Message from the Provost

DR. TIMOTHY R. AUSTIN
Provost/Vice President Academic Affairs

Maybe I am showing my age by opening this issue of Academic Affairs in Review with a reference to comedienne Lucille Ball. Then again, the scene in which Lucy and Ethel try (in vain) to stay abreast of a conveyor belt carrying the chocolates they are supposed to wrap is such a classic that many of you will have caught it on YouTube at some point. (If you haven’t seen it yet, simply Google <Lucille Ball chocolate>.) The humor, of course, lies in Lucy’s frantic efforts to keep pace with a process that quickly surpasses her ability – or anyone’s ability – to cope.

There may be some who feel that – admittedly, at my urging – we in Academic Affairs have also taken on a pretty daunting workload. One committee has begun a back-to-the-bare-walls renovation job on the Faculty Handbook; another is critiquing the University-wide undergraduate Core Curriculum; a third committee recently asked faculty members to offer their thoughts about teaching excellence; and a fourth is exploring how we might better structure and support Community Engaged Teaching and Research.

Each of these topics individually demands careful reflection before any decisive steps are taken. As those who attended President Dougherty’s Convocation last month are aware, however, the University also faces the challenge of developing a new strategic plan – and Academic Affairs has been asked to take the lead in those deliberations too.

The deadline for submission to the spring issue of Academic Affairs in Review is February 20, 2015. All items should be submitted via email to Renee Stockey at stockeyr@duq.edu.
I am sensitive to the fact that I am expecting a great deal of the busy members of our division when I ask them to monitor these parallel discussion threads, register their concerns and contribute their suggestions. It’s easy to find excuses to pass the buck. Handbook language can be mind-numbingly dull, for example (though the members of the drafting committee are trying to write plainly). The Core Curriculum affects schools, departments and individuals unevenly and some may (incorrectly, in my view) feel unqualified to comment. And both our newest and our most senior colleagues may feel they have grounds to argue – albeit for different reasons – that strategic planning should be left to others.

But I don’t think it is an exaggeration to suggest that, collectively, these discussions can set the stage for the ways in which Duquesne will evolve in the next decade. Evolution itself is a given; across the country, higher education is changing rapidly under pressure from a number of directions – financial, technological and demographic to name just three. In this context, to stand still would be to slide backwards and to rely on initiatives generated within the silo of each school or in the College would be to forgo one of the major strengths of our University: its structural richness within a relatively small geographical and administrative compass. So the question is not whether Duquesne will change, but how. I hope that each of you will give that question some thought in the coming months and share your ideas with your colleagues as successive opportunities arise. Our future as an academic community will depend on such broad-based involvement.

For faculty search, our license allows Duquesne to set up electronic job ads that can be sent to listservs, blogs, online newsletters and print outlets. Even better, there is no cost to the applicant to respond to our job ads. So far this is being deployed for faculty search, but my office and Human Resources are working to expand this service to administrative and clerical search.

The tenure and promotion service is coming along. We are one of twelve universities including Brown, Harvard and Georgetown serving as the beta testers. As such, the decision was to only submit third year review cases through the system. Our beta role allows us to identify problems, and give design feedback to Interfolio. All using the system are encouraged to provide thoughts to me.

Renee Stockey was promoted to Business Manager as well as Assistant to the Associate Provost. She has been working on the retention committee, which has been very successful at retaining our students. She was instrumental in securing an additional pot of money to help students who are at risk of leaving due to high balances or other financial hardships. For the academic year 2014, their team helped 27 students with these additional funds.

The Provost has supported moving the Center for African Studies under the direction of Dr. Gerald Boodoo to Rockwell 102. This is a high traffic area that will give the Center the room to expand and work directly with students. In particular, the Center will house the new Visiting African Scholars Program, funded by a new endowment. Please stop by and visit Dr. Boodoo’s new space.

Exciting new construction projects of which we are in collaboration with academic units and facilities management include the simulation lab for Nursing, phase two of the Biomedical Engineering space in Libermann Hall and upgrades to Admissions on the first floor in Old Main.

In the following, I have asked two units that report to my office to share a blurb on their activities.

Reflections from the Associate Provost for Academic Affairs

BY DR. JEFF MILLER

Two major technological projects we are working on are both supported through a contract with Interfolio. Interfolio is known as an electronic hub for faculty hiring. They have improved the product for faculty search and added a beta service for faculty tenure and promotion review.
Media Services and Distribution Center

In addition to planning the implementation of a second FlexTech classroom targeted for College Hall spring semester, the MSDC has also been focusing on mass technology upgrades to the Registrar rooms. The upgrades include the installation of SSD drives into the classroom computers. SSDs have no moving (mechanical) components and typically run faster and quieter than the older hard disk drives. All lecture halls have received new digital, high definition document cameras and plans are underway to replace all classroom projectors in the College Hall. Along with completing departmental upgrades and supporting the classrooms, video capture of academic events continues to average about three occurrences per week.

Duquesne University Press

Duquesne University Press will celebrate national University Press Week, Nov. 9-15, with activities that highlight the contributions that university presses make to culture, academia and an informed society.

Duquesne is one of over 130 scholarly presses in the Association of American University Presses, which together publish more than 12,000 works per year, in both print and digital formats. On a national level, the work of university presses will be highlighted on a special website, www.universitypressweek.org. The site will include an online gallery of publishers’ books, links to a variety of informational articles and resources, and blog entries from participating publishers on topics of interest to the wider academic community.

On campus, Duquesne University Press will exhibit some of its recently published titles at both Gumberg Library and our Barnes & Noble Bookstore. It will get a head start on the week with its annual Publish or Perish Workshop on Friday, Nov. 7, noon-1:30 p.m., in room 613 of the Union. This workshop, now in its twelfth year, is intended for graduate students and junior faculty who want to learn about getting their work published in today’s academic environment. The discussion includes how to choose a publisher, prepare initial proposals, revise doctoral dissertations for book publication and how new technologies and models (such as electronic journals and open-access publications) fit into the process.

In addition, the Press will hold a book sale featuring overstock and out-of-print titles on Thursday, Nov. 13, noon-3 p.m., on the fourth floor of Rockwell Hall.
Corporate Knights, a quarterly international publication focused on social, economic and ecological benefits and costs, ranked Duquesne’s MBA Sustainability program in the Donahue Graduate School of Business first in the United States and eighth worldwide. Among small schools, Duquesne’s program is ranked second internationally. This 2013 survey of full-time MBA programs examined how universities around the world are faring at integrating sustainability into the academic experience. Duquesne’s rankings were based on coursework, institutional support and student initiatives in its MBA Sustainability program.

The Palumbo-School of Business has again been ranked among the nation’s best undergraduate business schools for 2014 in the annual *Bloomberg Businessweek* list. Duquesne, which received an “A” grade on its teaching that reflects a favorable 24:8 faculty-student ratio, is listed at 108. The rankings are based on five components: student assessment; academic quality metrics such as the average SAT, average class size and number of hours students spend on coursework per week; employer opinion; median starting salary; and a “feeder school” score that reflects how many students the undergraduate programs send to top MBA programs. The student assessment, conducted through a survey, looks at teaching quality, school facilities, career services and other factors. Employer surveys measure employers’ perceptions of students they hire.

The Donahue Graduate School of Business soared from a ranking of 181 to 125 in the 2015 U.S. News’ survey of 453 accredited masters programs. Recruiters and company contacts as well as other MBA dean and directors rated programs on their quality. Placement success and student selectivity were among the other factors weighed in the ranking.

The Palumbo-Donahue School of Business has been named among the 2014 Top Universities for Professional Sales Education by the Sales Education Foundation. In its eighth edition of the annual magazine, the Foundation showcases Duquesne and other top universities with verified sales programs that prepare students for professional selling careers. The Palumbo-Donahue School of Business is one of only a handful of schools to offer a minor in sales. Our sales curriculum is focused on the application of theory through experiential activities to better prepare our students to more efficiently adapt to professional sales positions.

