Let Curiosity Lead

Undergraduate Research Helps Students Achieve More

Also in this issue: Innovative Inmate Think Tank  President Announces Retirement
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Visitors to Libermann Hall are fascinated by our new Foucault pendulum. As you will read in this issue, the student-built device is an application of Newton’s first law of motion: inertia.

Simply stated, inertia is resistance to change. A body at rest will stay at rest; one in motion will remain so—in the same direction, at the same speed—unless diverted by an external force.

Physicists define inertia in terms of objects, but the theory can also be applied to organizations. Some try to resist all change; they want to stay at rest. Some keep doing what they have always done—moving but opposing any fundamental change and the challenges that come with it. Both paths are futile and institutional dead ends.

Duquesne University, however, is focused on another of Newton’s insights: momentum. We are now riding a wave of positive momentum.

On page 5, you will find a recap of our recent national accolades. We keep earning high rankings from U.S. News and other observers, and our placements on these lists continue to climb.

We embrace change and growth as a part of our institutional life. Even so, some of our most remarkable changes are set against fundamentals that remain constant.

Our Spiritan commitment to the marginalized will never change. Yet, it is expressed in new ways, such as a project—detailed in this issue—in which prisoners devise strategies for reducing crime.

Our University’s struggle to keep our outstanding education affordable to all through scholarship assistance is a fundamental value. But now, it is expressed through a new University Scholarship Association headed by Fr. Sean Hogan.

Our commitment to undergraduate education dates from our founding in 1878. But now, undergraduate research provides students with opportunities to discover their academic passions and contribute to a body of knowledge, even before receiving their bachelor’s degrees.

There is no inertia at Duquesne, but only positive momentum. I am confident that even greater accomplishments lie ahead. Thank you for all you do for Duquesne University of the Holy Spirit.

“We embrace change and growth as a part of our institutional life. Even so, some of our most remarkable changes are set against fundamentals that remain constant.”
A new musical era is about to begin in the Duquesne University Chapel of the Holy Spirit. After several months of work, a rebuilt organ and a redesigned choir loft will enrich the chapel through a performance-quality instrument in a renovated sacred space.

“Wonderful music has been a hallmark of Duquesne as a praying community for generations. It is fitting that this new instrument incorporates parts and pipes that are over 100 years old, and new parts and pipes. I look forward to hearing this new sound in our Chapel of the Holy Spirit,” says the Reverend Daniel Walsh, C.S.Sp., University chaplain and director of Spiritan Campus Ministry at Duquesne.

The renovation of the loft, supported by the Rita M. McGinley Foundation, will make the space more flexible, with moveable risers and seating to enhance the use, aesthetics and sound, ultimately allowing the choir loft to be adapted to vocalist and other groups.

“The foundation embraced the opportunity to participate in this grand renovation,” says Jack McGinley, chairman of the foundation and nephew of the foundation’s creator. “My aunt Rita cherished her memories of playing during assorted social activities during her high school years and enthusiastically continued playing through most of her adult life. The foundation’s support memorializes her love for music and her appreciation of the work of the Spiritans and faculty of the University.”

The loft’s original wooden Gothic railing will look familiar, but the larger console, with three keyboards (or manuals) and 27 rows (or ranks) of magnificent pipes will be readily visible—not hidden assets as they previously were.

The chapel was a special place for the Donald and Therese Hand Hastings Family, whose contribution is responsible for the rebuilt organ.

“The beauty of the organ and the music helps to glorify God,” says alumna Therese Hand Hastings.

Both Hastings and her husband, the late Donald Hastings, loved the joy, calm and steadying force of music in the chapel.

Organ & Choir Loft Dedication
Sunday, June 28

The rebuilt organ will be introduced to the campus and musical community in June—a busy time for music at Duquesne, as the Mid-Atlantic Regional Convention of the American Guild of Organists comes to campus, and the Church Music Association of America will conduct its Summer Chant Intensive on campus. This musical gathering will reach a crescendo with the dedication of the organ and loft at a special Mass at 3 p.m. on Sunday, June 28.

“My brother (Daniel, B’84), my sister (Dr. Laura Hastings-Wood) and I are proud of our parents to take on a project like this and give something special back because of their love of Duquesne, their love of God and their love of family,” says Holly Hastings Spina, GE’92.

The renovation integrates new and old pipes, updates volume dynamics and adds solid-state electronics, among other improvements.

“It will be more flexible and functional, with 19 stops (controls of the pipes) growing to 30,” says Dr. Ann Labounsky, professor and chair of organ and sacred music in the Mary Pappert School of Music. “This is not to make the organ louder, but to make it more colorful, more subtle.”

As part of enhancing organ music across campus, the music school’s 1967 Moeller organ—used for recitals and private lessons—was updated last year by the estate of Labounsky’s brother, Alex Labounsky, a Boeing engineer who loved music. Labounsky, who sees the quest to improve the musical life of campus as personal, funded another organ rebuilding now underway in a music school practice room.

With three major instrument renovations and spaces being completed across campus reaching a critical mass, the impact on scholarship and liturgical music at Duquesne will be palpable, according to Labounsky.

“A whole new chapter is starting,” she says.
When a house fire in a McKeesport, Pa., rental property caused six deaths last fall, Allegheny County District Attorney Stephen A. Zappala, Jr., L’84, assembled a task force to crack down on landlords who don’t keep properties up to code. Within days of the fire, the district attorney’s office asked Duquesne for help in tracking property ownership and reviewing fire code ordinances.

“My office has had a successful and productive collaboration with Duquesne Law School for many years, most recently with the creation of a Veteran’s Court Clinic staffed by third-year law students,” says Zappala. “After we experienced the series of deaths in McKeesport, I reached out once again to the law school for assistance in creating a system in which the students would play a pivotal role holding absentee landlords accountable for housing deficiencies.”

Associate Clinical Professor Joseph Sabino Mistick put students in his urban development practicum to work. The program provides legal services to government agencies, municipal corporations and nonprofit community development organizations working in distressed communities.

“My students immediately began to track the property transactions and research municipal ordinances,” says Mistick, noting that the title work focused on McKeesport’s 10th ward, where the fire occurred and many rental properties are poorly maintained or abandoned.

“Our group searched titles to 320 different properties in one ward in just a few months,” says Alexis Schaming, a second-year law student who has an interest in property law. “We visited McKeesport several times and discussed our work with Deputy D.A. David Spurgeon here on campus and at the courthouse.”

Spurgeon, who leads the McKeesport initiative for the district attorney’s office, is also aware of Duquesne’s service to local communities and to individuals who cannot afford legal services. Spurgeon graduated from the School of Law in 1996, and now serves as supervising attorney for the law school’s criminal prosecution program.

In addition to the district attorney’s office, the law students worked with McKeesport officials, police and fire department representatives, building inspectors and housing group leaders.

Second-year law student Jonathan Williams led his fellow students in reviewing local ordinances. The students determined that McKeesport had existing ordinances requiring rental unit occupancy registration, but lacked a specific ordinance requiring smoke detectors.

“Once we realized that McKeesport did not have a smoke detector ordinance, my classmates and I drafted an ordinance for the city to implement,” says Williams. “Being from the McKeesport area, it has been a privilege to be a part of this project, and I applaud the efforts of all those involved.”

In addition to Schaming and Williams, law students Blair Droskey, Lauren Synder, Greg Sobol, A.J. Owens and Biannely Diaz contributed to the effort.

“We feel very lucky to be able to work through the urban development practicum to assist residents of McKeesport and lend help to the district attorney,” says Schaming.

“I am confident that this program will lead to safer communities and prevent the types of tragic fires that we have been dealing with throughout the county,” the district attorney adds.
Recent Rankings and Honors for DU
Programs and Schools

Duquesne has recently been the recipient of prestigious rankings and honors, including:

‘U.S. News’ Ranks Many Duquesne Grad Programs Among the Best

Seven Duquesne University schools and/or graduate programs have been selected by U.S. News & World Report to be among the best in the nation.

An appropriate testament to the University’s academic excellence and commitment to its students, the 2016 Best Graduate Schools features the following Duquesne rankings by U.S. News:

- The School of Law
  No. 14 among legal writing programs, No. 48 among part-time law programs and No. 118 among law schools overall
- The School of Education
  No. 149 among education schools
- The John F. Donahue Graduate School of Business
  No. 145 among part-time MBA programs
- The John G. Rangos School of Health Sciences
  No. 27 among physician assistant programs
- The School of Nursing
  No. 75 among nursing schools

The law school climbed three spots from last year to No. 118 overall out of the 198 accredited institutions that were considered. Among 290 eligible institutions, the part-time MBA program in the John F. Donahue Graduate School of Business was ranked No. 145 and tied with seven other institutions. The School of Education was ranked No. 149, tying with three other institutions, among the 246 eligible schools considered by U.S. News.

