



Hall of Fame Selections Committee
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**Inter-Collegiate Sailing Association of North America
Hall of Fame Committee
2026 Annual Report**

To ICSA Board of Directors

The initial email call for nominations was emailed February 17, 2026, to all ICSA email lists with a deadline for nominations of March 30. On February 25 a notice was posted to ICSA Social Media regarding the nomination opportunity. On March 16, a deadline reminder message was sent to all ICSA email lists. On March 27, a last call email was sent. Nominations were initially closed March 30, 2026.

On March 31 in the morning an email nomination was received, begging for late acceptance. This has occurred for about 5 years now. They have been summarily refused, with almost six weeks of warning to get submissions in on time and a clear statement that late submissions will NOT be accepted. The nominator was thusly informed.

Surprisingly, on April 2, 2026 another nomination was submitted. After some email correspondence I learned the submitter used a link from an Instagram post to a form on the ICSA web page to submit the nomination. I had been informed by "Communications Committee" there would be a "Social" post about nominations. I didn't see one, searched for one, didn't find one, and mistakenly determined the promised social media post did not occur. I was unaware there is an Instagram account for College Sailing, which, obviously, is how this path occurred. The submitter is not on any of the ICSA lists. Since the process for nominations had been moved up in the year based on requests by the ICSA Board, calls for nominations have been distributed on the ICSA lists. I did not know a Form had been placed on the web site; apparently this was a Communications Committee placement. The timing of nominations was changed two years ago; this form was not updated.

I waited until April 15, the old deadline, to see if further nominations would come in. None did. At that point I realized the only fair decision was to accept both late nominations as the submission deadline on the ICSA web page is April 15.

The following members of the Hall of Fame Committee were confirmed by April 21: NEISA-Douglas Clark; MAISA-Adam Werblow; PCCSC-Robert Capita; SEISA-Karl Kleinschrodt; MCSA-Gail Mullett; and SAISA-David Herbster.

Once the nominations were collected, they were assembled by category and provided to the Committee members with the Award description by category. Instructions for how to consider and make determination was included. The Committee members were given four days to consider and send their selections. The Committee had a conference call on April 29, 2026 where the procedures for selection consideration and the goals of having a conference call were discussed and agreed to. All six Conferences had active participation in the selection process. Due date for votes was April 29, 2026 at 5:00 pm EDT.

We had eleven outstanding nominees for Student Leadership (James Rousmaniere Award), one nominee for Lifetime Service (Campbell Family Award), three nominees for Outstanding Service by a College Sailing Professional (Graham Hall Award), one nominee for Outstanding Service-Volunteer, and zero nominees for Meritorious Service (this is a rarely used category).

I thank the nominators and the members of the Committee for their attentive and thoughtful consideration, discovery, and contributions. Special thanks is extended to David Herbster who is retiring from coaching and the Committee. The Committee is pleased to name the individuals on the following pages as the 2026 inductees to the Inter-Collegiate Sailing Association of North America Hall of Fame.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Gail M. Muliatt". The signature is written in black ink on a white background.

Gail McCarthy Turluck Muliatt
Chair

May 12, 2026

STUDENT LEADERSHIP - James Rousmaniere Award

Recognizing extraordinary leadership and achievement by an undergraduate whose efforts have made a significant contribution to the development, progress, and success of his or her club or team, conference, or the ICSA. Demonstrated leadership over a period of years, rather than a single year, will receive the most serious consideration. One honoree per year.

2026 Honoree: Alexander John Vincenti

Columbia University 2026

Date of Birth: June 10, 2004

Mailing Address: 15 Belmont Rd, Glen Rock, NJ, 07452

Email: av2860@columbia.edu

I nominate Alexander John Vincenti for the James Rousmaniere Award for Student Leadership. Alex has been a gift to Columbia Sailing since he first stepped on campus.

When Alex arrived at Columbia, the team was barely scraping by. During the first regatta weekend of the season, we were desperate to find anyone who had sailed before because we didn't have enough sailors to compete on Sunday—and Alex stepped up. He got in the van early Sunday morning and drove with us to Kings Point. I remember him being tentative and quiet, which was understandable for a freshman in his first week of college. We sat around waiting for the wind most of the morning before going out and sailing only two races together, where we finished second-to-last and last, respectively. I worried he might never come back.

Our Fall 2022 season ended up being canceled because we couldn't find a coach, and many of the eager freshmen we had recruited at the club fair moved on to other clubs and activities. Alex, however, stayed. He stepped up to fill a vacant board position as Merchandise Chair and continued to attend workouts and club meetings even though we weren't sailing. In December, he ran for the board and was elected Co-Vice President for the 2023 calendar year. This was a big responsibility for a freshman, but Alex took it in stride. Spring 2023 was only mildly less dysfunctional than the fall. We had a part-time graduate student coach, very low attendance, and often weren't sure if we would have enough sailors to field a full team at regattas.

After I graduated, Alex helped form an alumni board to advise the undergraduate leadership, and I've had the opportunity to watch the club transform from afar. The club continued to face roadblock after roadblock during his sophomore year, but he never slowed down. When Club Sports changed its policy regarding student van drivers—a move that meant a very expensive hour-long Uber ride each way—Alex met with the Club Sports director and successfully advocated for a reversal of the policy.