The Palumbo-Donahue School of Business recognizes the value of providing non-business students at Duquesne who are pursuing their passions a certificate program that is both easy to complete and that provides outstanding preparation for a broad set of business careers (including careers that complement their non-business majors). The new certificate covers all areas essential to modern management while giving students important skills in entrepreneurial thinking and professional selling. Available starting in the fall of 2014, the Certificate in Business Management is open to all students outside of the business school who might wish to pursue a business-related career within their discipline. In doing so, the new certificate opens doors for students preparing for successful careers in the liberal arts, music, education, pharmacy, nursing and the health and natural sciences while also forging stronger collaborative relationships between schools at Duquesne. Students seeking the certificate will complete six courses, with no course pre-requisites outside of the certificate classes themselves.

Starting in late 2013, the Palumbo-Donahue School of Business became a sponsor of BlueTree Allied Angels in Pittsburgh. In doing so, Duquesne students taking the entrepreneurial finance course now attend BlueTree investment meetings, giving them a rare, inside look at how start-up companies secure angel investments to grow and expand their businesses. It is one of several ways the Entrepreneurial Studies program is increasing the engagement and visibility of its students in the Pittsburgh startup ecosystem. BlueTree Allied Angels, which has been operating since 2003, is the leading angel investor group in Pittsburgh. Angel investors, typically high-worth individuals, invest in startup or young companies. The 65 private members of BlueTree have made investments of more than $27 million in a 40 plus company portfolio. The Business School’s partnership with the investment group provides a unique, cutting-edge opportunity for students to see both sides of the system at work: entrepreneurs seeking funding from potential investors and investors conducting due diligence on the wisdom of putting their money into some of the most exciting new companies in Pennsylvania.

A team from Duquesne’s MBA Sustainability program placed second in an inaugural world competition in Davos, Switzerland, based on a case study to improve sustainability operations at an international oil and gas company. The first
Corporate Knights-Schulich Business for a Better World case competition narrowed the field from 28 teams worldwide to just five in the first two rounds. Duquesne was one of three teams of students selected for the final round in Davos, where high-profile judges attending the World Economic Forum heard their presentations. The teams were challenged to use a business plan to improve the global energy operations of Suncor Energy, sponsor of the event, based upon sustainability metrics. The Alcoa Foundation sponsored the Duquesne team.

The MBA Sustainability program sent a team to the Aspen Institute’s 2014 Business & Society International MBA Case Competition and it returned with a second-place award in a competition that winnowed its winners from more than 1,000 MBA students around the world. The competition began in March with qualifying rounds at 25 leading graduate business schools. The best solutions from the 25 participating schools were submitted to the Aspen Institute, and five teams advanced to the finals in New York City. For the second consecutive year, Duquesne students were among the finalists. The competition focused on a new business case study produced by the Yale School of Management and Tecnológico de Monterrey: San Miguel: Expanding the Amaranth Market, a marketing case about a small Mexican factory processing ancient grain and operating with a social mission. The team outlined a 10-year plan for addressing malnutrition while building San Miguel’s business that included producing amaranth for government and nongovernment nutritional assistance programs; exporting ingredient-branded amaranth flour for high protein, gluten-free and lactose-free products in growing U.S. specialty food categories; and micro-financing amaranth retail operations in Mexico. The team won an $8,500 prize.

Traditionally, Gateway to Business classes have introduced freshman students to various business majors and disciplines. Starting in the fall of 2013, the Gateway program will focus on providing freshmen with an experiential cornerstone that will give expose them to hands-on projects and key issues facing businesses. This year’s fall Gateway program familiarized incoming students with the key roles of sustainability and ethics in business, thanks to a new project with Sustainable Pittsburgh and a new speaker series. Freshman business students were challenged to think differently about the future of this region, their own futures in business and the role of business and society. Guest speakers discussed these topics from their own real-world experience. Students had the opportunity to incorporate these large-scale concerns into research and projects throughout the semester, such as tracking energy use in organizations and focusing on sustainability through accounting, financial and operational practices. Guest speakers included Bill O’Rourke, executive director of The Beard Institute and former vice president of sustainability and environment, health and safety for Alcoa, and Matthew Mehalik, program manager for Sustainable Pittsburgh. This new initiative introduces the principle values of our graduate studies in the MBA Sustainability program to incoming freshmen, strengthening our efforts to integrate sustainability and ethics throughout the business curriculum.

A Rockwell Hall classroom used by the School of Business has undergone a complete renovation and is now outfitted with the latest digital technology to better foster collaborative learning. Room 308, which can accommodate 40 students, is strikingly different from most classrooms. Gone are the podium and rows of seats — replaced by a flexible arrangement of tables and chairs in an open space with large wall-mounted computer monitors. Each of the eight computer monitors has integral scaling software that allows data or images transmitted from a student’s or an instructor’s computer or smartphone to be displayed on the monitor’s screen without distortion or adjustment. The tables have folding leaves and legs with casters, and chairs are also wheeled so that the room can be effortlessly reconfigured in ways that encourage small groups to share space and ideas. The key element of the room’s high-technology teaching equipment is a 70-inch wall-mounted computer, also known as a Mondopad, which can be operated by intuitive touch-screen features like tablet computers. The Mondopad can easily be commanded, via an instructor’s control, to transmit to any or all of the eight monitors or to receive information from a student’s computer or smartphone. That potential for digital connectivity, plus the physical arrangement, intensifies cooperation among students as well as between the instructor and the students.

The Entrepreneurial Studies Program in the Palumbo-Donahue School of Business hosted the MIT Enterprise Forum Pittsburgh’s Elevator Pitch Fest, a fast-paced competition in which participants were given 90 seconds to “sell” their business to a panel of angel and venture capital investors in the room. Over 150 people and entrepreneurs attended the event, including representatives from many of the top funding groups in Pittsburgh’s entrepreneurial ecosystem. Pittsburgh area entrepreneurs participated in the initial 90-second speed round, where they had the opportunity to gain exposure for their businesses and to connect with prospective C-level management, advisors, mentors, funders, employees and others. Audience members
voted to determine which pitches would be selected to advance to the final round of five-minute presentations. Panelists representing Innovation Works, BlueTree Allied Angels, Draper Triangle Ventures and Thrill Mill Inc. listened to pitches, provided finalists with detailed feedback and then selected winners.

The Centennial Celebration of the School of Business brought more than 400 alumni, members of the class of 2014, and guests to a sold-out event at the Omni William Penn Hotel on April 23. The event honored 100 years of the School’s innovation and achievement and the success of its graduates. Master of ceremonies Bill Flanagan, host and producer of Our Region’s Business on WPXI-TV, presided over the program, which was sponsored principally by FedEx Ground along with PNC Bank, Peoples Gas and Federated Investors. Business school alumni Gretchen Smarto (B’82), senior vice president and CFO of FedEx Ground, and Joseph Rockey (B’86), executive vice president of PNC Financial Services Group, served as honorary co-chairs for the Centennial Celebration. John McGonigle (B’60), vice chairman of Federated Investors, was honored with the Distinguished Alumnus Award at the event, and Adam Hieber (B’03), director of Cerberus Operations and Advisory Company, UK, was presented with the Young Alumni Achievement Award. Jim Mesloh of The Dominion Foundation presented the Dominion Scholar Award to student Jordan Oeler. Since 1992, the award has been given to a graduating senior business major who best exemplifies the ideals of Duquesne and the School of Business.

The Palumbo-Donahue School of Business and its sports marketing program set a new record in welcoming more than 600 attendees from around the world to the 2014 conference of the North American Society for Sports Management (NASSM). Millions of spectators see the world of sports as a means of entertainment and for the many practitioners, students and academics, this global multibillion-dollar industry provides not only employment, but also subjects and topics for research and education. The annual NASSM conference provides opportunities for academics and practitioners in sports to promote and encourage research, scholarly writing and professional development in theoretical and applied aspects of sports.

Alan Levine, chief information security officer at Alcoa, spoke at the Beard Institute’s Distinguished Ethics Speaker event. Levine discussed proper and improper use of the Internet, what constitutes information security, the discovery of electronic records, electronic eavesdropping and more. The Distinguished Ethics Speaker Series is part of the Beard Institute’s mission to support ethics education in the Palumbo-Donahue School of Business. In its 25th year, the series brings together students, faculty and invited guests from the regional business community to explore a variety of ethical and community issues, encouraging an in-depth reflection on problems of human values in contemporary society.

