockey)*

The Anita L. DeFrantz Award

The Anita L. DeFrantz Award was established in 1995 by Kathryn Smith '84. It is given annually to the male and female members of the graduating class whose athletic ability, leadership, and sportsmanship best exemplify the qualities of Olympic medalist Anita L. DeFrantz '74.

*2021 Recipients: Meredith Cronin (Cross Country, Track & Field)
& AJ Marcucci (Soccer)*

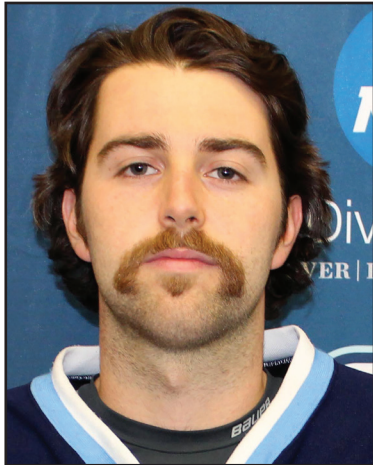


CC CURTISS
Wellbeing & Health

CC Curtiss serves as the Director of Wellbeing and Health Promotion at Connecticut College. In this position, she plays an active and vital role in advancing health promotion on campus.

During these unprecedented times, Curtiss has gone above and beyond the call of duty to keep the entire student body and our student-athletes safe during the pandemic. Her all-around support, as well as her integral role with contact tracing, has helped all of our athletic programs navigate COVID-19 and maximize the amount of opportunities they could practice and compete against outside competition this year.

Curtiss, who has been with the College since 2005, holds a Bachelor's degree in kinesiology from the University of Colorado at Boulder and a Master's of Education from Springfield College.



BRYAN ACKIL

Ice Hockey

Bryan Ackil is an international relations major with a German studies minor. Even though he suffered a concussion in December of his sophomore year that ended his collegiate career, it did not deter him from making the most of his experience with the Connecticut College men's ice hockey team.

Recognized as a leader on campus, Ackil was a member of the REAL staff, spent a summer abroad in Germany, and most recently completed an internship with the American Consulate in Dusseldorf, Germany. He also achieved Dean's High Honors, earned a John S. King Scholarship, and been named a Presidential Scholar. In addition, he was awarded the German Consulate Book Prize.

Ackil was a key member of the team's leadership group, ran the defense on the bench, broke down video, organized the team's social media channels, and worked with the goaltenders. His help as a student assistant coach was instrumental to the program's success over the past two seasons. Furthermore, he has organized an alumni mentor program where he matches players with alumni for career advice and support.

Upon graduation, Ackil will be starting a job as a research analyst with Business Intelligence Advisors in Boston.



STEPHANIA LOPEZ

Water Polo

Stephania Lopez, who carries a 3.76 cumulative grade point average, will leave behind a lasting legacy for her efforts in the pool, the classroom, and the entire Connecticut College community.

The scholar-athlete and three-year captain has been named an Association of Collegiate Water Polo Coaches (ACWPC) Division III All-America Second Team selection three times as a driver. She led the Camels in scoring all four years, which included finding the back of the net nine times as a senior.

A Dean's High Honors student, Lopez has been heavily involved with campus life. She is a PICA scholar and a wellbeing Coach for the Office of Wellbeing and Health Promotion. Furthermore, Lopez has helped the athletic department as a front desk monitor and with sports information.

Lopez is also the co-founder and first-ever president of the Connecticut College Athletes of Color Coalition (CCACC). In addition to advocating for the group, she has organized meetings and events, engaged with other NESCAC Coalitions, and she has served as a liaison between the Coalition and the Conn administration. Through these experiences, she has been able to bridge the gap between BIPOC athletes on different sports teams and create a space for athletes of color to connect and support one another.

A native of Chicago, Lopez will earn her degree in behavioral neuroscience and plans to pursue a Master's in Public Health and Physician Assistant Studies after graduation.



