

GEORGE WASHINGTON KIDD, CLASS OF 1836, AWARD

**Presented to
Joseph “Ricky” Godwin ’81
April 7, 2021**

Joseph “Ricky” Godwin ’81, who was a Lafayette scholarship recipient, was a dedicated scholar in the College’s classrooms and an outstanding student-athlete on our basketball court during his tenure at Lafayette. While majoring in biology, Ricky found an interest and passion in math and finance during his scholarly experiences. After earning a B.A. degree in biology at the College in 1981, he chose to pursue a Master of Business Administration Degree in finance at New York University Stern School of Business, which he successfully completed in 1994. Throughout his distinguished career, Ricky has demonstrated how the interdisciplinary Lafayette education can prepare our students for both professional success and lives that have an impact on their communities.

After completing his master’s degree, Ricky launched his career at IBM, and excelled at this American multinational technology and consulting company for a decade and a half. Following the vision he had always had for his career, Ricky then worked his way toward Wall Street. He worked for Goldman Sachs in the firm’s Fixed Income, Currency, and Commodities Division, in which he advised institutions representing over \$125 billion in assets under management on fixed income portfolio strategy and investment management. He also worked for Goldman’s Private Wealth Management Group and Credit Suisse Private Bank.

Currently, Ricky is Managing Director, Investments and Senior PIM Portfolio Manager for Godwin Gounaris Woolbert Investment Group within Wells Fargo. In his present professional role, he enjoys the opportunity to aid professional athletes and entertainers by offering them insights and support in managing their wealth and creating a legacy.

At Godwin Gounaris Woolbert Investment Group, Ricky works with two colleagues who share his understanding of how to navigate and help simplify the complicated landscape of investing, providing personalized, objective, goals-oriented guidance for ultra-high-net-worth families and institutions.

As Managing Director, Ricky is responsible for leading the development of the team's client-first philosophy and business strategy. His areas of focus include liability management, wealth transfer, and philanthropic strategies. He provides leadership in private wealth management, institutional consulting, and navigation of the global capital markets for his clients.

Ricky has been a dedicated supporter of his alma mater. He has served on the Lafayette Leadership Council and the Philadelphia Luncheon Group. As part of the College's efforts to enhance the diversity of our student body, Lafayette formed the McDonogh Network in 2006 to provide networking opportunities for African American and other Black alumni and students. Ricky was invited to join the McDonogh Network Steering Committee to offer guidance to the College in this critically important work.

As Lafayette has strengthened its commitment to diversity on campus, the College has been pleased that the McDonogh Network has served as a supportive community for our African American and other black alumni. The insights, support, and networking events offered through the McDonogh Network have helped foster an increased sense of belonging and broadened the professional opportunities of many students and alumni. Ricky's role on the Steering Committee has been integral to the McDonogh Network's success.

Today, we are pleased to let Ricky know the pride his alma mater takes in his accomplishments and to share our gratitude for his support of our commitment to grow and preserve a diverse extended Lafayette College community. As we present the Alumni Association's 2021 George Washington Kidd, Class of 1836, Award, we applaud Ricky's professional and personal accomplishments. In addition, we express our sincere appreciation for the honor that Ricky Godwin has brought his alma mater as a result of his distinguished career.