John H. Sennett ('55), a member of Notre Dame’s Advisory Council for the Hesburgh Libraries, is chairman of Sennett Steel Corporation in Madison Heights, Michigan. John received his MBA from Michigan State University in 1967. He and his wife, Dianne, live in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, and are the proud parents of five children, all of whom are graduates of Notre Dame. John also serves as chairman of the board of trustees of Madonna University in Livonia, Michigan.

Supporting an area of intense concentration and rapid growth at Notre Dame, the John and Dianne Sennett Family Endowment for Irish Studies allows the Hesburgh Libraries to take advantage of collection-building opportunities as they arise through the antiquarian market and a number of other sources. As such, the Sennett Endowment plays an active role in enabling the expansion of collections in the areas of Irish language, literature, history, music, and government.

The endowment also makes possible the acquisition of retrospective materials in all areas of Irish history, including works pertaining to and enhancing the already strong 1798 Rebellion Collection, works pertaining to the Irish famine, rare and antiquarian works in Irish history and Irish literature, and works in the Irish language.