

Award recipients honored on Alumni Reunion Weekend

Alumni General Angela Salinas '76, Paul Raccanello '96, Pepe Gonzalez '02, and Gigi Gillard '06 '07 were recognized for their noteworthy and distinctive achievements through their work in their communities, professions, and endeavors April 22-24, at the annual Alumni Reunion Weekend at Dominican.

The honorees were introduced at the Alumni Awards Presentations, hosted by [Alumni Relations](#), on Saturday in the Garden Room in [Edgehill Mansion](#).

General Retired Salinas, who began her military career an enlisted U.S. Marine in 1974, received the 2016 Distinguished Alumni Award. General Salinas in 2006 became the first woman to command the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego and the Western Recruiting Region. She is the first Hispanic female to have been selected and promoted to the rank of Brigadier General and Major General.

Last May, General Salinas, who also was captain and point guard of the first women's basketball team at Dominican, [delivered the keynote address at Commencement](#).

Raccanello, now Dean of Students and Chief Student Affairs Officer at Dominican, received the 2016 Sister M. Aquinas Nimitz, O.P. Distinguished Service Award. He earned his Bachelors of Arts in Liberal Studies and his Master of Arts in Humanities (with an emphasis in Art History and Literature) from Dominican before earning his Doctorate of Education in Organization and Leadership from the University of San Francisco.

Gonzalez earned his teaching credential and degree in education in only four years of a five-year program at Dominican. He received the 2016 Lyons Distinguished Alumni Service Award. Gonzalez, past president of the Dominican Alumni Board, was presented the Most Outstanding Student Award at Commencement in 2002 before embarking on a teaching career. He is currently principal at Laurel Dell Elementary and Short Elementary Schools.

Gillard graduated from Dominican with two degrees: BA in Business in 2006 and MBA in Global Strategic Management in 2007. She received the 2016 Outstanding Recent Alumni Award. Gillard was assistant director of Alumni Relations at Dominican for five years before moving into her current position as donor steward and events coordinator in the UC Berkeley library development office.

For more information about the award winners or to RSVP for Alumni Weekend, including Saturday night's Ferry Boat Dance, follow this link: <http://bit.ly/1QEks55>

Reunion Weekend began on Friday in Edgehill Mansion with the 50th Anniversary Reunion Dinner honoring the Class of 1966. Cocktail hour began at 5 p.m. in Heritage Hall, followed by dinner at 6 p.m. in the Garden Room and a "Pub Night and DU Trivia" social at 7:30 p.m. in the Mayflower Pub in San Rafael.

On Saturday, morning Mass was observed in the St. Catherine Benincasa Chapel in Edgehill Mansion, followed by the Alumni Award presentation at the Garden Room and a champagne reception.

Reunion Weekend continued with the annual Anniversary Luncheon honoring DU classes ending in "1" and "6" in the Shield Room in the Caleruega Dining Hall at noon, followed by Class Photos at 1:45 p.m. and School Open House tours at 2 p.m.

Saturday's celebration ended with the Alumni Boat Dance on the Angel Island Tiburon Ferry at 7 p.m.

On Sunday, a Campus Ministry Celebration began with Mass at 11 a.m. in the St. Catherine Benincasa Chapel, followed by a light lunch and program in the Garden Room at Edgehill Mansion at noon.

April 18, 2016