The Small Business Development Center (SBDC) teamed up with the Veterans Leadership Program of Western Pennsylvania (VLPWP) to conduct a free veteran entrepreneurship workshop based on the SBDC’s successful First Step program. The workshop addressed various topics including evaluating idea feasibility, insurance, financing options, components of a business plan and more. Duquesne alumnus and former Marine Corps Sergeant Julian Neiser, a business and litigation attorney, discussed business formation and registration. Ron Collett, an administrative officer and military veteran representative from the U.S. Small Business Development Administration, discussed special financing opportunities and available veteran programs.

When a piece of a glacier three miles wide, roughly the size of lower Manhattan is caught on video falling apart into the ocean, people take notice. That event, the largest glacier calving ever caught on camera, is featured in Chasing Ice, a documentary film that follows photographer James Balog on his quest to capture film evidence of the shrinking of Arctic glaciers. Balog was on campus to screen Chasing Ice and provide insight on climate change made evident through his research. Balog is the founder of the Extreme Ice Survey, a long-term photographic study of Arctic glaciers that examines the effects of global climate change on landscapes. Using 30 time-lapse cameras on three continents, Balog and his team compress years of video footage into seconds to reveal the disappearance of mountains of ice. Through this work, Balog has witnessed the changing planet firsthand. In addition, the Beard Institute’s Green to Gold award was presented to American Express during the event. The annual award recognizes an American company that demonstrates commercial success in sustainable business practices.

The Small Business Development Center (SBDC) presented the eighth annual Pennsylvania Business Technology Conference at Duquesne. The aim of the conference was to help businesses increase their profitability and competitiveness by equipping them with the information they need to make smart technology decisions. It also helps them to discover ways to utilize technology in order to enhance profitability, productivity and market adaptability.
David Bishop, a MAYA Fellow in Human Sciences and a senior designer and researcher, was the keynote speaker. In his presentation, *The Future of Technology: Trillions of Devices all Talking to Each Other*, Bishop addressed technology trends for 2014 and beyond, including new products and gadgets, crowd sourcing and the latest competitive threats for small business owners.

**Bayer School of Natural and Environmental Sciences**

Accomplishments over the past year in the Bayer School fall into the following categories: grants, scholarly achievements, and student achievements and recognition; program growth and development; service and outreach; infrastructure enhancements; and rankings and commendations.

Active grants in the Bayer School total more than $12 million in initial funding, with $8.3 million expended from these continuing grants, and over $4.2 million remaining. During 2013-2014, the Bayer School submitted 78 proposals for external funding, and 36 were successfully funded. The proposed amount of funding for these grants was $21,741,512 and the 36 successful proposals were funded for $2,308,182. Funding agencies include the National Science Foundation (NSF), the National Institute of Health (NIH) and the McCune Foundation. Faculty members in the Bayer School published 51 peer-reviewed journal articles, including publications in the prestigious journals Nature and the Proceedings of the National Academy of Science. Faculty members also filed eight patent applications.

Grant highlights include the continuation of a five-year, $617,000 grant, obtained by the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, from the National Science Foundation to provide scholarships for economically disadvantaged, academically talented students. Biological Sciences is in the second year of funding of a $503,270 grant from the NSF to refine effective methods of teaching science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) subjects. A $463,000 grant obtained in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry is studying the “Development of Isonitrile Chemistry for Medicinal
Applications” and a $390,000 grant in the same department is studying “Organic Transformations via Activation of Monohalogenated Substrates in Copper Catalyzed Atom Transfer Radical Addition.” Grants were also received from the Colcom Foundation, Heinz Endowments, and the Institute of Professional Environmental Practice (IPEP) by the Center for Environmental Science and Education (CERE) to monitor water quality in the Lower Allegheny River, and to fund a Shale Gas extraction Conference that occurred in November 2013.

The Facing the Challenges Symposium was a two-day event that brought some of the nation’s most prominent researchers together to discuss their research on the challenges of unconventional shale gas extraction. More than two dozen academic researchers presented their research findings on topics such as biological, geological and environmental investigations; fugitive methane migration and climate change; air and water quality; human and animal health; and social, political and legal aspects of gas extraction. The event was attended by more than 300 people. It was also recorded for eventual broadcast on non-commercial television and a special issue of the Journal of Environmental Science and Health will feature articles based on selected conference presentations.

Related to student scholarship, three Duquesne University undergraduates were named winners of prestigious Goldwater Scholarship Awards in spring 2014. In a national competition, the scholars are selected from students in the fields of science, engineering and math based upon their impressive academic qualifications and intentions to pursue doctoral degrees. Only 283 students of the 1,166 applicants were chosen for the scholarship awards of up to $7,500 a year. Only 17 percent of the institutions with scholars selected, like Duquesne, have three or more awardees. Additionally, recent Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry alumnae were awarded Woodrow Wilson Teaching Fellowships. The Woodrow Wilson Fellowships are a nationally competitive, prestigious pathway to teaching for gifted undergraduates, designed to “bring new talent into teaching, elevate the profession and provide the preparation and ongoing support needed for success in the classroom.”

Duquesne University, for the first time, hosted the 80th annual Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science (PJAS) Regional Competition on Feb. 1, 2014. More than 800 STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) students in grades 7-12 from Allegheny and Westmoreland counties attended the event. The 80th meeting marks the first regional PJAS competition to be held at a local university, rather than an area high school. The intent of the Bayer School of Natural and Environmental Sciences was to establish Duquesne as the long-term partner with PJAS and the regional community. Participating students selected a project topic from one of the following scientific categories: behavioral psychology, biology, biochemistry, botany, chemistry, computer science, earth and space, ecology, mathematics, microbiology, physics and zoology. Then, they research background information about the topic, formulate a hypothesis, develop an experiment, collect data, analyze data and form a conclusion. This becomes the basis of the oral presentation they presented at the competition.

In terms of program growth and development, in its 17th year of operation, the Summer Undergraduate Research Program (URP) in the Bayer School hosted 63 undergraduate scientists, the largest group in the program’s history, for a 10-week-long, full-time research experience during summer 2014. These students also participated in the Summer Undergraduate Research Symposium, wherein seven URP student participants gave oral presentations related to their research, and 118 posters were presented, representing the research of the URP participants, and students from area high schools, and other colleges and universities. A total of 38 high schools, colleges and universities participated in the 2014 Undergraduate Research Symposium.

The Bayer School, and the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, sent 12 undergraduate students to present their research at the American Chemical Society National Meeting in Dallas, Texas in spring 2014. A Physics undergraduate student also interned at the Spallation Neutron Source in Oak Ridge National Lab in summer 2013 and 2014. An undergraduate student from the Department of Biological Sciences presented an invited presentation at the Council for Undergraduate Research meeting in Lexington, Kentucky. Duquesne University and the Bayer School, and the Forensic Science and Law Program hosted the fourth annual Pennsylvania Forensic Science Student Research Exchange, an event for all of the state’s accredited forensic programs. More than 100 faculty, graduate and undergraduate students from Arcadia University, Cedar Crest College and Pennsylvania State University participated in the event and ten of Duquesne’s students gave oral or poster presentations.

Service and Outreach Initiatives are a large part of our mission to provide challenging and well-rounded experiential learning opportunities for Bayer School Students and the community. The Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry continued its participation in the American Chemical Society’s Project SEED by providing summer research opportunities to financially disadvantaged high school students in summer 2013.
and 2014. Project SEED was established in 1968 to help economically disadvantaged high school students expand their education and career outlook. This summer research program opens new doors for these students so that they can experience what it’s like to be a chemist. American Chemical Society Project SEED students entering their junior or senior year in high school are given a rare chance to work alongside scientist-mentors on research projects in academic laboratories, wherein they can discover new career paths as they approach critical turning points in their lives. Students received a fellowship award for their efforts in the summer, and a chance to receive a SEED college scholarship.