LIAM DONELAN

Soccer

Liam Donelan, who graduated early in December 2020 with a cumulative GPA above a 3.6, anchored one of the most impenetrable defenses in the country on the pitch over the past three seasons of competition.

Donelan, who also captained the program for two years, was the leader of the Camels' back line since his arrival on campus. He made 53 starts and was named a United Soccer Coaches All-New England Region selection as well as an All-NESCAC First Team honoree twice.

In 2018, Donelan and the Camel defense only surrendered five goals all season before allowing one goal or less 15 times and shutting out 11 opponents during the team's magical run to the Elite Eight round of the NCAA Tournament a year later. Furthermore, he showed his versatility by providing an offensive spark with seven goals and two assists for 16 career points.

Donelan earned his bachelor's degree in international relations and will begin his professional career as a financial analyst for Fidelity Investments in Boston after graduation.



BRETT STIRLING

Ice Hockey

Brett Stirling, an economics major who has produced a 3.91 cumulative grade point average, was one of the men's ice hockey program's top defenders and team leaders over the past four seasons.

A native of Aurora, Ontario, Stirling has been a three-time American Hockey Coaches Association (ACHA) All-American Scholar to date and highly visible through campus life by serving as a student tutor and a member of REAL staff. Within the program, he was an assistant captain during his junior season and a co-captain as a senior.

On the ice, Stirling finished his career with 29 points on six goals and 23 assists while helping the Camels register six shutouts as a key member of the defense. This past winter as a captain, he matched a team high with six assists and helped the program register an unbeaten 4-0-1 ledger in countable games. He also had a career-best three assists in a 7-1 rout of Becker and was an important factor on the team's blue line when the team earned a 2-1 victory over top-ranked Norwich on his Senior Day.

Following graduation, Stirling will begin his professional career teaching and coaching at The Winchendon School and hopes to eventually pursue a law degree.



MEREDITH CRONIN

Cross Country, Track & Field

Meredith Cronin will graduate as one of the best distance runners the Camel cross country and track & field programs have seen in decades.

Cronin made an immediate impact as the cross country team's top runner in her first year—finishing first on the team at every meet—and took off from there. In her final race, she became the first Camel in 18 years to garner All-America laurels at the 2019 NCAA Championships by making a 15-spot jump in the last 2,000-meters to place 33rd overall. In addition, Cronin was named an All-New England Region selection twice and an All-NESCAC First Team honoree as well.

On the track, Cronin garnered All-America recognition in the 5,000-meter run after breaking the school record and qualifying for the 2020 NCAA Indoor Track & Field Championships. She also ranks second in the program annals in the 3,000 and 10th in the Mile indoors.

Outdoors, Cronin anchored the distance medley relay team, which smashed the school record that stood unchallenged for 31 years by 28 seconds this spring. She will end her career ranked among the program's top 10 in the 3,000- and 5,000-meter runs.

A biology major who is also enrolled in the Public Health Pathway, Cronin will begin her professional career as a patient care associate at New England Baptist Hospital after graduation.



AJ MARCUCCI

Soccer

AJ Marcucci graduated in December 2020 as the most decorated student-athlete in the 45-year history of the Connecticut College men's soccer program. He became the first NCAA Division III men's soccer player to be a MLS Superdraft selection since 2016. He was picked in the third round and 67th overall by the New York Red Bulls this past January.

As a Camel, Marcucci started in 54 of the team's 55 matches between 2017 and 2019 and helped the team post a combined 35-10-9 ledger in that span. He finished his career with a school-record 25 career shutouts to go along with an .887 save percentage and a school-record 0.50 goals against average.

For his efforts, Marcucci earned a place on the NCAA All-America First Team as the nation's top Division III goalkeeper twice by both the United Soccer Coaches and D3soccer.com. He was also named the 2017 NESCAC Rookie of the Year and the 2018 NESCAC Player of the Year.