In the spring of his sophomore year, he stepped into the role of Co-Captain, a position he held for two years. Over the summer of 2024, he informed the alumni board that the team was working on a new contract with Larchmont Yacht Club. At the time, I was cautiously optimistic, as this would be both logistically and financially challenging. Alex worked tirelessly with Club Sports administration and Larchmont to secure a deal that provided access to a fleet of 420s and, most importantly, a coach. In addition, he helped raise over \$40,000 to bring the club back to financial stability.

With a new place to sail, more consistent practices, and dedicated coaching, the club has grown to over 80 members. Alex restructured practices so that both competitive sailors and beginners had dedicated

time on the water. He also worked with the Physical Education department to allow club members to receive PE credit for participation. He has taken on the kind of administrative workload that many programs rely on full-time coaches to handle—all while balancing a demanding academic program.

Alex inherited a club that was on its last legs. Traditions had been lost due to COVID-19 and the program's inability to secure a coach afterward. The relationship with the Club Sports office was strained, alumni were disconnected, and both membership and funding were low. Under Alex's leadership and tireless effort, the club has made a complete turnaround and is now thriving.

We are incredibly fortunate that Alex wasn't discouraged after that first weekend sailing with me, because he has truly brought life back into the club. I am so proud of everything he has accomplished, and it brings me great joy to see the Columbia Sailing Club thriving once again.

Respectfully submitted,

Alison Keenan
Columbia Engineering M.S. Computer Science 2023
Barnard College B.A. Computer Science 2022

I nominate Alexander John Vincenti for the James Rousmaniere Award for Student Leadership. When I joined the Columbia Sailing Club in fall 2021, club leadership was not a desirable position. At the time, we had no coach, we had a rocky relationship with the yacht club that hosted us, and worst of all, we had little to no members. As a result, there was rarely any sailing, and any practices or regattas that the team did attend usually ended in disaster. Columbia Sailing was ready to lay down and die.

The challenge of recovering a club from absolute ruin was daunting, and the work ahead seemed impossible. But despite these unattractive features, the very next fall, Alexander Vincenti eagerly joined the board with me as the Vice President of the club in only his freshman year. From the beginning of his term, his attitude and mindset never faltered, and he fully immersed himself in the challenge of rebuilding the club.

In our first year as President and VP, Alex and I hired a coach and took the team to 5 regattas. We spent hours calling alumni and other coaches in the area to receive advice on our situation. We sat down in Alex's dorm room and learned how to draft regattas for our club. And slowly, our membership began to rise. Alex's first season culminated in a trip to Austin, Texas for the College Sailing National Invitational. Things were looking up for Columbia.

The next fall, all of this progress came crashing down. Our host yacht club informed us that they would be dredging for 6 months starting in September and we would no longer have access to the water. Our coach left the team. The final nail in our coffin was a Columbia club sports incident that prevented all club teams from using Columbia vehicles which were crucial for getting us to practices or regattas. It was devastating, and in the midst of my junior year workload, I couldn't do it anymore—I gave up another year of eligibility on the board and stepped down as president. But Alex Vincenti was ready to fill the void, and he became the youngest president in recent memory of Columbia Sailing. Starting then, he turned this club around in a way I didn't think was possible.

Alex petitioned club sports to allow for us to use Columbia vehicles again, so that when our yacht club opened back up, we were able to get on the water. When the opportunity of a lifetime presented itself,

Alex wasted no time and began the process of moving to Larchmont Yacht Club. He spent countless hours during the summer of 2024 on the phone with LYC and Columbia Club Sports leadership to make the move happen, and he even interviewed coaches, all while on break. In the fall, he coordinated the official move of our fleet, and we had organized practice on the first week of school for the first time in half a decade.

All of Alex's administrative contributions were made possible by his attitude. Throughout all of these hardships, Alex was always cracking jokes, making me and our teammates smile even in the most difficult moments. He always communicated his vision and progress to the team every week, and led his board as president for not one, but two full terms. His mindset and personality made people want to work with him, sail with him, and join the club even when things looked bleak. He even befriended the Columbia Club Sports director who had been a thorn in our side for many years, giving us the support from Columbia we needed. Alex's mentality, work ethic, and personality were infectious, and it inspired everyone around him to help our team.

Alex was never the best sailor on the team either. In fact, he was mostly a reserve at the regattas we attended, but he was the best teammate and friend I ever had on Columbia Sailing. Every time we got off the water, he was ready to support us with uplifting words, snacks, or information about the races. He never had the glory of sailing at our top events in A fleet, but he was always with the team, and he was always making us laugh.

I sailed a few regattas with Alex and they were my favorite memories with the team. At the 2023 College Sailing National Invitational, Alex raced in heavy conditions despite still recovering from a serious illness. When everyone else was too tired to keep sailing, Alex stayed out there, braving the waves and hiking through it all. I remember him getting out at the end of the day, shaking and soaking wet, but smiling and patting me on the back. At the Spring 2025 Stony Brook Cup, Alex won his first race. The celebration from that moment felt so powerful because of the pure joy on his face. His expression made that win feel more meaningful than anything else. As always, he made sure to tone it down and thank the race committee on our way in.

I cannot fully describe Alex's contribution to the success of Columbia Sailing and the sport as a whole. Now, we have a home at Larchmont Yacht Club, 3 coaches, and a thriving race team and membership. Without him, the club may have completely disappeared from the ICSA. He faced our darkest moments as the leader for all 4 years of his college experience and came out on top, giving countless people the opportunity to sail that otherwise would have been deprived. His resilience and passion for sailing have set Columbia up to train racers and beginner sailors for years to come. I am forever grateful for Alex, as my friend, as my teammate, and as my captain.