Additionally, the Forensic Science and Law Program hosted the tenth annual Forensic Science and Law Phi Sigma Lambda Summer Workshop, wherein 24-High School Students attended the four-day workshop on the Duquesne campus. This year's mock case involved the kidnapping of the Bayer School Dean’s administrative assistant and her subsequent demise. The students in the workshop had to solve the crime using DNA, trace evidence, cyber forensics, fingerprints and fire arms analysis. Biological Sciences continued its fourth year of participation in the SIGMA Science Mentorship Initiative, a student-initiated program that brings African-American high school students to Duquesne to participate in weekend laboratory workshops and scientific career discussions in the biological sciences. SIGMA is another link in a continuum of diversity initiatives in the Bayer School that includes Project SEED, the Bayer Scholars’ Program and the Bayer School Summer Undergraduate Research Program.

The Bayer School reached out to the academic community and general public through a series of free and open symposiums, conferences and presentations. The Regional Perspectives to Integrate Exposure and Exposome Measurement with Effects on Human Health conference occurred on the Duquesne campus in October 2013. The human exposome initiative is a fast-growing field of research that has captured worldwide attention. There is growing evidence that 70 to 90 percent of chronic human diseases result from exposure to exogenous and endogenous chemical entities and are not directly attributable to genetic origin. Six scientists expert in the fields of Biochemistry, Biotechnology, Pediatric Medicine and Human Health, from the John Hopkins School of Medicine; the Heinz Endowments; Children’s Institute of Pittsburgh; Agilent Technologies; and Duquesne University, presented their research at the conference, which was free and open to the public. During a half-day conference on Metals in Biological Systems held in the Bayer School, the environmental effects of metal ions, especially in western Pennsylvania, were discussed by six experts in the field. This symposium, held in December 2013, provided a forum for researchers and educators with areas of expertise that ranged from synthetic chemistry, to environmental toxicology, to biomedical science.

A first-screening of the film Deadly Deception at Sobibor in honor of the 70th anniversary of the Jewish Rebellion at the Nazi extermination camp Sobibor was held in November 2013. This event was sponsored by the Nathan J. and Helen Goldrich Foundation, Duquesne University and the Bayer School of Natural and Environmental Sciences. The film chronicled one man’s attempt to understand what happened to his family during the Holocaust. The evening also included a lecture by Dr. Philip Reeder, the Dean of the Bayer School, on the technology used at Sobibor to try to reconstruct its history, and by Yoram Haimi, on the archaeology of the holocaust at Sobibor.

Lastly, Darwin Day is an annual international event that celebrates the life and work of Charles Darwin, scientific inquiry and the common good of all humanity. It is a time to emphasize the importance of science education in today’s modern world, and the impact evolutionary biology has on many aspects of our lives, by focusing on the verifiable knowledge that has been acquired solely through human curiosity and ingenuity. This year’s Darwin Day celebration was highlighted by a lecture titled Time Travel in Experimental Evolution by Dr. Richard E. Lenski, the Hannah Distinguished Professor at Michigan State University.

The improvement of the facilities in the Bayer School, focused on Mellon Hall, continues. The multi-year renovation projects in Mellon Hall continued, and funds related to the $1.7 million dollar grant from the National Science Foundation to partially fund the renovations were fully expended in summer 2013. Renovations continued in Mellon Hall via funds provided by the Duquesne University Capital Improvements Program, and during summer 2013 both general chemistry laboratories were renovated, as was the organic chemistry laboratory in summer 2014. In summer 2014, a major renovation took place in one of the research labs in the Department of Biological Sciences as well.

In terms of rankings and commendations, Forensic Science and Law students in the Bayer School took the Forensic Science Aptitude Test (FSAT) during the 2013-2014 academic year. This exam, developed by representatives of the American Board of Criminalistics (ABC), the Forensic Educators Programs Accreditation Commission (FEPAC), the Council of Forensic
Science Educators (COFSE), and the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors (ASCLD), is utilized by prospective employers to assess a student’s level of forensic science knowledge. Our students performed very well on this test. The following table shows the percentage of answers Duquesne Forensic Science and Law Students answered correctly in each category. The last number indicates the rank of the Duquesne students compared to the students at the 15 other schools that participated in this examination in spring 2014.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>%Correct</th>
<th>Rank</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Forensic Biology</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Controlled Substances</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trace Analysis</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toxicology</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latent Prints</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Questioned Documents</td>
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</tr>
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<td>Fire Debris</td>
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<tr>
<td>Firearm Tool Marks</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>5</td>
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The Duquesne students were consistently above the median and finished second or third in two of the eight categories. Additionally, in February 2014, the Forensic Science and Law Program applied for a received reaccreditation (for the next five years) from the Forensic Educators Programs Accreditation Commission (FEPAC).

With regard to faculty appointments and awards, Professors Fraser Fleming (Chemistry and Biochemistry), John Stolz (CERE and Biological Sciences) and Nancy Trun (Biological Sciences) were inducted into Duquesne’s Office of Research Hall of Fame in recognition of their outstanding research, based on consistency in sponsored research funding, research impact and/or funding amounts. Duquesne University President’s Awards for Faculty Excellence were awarded to Dr. John Stolz (CERE and Biological Sciences) for Service to the Mission, and Dr. Tomislav Pintauer (Chemistry and Biochemistry) for Research Scholarship. Professor and Department Chair Dr. Ralph Wheeler was elected to the governing board of the Council for Chemical Research. The CCR is a coalition of academic, industrial, and government labs dedicated to "Improving Chemical Innovation through Collaboration and Advocacy" in chemistry and chemical engineering. The CCR organizes conferences, issues policy statements, lobbies the Federal government on behalf of science, and presents awards to leaders in the field.
The Mary Pappert School of Music

The Mary Pappert School of Music enjoyed an overwhelmingly successful year, showcasing its students in concerts on campus, locally, regionally, nationally and internationally. Student ensemble concerts exceeded expectations with regard to quality of performance and total attendance. Themed jazz concerts brought record crowds, and collaborations with Children’s Festival Chorus and the Three Rivers Young Peoples Orchestras resulted in a stellar performance of Orff’s *Carmina Burana* at Heinz Hall. Faculty members were active as soloists, collaborators, accompanists and chamber musicians in a variety of high-profile events. In addition to their creative work, the faculty was responsible for a plethora of new scholarly works, including published books and articles, as well as presentations, lectures and recordings. Many have received awards for performances in their various specialties and have served as adjudicators and/or conductors for festival ensembles and competitions across the country.

Partnerships were formed both on campus and away from campus, including the development of a new Bachelor of Music with Elective Studies in Business. This resulted in a new, direct curricular relationship with the Palumbo-Donahue School of Business. Students partnered with foundations to institute new band and music programs in Pittsburgh schools, and faculty members have established collaborations with international conservatories, opening study abroad opportunities. In addition, relationships have been formed with national organizations to enrich internship possibilities for our students.

City Music Center (CMC) has also had a markedly successful year; students won awards and performance opportunities with orchestras, such as the Northeastern Pennsylvania Philharmonic and the Westmoreland Symphony Orchestra. CMC faculty members forged relationships with foundations in support of community outreach, including a partnership with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, in which CMC provided Eurhythmics classes before the Fiddlesticks Family Concert Series.

Music alumni, faculty, staff and students worked diligently with University administration to conclude the successful search for a new dean. Dr. Seth Beckman was appointed Dean of the Mary Pappert School of Music, effective Aug. 18, 2014.

McAnulty College and Graduate School of Liberal Arts

The past year brought numerous commendations to the College including *US News and World Report* ranking in the Social Science and Humanities category of the English graduate program 113 (up from 119 the previous year), the Philosophy graduate program 191 and the Clinical Psychology Program 157.

The University received three Goldwater Awards this year. One of the students, Claire Nicole Saunders, has a major in mathematics. She was mentored by Dr. Stacey Levine, associate professor of mathematics in the College. Claire intends to earn a doctorate in computational material physics and conduct research at a government laboratory or in the private sector.

