

# FORMER DEAN PUT STUDENT WELFARE ABOVE ALL

Manny Carreiro made lasting impressions on all he knew

BY JANET WALDMAN

PHOTO MICHELLE MCLOUGHLIN

“CALL THE HANDSOME DEAN IN THE BOW TIE if you need help.” Former orientation leader Elissa (Pelland) Carroll '05 recalls the late Manuel C. “Manny” Carreiro saying those words every summer as he gave his orientation speech. And it always elicited laughs.

Carreiro, former vice president and dean of students, passed away March 22. He mentored thousands of Quinnipiac students during his 32-year career. Members of the university community remember him best for his warmth and genuine concern for the welfare of students. For many, he was the inspiration for their careers in higher education.

Carroll is one of those. Once a homesick freshman, she is now director of student affairs at the Frank H. Netter MD School of Medicine. “Manny was the life of any party. He lit up a room everywhere he went,” she said.

She remembers him for his passion for helping students. “It didn’t matter if you were one of 4,000, you were the one he focused on and made time for. He was interested in what you were doing and what was going on in your life,” she said.

In addition to serving on the president’s cabinet, Carreiro oversaw residential life, campus life, career services, athletics, student health services, counseling and campus ministry. He retired as the senior adviser to Mark Thompson, executive vice president and provost. In a memo to the Quinnipiac community, Thompson described Carreiro as a role model for colleagues and students alike.

“He earned a reputation as an expert in a wide array of student affairs areas; as a result, he served on multiple national and international accreditation teams and delivered keynote addresses regarding student development at conferences across the country and abroad,” Thompson wrote.

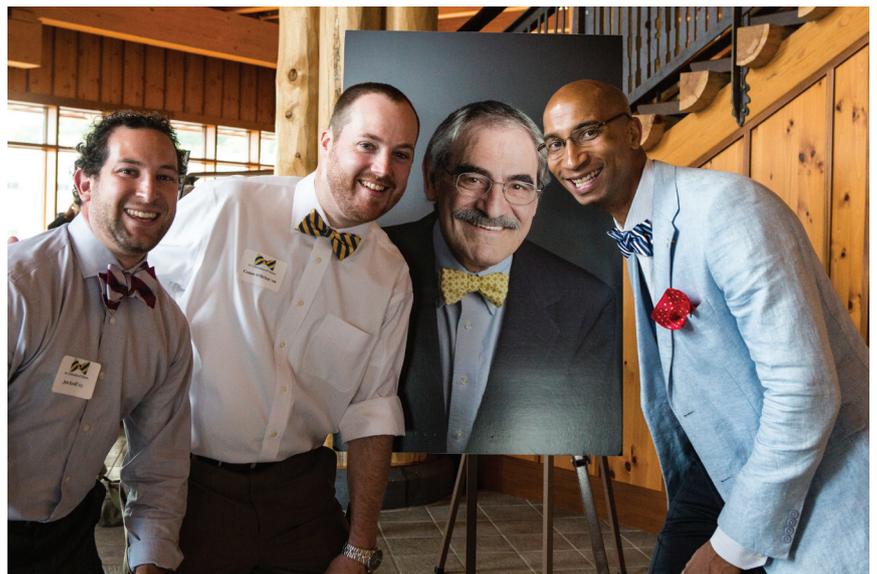
As Student Government Association president from 2009–11, Louis Venturelli '11 met with Carreiro weekly. They’d talk business, but Carreiro usually would transform the chat into a wisdom-imparting session that Venturelli valued.

“He’d draw upon his experiences growing up in Portugal, where he walked on dirt roads with no shoes, and he’d encourage us to be thankful and appreciate everything we have. He empowered students to live and lead their best lives,” Venturelli said.

Upon Carreiro’s retirement in 2015, alumni, colleagues

and friends established the Dr. Manuel “Manny” C. Carreiro Endowed Student Leadership Scholarship, which is awarded annually to a current student leader in residential or student life. In 2014, the university’s annual student leadership conference was renamed the Dr. Manuel C. Carreiro Leadership Institute.

Venturelli is the youth program officer for the World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates, an organization he became involved with through the Albert Schweitzer Institute at Quinnipiac. He also works for The College Board managing grants for the international admissions team. Speaking at a memorial service for Carreiro at Quinnipiac, Venturelli said Carreiro’s legacy was growing the student affairs program so that every student



has the opportunity to define him or herself as a leader. “He established an unmatched student orientation program ... where families truly feel comfortable leaving their kids at Quinnipiac,” he noted.

Austin Ashe '03, former associate director for student and young alumni relations at Quinnipiac, met Carreiro as an orientation leader and also worked in Carreiro’s office as a graduate intern the summer after he earned his bachelor’s degree. “As a student, I knew him as a friendly guy, warm and available, someone who would always make time to talk with me.” Ashe earned a master’s in student personnel administration at Springfield College and kept in touch with Carreiro, who liked to follow the career paths of alumni who were working in higher education.

“When he would ask you to do something, you did it because you trusted him. He had an innate energy and passion and real confidence about him,” said Ashe, who moved to the Boston area and works as assistant director for student and young alumni relations at MIT while he pursues a PhD in higher education administration at UMass-Boston.

Carreiro believed that the most important way to gain students’ trust was to always be honest and truthful with them, according to Monique Drucker, vice president and dean of students.

“Manny had intense personal integrity. He showed me what it truly means to put the student at the center of all that we do. He had an enormous heart for our students and our work,” Drucker remarked.

Jon Kroll '03, left, Conor O'Brien '06, center, and Austin Ashe '03 sport bow ties to honor Manuel “Manny” Carreiro (in photograph) during a retirement celebration for Carreiro at the Rocky Top Student Center in June 2015. Carreiro, the former vice president and dean of students, passed away in March 2017.