Respectfully submitted,

Alex Yuen
Assistant Coach
Columbia University Sailing

I nominate Alexander John Vincenti for the James Rousmaniere Award for Student Leadership. Having been a sailor in high school and participating in club events, I was deterred from joining a college team because of the social scene that I struggled with for years. Partially contributing to my apprehension was that I was the only girl on my high school team for my initial years sailing and at times I felt discouraged

from really embracing my role on the team and in the sport of sailing. Thus, I stayed far away from the Columbia Sailing team for my first year and a half of college.

I saw the makeup of the board and I was afraid of old anxieties about inclusion. When I was convinced by a girl on the team to join, I quickly learned that Columbia Sailing was different from those other teams and clubs I had been a part of. Their mission was simply about allowing sailing to be accessible and fun for everyone while still aiming to be as competitive as we possibly could be. I soon learned that this amazing team culture wouldn't have been possible without Alex Vincenti. I joined the team when Alex was in his second year as president. He was so eager to welcome me even though I was joining halfway through the spring season. On the water at practice, in the van coming to and from our yacht club, or even at our general club body meetings, he made everyone who crossed paths with Columbia Sailing feel like they had a place there no matter their experience level.

Now, after dedicated work to put Columbia Sailing on the map as a club team who was truly racing competitively at important events, I see him as our largest supporter. Having many experienced female sailors, we go to women's events almost every weekend and will always expect a message from Alex in our sailing chats bringing the energy. He is constantly urging other members of the club and overall team to give the women's team their support.

Overall, I think the work Alex has done for the Columbia Sailing club over the past 3 years perfectly exemplifies a James Rousmaniere Student leader and I hope you consider this nomination.

Respectfully submitted,

Stella Manyan
Member
Columbia University Sailing Team

It would be easy to make a long list of accomplishments and milestones the club has reached under Alex's leadership, but what I want to convey beyond what he was able to do for our club, is his charisma and true dedication to the team since the moment he started college. I met Alex at the fall 2023 kickoff meeting where he was introduced as "the other Alex" since the president of the club was Alexander Yuen. As co-Vice captain at the time, he was constantly cracking jokes when he spoke (many times he was the punchline). However, I didn't get to know him well until much later in the semester when I became secretary and worked under him in his first term as president.

The entire fall semester we couldn't practice because of a handful of administrative rules set in place at the beginning of the fall. The club had already shrunk to a very small group after COVID and after this semester there weren't even enough people to fill all the board positions needed to run the club. Almost everyone on the board was new, so while we wrapped our heads around the state of the club and the rules we had to follow to get ourselves back on the water, Alex met with our club advisor and other administrators weekly to work something out, a tedious communication game if you've ever tried to work with a university.

We finally got on the water in April for a couple practices, but Alex had much bigger plans in the works. He drafted up a new contract with Larchmont Yacht Club, after many meetings with their managers, to get us support we couldn't have dreamed of. We went from no coach, no classroom, 12 Flying Juniors and just our own trailer and supplies, to Larchmont Yacht Club with a full time head coach, a two story

clubhouse with bathroom amenities for our sailors, a new fleet of E420s and lots of support from their facilities and other staff. It was a huge shift and the day before school started in September we had over 30 people helping us move boats, many people we'd never met before and who were excited to join the team!

While in my eyes this shift happened overnight with some logistical planning for boat work, it was only possible thanks to Alex Vincenti who coordinated the move and partnership. With sailing practice starting in fall 2024, I finally got to know some of my closest friends and teammates. In those 40 minute van rides to and from practice, I got to truly understand how dedicated Alex was to the team, despite not being one of the better sailors on the team, he put more time and thought into every teammate, hangout, general body meeting, and the practices than anyone else. That fall we failed to qualify for the War Memorial due to unlucky weather at The Luce (our championship qualifier) that didn't allow us to get enough races for a regatta, and I assumed that given we only had four total women's sailors, one who just learned to sail a couple weeks prior, we wouldn't drop a few thousand dollars to fly down to Virginia for the MAISA Women's Fall Dinghy, but I was wrong. Alex was quick to advocate for booking flights and hotels for the event, and sent the most heartwarming messages every morning and throughout the two day event in our club Slack messaging community and to each of us individually. It was then that I realized his heart was fully in it for Columbia Sailing.

In the spring when we had some competitive events further from home, he stayed with beginner sailors to sail at fundamental level events and teach them how to race. Day-by-day and week-by-week, he built connections with each and every sailor in our race team and Learn to Sail program, a club that had grown from 4 members in my first fall season, to over 80 members by spring of 2025. I still remember Facetimeing him every night to sort out the rosters for practice days and despite how easy it would be to make them first come first serve because we didn't have enough space for everyone, I remember we would call for at least an hour to talk about each person and how much they'd been able to get on the water and have good practices because he cared that everyone had a fair chance to sail.

Beyond being a leader on the water and for the whole team, he taught me how to be a leader for our board and take into account everyone's thoughts while keeping things moving. There was no precedent before him because the club had lost all its traditions, so learning how to build and maintain new ones while keeping everyone's spirits up was a challenge no one could see. While there were people who could support him and help him out with tasks, reinventing alumni outreach strategies, fundraising, event planning, along with practice plans, regatta routines, safety protocol all required decisions he made constantly everyday, dedicating limitless energy to our growth.