McAnulty continues to achieve program growth and development including:

- Dr. Patrick Juola, working in conjunction with *New Yorker* writer Paul Collins, continued to achieve notoriety with his lab’s work on authorship verification of Edgar Allan Poe’s literary works.
- Dr. John Fried started a successful summer Creative Writing program for high school students.
- The joint J.D./MA in Philosophy four-year degree program began to accept its first applicants.
- Through the initiative of Dean Mary Ellen Glasgow, the College has received one-third-time appointments for two new Nursing Ethics Faculty: Dr. Eric Vogelstein (Philosophy) and Dr. Melissa Kalarchian (Psychology).
- The College Scholar-in-Residence program continues to expand. Since 2008, the College has hosted over 25 domestic and foreign scholars. In 2013-2014, five new scholars were appointed.
- In addition to its Preview Day, the College hosted several events for accepted students this year: two basketball preview events, and another Red Masquer event. Mr. Jason Broadwater, Assistant Dean, managed these recruitment events.
- In 2013-2014, in conjunction with the Center for African Studies, a Maymester program in Ghana was inaugurated. Also, new Study Abroad/Breakaway/ Maymester courses taught by professors from the College in Vienna (Psychology), Krakow (Psychology), Rome (Theology) and Naples (Philosophy) were hosted.
- In anticipation of the completion of the new Black Box Theatre at Duquesne, John Lane and several other faculty are drawing up plans for an expansion of the Theater Arts Major and possible interdisciplinary concentration.
The College hosted two National Institute for Newman Studies lectures this year: in September Dr. Mark McIntosh’s lecture, *Theology of Faith in Newman’s Oxford University Sermons*, and in April Dr. Brad Gregory’s lecture, *The Prophetic Newman*.

The College welcomed Dr. Markus Herrmann as a visiting lecturer in philosophy for the spring semester. Dr. Lanei Rodemeyer is reciprocating, teaching at Heidelberg University in the fall of 2014. Several graduate students from both universities are also part of the exchange.

The Mathematics and Computer Science Department proposed and has advanced a new MS degree in Computer Science that would be scheduled to begin in fall 2015.

The Debate Program, under the leadership of the Communication and Rhetorical Studies Department, had marked success in their national competition. Dr. John Reif was recently hired as the new director and coach for the program.

This year, the College started a webinar series. It features faculty and alumni who present on topics of their expertise and in areas of interest. Four have been presented and additional webinars are planned.

Additionally, the McAnulty College and Graduate School of Liberal Arts recognizes some of the service and outreach initiatives. In collaboration with its consultant Kathy McCauley, the College is now in its third year of providing direct grant writing support for faculty and students. The program works in close collaboration with the Office of Research. Thus far, three of the faculty who have participated have received grants – and many more have grant proposals that are under consideration.

The eight McAnulty College of Liberal Arts’ residential learning communities engaged nearly 300 first-year students in service learning to the Pittsburgh community. Many of the projects worked within governmental programs, non-profit programs, or faith-based programs. New Service Learning initiatives took place at St. Stephen Parish in Hazelwood and First United Methodist Church Soup Kitchen in Pittsburgh’s East End.

The Healthcare Ethics Program is working with the Allegheny Health Network to develop ethics education assistance. The partnership programs are expected to be in fall 2015. Additionally, Dr. Henk ten Have gave a presentation on the 20th anniversary of UNESCO’s bioethics program and the creation of the International Bioethics Committee. The public session was webcast live and simultaneously translated into the six working languages of UNESCO.

Following a project going back several years, two JMA students did work as pro-bono media consultants at the September 11 Families Association and at the Tribute Center, a visitors’ center and museum at Ground Zero in Manhattan.

The Department’s sixth annual Human Rights Film Series this year was entitled *Repression and Resilience*. The series is supported also by the Pittsburgh Human Rights Network.

In the spring semester, the College partnered with the Honors College to develop concepts for reuse of the historic August Wilson house in Pittsburgh’s Hill District.

**Mylan School of Pharmacy**

The Mylan School of Pharmacy and the Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences experienced another year of significant faculty scholarship and teaching, maintaining consistent enrollment targets and financial stability. We are in our second year of a continued accreditation until 2021 from the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE).

The School is in the final phases of the 2015 Strategic Plan and has completed 95 percent of all actions items associated with the plan. The Continuous Quality Improvement Evaluation Plan focuses on seven specific elements for which this process needs to be applied while striving for excellence. They are: ACPE Standards, Strategic Plan 2015, Educational Programs, Inter-professional Education, Research and Scholarship, Service and Pharmacy Practice Programs. The process for each of the elements consists of developing and utilizing an assessment plan. The use of assessment tools is vital to the success of assessing the elements. Tools include curricular mapping, identifying measures, SWOT (Strength, Weakness, Opportunity, Threat) analysis, project planning and responsibility matrices. The analyses of the results obtained from these tools are used to discover gaps, trends and variations that will lead to recommendations for improvements.

The Academic Research Centers continue to provide pharmacy faculty with opportunities for scholarship and provides students unique experiences for their professional development. The Center for Pharmacy Care and the Wellness in Motion Medication Therapy Management Program has grown to 186 enrolled patients in five programs (diabetes, chronic pain, GERD, asthma, hyperlipidemia and depression). Immunization services offered at the Center have expanded with regard to travel health immunizing over 100 patients. Influenza immunizations have increased to 416 vaccinations given during the 2013-2014 flu season. Clinical services offered at the Center have expanded to include
incentivized Smoking Cessation, Women’s Health, and Anticoagulation Services to both Duquesne employees and surrounding Pittsburgh communities. In collaboration with Duquesne University Benefits Department the “Know Your Numbers” campaign served 258 patients. This preventative care program helps to identify early risk factors for chronic illnesses, such as diabetes and heart disease, while allowing the employee to make positive changes in their health outcomes. The Center for Pharmacy Care has reached 4,190 patients through various employee and community services, which has resulted in 2,835 potential adverse drug errors avoided, four actual adverse drug errors detected and 779 drug utilization reviews were performed. In addition, 353 of these patients were given access to medication, 1,530 were counseled on medication use and 2,225 were given preventative care services. The Center for Pharmacy Care serves as an academic site for student pharmacists providing introductory and advanced practice experiences. The Center for Pharmacy Care clinical staff members were honored with an award for Outstanding Business Practice Model at the annual meeting of the American Pharmacists Association (APhA). The award was presented in recognition of the Center’s work with medication therapy management (MTM).

More than 200 second professional year student pharmacists from both the weekday and weekend pathways met with their senators and representatives in Washington, D.C. from Oct. 30 to Nov. 1 2013, to advocate for the role of pharmacy in the improvement of patient health care outcomes. The purpose of the meetings was to promote the valuable role that pharmacists can play in providing medication therapy management services and improving patient health care outcomes. Twenty-nine distinct student teams participated in 37 separate meetings with members of the House and Senate offices. The National Association of Chain Drug Stores (NACDS) was instrumental in providing logistical and informational support for the trip, offering a morning program that underscored the importance of advocacy to the pharmacy profession and providing students with a glimpse into the life of a legislative staffer. In advance preparation for the class trip, Heidi Ecker from NACDS provided students with an overview of grassroots advocacy as part of a presentation on Friday, Sept. 27 at Duquesne. Moreover, students had the opportunity to participate in mock legislative visits as part of a cross-over exercise between the CPD and ABLE courses in mid-October as further preparation for the trip. In addition, more than 55 Duquesne students, representing a record number, participated in Legislative Day at the Pennsylvania State Capitol on April 2, 2014, advocating for increased patient access to community pharmacy services, increased patient access to preventative vaccines without age restriction and protection from unfair auditing practices.

The Academic Research Center for Pharmacy Services, the Duquesne University Pharmacy, serves more than 900 individuals per month among 5,608 unique pharmacy clients. Last year, the Center served 2,674 unique clients and has processed over 100,000 prescriptions since opening in December 2010 and over 40,000 in 2013-14. The Center documents clinical pharmacy services utilizing the model developed by the Patient Safety and Clinical Pharmacy Services (PSPC) of which the Center participated as a green team in 2011. Over the last year, CPS has provided 58,467 clinical pharmacy services with over 11,774 patient encounters. The Center has provided 23,229 counseling sessions and 358 documented Medication Therapy Management services. The Center for Pharmacy Services has established collaborative relationships with more than 30 partners in the region, allowing social service providers, government agencies and related nonprofit organizations to direct patients to The Center for Pharmacy Services or requests our pharmacists to provide patient care management services at their location.