This year’s rankings also include five areas in health that were last updated in 2011. Duquesne’s entry-level Master’s of Physician Assistant Program was ranked No. 27 among 145 accredited programs in the nation that were surveyed. In addition, the School of Nursing advanced 52 spots to No. 75, cracking the top 100 for the first time in the Best Graduate Schools list.

Duquesne Again Receives Carnegie Community Engagement Classification

Because of the ways Duquesne engages with its broader communities through teaching, research, student volunteerism, economic development involvement, and public-serving centers and institutes, the University has again been selected as one of the nation’s few institutions to receive the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching’s Community Engagement Classification.

While 361 colleges and universities nationwide were chosen between 2010 and 2015 for this honor, Duquesne is the only one in southwestern Pennsylvania. The University first earned this prestigious classification in 2008, and will hold it for another 10 years.

“These are campuses that are improving teaching and learning, producing research that makes a difference in communities, and revitalizing their civic and academic missions,” says John Saltmarsh, director of the New England Resource Center for Higher Education—a Carnegie Foundation partner that administers the Community Engagement Classification.

“The Carnegie classification recognizes what we do well and provides us with recommendations to grow even stronger as we enhance collaborations with our local communities and deepen the civic development of our students,” says Dr. Lina Dostilio, director of the Center for Community-Engaged Teaching and Research, and chair of the University’s Carnegie Community Engagement Classification self-study committee.

Faculty, students and staff across the University engage with many communities, with more than 120 community partnerships that are continued from year to year.

University Named to EPA’s List of Top Green Power Users

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has named Duquesne to its Top 30 College and University List of Green Power Users at No. 28.

The University earned this national recognition by using more than 18 million kilowatt-hours (kWhs) of green power annually, which is enough green power to meet 38 percent of its electricity use. According to the EPA, this number of kWhs is equivalent to avoiding the carbon dioxide emissions from the electricity use of nearly 2,000 average American homes annually.

Duquesne is buying renewable energy certificates from Direct Energy, which the EPA says demonstrates a proactive choice to switch away from traditional sources of electricity generation and support cleaner, renewable energy alternatives.

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The EPA’s Green Power Partnership is a voluntary program that encourages organizations to use green power as a way to reduce the environmental impacts associated with electricity use.

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University President Dr. Charles J. Dougherty announced he will retire on June 30, 2016, when his current term ends.

“I am grateful to the Board of Directors for the confidence they have shown in me by their expressed desire for me to stay on as president beyond my current contract,” says Dougherty. “After giving this invitation the serious reflection it deserves, I have concluded that the timing is right for Duquesne University and for me personally to step down from the presidency at the end of the 2015-16 academic year. I will have served 15 years by then—a long time for a single president. I believe in term limits because they provide for new perspectives and new vigor. Further, the University’s exceptionally strong national position makes 2016 an opportune time for a leadership transition.”

Dougherty took office in 2001 and quickly led Duquesne in its first-ever strategic planning process, which became the foundation for unprecedented growth and success.

“The stature of the University has increased dramatically because of Charlie’s leadership,” says Marie Milie Jones, chair of Duquesne’s board. “He has driven major improvements in every area of the University, and as a result, Duquesne is well positioned among the top Catholic universities in the country. These accomplishments give the board great confidence that the future is very bright for Duquesne University and the students we serve.”

Most notably, Duquesne’s academic reputation has strengthened under Dougherty’s leadership. Among the various accolades during his tenure are several recognitions by U.S. News & World Report, including Duquesne being named as a top-tier school; rankings for individual programs across all schools of study; and the selection of the University as a top school for veterans. During this period of national acclaim, the University has enrolled the largest and most academically talented classes ever while maintaining a retention rate well above the national average.

Commitment to teaching, research and scholarship also has increased under Dougherty. Today, there are 24 endowed chairs, up from two in 2001. In addition, interdisciplinary programs and cross-cultural experiences have expanded.

At the same time, the University has continually been recognized for consistent financial stewardship. Noted by Kiplinger’s Personal Finance as one of the country’s best private educational values, Duquesne also was selected by Washington Monthly as one of the “best bang for the buck universities.” In addition, Duquesne is the only Pennsylvania school on the U.S. News & World Report list of most efficiently operated schools, ranking No. 18 among national universities. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency consistently names the University among its List of Green Power Users for its commitment to sustainability and efforts to support cleaner, renewable energy alternatives.

Dougherty launched the Advancing Our Legacy capital campaign that raised more than $165 million, marking the most successful fundraising
effort in University history. The campaign, which concluded in December 2012, surpassed the $150 million goal a year ahead of schedule. During the campaign, over 400 new endowed funds were created for the support of academic programs, student life initiatives and scholarships.

Envisioning future potential and opportunity, Dougherty has strategically increased Duquesne’s footprint to accommodate growth, building the University’s first comprehensive recreation center and a state-of-the-art residence hall, as well as acquiring properties adjacent to campus to create room for both administrative and academic purposes. The Genesius Theater is currently under construction and will be completed in July, creating the first stand-alone performing arts venue on Duquesne’s campus. Since 2001, the University has invested more than $350 million in new facilities and improvements to campus.

Known for his unwavering dedication to Duquesne’s Spiritan mission, Dougherty implemented many new programs aimed at showcasing Spiritan values, including the Centers for Spiritan Studies, Catholic Intellectual Tradition and African Studies; a pharmacy in Pittsburgh’s Hill District; a wellness center open to the public; and an expanded community law clinic. The University’s outreach—grounded in the Spiritan dedication to serving the disadvantaged—has been recognized by the national President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll in each of the past eight years—and is the only school in Pittsburgh with this designation. Additionally, Duquesne has held the prestigious Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching’s Community Engagement Classification since 2008, one of only 361 schools nationwide chosen for this honor. During his tenure, community outreach by staff and students grew to over 270,000 volunteer service hours, with an estimated value of $6 million.

“This through purposeful, strategic emphasis and committed leadership, President Dougherty has developed numerous initiatives that have emphasized the University’s mission in new and important ways,” says the Rev. Jeff Duaimi, C.S.Sp., chairman of the Duquesne University Corporation and provincial superior of the Congregation of the Holy Spirit’s United States Province. “The centers, institutes, programs and endowments focused on our core Spiritan values that began under his leadership will leave a lasting impact long after his presidency has concluded.”

Delivered in a communication sent to the campus community, Dougherty expressed his gratitude to the faculty and staff of the University:

“I want to offer my sincere thanks to all of you, the dedicated faculty and staff of Duquesne University. Together, we have brought the University to a position of national prominence. Our mission is vibrant, alive and woven into every aspect of life at Duquesne. Our academic, student life and campus ministry programs provide a rich and deeply meaningful experience for the young men and women who choose to become a part of the Duquesne community. Every day your actions reveal to me the truth in the statement, ‘We serve God by serving students.’”

The Board of Directors has started a national search for Duquesne’s next president.
Dedicated to sustainability through a core concern for the environment, the University joined a partnership that will work to make the city even greener. The initiative, launched by the Green Building Alliance and called **Pittsburgh 2030 District**, offers support and resources to help partners achieve their targets through monthly meetings that discuss economies of scale and facilitate connections with service providers.

In March, the Office of Multicultural Affairs honored University students committed to academic excellence, diversity and inclusion at the inaugural Spirit of Diversity Dinner and Scholarship Benefit. The event, which is similar in tradition of its predecessor, the Unity Banquet and Scholarship Benefit, invites members of the campus community and neighbors in the greater Pittsburgh area to listen and engage in discussion about current multicultural and social justice issues.

The ongoing and widespread realities of war, civil unrest and violence across Africa call for reassessing the role of Christianity in the continent’s search for peace. Three possible directions to peace were addressed in March with **The Sacrifice of Africa: Perspectives on Conflict, Violence and Peace**, a free lecture sponsored by the Center for African Studies. The featured speaker was Dr. Emmanuel Katongole, associate professor of theology and peace studies at the University of Notre Dame.

The national conversation on racial prejudice and policing moved onto Duquesne’s campus in March for **A Day of Learning and Speaking Out**. The event, organized by faculty members and administrators, was designed to catalyze conversations already occurring across campus within the context of Duquesne’s commitment to social justice. A **Day of Learning and Speaking Out** was co-sponsored by the Center for Community-Engaged Teaching and Research, the Center for the Catholic Intellectual Tradition, the Simon Silverman Phenomenology Center, the Center for African Studies, the Office of Multicultural Affairs and the sociology department.