I could talk about how Alex was a leader in so many more instances, but there is one memory that sticks vividly in my mind and is why I think he embodies this award more than the accomplishments could describe. At The Grant regatta, the MAISA spring qualifier for our open fleet race championship, Alex didn't sail. He didn't even focus on himself and his chances of stepping in a boat, he asked us what we wanted to eat at the event, what we needed to stay locked in during a long postponement, and took even more notes on each race than our coach. He led not by winning races, but by setting the example of what a true teammate looks like. On Monday after racing, he HYPED up the entire team by shouting out our sailors for their bullets, new crews for their first time racing, and A division for winning their fleet. The spirit and charisma he breathed into every person in the room, and energy he spread throughout the team has revived our team from a group of college kids to what we are proud to have now. He was so much more than a leader for the team. He was the dad of the team, the cheerleader,

the planner, the benchwarmer, the coach, the teammate you could depend on, and most of all, my captain.

Columbia Sailing would not exist like it does today without him. As president for two years, he took our club from non-operational to a new home at Larchmont Yacht Club with a new fleet of E420s, and now 3 coaches to support the team. He raised over 40k for our club to stay afloat and attend regattas. He led our club to attend the most regattas we've been to since 2014, and the most championships attended since 2014. His charisma grew our club from 4 to 80 members, and organized a board of 10 people to get funding, attend regattas and practice, plan social events, start a learn to sail program, run all hands meetings, and more. He communicated extensively with club sports administration to work through lots of hurdles set by the school, while attending the most practices and regattas, despite not being one of our best sailors, to support and cheer us on. Most of all he pushed us, especially our women's team to the best we've ever done since 1975.

I'll miss him and his presence on the team, but I know he will be around for many years to come at our alumni events and coaching regattas. After all, he brought the Columbia University Sailing Team back to life and set it up for success in many years to come.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Frost
Captain | Columbia Sailing

I'd like to nominate Alexander John Vincenti for the James Rousmaniere Award for Student Leadership. Alex is a kind-hearted and good-natured individual with the ability to make anybody laugh and feel supported. He is consistently a voice of reason, always composed, and someone people naturally turn to in moments of pressure or uncertainty. Over the past two years, I have been immensely proud to be his coach, and even more proud to call him a friend.

My first impression of Alex came when he was part of the Columbia Sailing board and administration group interviewing me to become the team's Head Coach. From the beginning, what stood out was the level of ownership he already had over the future of the program. He was not simply a student leader holding a title, but someone with a clear vision for where the team could go, what it needed to get there and what it could bring to all the students at Columbia University. Even in that first conversation, it was clear how deeply invested he was in building something sustainable and successful for Columbia Sailing.

When I officially joined the program, Alex was already serving as president and captain of the team, and from the very beginning I could not have asked for a better captain and leader to work alongside.

From day one, Alex played a critical role in helping me understand the team, its structure, and how the club operated within Columbia. He gave me valuable insight into the administrative processes, the challenges the team had been facing, and the culture of the group. His support made my transition into the role significantly smoother and allowed us to focus immediately on moving the team forward.

What has always stood out most to me is that Alex consistently does whatever is asked of him and then goes well beyond it. Whether it was coordinating with club sports administration, organizing practices and travel, working through logistical hurdles, supporting fundraising initiatives, or helping teammates

individually, he approached every responsibility with the same level of commitment and professionalism.

Under his leadership, the club has undergone a complete transformation. Columbia Sailing went from being largely non-operational to establishing a new home at Larchmont Yacht Club, securing a fleet of E420s, expanding coaching support to three coaches, and building a stable framework for future success. He played a central role in raising over \$40,000 for the club and growing membership from effectively zero active sailors to over 80 members.

One of the things that stands out most about Alex is the way he makes every person on the team feel seen and valued. After practices, it is not uncommon to see him stay behind to check in with newer sailors, asking how they felt on the water and making sure they felt encouraged to come back. He has an ability to make even the least experienced member of the team feel like they are an important part of the program.

What makes Alex so beloved by his teammates is not only what he has accomplished, but the way he treats people. Whether it is welcoming a first-year student at their first meeting, checking in on someone after a difficult regatta, or being the loudest person cheering on the dock, he brings an energy and kindness that people naturally gravitate toward.

As a coach, one thing that has always stayed with me is how Alex's first concern is always the people around him. Whether it is checking in on a newer sailor after a difficult practice, making sure someone feels included, or taking the time to talk through how a teammate is feeling, he consistently puts others before himself. That selflessness is a major reason he is so respected by both teammates and coaches alike.

He has also done an outstanding job mentoring our new captain, Elizabeth, helping ensure that the standards and culture he established will continue after his graduation.

This past weekend, the team achieved what is, at least from what I can find on Techscore, the best result in Columbia Sailing in the past decade at a conference championship. That achievement is a direct reflection of the culture, standards, and belief that Alex has helped establish over the past two years.

In my opinion, there would not be a Columbia Sailing team as it exists today without Alex. He is the reason we are where we are today, the reason we have a growing team, and the reason Columbia Sailing has become a home for so many students at the university. It is not an understatement to say that the team would not be on the water this year and for the years to come without his efforts.

His impact goes far beyond results, fundraising, or administration. He has given this team an identity, a culture, and a future. Columbia Sailing will always be indebted to Alex for what he has built and for the foundation he has left behind.

Next year will be my first year without Alex on the team, and I know he will be deeply missed by all of us. While his absence will certainly be felt, his influence will remain present in the standards, culture, and sense of community he helped create.