The Center for Pharmacy Services began mentoring student pharmacists and pharmacy technicians in May 2011. More than 100 student pharmacists have been trained at The Center for Pharmacy Services. Through a partnership with Bidwell Training Center, six pharmacy technicians have completed their experiential hours. The entire Center patient management services, in conjunction with the longitudinal community outreach sites, serves to provide our student pharmacists the opportunity to: (1) engage in active learning and develop pharmaco-therapeutic skills in the prevention, identification and resolution of drug therapy-problems in the a variety of disease states in collaboration with other health care professionals; (2) identify the need for and develop clinical pharmacy services in response to patient and community needs; (3) enhance practice management skills; (4) develop project management and leadership skills; (5) manage the medication use system and improve patient safety; (6) enhance research and teaching skills; and (7) document the positive effect of community pharmacy services on improving patient health outcomes.

One of the new efforts the Center for Pharmacy Services has begun is a medication synchronization program. This involves aligning a patient’s chronic medication refills so that they all fall upon the same day of the refill cycle. This
improves patients’ ability to take their medications as prescribed and improve patient satisfaction. The medication synchronization process differs from an automatic refill program. It provides meaningful information about relevant changes in the medication profile since the last prescription refill. Another new program for the Center is the Transition of Care program where pharmacists perform medication reconciliation on patient medications used prior to hospitalization and those therapies chosen after discharge. Patient’s medications are filled at discharge. The patient receives a post-discharge call. In this call, patient compliance and understanding of new and continuing therapies is assessed. The pharmacist assesses from the phone call if the patient is improving therapeutically. The clinical pharmacy services provided by the Center includes over 29,000 drug utilization reviews, more than 23,000 documented patient counseling sessions performed and more than 58,000 clinical pharmacy services performed. Prescription volume showed a 16% growth from the previous year.

In keeping with the Spiritan tradition of service to disadvantaged populations, the Mylan School of Pharmacy has expanded its experiential education program to include service to populations that traditionally have had little access to health care resources. During AY 2013-2014, student pharmacists had the opportunity to participate in pharmacy practice experiences that served the needs of various disadvantaged populations. These included the chance to work with homeless women at Bethlehem Haven, the underinsured at Catholic Charities Free Health Care Clinic and those with drug and alcohol dependencies at the Salvation Army. Students were also afforded the opportunity to provide services to communities in the greater Pittsburgh area that have lacked the presence of readily available health care resources through the Spirit of Health van. The Center for Pharmacy Services, a novel community pharmacy with its emphasis on medication therapy management and positive patient health care outcomes, in conjunction with the Center for Pharmacy Care, have given residents of the Hill District access to pharmacy services that had previously been absent. Under the supervision of School of Pharmacy faculty and pharmacist preceptors, student pharmacists were able to identify and resolve adverse medication-related issues, work with other health care practitioners to optimize patient outcomes, serve as patient advocates in acquisition of health care resources and provide patient education and lifestyle counseling.

Service Learning in the School has been expanded to become part of the experiential education for student pharmacists. The course, Introductory Experiential Education III: Health Promotion/Disease Prevention and Management, is the third in a series of introductory practice experiences offered by the School. Its focus is on service learning associated with special populations, educational outreach, promotion of public health and reinforcement of professional behaviors. As a service learning course, Introductory Experiential Education III has a heavy emphasis on advance preparation, reflective writing and group discussion. Its genesis was derived from University core curricular requirements for service learning while concurrently meeting accreditation standards that address the need for inclusion of health improvement and population-based care in the curriculum.

Dr. Paula Witt-Enderby, professor of pharmacology, was installed as the Marie-Clement Rodier, C.S.Sp., Endowed Chair. The President’s Awards for Excellence were given to Dr. Aleem Gangjee, Distinguished Professor of Medicinal Chemistry, Adrian Van Kaam Chair for Scholarly Excellence, and Dr. Peter Wildfong, Associate Professor of Pharmaceutics, Mylan School of Pharmacy for Excellence in Teaching.

**Rangos School of Health Sciences**

The Rangos School of Health Sciences has partnered with Shanghai University of Traditional Chinese Medicine to train Chinese students in occupational therapy and physical therapy. The students, four in Occupational Therapy and eight in Physical Therapy, will be a part of the August 2015 graduation where they will receive a Master of Science in Rehabilitation Science.

Through the continued generosity of Mr. John G. Rangos, Sr., the Rangos Scholar Award was established to provide support for students in the professional phase of their program. The funds will be awarded based on financial need and academic accomplishment.

All members of the Class of 2013 in Athletic Training passed the Board of Certification Exam on their first attempt. The Athletic Training Department has enjoyed a 100% pass rate for the last four years. All five original research abstracts submitted by junior athletic training students were accepted and presented at the 2014 Pennsylvania Athletic Trainers Society Annual Meeting with one project being awarded the best original student research award. Dr. Paula Turocy was inducted into the National Athletic Trainers Association Hall of Fame.

In Occupational Therapy, 100% of the new graduates in 2013 and 2014 successfully passed the NBCOT National...
Certification Exam. The three-year, first-time pass rate is 92% and each year the department has exceeded the national pass rate average. The Occupational Therapy faculty and students earned an 85% acceptance rate for their peer reviewed proposals and delivered 13 research papers, posters and/or educational presentations at American Occupational Therapy Association in 2013. Twelve students co-presented with faculty at the 2014 conference.

For the 15th consecutive year, the Department of Speech-Language Pathology exceeded national outcomes benchmarks in the following areas: time to graduate program completion, Praxis exam pass rates (exam required for national clinical certification and Pennsylvania state licensure to practice) and graduate employment. In 2013-14 two students completed master’s theses and several volunteered to support faculty scholarship. We continue to be nationally ranked (US News and World Report) as 62 out of approximately 250 graduate programs in the United States. Dr. Mikael D.Z. Kimelman was named a Fellow of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association.

The Physical Therapy Department had 26 students graduate with their DPT degree and 100% of these graduates passed their licensing exam. In fact, 92.31% (24/26) passed the national physical therapy exam (NPTE) on their first attempt beating both state and national averages. One of the students achieved a perfect scaled score (800/800) on the NPTE – a first at Duquesne. Collectively, faculty published over 30 manuscripts in peer reviewed journals including, but not limited to, the *Journal of the American Medical Association* and the *American Journal of Sports Medicine*. Dr. Rob Martin and Dr. Anne Burrows were promoted to Professor. Dr. Martha Somers earned the 2014 American Physical Therapy Association’s Award for Excellence in Neurologic Education and Dr. Diane Borello-France received the Elizabeth Noble Award, the highest honor given by the APTA’s Section on Women’s Health.

The Department of Physician Assistant Studies students are experiencing a 95% pass rate for first time takers on the Physician Assistant National Certify Examination and are highly employable immediately upon graduation. The department remains in full compliance with all ARC-PA Accreditation Standards and continues to have an applicant pool that exceeds most programs at Duquesne.
School of Education

The School of Education’s major accomplishments link to its national reputation in scholarship and research, teaching and the preparation of educational professionals committed to transforming the lives of children and youth in school contexts. During the past academic year, the School’s national reputation was illustrated by *U.S. News & World Report’s* ranking again of the School of Education on its list of Best Education Schools. Data from more than 1,200 graduate schools of education were reviewed to determine the rankings.

The inaugural cohort of the Leading Teacher Program in Urban Education (LTPUE) graduated in May 2013. The LTPUE was designed to prepare highly effective teachers to meet the needs of culturally and linguistically diverse students for 21st century classrooms. These future teachers demonstrated a commitment to improving student achievement through the use of powerful teaching strategies in urban schools. They will serve as educational leaders prepared to provide high quality instruction aimed at achieving social justice and equity for children and youth.