If phenomenology is the exploration of the essences of human experience, what can be done when what is experienced is horrific, unsettling and cataclysmic? This and other related questions were examined in March at the 33rd annual Simon Silverman Phenomenology Center Symposium, **Experiencing Disaster**. Through meditating on experiences such as genocide and rape, ecological destruction, colonial violence and the religious, the symposium sought to explore the far edges and beyond of intelligible human experience.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

Duquesne will partner with Pittsburgh over the next 15 years. The Office of Multicultural Affairs honored University students committed to academic excellence, diversity and inclusion at the inaugural Spirit of Diversity Dinner and Scholarship Benefit.
Simple Device That Rocked the World Installed on Campus

By Joseph Vickless

It all started with a broken grandfather clock.

After tinkering with the clock, Andrew Witchger, S'14, was fascinated by the mechanics of the pendulum. Inspired to create something similar for Duquesne’s campus, he brought together science, humanities and history to build a pendulum based on a design by noted French physicist Jean-Bernard-Leon Foucault.

Foucault’s iconic pendulum was first displayed in 1851, to prove to the general public that the Earth rotates. His device was able to accomplish this without the use of complex and expensive astronomy equipment. While it appears that the pendulum is moving around the base, the viewer is in fact the one that is moving around the pendulum as the Earth rotates.

Witchger, an Honors Fellow, says Foucault’s desire to educate everyone at all levels of society about this phenomenon inspired him to build the pendulum at Duquesne, and give it to the University in commemoration of his time on campus and the Honor College’s first graduating class of Endowed Fellows.

“I wanted to find a way to share my gratitude with the University in a way that would be meaningful and specific to Duquesne. I see the pendulum itself and Foucault’s reasons for designing it as emblematic of the Spiritan mission that has meant so much to so many students,” says Witchger, who spent three years on the project and created many prototypes before finishing his final version.

On March 11, Witchger’s Foucault pendulum, one of only two in Pittsburgh, was dedicated in the lounge of Libermann Hall during a ceremony led by Dr. Kathleen Glenister Roberts, director of the Honors College.

“The Endowed Fellows program is very new,” says Roberts. “I’m delighted that the projects have lasting impact. The fact that the pendulum is both a permanent installation and an ongoing experiment will, I hope, inspire more Honors Fellows to set ambitious goals for their work at Duquesne.”

For this project, Witchger spent more than two years researching, and designed a one-of-a-kind electromagnetic drive system in the base of the pendulum. Most other Foucault pendulums in the world are driven by a system mounted at the top of the pendulum. At Duquesne University’s latitude of 40.4361˚N, the pendulum takes 37 hours to make a complete rotation and processes at one degree every 6.2 minutes.

Witchger’s pendulum is a scaled model that uses 24 feet of cable with an 18-pound symmetric bob at the end, which is significantly smaller than Foucault’s original that used a 220-foot cable and 62-pound bob. However, the two still operate in the same manner under the same scientific principles.

Many donors contributed to the pendulum project, including the Department of Academic Affairs, Bayer School of Natural and Environmental Sciences, Center for the Catholic Intellectual Tradition, Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, Gumberg Library, McAnulty College and Graduate School of Liberal Arts, Mr. and Mrs. Keith Saunders, Office of Enrollment Management, Office of Residence Life, University Endowment for the Honors College, Vice President for Mission and Identity, and Vice President for University Advancement.
Duquesne Mourns the Loss of Chancellor John E. Murray Jr.

The Duquesne community was saddened by the passing of Dr. John E. Murray Jr., chancellor and professor of law, on Feb. 11. Murray served as Duquesne’s 11th president from 1988 through 2001. He was 82.

“Duquesne—and Pittsburgh—lost an incredibly talented leader, teacher, scholar, author and lawyer,” says Dr. Charles J. Dougherty, Duquesne president. “His contributions here at Duquesne, as well as his service on numerous government, charitable and legal boards and committees have improved the lives of many over the course of his remarkable career.”

Murray, who was Duquesne’s first lay president, brought a tradition of service to Duquesne and led the University during a period of sustained growth and progress. The hallmark of his scholarship was his renowned Murray on Contracts and Murray, Cases and Materials on Contracts. These books are used in every law school in the United States, and are cited as an authority in court cases throughout America.

In addition to being named Man of the Year in Pittsburgh, Murray was honored as a History Maker in Pittsburgh and one of the 100 Pittsburgh Citizens of the Century. Before coming to Duquesne, he served as dean of the University of Pittsburgh and Villanova University Schools of Law.

Murray served as chairman of ComPAC 21, the committee to prepare Allegheny County for the 21st century, and chairman of the Pittsburgh Intergovernmental Cooperation Authority. He served on numerous community boards, including the Thea Bowman Foundation, Hill House Association, Catholic Action League and Pittsburgh Opera, and provided advice to various leaders concerned with enhancing the quality of life in the region.

University Libraries Collaborate to Improve Access to Resources

Gumberg Library and the Center for Legal Information recently partnered to purchase an integrated library system that has simplified access to library resources and will allow for significant savings for the University over the next few years.

Allegheny County Law Library holdings, managed by the Center for Legal Information, are also accessible in the new system.

The libraries began collaborating in order to acquire a “next generation system” that would provide an enhanced search interface while facilitating behind-the-scenes efficiency for library staff.

An implementation team representing both libraries selected Innovative Interfaces’ Sierra system because it provides a search interface that combines elements of a traditional library catalog, such as the ability to view real-time circulation status of items, and search functionality similar to Google.

With previous systems, users needed to use multiple search tools to find different types of resources; Sierra’s new search interface, QuickSearch, allows users to find resources from either library in any format or discipline via a single search box.

For more information, visit www.duq.edu/library.
To Strive,
To Seek,
To Find...

ASTRONOMER DR. THOMAS OBERST CREDITS HIS DUQUESNE UNDERGRADUATE YEARS WITH PREPARING HIM FOR THE CHALLENGES OF A CURRENT RESEARCH PROJECT—VERIFYING THE EXISTENCE OF FAR-DISTANT PLANETS.

By Richard Tourtellott
"I’ve purposely arranged things so I can do my research from our campus observatory. That keeps me from going into the field and it also gives undergraduate students access to frontline research opportunities right here on campus, which is a real benefit to them," says Oberst.

Extreme distances and glare from the stars they orbit make exoplanet detection difficult, and so the quest requires coordinating efforts and pooling resources. To that end, Oberst and his students collaborate with KELT, a consortium of roughly 20 institutions, headed by teams of astronomers at Ohio State, Vanderbilt and Lehigh universities, and including a network of smaller institutions and amateur astronomers. KELT is a tongue-in-cheek acronym that stands for Kilodegree Extremely Little Telescope.

KELT astronomers employ a method called the transit technique to disclose where and when to search. A robotic telescope atop an Arizona mountain scans wide swaths of the night sky and records any lowering of an individual star’s brightness, which could mean a planet is crossing, relative to an earth-bound line of sight, the face of the star. Such objects become exoplanet candidates. To confirm these candidates as bona fide planets, more detailed telescopic observation is needed, and this is the role that Oberst plays. In this role, Oberst and his students have co-discovered five planets in less than two years. The data is so fresh that three of those planets are still being finalized and have not yet been publicly announced.

“Knowing that we are part of discovering a new world is certainly a great feeling,” says Oberst, and that search for new knowledge motivates him now as it always has. “For me, science is about answering those big questions. It teaches us about ourselves, about humanity and about our place in the cosmos.”

Duquesne degrees run in Oberst’s family: Both of his parents (Edward Oberst, Karen Snyder) are Duquesne alumni, and Oberst’s spouse, Emily (formerly Emily McMahon), is also a Duquesne graduate, as are both of her parents (Thomas McMahon, Carole Prascsak).

One Gift at a Time

INAUGURAL CROWDFUNDING’S AIM IS RIGHT ON TARGET

The term “crowdfunding” was unheard of a decade ago, but today, Internet-based campaigns are a major source of capital for entrepreneurs and charities. Unlike traditional direct mail or telephone fundraising, crowdfunding unleashes the power of personal connections and online social networks to spread the word and explain the need.

In January, Duquesne introduced Aim, a new crowdfunding platform allowing students, faculty and staff to seek financial support for selected projects. The Aim site features short videos and blog posts from project organizers, describing needs and reporting on progress toward goals. Contributors are recognized on a donor wall, and buttons allow users to share the appeal via Facebook, Twitter and e-mail.

The first Aim projects were cross-cultural mission trips sponsored by Spiritan Campus Ministry, in which 74 students spent spring break working with residents of impoverished communities. The trips included a 27th year of outreach to migrant farm workers in Immokalee, Fla.; an Appalachian experience in Mullens, W.Va.; and “Urban Plunge” expeditions to Chicago and Washington, D.C. The Florida and West Virginia programs began 30-day campaigns with goals to raise $1,000, while the Urban Plunge target was $2,000. Each campaign exceeded its goal, with a total of $6,124 raised.