For these reasons, I strongly believe he is exceptionally deserving of the James Rousmaniere Award for Student Leadership.

Respectfully submitted,

Lughlen Rickard
Head Coach
Columbia University Sailing

Finalist: Alden Gort, University of Michigan 2026

Other Nominees:

Aidan Boni, Northeastern University 2026
Justin Callahan, Harvard University 2026
Mitchell Callahan, Harvard University 2026
Caroline Audrey Henry, Hope College 2027
Hudson Mayfield, University of Southern California 2027
Zachary Scott Peterson, US Naval Academy 2026
Stella Reynaga, Colby College 2028
Octavia "Tavia" Belk Smith, Roger Williams University 2027
Charles "Chase" VanDerveer, Santa Clara University 2027

2. CAMPBELL FAMILY AWARD FOR LIFETIME SERVICE.

Recognizing a career of extraordinary service to college sailing, whether as volunteer or professional; one honoree per year; nominees must have passed their 60th birthday.

2026 Honoree: Andrew Johnson

College attended: University of Hawaii-Manoa

Graduation date: 1983

Date of Birth: November 1960

Address: 1337 Lower Campus Rd, Honolulu, HI 96822

Email address: bowsailing@yahoo.com

Phone: 808.956.5177

For the last 31 years, head coach Andrew Johnson has been synonymous with University of Hawai'i sailing. Johnson, a former Rainbow sailor and currently the longest tenured coach in University of Hawai'i Athletics, has elevated the Rainbow sailing program to elite status.

In his time at University of Hawai'i, Johnson has guided University of Hawai'i to a combined 60 individual and team national championship competitions and has produced more than a dozen All-Americans, 30 All-PCCSC selections and three Olympians. More highlights:

- ICSA Hall of Fame Inductee (2012).
- Two national championships (2001 women; 2004 coed).
- Has coached 3 Olympians.
- Has coached 17 All-Americans (34 total citations).
- Finished in the top three at Nationals from 2002-05 with the coed squad
- Qualified for the coed nationals in 14 out of the last 20 seasons.
- Qualified for the women's nationals in 16 out of the last 20 seasons.

From 2001-06, the program captured two national championships and finished no lower than third at the dinghy nationals in four of its five appearances during that time. In 2004, the Rainbows captured the Coed Dinghy Championships in Cascade Locks, OR. Coming on the heels of the school's 2001 women's title, Johnson helped stake the program's claim as a perennial power with its second championship in a three-year span.

During Johnson's tenure, the University of Hawai'i has proudly been the host of the National Sloop Championship in 1992, the National Women's Dinghy, Team Race, the Coed Dinghy Championships in 2002 and the Singlehanded Men's and Women's Championships in 2005.

With all of Johnson's accomplishments, the ultimate recognition came his way in 2012 when he was inducted into the Inter-Collegiate Sailing Association (ICSA) College Sailing Hall of Fame. Just a month prior, he received the Richard H. Lough Memorial Service Award for his extraordinary service to the Pacific Coast Collegiate Sailing Conference.

Johnson, who lettered at University of Hawai'i from 1981-83, returned to his alma mater in 1989 to head the coed sailing team, replacing former coach Charlie Dole. Johnson had previously served as Dole's volunteer assistant periodically in the mid-1980s and worked as an outdoor recreation specialist at the

University's leisure program. When Dole decided to resign, former coach Ted Livingston suggested to Johnson that he apply for the position.

Dole, Livingston and Johnson have several things in common, but one accomplishment that stands out is their ICSA Hall of Fame membership. Johnson had big shoes to fill, replacing founding coach Livingston (1982 inductee), and his former coach Dole (1985 inductee). His myriad accomplishments have proved he was more than up for the task.

The University of Hawai'i sailing program has come a long way since he took over as coach nearly three decades ago. Back then there was a team of just five sailors. Now University of Hawai'i has more than 20 sailors on the roster, a fully-funded women's program and its own sailing center, the Honolulu Community College Marine Education Center – Ke'ehi Lagoon.

For three years, 1984-87, Johnson spent his summers at the Waikiki Yacht Club where he was the head sailing instructor. During the winters, he was a park ranger at the U.S.S. Arizona Memorial located in Pearl Harbor on O'ahu.

Johnson's individual sailing accomplishments in Hawai'i include being a crew member on the two-time state Keelboat Championship squad in 1992 and '93, three-time state J/24 Champion in 1989, '96 and 2005 and a member of the Kenwood Cup overall championship team in 1990. Coach Johnson has also transversed the Pacific on a number of occasions, as part of the Pacific Cup and TransPacific races.

He coached former University of Hawai'i sailor John Myrdal in the summer of 1996 for the U.S. Olympic trials. Myrdal represented the U.S. again at the 2000 Olympics. Johnson also mentored All-American Molly O'Bryan Vandemoer who went on to compete in the 2012 Summer Games in London.

Born in St. Paul, MN, Johnson grew up sailing on Minnesota's White Bear Lake. He attended the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, where he lettered in ice hockey before transferring to University of Hawai'i Manoa in 1980 in search of warmer weather. Johnson received his bachelor's degree in education in 1983 and five years later received a professional diploma in elementary education.

Johnson sails extensively in the Hawai'i Yacht Racing Association and enjoys kitesurfing, surfing, and hiking in his free time. Johnson lives in Kaneohe with his wife, Leslie, and daughters, Malia and Summer.

Andy will retire from professionally coaching sailing at the end of the 2025-26 season.