Furthermore, Marcucci helped the men's soccer program become the institution's first sport to qualify for three straight NCAA Tournaments, which included being chosen to host the opening two rounds for the first time in school history in 2018 and advancing to the "Elite 8" at NCAAs in 2019.

An excellent student who has been recognized as a CoSIDA Academic All-District selection, Marcucci earned his degree in mathematics and has signed a USL Championship contract with New York Red Bulls II.

CLASS OF 2021 SENIOR STUDENT-ATHLETES

Bryan Ackil – Ice Hockey
Jeff Allen – Basketball
Toby Almeida – Lacrosse
James Andrew – Squash
Rosendo Anguiano-Sainz – Track & Field
Mairi Anthony – Ice Hockey
Quentin Benedetto – Soccer
Finn Boed – Cross Country, Track & Field
Alex Bologna – Lacrosse
Denise Bonilla – Squash
Nick Botticelli – Ice Hockey
Brynn Campbell – Swimming
Molly Carabatsos – Squash
Ulas Cini – Water Polo
Sarah Clark – Track & Field
Matt Connolly – Lacrosse
Matt Creamer – Ice Hockey
Abbie Cronin – Lacrosse
Meredith Cronin –
 Cross Country, Track & Field
Spencer Crough –
 Cross Country, Track & Field
Meghan Cunningham – Lacrosse
Zak Danz – Tennis

Chukwudi Dikko Jr. – Basketball
Erin Dillon – Ice Hockey
Liam Donelan – Soccer
Billy Dreyer – Lacrosse
Nina Fazio – Lacrosse
Casey Freehill – Field Hockey
Caroline Ferro – Field Hockey
Shannon Finnegan – Soccer
Kelley Spy Frumer – Rowing
Noelle Giuliano – Squash
Clara Goldiner – Rowing
Brian Gould – Tennis
Zach Gustafson – Lacrosse
Brooklynn Hayes –
 Swimming, Water Polo
Tarvis Hintlian –
 Cross Country, Track & Field
Katie Howley – Volleyball
Elle Kass – Volleyball
Abby King – Field Hockey
Walter Komishane – Tennis
Tori Kretzmer – Soccer
Sydney Lamb – Track & Field
Rebecca LaPoint – Rowing

Continued next page >

CLASS OF 2021 SENIOR STUDENT-ATHLETES *(Cont.)*

Mazey Loomis – Lacrosse
Stephania Lopez – Water Polo
Chris MacKay – Soccer
AJ Marcucci – Soccer
Ian McAleer – Track & Field
Emily McCracken – Track & Field
Andi McGraw – Field Hockey
Tanner Michaelis – Water Polo
Daphne Michie – Rowing
Ethan Milsark –
 Cross Country, Track & Field
Justin Miranda – Soccer
Kyle Moss – Ice Hockey
Aliah Murray –
 Cross Country, Track & Field
Meghan Murray – Field Hockey
Sarah Nolan – Field Hockey
Liam Noonan – Soccer
Jared Nussbaum – Swimming
Austin Nwafor – Basketball
Justin Nwafor – Basketball
Julia O’Connell – Rowing
Cece Orcutt –
 Cross Country, Track & Field

Halle Paredes – Rowing
Katy Pelletier – Soccer
Riley Peragine –
 Cross Country, Track & Field
Greg Pezza – Ice Hockey
Zach Rivard – Track & Field
Michael Sarazen – Tennis
Alex Saucedo – Rowing
Jake Simon – Lacrosse
McKaela Simons – Volleyball
Donovan Soucy – Track & Field
Colin Spinney – Lacrosse
Minnie Stavis – Lacrosse
Brett Stirling – Ice Hockey
Jordyn Turin – Squash
Cassidy Vincent – Track & Field
Casey Walsh – Basketball
Julia Whelan – Rowing
Caitlyn Wilkin – Ice Hockey
Charlotte Williams – Sailing
Sheffy Williams – Track & Field
Noah Wills-Johnston –
 Basketball, Track & Field
Sam Zanelli – Lacrosse