The Rev. Daniel Walsh, C.S.Sp., director of Spiritan Campus Ministry, was impressed by the results.

“The students were excited about this project as it kept both them—and the donors—engaged,” he explains. “Crowdfunding gives donors a chance to support a project they believe in, but cannot participate in themselves.”

Mullens, like many Appalachian communities, is historically a railroad and mining town. With the coal industry in decline, Duquesne’s fundraising and manpower are helping to turn the local economy toward agriculture by building a high tunnel greenhouse.

“This trip gave us the opportunity to bring a much-needed infusion of jobs to the region,” says Rev. Walsh. “Most importantly, this Campus Ministry experience offered locals the opportunity to care for themselves. It’s self-sustaining, as we left behind a fully built greenhouse.”

Contributors were able to see the impact of their gifts in real time through updates posted to the Aim site. Donors Lauren Winkelman, A’10, and her husband, Shane Smith, A’10, participated in past cross-cultural mission trips.

“By designating our gift to the mission trips, we directly give back to something that matters to us,” says Smith. “There are many students who are already on some sort of need-based scholarship, or who come from families that can’t afford the full trip cost. I was that student; there was no way I could have gone on that trip if I had had to pay for the full cost myself. I will never forget my opportunity to participate in a mission trip. We are grateful to be able to contribute to its future in our very small way.”

To learn more about current and recent Aim-funded initiatives, visit www.duq.edu/aim. Student blogs from the mission trips may be read at www.duq.edu/life-at-duquesne/spiritan-campus-ministry/blogs.

Appalachian Mission Experience
Mullens, W.Va.
$2,372 from 47 donors
Funds were used to purchase lumber and supplies for community building projects, including a high tunnel greenhouse. Additional support was used toward stocking a local food pantry.

Urban Plunge Mission Experience
Washington, D.C. and Chicago
$2,632 from 56 donors
Participants learned about immigrant workers while assisting in HIV clinics and hospice environments, food kitchens and homeless shelters.

Cross-Cultural Mission Experience
Immokalee, Fla.
$1,120 from 30 donors
Participants worked with the Coalition of Immokalee Workers and various social service agencies to advocate for the Fair Food Movement, which ensures safe working conditions and fair wages.
Duquesne Digitizes 150 Years of Pittsburgh Catholic Newspapers

More than 150 years’ worth of America’s oldest Catholic newspaper, the Pittsburgh Catholic, is now available online as part of a digitization project recently completed by Duquesne’s Gumberg Library.

The project began in 2008 after microfilm reels of the newspaper showed signs of deterioration. Now users can access issues published between 1844 and 2001 at http://digital.library.duq.edu. Issues from 2001 to the present are available through the Pittsburgh Catholic’s online archives, www.pittsburghcatholic.org.

“By digitizing the newspaper, Gumberg has been able to support the Diocese of Pittsburgh, as well as individuals researching parish and family histories because all issues are freely available online and are keyword searchable,” says Dr. Laverna Saunders, who recently retired as University librarian.

Healing on the River
PSYCHOLOGY PROFESSOR TAKES VETERAN COUNSELING TO THE GREAT OUTDOORS

Fifteen veterans with physical and psychological wounds from war recently were carried on a healing raft trip down the Colorado River through the Grand Canyon.

“Many of the veterans found the experience transformative. Two wives wrote letters of thanks to us for ‘giving my husband back,’ as one woman put it,” says Dr. Roger Brooke, therapist on the trip.

Professor of psychology, Brooke is director of Duquesne’s free military psychological services, operated through the University’s Psychology Clinic.

“Many had a history of hospitalizations and suicide attempts,” he says. “All of them felt the trip had made an enormous impact.”

For Brooke, as well as for fellow veterans from the Vietnam, Gulf, Iraq and Afghanistan wars, the adventure marked a new beginning. Sponsored by nonprofit Canyon Heroes, the wilderness adventure used holistic interventions to touch the emotional, moral and spiritual wounds of veterans. Each veteran, 100 percent disabled through post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and other injuries, came from the Pittsburgh area and beyond. They included three women who worked in the emergency rooms of Iraq, often under mortar fire. All participants, including Brooke, were selected for the trip by a counselor at the Pittsburgh Veterans Administration, where Brooke has consulted.

“It was not an intense therapy session; it was a week on the river,” says Brooke. “Each evening, I would talk for a few minutes about some lessons learned from traditional warrior cultures and invite people to think about the relevance, what we might learn from these cultures for our own healing and integration, and they found it very helpful. I did some one-on-one work, too.”

As a premier chronicle of Roman Catholic life in the diocese, the Pittsburgh Catholic collection represents a significant contribution to the growing body of primary documents covering the Roman Catholic Church in the 19th and 20th centuries. The digitization project has helped safeguard the region’s Catholic history while providing greater access to a rich local resource.

“The Pittsburgh Catholic will be extremely useful to social and religious historians, genealogists and anyone researching the history of the Church in western Pennsylvania,” says Tom White, University archivist and curator of special collections.

Gumberg Library funds, a Library Services and Technology Act grant, and a capstone gift from The Ann and Frank Cahouet Foundation supported the digitization project.

Dr. Roger Brooke recently accompanied 15 veterans on a healing rafting trip through the Grand Canyon.

“Many of the veterans found the experience transformative.”

Refocusing combat trauma as a universal human experience, not primarily as a psychiatric issue, was critical and, in itself, liberating.

“Understanding combat trauma as a human universal offers the experience dignity and direction through the lifespan,” observes Brooke.

Addressing this spiritual and moral aspect became part of a nightly ritual, with veterans placing memorabilia on a campsite altar and explaining the significance of the items.

“Reductions in PTSD symptoms and depressive symptoms were highly significant. Interestingly, even for those veterans who continued to have significant PTSD symptoms, the experience was very helpful, as they described increased self-acceptance, less shame and more dignity in their warrior experience,” says Brooke. “The experience highlighted the need for a veteran community that includes civilians, the need for a continued sense of service among veterans, and the moral and spiritual trauma at the heart of war.”
Changing the World From Behind Prison Walls

By Karen Ferrick-Roman

A small group of Pittsburgh men are working to have a big impact on one of the country’s most pressing social issues: crime and incarceration.

These six incarcerated men are part of an unconventional “think tank,” sharing knowledge that has the potential to benefit communities outside prison walls and taking the first steps to radically change policing in crime-ridden communities.

Duquesne University and the State Correctional Institution at Pittsburgh are among the nation’s 10 institutions pioneering this strategy of tapping inmates’ knowledge for the public good, says Dr. Norman Conti, associate professor of sociology.

“Some of these men are facing life sentences and see themselves as having a certain responsibility,” says Conti. “They are pushing back against a culture of crime from prison.”

These men want to do good in the community, even if they are no longer physically part of it, and have volunteered to participate in Elsinore Bennu: An Inside-Out Think Tank (named for the grim Elsinore castle where Hamlet takes place, and Bennu, the Egyptian precursor to the phoenix, the symbol of rebirth).
The think tank participants’ interests in keeping their families safe, despite the odds of life in high-crime neighborhoods, intersect with police officers wanting to do the same. Ultimately, Conti wants to make more of this convergence, establishing a training program that would place police officers alongside incarcerated men so together they could hash out how research on crime could translate into safer communities. The Pittsburgh City Police and prison administration are on board with the idea. Exactly how the training will work still has to be explored.

“We have been communicating with Dr. Conti about this training and its potential benefits,” says Cmdr. Jennifer Ford, Office of Professional Standards. “As Chief Cameron McLay and the command staff continue to reorganize the bureau, we will determine our level of participation.”

Conti’s vision has caught the attention of an Emmy-award winning filmmaker, Stephen Stept, who intends to document this process as part of a larger examination of police-community relations.

“I have been following Inside-Out for several years now,” says Stept. “I have taken its training course and find Norm’s mission to teach a class with police trainees unique and powerful and potentially transformative.”

Conti’s interest in tapping the brain power of those banished by society goes back a long way. For nearly eight years, he has led Duquesne’s Inside-Out program, based on national curriculum that seeks better understanding by teaching traditional college undergraduate (outside) students alongside incarcerated (inside) students, allowing an out-of-the-box flow of ideas and sabotaging of stereotypes.

Conti is now developing a how-to manual on furthering work with communities through think tanks that focus on detrimental public issues and involve both University and community members, an idea launched when he received the University’s 2013 Gaultier Faculty Fellowship.

“This type of work is important because the development of more just communities is the very heart of our University’s mission,” says Dr. Lina Dostilio, director of Duquesne’s new Center for Community-Engaged Teaching and Research, which sponsors the fellowship. “We do this by putting our disciplinary expertise and academic capital at the service of people on the margins of society by collaborating with communities on public problem-solving. At the same time, the process expedites and elevates academic work.”