Respectfully submitted,

Brad Schaupeter
PCCSC Commissioner

3. GRAHAM HALL AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE BY A COLLEGE SAILING PROFESSIONAL

Recognizing organizers, administrators, advisors, or coaches who have served the best interests of college sailing at the club/team, Conference, or national level; one or two honorees per year; nominees must have passed their 45th birthday.

2026 Honorees:

Honoree #1: Jeffrey Charles Bresnahan

Date of Birth: January 17, 1968

College attended: University of Connecticut, 2001

California University of Pennsylvania, M.S., Sports Management

Mailing Address: 410 Brook Street, Groton, CT 06340

Phone number: 860.439.2553

Email: jcbre@conncoll.edu

We hereby nominate Jeffrey Bresnahan for the Graham Hall Award for Outstanding Service by a Professional in recognition of more than three decades of extraordinary dedication to intercollegiate sailing as the head coach at Connecticut College. Through his visionary leadership and strong character, Coach Bresnahan has transformed the Camels' sailing program into one of the most consistently competitive programs in the nation, developing generations of All-Americans, Olympians, and lifelong sailors while serving the broader college sailing community as a mentor, race officer, innovator and ambassador for the sport.

Service to College Sailing

From 2011 to 2014, Jeff stepped back into a leadership role as the NEISA Treasurer, steering the conference's financial ship while continuing to provide strategic guidance on the Executive Committee.

However, it is perhaps on the national stage where Jeff's legacy of integrity and academic excellence is most visible. For a full decade, from 2012 to 2022, he served on the ICSA Eligibility Committee, a demanding role that required a deep understanding of the regulations that preserve the fairness and spirit of college sailing. Complementing this work, his tenure as the ICSA All-Academic Chair underscored his belief that the true value of the sport lies in the balance between athletic rigor and scholastic achievement. Through these roles, Jeff has been a quiet but vital architect of the ICSA's standards, ensuring that the organization remains a meritocratic and principled environment for generations of sailors.

Competitive Excellence

Over the course of his tenure at Connecticut College, Coach Bresnahan has compiled an extraordinary record of sustained competitive achievement. His teams have appeared in 16 ICSA National Championship regattas across the coed and women's divisions, a testament to the program's remarkable consistency at the highest level of collegiate sailing.

Key competitive milestones under Coach Bresnahan's leadership include:

- Atlantic Coast Championship title and a No. 1 national ranking in women's collegiate sailing (Fall 2000)
- Fourth-place finish at the ICSA Women's Dinghy National Championship (2001)
- Three consecutive podium finishes at the ICSA Women's Nationals (1997–1999)
- Fifth-place finishes at the ICSA Coed National Championship (1998 and 2008)

- Second-place finish at the ICSA Women’s National Championship (2011)
- Both the women’s and coed teams qualifying for ICSA Nationals in the same year (2011)—the first time both squads had qualified simultaneously since 1993
- Qualifying five sailors for the ICSA Singlehanded National Championship
- 16 total appearances at ICSA National Championship regattas

These results are particularly impressive given the context in which they have been achieved. Connecticut College is a small Division III liberal arts institution competing against programs from large universities and military service academies with significantly greater resources. Coach Bresnahan has consistently produced nationally competitive teams by maximizing the development of his student-athletes and instilling a culture of excellence.

STUDENT-ATHLETE DEVELOPMENT / Olympians

Perhaps the most compelling measure of Coach Bresnahan’s impact is the caliber of sailors his program has produced. Under his guidance, Connecticut College has developed 19 ICSA All-Americans and eight additional All-America Honorable Mention selections. The program has also produced three Olympians from his tenure:

- Meg Gaillard ‘95 (Team USA, Europe Dinghy-2004 Athens)
- Amanda Clark ‘05, (Team USA, 470 2008 Beijing & 2012 London Games)
- Maggie Shea ‘11 (Team USA 49erFX 2020 Tokyo & 2024 Paris).

Coach Bresnahan’s approach to development extends well beyond on-the-water performance. Former sailors consistently praise his ability to balance the demands of competitive sailing with the liberal arts educational mission of Connecticut College. His athletes have described him as someone who genuinely cares about their development as complete individuals, helping them build life skills that extend far beyond the racecourse. His pragmatic coaching style—characterized by patience, long-term perspective, and an emphasis on process over any single result—has been instrumental in fostering both competitive success and personal growth.

PERSONAL COMPETITIVE SAILING RECORD

Before turning to coaching, Coach Bresnahan was an accomplished competitive sailor in his own right. He learned to sail as a youth in the junior program at Community Boating Inc. on the Charles River in Boston, where he and his three siblings all became naturals on the water. Eventually, all four Bresnahan siblings taught at and then directed the very program that introduced them to the sport.

His personal competitive sailing highlights include:

- U.S. Olympic Trials, Star Class – 4th Place (1992)
- Olympic training partner for Star Class Gold Medalists Mark Reynolds and Hal Haenel at the 1992 Barcelona Games
- Can-Am Olympic Classes Regatta – Overall Series Winner, Marblehead and Miami (1991)

SERVICE TO COLLEGE SAILING AND THE BROADER SPORT

Coach Bresnahan’s contributions to intercollegiate sailing extend well beyond his role at Connecticut College. Jeff has served as a member of countless ICSA committees including most recently serving as Chair of the Academic All-America Selection Committee. (Other committee service include ICSA Eligibility Committee, NEISA Executive Committee, Treasurer, Special Projects, Awards, Performance Ranking among many). He has dedicated considerable time and expertise to the broader sailing community as a race official and organizer, serving as Principal Race Officer for

several prestigious national events.