The inaugural cohort of the Heinz Fellows Program graduated in December 2013. Selected from a national pool of applicants with undergraduate degrees, these African American males became Heinz Fellows. They served as mentors in Westinghouse High School (Pittsburgh Public Schools) for two years while completing the master’s degree program in Secondary Education in the School of Education. This initiative was fully supported by The Heinz Endowments.

Funded through The Heinz Endowments, the Canevin Center for Educational Transformation and Social Justice was launched on May 2, 2014. The Most Reverend David A. Zubik, Bishop of Pittsburgh, presided over the dedication. In attendance were Duquesne University President Charles J. Dougherty, Dean Olga Welch, university administrators, faculty, staff and invited participants from the Pittsburgh community. The Center is designed to be an epicenter for generative thinking and doing in the education profession. Our mission is to increase the community impact of equity initiatives created within the School of Education at Duquesne University by facilitating social justice projects with community partners across K-12 schools, the academy and community boundaries.

The Barbara A. Sizemore Urban Education Initiative, now in its fifth year, continued to build upon its work to prepare leaders who understand, identify and address the needs of children and youth in urban centers. Throughout the year, international scholars across various areas of urban education shared their expertise with undergraduate and graduate students, faculty, and with students from Brashear High School (Pittsburgh Public Schools) who were considering a career in urban education. The year culminated in the fifth annual Sizemore Summer Conference May 27-28 entitled, *The (Un)Common Core: Pathways to Opportunity or Mechanisms of Social Injustice?* This conference offered 300 teachers and educators from the Pittsburgh region strategies to improve education for all students, particularly the education of students in urban schools. Featured events included keynote presentations by educators and renowned national scholars in urban education: Dr. Vanessa Siddle Walker (Emory University); Dr. Tyrone Howard (UCLA); and Dr. Richard Milner (University of Pittsburgh).

The International Center for Educational Leadership and Social Justice, one of only eight world-wide centers of the University Council for Educational Administration (UCEA), held its seventh annual Duquesne Educational Leadership Symposium (DELS), Rivers of Justice, Bridges of Love, on Duquesne's campus May 19-21. This theme was guided by the essential question: “What is the new steel upon which we re-imagine a healthier, more equitable Pittsburgh community?” The DELS Symposium hosted 50 people from Schools of Education in the United States and Canada. Four local Pittsburgh teams joined DELS this year representing the West End, Hill District, Hazelwood, Propel Andrews Street and 1 Hood Media. Each team was comprised of community members, school staff, parents and youth.

The Carnegie Project on the Education Doctorate (CPED), a national consortium of 56 universities, maintained its headquarters in the Duquesne University School of Education. Notable accomplishments included: Completion of year three of a $700,000 Department of Education FIPSE grant, housed at Duquesne. Initial findings of a 21 multiple case study that investigates how schools of education are redesigning their Ed.D.s into professional practice degrees resulting in three paper presentations at the annual meetings of the University Council of Educational Administration (UCEA), and the American Educational Research Association (AERA).

Additionally, 37 institutions were added to the Consortium, including Michigan States and The George Washington University, as well as its first international membership with two institutions form Canada and one from New Zealand.

The School of Education Community Forums (October 2013 and March 2014) were designed to highlight the work
and practices of the region's stakeholders around education and employment opportunities. Over 50 people attended each Forum, including superintendents, the executive directors of The Pittsburgh Promise, A+ Schools, Homeless Children's Education Fund, Three Rivers Youth, Entrepreneuring Youth, Communities in Schools and the YWCA, all of whom have education initiatives. Pittsburgh's Mayor Bill Peduto also participated, offering support for the forums, and Mr. Rich Fitzgerald, Allegheny County Executive, will keynote the net forum in October 2014.

Through its scholarship, teaching, and professional partnerships, the School of Education's reputation for preparing educational leaders in the Spiritan Tradition of Caring increases at the local, state, national and international levels, enhancing its ability to attract leading scholars to the work of transforming the educational landscape for the nation's children and youth.

School of Law

In March 2014, Duquesne University School of Law leaped 23 spots in the U.S. News & World Report's 2015 Best Graduate School Rankings, ranked 121. In addition, Duquesne Law was ranked No. 4 “best value among private law schools” in the United States by the National Juris magazine. That same month, after two years of intensive preparation, the Law School hosted a successful ABA Reaccreditation Site Visit team. The entire faculty and staff collaborated on the self-study and successful visit, leading to extremely positive ABA and AALS reports.

With the support of the University, the Law School Admissions Office was revamped with increased staffing and coordination with the University to ensure the highest possible yield that enables us to maintain entering 1Ls credentials. In addition, the Law School established a full-time Director of Academic Excellence position and added a part-time Employment Development staff member in the Career Services Office.

Clinical Education saw many advancements, beginning with the Sept. 19, 2013, dedication of the new Tribone Center for Clinical Legal Education. The new Family Law Clinic began serving clients in conjunction with the court’s opening of its Self-Help Center. Two new programs were created at the Allegheny County Public Defender's Office: Juvenile and Adult. Students in Federal Litigation Clinic conducted a jury trial in federal court. The Clinic opened a new DC externship program. The first CLE for externship supervisors was held in fall 2013. The Law School’s Pro Bono Program moved under the Clinical Legal Education umbrella and started a cooperative relationship with regional stakeholders to increase the number of pro bono opportunities available for students. Doctrinal faculty now teach in the clinical programs, helping students in the application of legal knowledge to the practice of law. The Professional Responsibility professors also teach clinical students to recognize the ethical implications of practice. Currently, the Law School is working to establish an externship program in The Hague, the International Court of Justice (ICJ), and other foreign venues.

The Legal Writing Program was ranked as one of the best in the nation, according to U.S. News & World Report for the seventh consecutive year. The magazine’s most recent rankings place Duquesne’s program 12th among all law schools in the United States, ahead of more than 170 schools nationwide. Jan Levine, Director of Duquesne’s Legal Research and Writing program, was the first law professor in the United States to be honored in one year with both the Association of American Law Schools Section on Legal Writing, Reasoning and Research Award and the Thomas F. Blackwell Memorial Award for Outstanding Achievement in the Field of Legal Writing.

Both the Trial Advocacy and the Appellate Moot Court teams had many successes. Duquesne’s National Trial Team finished the prestigious Tournament of Champions in Birmingham, Alabama as semi-finalists. This invitation-only tournament is the premier law school trial competition in the nation. Duquesne University School of Law won the 41st annual Academy of Trial Lawyers Mock Trial Competition – “Gourley Cup” and won the American Association of Justice (AAJ) Student Trial Advocacy Competition regional. Additionally, the School of Law won the 2014 National Energy and Sustainability Moot Court Competition in Morgantown, West Virginia (WVU) and the much-coveted Best Brief Award in the Dean Jerome Prince Memorial Evidence Competition in New York.

Further, Law students received national recognition. Duquesne Law student Michael McGraw won first place in the Texas A&M Journal of Real Property Law 2014 National Writing Contest for his paper Field Of Dreams: Is The Movie Site’s Commercialization a Dream Plan with Significant Benefits or a Nightmare Script with Crippling Effects? Duquesne Law student Margaret McGannon won a prestigious Albert Schweitzer Fellowship and will assist inmates at the Allegheny County Jail by helping them with transportation, housing and other determinants of health as they transition out of jail.

Duquesne Law Student Matthew Beddingfield was named a
runner-up in a nation-wide writing competition sponsored by the Association of University Technology Managers (AUTM). He travelled to San Francisco to present his paper at AUTM’s national conference.

In its efforts to increase diversity, the Law School, in conjunction with the University of Pittsburgh School of Law, participated in Future Lawyers Day by hosting approximately 60 minority high school students on April 19, 2014. The number of 1L diverse students at the Law School increased from 5.3% in 2011 to 8.6% in 2013.

In its continued effort to promote public service, the new McGinley Public Service Law Fellows program funded eleven students working in public service, including one student working in the Gambia and Ghana.

The Law School again achieved solid results on the Pennsylvania Bar Exam, with a first-time pass rate of 82.41% in the fall of 2013, once again exceeding the state average. In its continued efforts to achieve an even higher pass rate, the Law School, working with the Law Alumni Association, implemented an “Intensive Bar Prep” Program targeted at students at risk of failing the bar exam.