Conti and the men of Elsnore Bennu Think Tank have met every Friday for nearly two years, generating ideas to create opportunities for change.

“I am there as a result of the administrators’ good nature,” says Conti. “Some of the most forward-thinking people are in prison administration.”

The prison bought into the idea that Inside-Out could mutually benefit individuals and college students studying crime, justice and social issues as they learn about professionalism and cultural sensitivity.

“Ideally, the information gathered is aimed at crime reduction, which benefits society,” says Rene Adams-Kinzel, corrections classification and program manager. “Programs like Inside-Out create an opportunity for communication and dialogue to consider problems in the community that contribute to crime and delinquency. Through this conversation, program creators hope to develop problem-solving skills and greater understanding for stakeholders.”

Incremental change has started. At Duquesne’s first Gaultier Symposium on Community-Engaged Teaching and Research in October, event participants immersed in the inequities within the criminal justice and prison environments. Event speaker John Edgar Wideman, a MacArthur Fellow, noted author and Pittsburgh native, framed the topic with eloquence and emotion. Wideman’s younger brother, Robert, the subject of the award-winning 1984 book *Brothers and Keepers*, has taken three Inside-Out classes while incarcerated and is a think tank founding member.

The Elsnore Bennu Think Tank gives its members a voice, and they share similar goals: “To do something for our community gives me a purpose” and “I’m trying to be a better person than I’ve been in the past” and “I’m here because I want to make change.”

“We can’t afford to waste anyone’s potential—especially people who have lived the culture of street crime,” says Conti. “They have information you and I don’t have.”

“We can’t afford to waste anyone’s potential—especially people who have lived the culture of street crime,” says Conti. “They have information you and I don’t have.”
Did a series of tunnels connect sacred spaces of different beliefs in Nazareth? Was a Catholic church in Rhodes built upon—or historically, sharing space with—a synagogue?

Preliminary data—though not yet certified answers—from recent geoarchaeological research in Israel and Greece suggest “yes” answers to these questions, says Dr. Philip Reeder, dean of the Bayer School of Natural and Environmental Sciences.

“We could be rewriting history with technology,” says Reeder, who was responsible for collecting data, then producing maps and diagrams of the subsurface ruins based on geophysical analysis.

As part of a team from three U.S. academic institutions and a Canadian company, Reeder was in Israel and Greece in January, collecting data using state-of-the-art geophysical equipment. He hopes to return next year, and meanwhile, will expand Duquesne’s participation by including a DNA component.

Preliminary results reveal intriguing possibilities just meters beneath the Earth’s surface:

**Tunnels from Mary’s Cave/Mary’s Well**

Mary’s Well in Nazareth is where the Angel Gabriel is said to have appeared to Mary. Nearby Mary’s Cave could have been incorporated into a church no longer on the site and provided access to the neighboring Greek Orthodox Church of the Annunciation (St. Gabriel’s) or the Roman Catholic Church of the Annunciation. The team hopes to locate and map the ancient tunnel system—and possibly, interfaith relationships.

**Kahal (Gadol) Grande Synagogue**

As with many structures, this ruined synagogue, built around 1480, may sit upon pre-existing foundations, perhaps of an earlier synagogue. What appear to be the ruins of a Catholic church are adjacent to this site.

"This poses an interesting question. Did the two exist side by side in antiquity?" Reeder asked in his blog, which tracks his research and is located at: [https://duquesnescience.wordpress.com/](https://duquesnescience.wordpress.com/). “This would be of great cultural significance if a synagogue and church existed side by side and operated at the same time.”

**Rhodes’ Knights Templar Grand Master Palace**

This location, tied to the Crusades, shows evidence of pre-existing structures from the Ottoman, Byzantine and even earlier Hellenistic Greek periods. “A long-term objective in the research design is to understand the relationship between the Byzantine-era walls, earlier Hellenistic-period walls and one of the seven wonders of the ancient world, the Colossus of Rhodes,” Reeder blogged.

One theory holds that the Colossus, a 90-foot statue constructed over 12 years, was erected in 280 B.C. on the Knights Templar Palace site.

While reviewing data, Reeder awaits another research opportunity that can include Duquesne faculty and students. As part of the recent research, Greek authorities are sharing teeth collected from ancient burials for analysis in the Bayer School’s DNA Laboratory to begin understanding the lineage of Rhodians.
Science Gets Personal as Region’s First Public Biomedical Lab Opens

What does your DNA look like?

Kids recently found out at the inaugural public workshop at Pittsburgh’s first community biomedical lab, a collaboration started by Duquesne University and Urban Innovation 21.

Students harvested their own DNA using an industry-standard process—a polymerase chain reaction—to magnify copies of a specific region of their DNA. Then, they used electrophoresis to separate their DNA by size of fragments and different electrical charges to create their own unique DNA profiles.

“The Citizen Science Lab is one of the very few community biomedical labs in the country,” says Dr. Alan Seadler, Duquesne’s associate academic vice president for research and technology, who was critical in obtaining grant funding for the lab. “Not only does it promote science among children but, very importantly, it reaches into the entire community. Duquesne and Urban Innovation 21 are partnering to meet the national goals of STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) education, and Duquesne continues its mission of service to its neighbors, particularly underserved communities.”

The programs at The Citizen Science Lab are designed to spark the interest of young people in the life sciences. Visit www.thecitizensciencelab.org for more information.

Faces of Courage Celebrated During Founders Week

The University’s 2015 Founders Week—an annual celebration that honors the legacy, vision and values of Duquesne’s Spiritan founders—was a successful exploration of the theme Faces of Courage.

Held from Jan. 31 through Feb. 6, Founders Week honored those who personify courage in how they overcome odds, build a more just world or simply bring joy to others.

“A face of courage is not always a famous person,” explains the Rev. Raymond French, C.S.Sp., vice president for mission and identity. “It can often be that person you see in your everyday life, who summons courage to overcome personal obstacles or makes a positive difference in the lives of those around them. In the spirit of our founders Claude Poullart des Places and Francis Libermann, this year’s Founders Week celebrated these people and their inspirational tales.”

Among the week’s highlights was a Faces of Courage video series, which featured alumni, faculty, Spiritans, staff and students sharing their faces of courage. The video series can be viewed by visiting www.duq.edu/foundersweek. Members of the Duquesne community were invited to share stories of the Faces of Courage in their lives on social media using the hashtag #DUQfacesofcourage.

Founders Week also included a Mass to commemorate the feast day of Venerable Francis Libermann and Vespers at the Trinity Hall chapel.

In addition, Duquesne University presented an honorary doctor of humane letters to Sister Rosemary Nyirumbe, GLPA’08, director of the St. Monica’s Girls Tailoring Center in Gulu, Uganda. A true face of courage, Sister Nyirumbe is the subject of the critically acclaimed documentary, Sewing Hope, which was screened prior to the degree conferral.
Research Student

DU UNDERGRADS FIND ACCESS TO RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES AND CUTTING-EDGE EQUIPMENT ENHANCES EDUCATION
GRADS FIND ACCESS TO RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES
CUTTING-EDGE EQUIPMENT ENHANCES EDUCATION

By Karen Ferrick-Roman
Sarah Richards traveled only about four miles from home when she enrolled at Duquesne University. But since then, she has gone great distances. The chemistry major has visited New Orleans, Dallas and Denver—all with presentations on a flash drive and a poster behind her at national conferences.

Richards is not alone. She is among the many Duquesne undergraduates who find research opportunities that teach skills transferrable to hundreds of careers, build their networks, stretch their education in unique ways and add to the world’s storehouse of knowledge—all because of the special access to quality equipment and faculty at Duquesne.

“Students at other universities don’t have the same opportunities for research that we have here at Duquesne,” says Richards, a current Bayer Scholar who is studying the relationship of certain proteins and cataracts.

Working in Mellon Hall’s new chemistry labs with Dr. Ralph Wheeler, chemistry and biochemistry department chair and American Chemical Society Fellow, she’s had access to top-flight faculty mentors and equipment.

“I didn’t realize that I would be able to work on my own original research,” she says. “That’s what science is all about. That’s why I chose Duquesne.”

As she has advanced in her research, she has gained technical abilities and learned to communicate her work.

“It’s not enough to just do science,” says Richards. “You have to share it with others if you’re going to make the world better.”

While undergraduate research is strong in the sciences, research is found in every school. Students from all fields have participated in Duquesne’s annual Undergraduate Research and Scholarship Symposium (URSS). Some, like Richards and Andrew Gula, of the Mary Pappert School of Music, share their work even more widely.

Gula, a music technology major and jazz pianist, won the Provost’s Outstanding Scholarship Award at Duquesne for a new musical system he created. As one of 4,000 students and faculty members at the 2014 National Council on Undergraduate Research in Kentucky, he presented this work. He also shared it as part of a statewide research showcase at the Pennsylvania state capitol.