Coach Bresnahan also serves as the Director of Sailing at the Shelter Island Yacht Club, where he has helped develop the next generation of young sailors and stewarded the racing and instructional programs. His willingness to invest his time in youth sailing development beyond his collegiate coaching duties reflects a deep personal commitment to growing the sport at every level.

Coach Bresnahan was recognized for his outstanding contributions to the New England conference when he was named NEISA Coach of the Year in 2011, an honor voted on by his coaching peers throughout one of the most competitive sailing conferences in the nation.

CHARACTER AND COACHING PHILOSOPHY

Those who have worked with Coach Bresnahan universally attest to his integrity, humility, and deep commitment to his student-athletes. When honored as NEISA Coach of the Year, he characteristically deflected the credit to his sailors, emphasizing their hard work and dedication rather than his own coaching contributions.

His coaching philosophy is rooted in the understanding that sailing is a sport of cumulative performance—a marathon rather than a sprint. He maintains composure through the inevitable ups and downs of competition, helping his sailors focus on long-term improvement and overall trends rather than dwelling on individual race results. This steady, level-headed approach has been cited by former sailors as one of the key reasons for the program's sustained success over three decades.

Coach Bresnahan's ability to build a culture where student-athletes thrive both on the water and in the classroom—year after year, decade after decade—is a hallmark of truly exceptional coaching and reflects the very ideals the Graham Hall Award seeks to honor.

CONCLUSION

Jeffrey Bresnahan's career represents one of the most sustained and impactful contributions to intercollegiate sailing in the modern era. Over more than thirty years, he has built Connecticut College into a perennial national contender, developed 19 All-Americans and Olympic-caliber sailors, served the broader sailing community as a race officer and youth sailing mentor, and done so with a humility and integrity that have earned the deep respect of colleagues across the sport.

His record of competitive achievement, combined with his exceptional service to college sailing at the team, conference, and national levels, makes him an outstanding candidate for the Graham Hall Award for Outstanding Service by a Professional and induction into the ICSA Hall of Fame.

Submitted by,

Adam Werblow, Head Coach, St. Mary's College of Maryland / Connecticut College '88

Greg Wilkinson, Head Coach, Boston College

Michael Callahan, Head Coach, Georgetown University

I fully endorse this nomination.

Dan Thompson

Conference Commissioner, Middle Atlantic Intercollegiate Sailing Association

Honoree #2: John Mollicone

Date of Birth: April 27, 1976

College attended: Boston University

Year of Graduation: 1998

Mailing Address: 11 Sweetbriar Drive, Cranston, RI 02920

Phone number: 401.935.0594

Email: john_mollicone@brown.edu

I nominate Coach John Mollicone, Barry Family Director of Sailing Chair, for the Graham Hall Award because of the extraordinary leadership, care, and dedication he shows to every member of our team. John is far more than a coach, he is a constant source of support, stability, and belief for all of us. He is always there when we need him, whether it is for guidance on the water, help navigating challenges off the water, or simply someone who listens. He runs the team with professionalism and purpose, holding us to a high standard while making sure every athlete feels seen, valued, and supported.

What truly sets John apart is how deeply he cares about his athletes as people first. He has stood beside us through some of the most difficult moments our community has faced, including the school shooting and the loss of Liam O'Keefe. During those times, he showed incredible compassion and strength, checking in on each of us, creating space for grief, and bringing the team together when we needed it most. He reminded us that our well-being mattered more than results and that we did not have to carry those burdens alone.

John leads with both intensity and empathy. He prepares us like professionals, teaches resilience, accountability, and discipline, and pushes us to be our best but he never loses sight of the human side of coaching. Because of him, our team is not just competitive; it is a family built on trust, respect, and care for one another.

Mollicone was an All-American Skipper at Boston University in 1998, leading his team to the New England Dinghy Championship and finishing third at the ICSA Dinghy National Championship. Mollicone's coaching resume at Brown University includes:

- 2022 and 2023 Ivy League Coach of the Year
- 2020 Sail1Design/Sailing Anarchy Coach of the Year
- 2024 Fowle Trophy Champions as "best overall team" in college sailing
- 2023 College Sailing Match Race National Champions
- 2019 College Sailing/Sperry Women's National Champions
- 2019 College Sailing/Quantum Sails Women's Sailor of the Year
- 106 sailors selected to the College Sailing All-American Team since 2000
- 156 sailors selected to the College Sailing All-Academic Team since 2006
- 157 sailors selected to the All-New England Team since 2000
- 89 College Sailing National Championship appearances since 1999
- Top five overall finishes at 47 College Sailing National Championships since 1999
- Winners of 27 New England Championships since 1999
- Winners of eight Atlantic Coast Championships and Fall Showcases since 1999

In 2010, Mollicone was awarded the U.S. Sailing National Sportsmanship Award for the Van Alan Clark Trophy and won the J/24 World Championship in Malmo, Sweden. He was a member of the 2011 U.S.

Sailing Team, winning a Silver medal in J/24's at the 2011 Pan-American Games in Puerto Vallarta, MX. Mollicone was named a U.S. Sailing Rolex Yachtsman of the Year Finalist in 2012 after winning the J/24 North American and National Championships, and finishing second at the 96-boat J/24 World Championship.