The 2013-14 academic year saw many faculty successes. Chancellor John E. Murray, Jr., in 2013 received the Distinguished Lifetime Service Award at the International Conference on Contracts in Dallas, Texas, the largest annual scholarly and educational conference devoted to contracts and related areas of commercial law. Professor Wes Oliver, director of Duquesne University School of Law’s criminal justice program, resumed hosting Crime & Punishment, an innovative Pennsylvania Cable Network series. Professor Wes Oliver’s Fact Investigations class began a collaboration with the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette during the spring 2014 that resulted in a Post-Gazette series about mortgage fraud prosecutions based in part on students’ research. On March 29, 2014, Associate Dean Moriarty coordinated a program entitled, The Violence Against Women Act and Its Impact on the U.S. Supreme Court and International Law, which featured several top scholars from around the country. Professor Frank Liu significantly enhanced the LL.M. for Foreign Lawyers program with a new group of students from China. In the fall of 2013, Dean Gormley served as keynote speaker for the Philadelphia Bar Association Bench-Bar Conference in Atlantic City, N.J. In October 2014, Dean Gormley organized an event at the National Press Club in Washington, The Saturday Night Massacre: A 40-Year Retrospective. The event featured United States Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer and distinguished panelists William Ruckelshaus, former Deputy Attorney General; Bob Woodward, renowned Washington Post reporter and author, and others. In June 2014, Dean Gormley was featured in the National Geographic Channel mini-series, The ’90s: The Last Great Decade? and served as a story consultant for that series. In July 2014, Dean Gormley spoke at the Chautauqua Institution in New York, moderating a program on National Security versus Privacy with former Attorney General Alberto Gonzales. In August, Dean Gormley again spoke at the Chautauqua Institution on President Ford’s Pardon of Richard Nixon.

In addition to the many successes noted above, the Law School awarded the Murray awards for excellence in scholarship to Professor Jacob Rooksby (faculty) and Sarah Moliner (student). In the 2013-14 academic year, the Law School eliminated year-long courses and all courses are now completed on a semester basis, thereby improving Banner functionality, assisting students with job searches by providing them with mid-year grades and giving students more feedback on their progress. The Law School faculty and University approved a JD/Master of Arts in Philosophy. The Law School initiated its first pilot online course for Evening Division students, Advanced Constitutional Law and Constitutional Law will be taught as an online course in spring 2014. The faculty approved a new process for hiring full-time, non-tenure track clinical faculty. The Law School’s CLE program continued to thrive with the bulk of programs being filled to capacity. The Law School invited a student loan expert to campus to work one-on-one with graduating students to help them understand their student loan repayment options. The Law School continued to have a high SES completion rate by having professors set aside time in class for completion of the evaluation forms. A Health Law Advisory Board has been created and is up-and-running. The Law School’s Career Services Office began offering extended programming for students and young alumni through a new career services endowed fund, which was developed with the Duquesne Law Alumni Association. Fundraising efforts made it possible to build a new classroom that will accommodate an entire class, and also to renovate and update the McArdle Moot Courtroom.

School of Leadership and Professional Advancement

The School of Leadership and Professional Advancement completed the second cohort of the Women in Mission program in Manila, Philippines. The program provides an opportunity for Catholic sisters to earn their master’s degrees from the School of Leadership. The knowledge and skills gained from the degree allow them to better carry out their...
SLPA started the process for transitioning the program to De La Salle University in Manila to ensure that the program continues for many years to come beyond Duquesne’s direct involvement.

The School of Leadership continued its work as a military-friendly school. A Veterans Advisory Board was assembled to provide guidance and intellectual capital in terms of veteran student needs at Duquesne University. The Board is comprised of 25 members, and they assemble quarterly to address a variety of concerns related to the educational needs of veteran students. To further serve veteran students, the School of Leadership opened a new Veterans Lounge which was unveiled as an official location for veteran students to assemble, rest and work. Students were invited to the lounge, located on the 7th floor of Libermann Hall for a lunch to commemorate its opening. The School is also pleased to announce that there are now four Veterans Administration work study employees, paid by the VA, providing service to veteran students across campus. The part-time minimum wage job is open to any veteran, dependent or spouse using VA benefits.

In January 2014, the School of Leadership’s Paralegal Institute hosted the American Bar Association School Approval Commission site team, composed of the Chair of the ABA School Approval Commission and the executive director of a major Washington, D.C. law firm. At the conclusion of the two-day visit, the site team recommended reapproval to the ABA Standing Committee on Paralegals, which, in turn, recommended the Institute’s reapproval to the ABA House of Delegates. At its annual meeting, the ABA House of Delegates approved Duquesne University’s Paralegal Institute for another seven years. The Paralegal Institute has been ABA approved continuously since 1989.

The School of Leadership’s website was redesigned and augmented with additional content to greater meet the needs of existing and prospective students. Additionally, the School created a Flickr photo sharing website to showcase its programs and events. It also created an online Blackboard student demo for prospective students to be able to navigate a Blackboard course site to understand the experience.
School of Nursing

Building on the significant accomplishments of the prior school year, 2013-2014 ushered in unprecedented growth and innovation in the School of Nursing. In 2013, the School was recognized by U.S. News & World Report the sixth best graduate online nursing program, and in 2014 ranked third for graduate online nursing programs for veterans, along with a top twenty ranking as a Social Media Friendly School of Nursing.

In order to help meet the continuing strong demand for nursing graduates, between the fall of 2012 and the fall of 2014, the Nursing School successfully increased undergraduate enrollment by an unprecedented 43% (with the largest growth occurring in the Second Degree BSN Program), for an average overall SON increase of 32%.

Accompanying this increased enrollment was the launch of two new programs. In fall 2014, the school began offering a new accelerated online undergraduate RN-BSN program with an emphasis on ethics, quality and safety, forensics, veterans’ health, global health and human rights and professional development. The School is also pleased to offer the nation’s first dual undergraduate degree program in biomedical engineering and nursing, with the first class slated to be admitted in fall 2015.

In addition to launching new initiatives, curricula for the Second Degree BSN Program, the Masters Programs’ Core Curriculum in the Family (Individual Across the Lifespan) Nurse Practitioner and Nursing Education and Faculty Role Programs and the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program, were updated and revised to reflect current educational best practices. The Family (Individual across the Lifespan) Nurse Practitioner program achieved a 100% 2013 Certification pass rate.

The newly created Center for Research for Underserved and Vulnerable Populations is a forum for networking, exchanging information and fostering innovation. The Center is committed to promoting University, community, regional, national and global partnerships to achieve excellence in nursing science.

During the past school year, four new faculty positions were filled, as well as two new administrative positions appointed: the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs and Assistant Dean of Student Affairs. Over this time, faculty published 40 peer-reviewed articles, and presented 16 national nursing continuing education programs. And, the School was honored to have three faculty members admitted as Fellows into the prestigious American Academy of Nursing.

Other accomplishments included hosting the School’s annual Rita M. McGinley Symposium: Exploring Social Justice for Vulnerable Populations: The Face of the Child, debuting a new orientation, training, and evaluation program for Adjunct Clinical Faculty, repositioning the Nurse-Managed Wellness Center as a community-based Health and Wellness Center for Older Adults and celebrating the 20th anniversary of the School’s online PhD in Nursing. The Retired Nurses Working in Neighborhoods (RN+WIN) initiative was also awarded the 2014 Jefferson Award as the Best Volunteer Group in the Pittsburgh region.

In the area of development, the School of Nursing was awarded a $915,000 Health Resources and Services Administration grant to enroll military veterans in the second degree and RN-BSN online programs, and a $30,000 grant from the Jonas Foundation and The Jonas Center for Nursing and Veterans Healthcare to support doctoral students in a Nurse Leaders Scholars Program. Further, for the fifth time in seven years, the School was awarded a $50,000 Robert Wood Johnson Foundation grant to encourage students from underrepresented groups to enter the field of nursing, and received $304,000 in HRSA Nurse Faculty Loan Funding.