“It’s exciting because it’s entirely new—I have created a new language for people to learn,” he says.

Gula does not think the Implementation of a Ten-Tone Equal Temperament System will revolutionize the music world—but he will transport the skills collected during research, presentations and publication into his post-graduation work. Like many students, he anticipates that the opportunity to delve into research as an undergraduate will shape his life and career.

“Undergraduate research is important because it really fosters the ability to learn. It’s all about doing it once—and then you have that tool in your belt,” says Gula.

That’s exactly what his mentor, Dr. Jessica Wiskus, associate professor of music and chair of musicianship, anticipated.

“Significant research experience that is undertaken during the undergraduate years can end up being about much more than the individual topic at hand,” she says. “It can be about building confident communication skills, developing leadership opportunities and reaching out to a network of peers from across the nation.”

Research also provided a means to sort out a career direction for Marco Acevedo. As a sophomore, Acevedo started examining physical tissues in a biology lab. He learned technical skills and laboratory protocols, plus presentation basics from the URSS. At his second symposium, he presented computational research, Potassium’s Dance with the Dopamine Transporter, winning the Bayer School’s Award for Excellence in Research in the Basic Sciences.

“Marco was interested in neuroscience from the biological aspect,” says Dr. Jeffry Madura, the Lambert F. Minucci Endowed Chair in...
Engineering and Computation Sciences, an American Chemical Society Fellow, professor of chemistry and biochemistry, and one of Acevedo’s mentors. “By the research he’s been doing there, he switched his interest more to the molecular level, an understanding of neurological behavior. It has helped him to identify his true interests and abilities—which is another reason we encourage freshmen to dive into research.”

While finding his strength in research, Acevedo also has added knowledge to the field—even as an undergrad. “He’s helped build a molecular model of monoamine transporters to understand their structure and function,” says Madura. “Basic science.”

The next move for Acevedo, who came to Pittsburgh from his tight-knit Hispanic Catholic community in Edinburg, Texas, is to carry his biology, chemistry and research skills into Duquesne’s weekend pharmacy program. Acevedo will move forward within the framework of his research training:

- Using the correct language in the right way—and for the right audience
- Perfecting the technical skills the research requires
- Using intellectual skills to ask better questions and attack the problem

• Retaining a strong sense of intellectual humility, realizing that he will not come up with solutions entirely on his own and that, in turn, he will serve as a foundation for other researchers.

Acevedo says the strides he’s made stem from the mentoring that is a hallmark of the Duquesne experience. “At Duquesne, I get a lot of faculty attention. It’s one of the high marks of the University,” he says. “I probably would not have done research if my professors hadn’t been open to it.”

This benefit is rooted in the University’s goal to develop faculty who are excellent teachers and researchers—and because Duquesne’s size puts it in a very sweet spot. “At institutions our size, undergraduates directly use the equipment, whereas at some larger institutions, they may have technicians to use the equipment,” explains Madura.

“Undergraduate research is important...it’s all about doing it once—and then you have that tool in your belt.”
“The quality of the work being done by our undergraduate students is an example of the value of a Duquesne education.”

who has experience at large public universities. “Our students are trained and use the equipment directly, like the mass spectrometer, the X-ray diffractometers, the scanning electron microscopes and supercomputers.”

With student intellectual curiosity, faculty encouragement and the equipment available, this year’s URSS is the largest ever, says Dr. Alan Seadler, associate academic vice president for research and technology.

“I can’t emphasize enough the value of undergraduate research as hands-on training of our students in their chosen fields,” says Seadler. “The quality of the work being done by our undergraduate students is an example of the value of a Duquesne education.”

Duquesne’s legacy of research provides good grounding for students’ futures but also rewards the faculty.

“It is through my students’ success that I’m successful,” says Madura. “When they leave here, they know what success looks like—and they carry that forward.”

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP SYMPOSIUM 2015

7th annual symposium

220+ student participants (largest ever)

More than 150 poster presentations
Lasting Memories

Many Duquesne alumni were deeply influenced by Spiritans they met as students on our Bluff. For George A. Hackett, GE’73, the fondest remembrances revolve around priests he met long before he began his graduate studies, and years after he earned his master’s degree.

In fact, a Spiritan who never served at Duquesne brought him here. The Rev. Joseph B. Hackett, C.S.Sp., spent most of his missionary career in parishes across the southern United States. Fr. Hackett—George’s uncle—was the founding pastor of Our Lady Queen of Peace, the first African-American Catholic parish in Arlington County, Va., established in 1945.

“Uncle Joe was the only priest in our family, so he was kind of special,” George Hackett recalls with a laugh. “He was a regular guy, but a great guy, and I was always impressed by him.”

After George Hackett completed his undergraduate studies in education at Clarion University, Fr. Hackett steered him to Duquesne.

“If you had a family member who was a Holy Ghost Father, you could go to Duquesne,” explains George. “That helped because graduate school was expensive. I taught and worked in the mill, but I really appreciated what he was able to do for me.”

George Hackett later transitioned from teaching to real estate, and has been the president of Coldwell Banker Real Estate Services in Pittsburgh for the past 25 years. He and his wife, Teddi, have made several pilgrimages to the Marian shrine at Medjugorje in Bosnia-Herzegovina. On one of those trips, in the late 1990s, they met a second Spiritan who would play a role in their lives.

The Rev. Francis X. Hanley, C.S.Sp., studied theology at Duquesne after his ordination to the priesthood in 1960. After assignments as a teacher and headmaster at Holy Ghost Prep near Philadelphia, he returned to Duquesne in 1977, and co-founded the Duquesne Apostolate for the Deaf, now known as the Pittsburgh Catholic Office for the Deaf. Six years later, he was posted to the Spiritan International Novitiate Team in Quebec, and subsequently, he was Superior of the Spiritan Community in Bethel Park, Pa. Fr. Hanley again returned to Duquesne in 1999, serving in Student Life and Campus Ministry until 2005. Even after his retirement from active ministry in 2006, he remained a familiar face on campus until his passing in 2010 at age 79.

“I met Fr. Hanley as a spiritual director on our Medjugorje trips,” remembers George Hackett. “He and I got to know each other. I would pick him up occasionally and we would go to dinner. My wife and I just thought he was a wonderful man—a very smart man, and a very holy man.”

In 2013, George and Teddi Hackett established the Frs. Joseph B. Hackett and Francis X. Hanley Endowed Resource Fund at Duquesne. Income from the fund is used to assist students participating in the University’s Vocation Discernment Group and Spiritan Formation program—young men considering or already following in the pastoral footsteps of the two devoted priests.

“Sometimes priests spend their whole lives in service and don’t receive the recognition they deserve,” says George Hackett. “I was inspired by these men at different times in my life. We wanted them both to be remembered, and perhaps to help someone else find their own vocation.”
Creating Knowledge

RECENTLY, DUQUESNE RESEARCHERS HAVE BEEN FOCUSING ON PSYCHOSOCIAL ISSUES AND BARIATRIC SURGERY, AND BREAKING NEW GROUND IN SCHOLARSHIP OF MEDIEVAL SAINTS.

THE WRITING OF MARIA BREAKS NEW GROUND IN SCHOLARSHIP OF MEDIEVAL SAINTS

Dr. Boncho Dragiyski, assistant professor of Spanish in the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, held a presentation in February that provided the first detailed examination of prominent female religious figures from the Iberian Middle Ages.

During Divine Textualization: The Writing of María, Dragiyski delved into the life and works of María Martín Maestro, better known as María de Ajofrín, who was the first known stigmatic—male or female—in medieval Iberia. The presentation was part of the 2014-15 Women's and Gender Studies program on saints.

“Apart from providing an examination of María de Ajofrín’s life, my research also offers a model for understanding how the local Iberian idiosyncratic context created a space for the voice of an exceptional holy woman, and, consequently, also for that of her spiritual sisters and followers,” says Dragiyski.

Dragiyski’s larger research focuses on issues related to the religious beliefs and practices of western Europe during the high- and late-Middle Ages, with a special interest in female saints, devotion and cultural communication on the Iberian Peninsula. He is currently preparing papers on the lives of María de Ajofrín and a second holy woman from the 15th century, Inés de Moncada. A third paper will come out in late spring on Beatrice da Silva.

STUDY CONSIDERS PSYCHOSOCIAL ISSUES AND BARIATRIC SURGERY

The University recently became part of Associate Professor Dr. Melissa Kalarchian’s long-term investigation of the psychosocial outcomes of bariatric surgery patients. She is the site principal investigator for the study, which is part of the Longitudinal Assessment of Bariatric Surgery (LABS), a National Institutes of Health-funded consortium conducting clinical, epidemiological and behavioral research on bariatric surgery.