In 2013 Mollicone won the J/24 World Championship for a second time in Howth, Ireland, along with the J/24 Midwinter, J/70 Midwinter, and J/24 North American Championships. In 2014, Mollicone won the J/70 and J/24 Midwinter Championships, the J/70 North American Championship, finished second at the J/24 U.S. National Championship, and third at the 70-boat J/24 World Championship in Newport, R.I. Mollicone finished third at 2015 J/70 World Championship in La Rochelle, France and 3rd at the 2015 J/24 North American Championship.

In 2017, Mollicone was the winning tactician in the 42-boat J/70 Class at Quantum Key West Race Week and in the NYYC/Swan 42 Nationals. In 2018, Mollicone finished 3rd at the J/24 North American Championship, and finished 2nd out of 57 J/70s at the Marblehead NOOD Regatta and 1st out of 47 J/70s at the Ted Hood Regatta as tactician. Mollicone finished 2nd at the 2020 J/24 Midwinter Championship in Melbourne, Fla. in February 2020.

In 2021, Mollicone was the winning skipper at the J/24 Midwinter Championship, tactician for the Boat of the Week at Block Island Race Week, and won the New York Yacht Club Annual Regatta and ORC East Coast Championship as tactician on the Swan 42 *Impetuous*. Mollicone finished 4th out of 38 boats at the 2022 J/24 World Championship in Corpus Christi, Texas as skipper, and won the J/24 Pre-Worlds. In 2023, Mollicone was the winning skipper at both the J/24 Midwinter and North American Championships, and the winning tactician on boats at both Block Island Race Week and the ORC East Coast Championship. In 2024, he finished third at the J/24 North American Championship as helmsman. As a tactician, Mollicone finished second in New York Yacht Club Race Week, first overall in ORC at the Ida Lewis Trophy, and fourth out of 19 boats in ORC Class B at the 2024 ORC World Championship in Newport, RI on board the Swan 42 *Impetuous*.

For his unwavering dedication, deep compassion, and exceptional leadership, I cannot think of anyone more deserving of this recognition than Coach John Mollicone.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Hamilton
Member
Brown University Sailing Team

4. OUTSTANDING SERVICE – VOLUNTEER

Recognizing those who have volunteered their time, talent, or resources to advance the interests of college sailing at the club/team, Conference, or national level; one or two honorees per year; nominees must have passed their 45th birthday.

2026 Honoree: Steven Bushee

College attended: Colgate University, Bachelor of Arts, Biology, 1981

Boston College, Masters, Higher Education Administration, 1994

Date of Birth: September 10, 1959

Address: 19 Hearthstone Cir #0, Wayland, MA 01778

Phone: 508.655.3495

Email: bushee@bc.edu

Steve Bushee was in charge of Boston College Sports Medicine and was Boston College Sailing's Athletic Trainer for over 20 years until his retirement in 2020. Steve's "volunteerism" actually began during his tenure as Boston College Sailing's Athletic Trainer when he went well above and beyond for the Sailing Team. Athletic Trainers at Boston College are not required to travel with the team and they do not attend practices - but Steve did all of this and more. He was one, if not the first Athletic Trainer to travel with a team to Championships - doing so regularly starting in 2016. He was also a regular feature at Boston-area regattas, including Sundays in the fall season after traveling with Boston College Football (he was Football's Head Athletic Trainer) on Saturdays. Steve joined Boston College Sailing on spring break training trips, attended practice on a regular basis, and was an integral part of the team's success.

Through Steve's travels with the team and attendance at ICSA events, he got to know many other coaches and eventually got more involved with college sailing. Steve served on a New England Intercollegiate Sailing Association committee to set safety standards for competitions in extreme weather conditions. While attending ICSA events, Steve assisted many teams beyond the Boston College Sailing Team. He would typically be the only Athletic Trainer on site - and so he would lend his expertise to any and all teams and/or sailors in need. Perhaps Steve's greatest contribution to ICSA was his service on our COVID-19 Medical Advisory Panel. Along with other athletic administrators and doctors, Steve's service provided critical credibility for our COVID-19 policies and allowed ICSA to safely maximize opportunities for ICSA teams to practice and compete. Without Steve's work and the work of the COVID-19 MAP, it is unlikely that college sailing could have held any competitions at all in the Spring of 2021, let alone hold successful team racing and fleet racing National Championships.

Just last spring, Boston College Sailing received a shipment of new boats to replace our 10+ year-old Flying Juniors. While the team was unloading the boats, I was hard at work replacing a failed bilge pump on our coach boat. I looked up out of the bilge for a second and there was Steve. He's still on our email list and he saw that boats were coming in on trucks so he showed up to help unload. He ended up staying and helping replace the bilge pump and rig our new boats. Even in retirement, Steve continues to support Boston College Sailing and all of college sailing. I hope the Hall of Fame Committee will agree with me that Steve has been a unique volunteer for ICSA, providing credibility and volunteering his professional support of our sport. And he remains one of college sailing's biggest fans.

A final note; I had an additional interaction with Steve this season. I was coaching at Harvard and talking with the Boston College coach, an alumnus from 2019, Steve showed up to say hello to Wade. He knew Wade had

recently been engaged and wished him congratulations. He showed an incredible knowledge of his past sailors and commitment to them/college sailing.

Respectfully submitted,

David Thompson
NEISA Commissioner

5. MERITORIOUS SERVICE

Recognizing those whose service to College Sailing is exemplary.

2026 Honoree: No nominees.