

March 2017

Dear Dolphin Fans,

First and foremost, please join me in congratulating both our men's and women's basketball teams on their CUNYAC Tournament championships and NCAA Division III Tournament berths! It was the first time since 1983 that both of our basketball programs won CUNYAC Tournament titles in the same season and the first time ever that both teams advanced to the NCAA Tournament in the same year. On the men's side, it was our fourteenth championship in program history and first since 2013. On the women's side, it was our seventh title overall and first since 2005.

Led by senior Frank Schettino, our men's team won the regular season title outright with an undefeated 16-0 conference record and finished the season 21-7 overall. Our Dolphins defeated #4 Baruch in the semifinals and #2 CCNY in the championship game before falling to Swarthmore in the first round of the NCAA Tournament. Schettino had one of the best individual seasons in program history and was named ECAC Metro Player of the Year and CUNYAC Player of the Year. Additionally, Schettino garnered First Team NCAA Division III All-America honors by Hero Sports and Third Team All-America and First Team All-District selections by the National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC). Head coach Tony Petosa was named CUNYAC Coach of the Year.

Our women's team finished the regular season in third place with a 13-3 conference record and hosted the second round of the CUNYAC Tournament on campus at the CSI Sports & Recreation Center. Our Dolphins cruised past #6 John Jay in the second round and #2 Lehman in the semifinals before ultimately defeating #1 Brooklyn in the title game. Despite a first round loss to Christopher Newport in the first round of the NCAA Tournament, our team gained valuable experience. Junior standout Christina Pasaturo was named ECAC Metro Player of the Year and CUNYAC Player of the Year and recorded one of the most impressive individual seasons in school history. Head coach Tim Shanahan garnered CUNYAC Coach of the Year honors and led his program to a 22-6 overall record.

On Wednesday, May 10, we will honor our student-athletes for their exceptional academic and athletic achievements at our Annual Awards Banquet. The banquet will be held at The Vanderbilt at South Beach in Staten Island, New York. This is by far my favorite night of the year because it allows our student-athletes and their friends and family to gather together with our alumni and administration to celebrate the best moments of the year. To RSVP, please contact Salvatore Caruso at 718-982-3276 or salvatore.caruso@csi.cuny.edu.

The Barnes & Noble College Booksellers CSI Athletics Golf Outing will be held on Monday, May 15, at the Richmond County Country Club in Staten Island, New York. Your support will help ensure that our athletic department has the necessary resources to compete and provide key assistance for our operating budget. For more information and sponsorship opportunities, please click <u>here</u> or contact Anthony Avena at 718-982-3151 or anthony.avena@csi.cuny.edu.

As always, thank you for your continued support of CSI Athletics and I hope that you will join us at our upcoming events!

Go Dolphins!

Charles Gomes Director of Athletics, College of Staten Island

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## STUDENT-ATHLETE SPOTLIGHT



Earlier this year, the College of Staten Island's men's swimming and diving team successfully defended their conference crown and repeated as champions for a remarkable fourth year in a row. The margin of victory was the smallest in CUNYAC history and a moment that senior Christopher Pinto will never forget.

"My most memorable moment is definitely the fourth title," said Pinto. "I am very proud to have been a member of all four championship teams."

When Pinto is not in the pool or on the tennis court, he remains active in the community and organizes blood drives for the American Red Cross and fundraisers for the Military Heroes Campaign as President of the Kappa Sigma Fraternity. He has also been recognized for his sportsmanship and is a recipient of the Bill Cali/John Scrivani Sportsmanship Award. In the classroom, Pinto is a Macaulay Honors College and Teacher Education Honors Academy student and volunteers his time as a

mathematics tutor on campus.

"The competitive academic programs were a critical factor in my decision," Pinto said. "These programs offered the best education and training for my future career aspirations and attending CSI was the best decision of my life."

In less than two months, Pinto will join the CSI alumni community and believes that athletic alumni in particular should give back to the programs that provided them with so many opportunities and memories.

"One of the best aspects as a two-sport student-athlete was the privilege to travel on three different training trips to Florida," said Pinto. "Those trips were beyond worth it – not only from a training perspective, but from a team bonding perspective – and alumni donations made those trips possible. As athletic alumni, the next generation of Dolphins will directly benefit from all of our support."



Your generous support of The Dolphin Fund plays an integral role in our efforts to provide an elite student-athlete experience.

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