



Ursuline Academy

Newest Members of Ursuline's Professional Community

Administration

In May, after a lengthy search, we were pleased to welcome **Cathy Solomon** as our Chief Enrollment Officer. A graduate of Providence College, Cathy has more than 35 years of experience in admissions and enrollment management at both the college and secondary school levels.

Melissa Richard joined our Business Office as our Controller in July. Also a graduate of Providence College, Melissa has held positions in finance in both the Needham and Medway school systems.

As we shared with much excitement this spring, **Sue Petrone** started at Ursuline in July as Ursuline's new principal. With over 30 years experience in leadership roles in independent schools, Sue brings a wealth of experience and a track record of successfully partnering with faculty while connecting with and educating students. She is also excited to be back in the classroom and will be teaching a forensics course this year.

Coming to us from Brown University where she was the Associate Director for Pre-College Campus Life, **Brittanny O'Meara** is our new Dean of Students. Brittanny received her Bachelors from Vanderbilt and her Masters in Education from Arizona State.

Ali Hodge has taken on the role of Assistant to the Head of School. Ali graduated from the University of Maine at Farmington with a degree in Community Health. Prior to joining Ursuline, she worked at a Montessori school for six years.

Faculty

Linda Matos DiLascio comes to our Theology department from Chaminade-Madonna College Preparatory school in Florida. Linda holds a B.A. from Barry College.

Jennifer Foster has joined our Theology Department and holds a B.A. in Liberal Studies from St. Anselm's College and a M.A. in Philosophy from Boston College. Having taught previously at the high school level, Jennifer comes to us from St. Bartholomew Parish in Needham where she served as the Director of Religious Education.

A native of New Mexico, **Jayne Franchini** has joined our Campus Ministry team and comes to us from Arlington Catholic High School where she taught Theology and served as a Campus Minister for the past

four years. Jayne holds a B.A. in History from Gonzaga University and an M.A. in Theological Studies from Boston College, where she is continuing her studies in a Spiritual Formation certificate program.

Our new Latin teacher, **Alexandra Galarza**, comes to Ursuline from the Rising Tide Charter School in Plymouth. With a B.A. in Classics from Smith College and an M.A. in Latin and Classical Humanities from the University of Massachusetts-Boston, Alexandra is eager to share her enthusiasm and passion for the Latin language and classical culture with our students.

We welcome **Linda Galasso** to our Mathematics department. Having taught for nearly 20 years, Linda was most recently on the faculty at the Montrose School and earned her B.A. at Bowling Green State University.

To our Fine Arts department, we welcome **Gabriella Laranjeira**, a recent graduate of Massachusetts College of Art and Design (MCAD) where she majored in Education. Gabby most recently did her student teaching at MCAD and Winchester High School.

Our World Language department is delighted to welcome **Elizabeth Murphy**. Elizabeth has been teaching Spanish both in the classroom and as a private tutor for 20 years. She earned her B.A. from the College of the Holy Cross and went on to receive her M.Ed from the University of Massachusetts-Boston.

Hanna Ng, joining our Science department, is a recent graduate of the University of Massachusetts-Amherst, where she received her B.A. in Astronomy and Physics.

New to our English department, **Katherine Sheehan** is a graduate of Wagner College in New York, where she received her B.A. in English. She went on to receive her M.A. from Boston College and has been teaching for the past five years in Newton.

Taking over as Director of Innovation and Design in the iHub is **Erika Uzmann**, who comes to us from the University of Rhode Island where she was the Manager of the Library and Scholarly Technology Labs. Erika has a B.F.A. from the Cleveland Institute of Art and an M.F.A. from Miami University/Ohio as well as a diverse background in metalsmithing and jewelry making.

Staff

We are thrilled to welcome **Elizabeth "Lilly" Higgins** in her new capacity as Admissions Associate. Lilly was one of four alumnae with us this past year who provided extra supervision and assistance throughout the school due to the pandemic. A 2016 Ursuline graduate, Lilly received her Bachelor's from Boston College where she is currently pursuing a Masters in Secondary Education.

Ilyse Rikleen is the newest counselor in our School and College Counseling Office, bringing with her nearly 10 years of experience in counseling work. Ilyse holds a B.A. in Human Development and Psychology as well as a M.A. in Mental Health Counseling from Boston College.