The procedures can have significant health benefits, including weight loss, reversal of type 2 diabetes and improvements in sleep apnea. Bariatric surgery also includes risks, even death. American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery numbers for bariatric procedures increased from approximately 16,000 in the early 1990s to 220,000 in 2008.

Kalarchian, who serves as associate dean for research in the nursing school and has a joint faculty position in both the School of Nursing and the McAnulty College’s Department of Psychology, has a program of research in bariatric surgery. She became part of the LABS study consortium in 2007, when she was on the faculty at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, and her three-site team obtained funding for the psychosocial study in 2010. Kalarchian joined the Duquesne faculty in 2013, and her team applied to renew the grant.

Kalarchian’s Duquesne site and two others in New York City and Fargo, N.D., received renewal funding in the amount of $1,339,000—to be split among the three sites over four years—to document the psychosocial effects through seven years post-surgery. This includes administering detailed assessments of mood, anxiety, eating, substance use and cognitive factors to a subset of patients at the participating sites.

Overall, Kalarchian says that better understanding the effects of the surgery is crucial in developing more effective interventions for treating obesity. It also helps a person considering bariatric surgery to have more information about what to expect regarding outcomes.
ROYAL SOCIETY OF CHEMISTRY WELCOMES ITS FIRST DU PROFESSOR

The latest accolade for Dr. Partha Basu, professor of chemistry and biochemistry, is to be named Duquesne’s first fellow in the Royal Society of Chemistry.

Basu joins just six other Pittsburghers as fellows of the society, selected for their outstanding contributions to the field. The Royal Society of Chemistry is the United Kingdom’s professional organization and Europe’s largest group for advancing the chemical sciences by working with industry, and academic and government agencies.

Teaching at Duquesne since 1998, Basu has produced about 100 peer-reviewed publications. Among his three patents is a compound that glows when it detects lead.

Recognized internationally for his work in understanding the roles of metal ions in biological processes, Basu has served as editor and on the editorial boards of academic publications around the globe, including the editorial advisory board on metallomics for the Royal Society. Additionally, he has served on study sections of the National Institutes of Health and on the National Science Foundation’s enzymes and metalloproteins panel.

BUSINESS PLAN BASED ON DU RESEARCH CHOSEN FOR NATIONAL COMPETITION

The largest patent licensing deal in Duquesne history recently brought Dr. Aleem Gangjee’s portfolio of cancer-fighting compounds to a business venture. Now the transfer of this technology from the University to a startup has captured the attention of a national organization of intellectual property managers and lawyers through a business plan developed by Dr. Frank L. Sorgi, a three-time alumnus and member of Duquesne’s Alumni Board of Governors.

Sorgi, president and chief executive officer of FLAG Therapeutics, formed a company around the portfolio developed by Gangjee, a professor of medicinal chemistry. A former executive who developed pharmaceuticals to the clinical trial stage, Sorgi created one of only four business plans selected nationwide by the Association of University Technology Managers as a finalist for its 2015 Venture Forum Business Plan Competition. The competition, attracting more than 50 young companies, specifically focuses on university research that has made the leap into the commercial realm.

SPECIAL JOURNAL TO SHARE PROCEEDINGS FROM FRACKING AND HEALTH CONFERENCE

A new special issue of the Journal of Environmental Science and Health, Part A will be published featuring papers that were previously presented at the 2013 Duquesne conference, Facing the Challenges: Research on Shale Gas Extraction.

Eight papers from the two-day conference focus on the human, environmental and animal health impacts from energy extraction.

“Because of the significance of fracking in our region, it was natural that Duquesne host a conference about related scientific work,” says Dr. Philip Reeder, dean of the Bayer School of Natural and Environmental Sciences. “Having others in the academic community put such value on this work, to create an entire publication around it, is gratifying. Besides expanding knowledge in the field, the research has added value for decision-making in our community and beyond.”

The journal can be accessed at www.tandfonline.com/lesa.

UNDERGRAD RECOGNIZED WITH PRESTIGIOUS SCIENCE AWARD

A student researching pain and depression has been selected from applicants across the state as Duquesne’s first Clarkston Scholar.

Edward Hilton IV, a sophomore biochemistry major who also is minoring in math and biology, was selected from a pool of students throughout the state for the $10,000 scholarship. The scholarship, in only its fourth year, is presented by Clarkston Consulting to a highly motivated sophomore who excels in the classroom, has a focused interest and passion for life sciences, and plans to become a life-sciences professional.
1. Several MEN’S BASKETBALL ALUMNI celebrated a reunion prior to the Dukes vs. Dayton game in February. Shown are: (front row) Jack Wojdowski, B’73, L’76; Jack Piet, B’76; Norm Nixon, B’77; Thomas “Moe” Barr, E’71; John Farrell; and (back row) Garry Nelson, B’71, L’82; and Don Gambridge, A’77.

2. THE ALUMNI BOARD OF GOVERNORS recently met to discuss bylaws, strategic planning and alumni volunteer engagement, followed by cheering on the Dukes men’s basketball team in the A.J. Palumbo Center. To find out more about the alumni board, go to www.myduquesne.duq.edu and click on Get Involved.

3. In February, as part of SPIRITAN CAMPUS MINISTRY’S FAITH AND FOOD JUSTICE SERIES—a three-part event looking at fair trade, fair food and food security at a global, national and local level—students attended a training session in order to learn about some of the issues faced by residents in the Hazelwood neighborhood of Pittsburgh. Following the training session, students assisted in food distribution. The program was done in partnership with Fishes and Loaves, a non-profit
committed to bringing affordable and fresh food into homes in Hazelwood, an urban food desert.

4. **FRIENDS SINCE FIRST GRADE**, Kathryn Anne Ende McGervey, GA’76 (holding magazine), and Virginia Kapton Riegner, B’71, attended FunFest in Sun City Center, Fla., in March.

5. **BREAKFAST WITH SANTA**, a favorite traditional event for alumni, allows families an opportunity to get a photo with Santa and Mrs. Claus. Shown here is the Zancosky family.

6. Tim O’Brien, A’11, recently traveled to the **REPUBLIC OF GEORGIA** to visit his friend Archil Sumbazde, who spent a year at Duquesne as a special scholar through a prestigious State Department program. Sumbazde is a headmaster at an international school in Tbilisi, Georgia. Here, the friends are shown overlooking Old Town in Tbilisi.

7. Recent graduates and friends reunited for a night of beer tasting at the **YOUNG ALUMNI COUNCIL’S ANNUAL RED & BLUE BREW**. Join them next March and bring your friends!

8. Mary Cutchin, A’63, John Hoch, A’74, and Joan Connors, A’60, GA’94, enjoyed the alumni reception with Dr. Charles Dougherty at the **OLYMPIC CLUB IN SAN FRANCISCO**.
OUR BLUFF IN BRIEF

FR. HOGAN TO CONTINUE TO SERVE
DUQUESNE, STUDENTS IN NEW ROLE

When the Reverend Sean Hogan, C.S.Sp., arrived at Duquesne from Kenya in 1975, he planned to stay on our Bluff for a year. Now, after serving Duquesne in various important positions for the last 40 years, he is taking on a new role that will keep him connected to a group close to his heart: Duquesne students.

Hogan will conclude his service as executive vice president for student life on June 30. In the fall, he will begin serving as the first president of the newly formed Duquesne University Scholarship Association, leading a network of alumni volunteers who will work to raise money for need-based scholarships.

“The Scholarship Association will help many students achieve their dreams, and I look forward to continuing to work with Fr. Hogan in his new role,” says University President Charles J. Dougherty.

Hogan has touched many hearts on our Bluff since he arrived four decades ago, focusing on making a difference at Duquesne and working with colleagues to serve students. Alumni enthusiastically talk about how their relationship with Hogan has continued years after graduation. To many, he is like another member of the family, celebrating holidays together, sharing meals and sharing Mass.

“Every student is important to me,” says Hogan, who is well known for his strong relationships with vast numbers of students and alumni. “I really enjoy getting to know the students, seeing them change and develop, and keeping in touch with them.”

CAMPUS AGAIN HOSTS
REGIONAL SCIENCE
COMPETITION

More than 800 middle and high school students gathered on campus in February to present results of their science projects as part of the Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science (PJAS) Competition.

The students, coming from nearly 80 private and public local schools, shared presentations of their scientific studies in the PJAS Region 7 competition, held for a second consecutive year at Duquesne.

“This competition brings together a natural partnership between PJAS, which is working with some of the region’s brightest young science students, and the University,” says Dr. Philip Reeder, dean of the Bayer School of Natural and Environmental Sciences. “Together, we are working to strengthen the STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) capabilities of our region and making sure students are aware of opportunities to develop in this critically important and rewarding field.”

Opportunities such as PJAS help to grow a pipeline for STEM fields that carries through to higher education, industry and academia.
NEW V.P. FOR STUDENT LIFE SELECTED

Dr. Douglas K. Frizzell has been named vice president for student life at Duquesne University, effective July 1. He will succeed the Rev. Sean Hogan, C.S.Sp., who will step down as executive vice president but will remain with the University as president of the newly formed Duquesne University Scholarship Association.

Frizzell currently serves as vice president for student affairs at Mount St. Joseph University in Cincinnati. In this role, he provides leadership for a variety of student support services, including residence life, judicial affairs, athletics, campus ministry, health services, food services, campus police, student activities and counseling services. His accomplishments include oversight for institution-wide mission-related initiatives and the university’s Center for Ethical Leadership; the creation of a director of diversity and inclusion position to address the needs of underrepresented individuals; the development of Greek life on campus; and the creation of a mission orientation program for all new faculty and staff.

“I am very excited to be joining the Duquesne community where there is such a commitment to the personal growth and development of students in an environment that not only embraces diversity but truly reflects the Spiritan mission,” says Frizzell.

GENESIUS PROJECT ON TRACK FOR SUMMER COMPLETION

Work is continuing on the construction of The Genesius Project, Duquesne’s new multipurpose theater on Seitz Street, adjacent to the Mary Pappert School of Music. The Genesius Project is scheduled to be completed this summer.

Since construction began last May, visitors to the east end of campus have witnessed the 10,500-square-foot theater become a part of the Duquesne landscape.

The new theater will hold approximately 130 seats, and the building will include a main entrance and lobby, a rehearsal hall, dressing rooms, building shops, costume storage, mechanical/electrical rooms, offices and a green room.

See photos from throughout the construction on the University’s Facebook page.

RICE LECTURE SERIES FOCUSES ON COMMUNITY HEALING AND REVITALIZATION

The Rice on the Road Lecture Series returned in March and April with a focus on the theme of Community Healing and Revitalization in the context of the neighboring Hill District community. The series is a collaborative effort between the Center for the Catholic Intellectual Tradition, the Division of Mission and Identity, and the Center for Community-Engaged Teaching and Research.

The four-part series was a mix of Hill District community excursions and on-campus discussions designed to share information about this neighborhood and provide participants the opportunity to engage in dialogue with a range of University and community stakeholders who work to advance collaborative, cross-disciplinary work for social justice.

The lecture series is named after Monsignor Charles Owen Rice, who studied at Duquesne University. In addition to being an ordained priest, he was active in labor, civil rights and antiwar movements, and helped to create a shelter for homeless men.

The school was chosen because of its work in promotion of best practices for young adolescents, understanding these students’ developmental uniqueness and instilling in future educators the ability to plan for instruction to meet these developmental needs and sustain academic rigor in their classrooms.

“This award is significant in that it acknowledges the importance of attending to the learning and developmental needs of this particular age group—one that, until recently, had been under-recognized,” says Dr. Jason Margolis, chair of the Department of Instruction and Leadership in Education. “Additionally, the award acknowledges the particular work we have done here in the School of Education to build a program that addresses these learning needs in a systematic, innovative way.”

PAMLE HONORS SCHOOL OF EDUCATION FOR SERVICE

The Pennsylvania Association for Middle Level Education (PAMLE) has recognized the School of Education with an award for distinguished service.

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FIVE NEW ENDOWMENTS ESTABLISHED TO FUND SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Duquesne has announced the establishment of five new donor-funded endowments that will support a scholarship, an academic chair, a professorship and two faculty fellowships. The University received gifts totaling $4.85 million to create these new funds.

The new endowments include:

- The Robert and Patricia Gussin Boys & Girls Club of Sarasota County Endowed Scholarship, which will be used to provide scholarships for incoming freshmen who are members of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Sarasota County. This $1.75 million fund will provide a four-year scholarship to one incoming freshman each year.

- The Patricia Doherty Yoder and Ronald Wolfe Endowed Chair in Communication, which was established in the McAnulty College and Graduate School of Liberal Arts through a $1.5 million gift by Patricia Doherty Yoder and J. Ronald Wolfe. The funding will provide support for a distinguished scholar in communication ethics.

- The Merle E. Gilliand Endowed Professorship in Entrepreneurial Finance, which was created in the Palumbo•Donahue School of Business. It was established through a $1.35 million gift from the Merle E. and Olive Lee Gilliand Foundation. This fund will be used to recruit and retain an outstanding senior professor with expertise in entrepreneurial finance.

- Two additional funds have been created by gifts of $125,000 each: the KPMG Faculty Fellowship in Accounting and the Harry W. Witt Term Faculty Fellowship. These endowment funds will also support the business school. The KPMG fellowship will support accounting faculty efforts to conduct research and develop support networks with companies or peers at other academic institutions. The Harry W. Witt Term fellowship will provide funding for databases, equipment, software and other resources in support of teaching and research.

DU EMPHASIS ON AFRICA REFLECTED IN EXHIBIT

An extension of the Spiritan charism and the University's strategic plan emphasizing outreach to Africa is reflected in the Duquesne sponsorship of the new Phipps Conservatory exhibit, Tropical Forest Congo.

Ongoing Duquesne outreach to Africa includes partnerships, research, community-engagement opportunities, the presence of African students, faculty and priests on campus, and now a three-year opportunity with Phipps—located in Pittsburgh—to share these University initiatives and more.

Students from the Mary Pappert School of Music staffed a discovery table at the exhibit opening with instruments and performed African drumming and dancing. A number of Duquesne centers, schools and divisions will be active in the partnership, including the Center for African Studies, the Bayer School of Natural and Environmental Sciences, the Mylan School of Pharmacy and the Division of Mission and Identity.

PROFESSOR HONORED WITH ORTHOPAEDIC CLINICAL PRACTICE AWARD

Dr. RobRoy Martin, professor of physical therapy, was recently honored as the 2015 Richard W. Bowling—Richard E. Erhard Orthopaedic Clinical Practice Award recipient by the American Physical Therapy Association’s (APTA) orthopaedic section.

According to the APTA, the award recognizes an individual who has made an outstanding and lasting contribution to the clinical practice of orthopaedic physical therapy as exemplified by the professional careers of Richard W. Bowling and Richard E. Erhard.

Martin teaches courses on therapeutic modalities and orthopaedic science. His research interests focus on the hip, foot and ankle, and his work has appeared in more than 60 publications, including works on physical therapy in sports, orthopaedic physical therapy practice and surgical techniques in sports medicine. In addition, Martin has presented on his research to numerous professional organizations, including the Arthroscopy Association of North America and American Orthopaedic Foot and Ankle Society.
DEAN RECEIVES INAUGURAL EDUCATION AWARD

Dr. Olga Welch, dean of the School of Education, is the recipient of the inaugural Alan Lesgold Award for Excellence in Urban Education from the Center for Urban Education in the University of Pittsburgh’s School of Education.

The Alan Lesgold Award, named for Pitt’s School of Education dean, is presented to an educator, leader or community member who demonstrates outstanding work and commitment to innovation and improvement in urban education.

In addition to her work as dean, Welch is a founding board member of The Pittsburgh Promise and continues to serve on its board’s executive committee. She also serves on multiple Pittsburgh community boards, including Entrepreneuring Youth, the Hill House Association and Communities in Schools. Welch’s most recent awards include a YWCA of Greater Pittsburgh Tribute to Women Leadership Award in Education and a 50 Women of Excellence Award from The New Pittsburgh Courier.

NEW EDITION OF BIBLE CONSIDERS AFRICAN-AMERICAN CATHOLIC FAITH, YOUTH AND COMMUNITY

A new adaptation of the Bible, edited by the Reverend James Chukwuma Okoye, C.S.Sp., director of the Center for Spiritan Studies, was written with a unique focus on building a link between faith and community for young black Catholics.

The African-American Catholic Youth Bible is the first biblical text of its kind to actively address the spiritual formation of young African-American Catholics. It is modeled after the popular Catholic Youth Bible and uses the text of the New American Bible, Revised Edition.

This new edition of the Bible actively makes the connection between black cultural heritage and faith in a way that young readers can easily understand and appreciate. This edition also highlights the distinctive black presence in biblical scripture, portrays black holy people and those on the way to sainthood, and cites black cultural figures, such as the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., discussing black cultural heritage.

The African-American Catholic Youth Bible is being distributed by St. Mary’s Press and the National Black Catholic Office in Baltimore to African-American parishes, schools and students; parishes with African-American participation; youth leaders; and catechists. For more information or to order a copy, call 412.396.5097.

BUSINESS SCHOOL ANNOUNCES NEW ADVISORY COUNCILS, STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

Nearly 300 students, faculty, alumni and corporate representatives were on hand to hear about future plans for the Palumbo-Donahue School of Business at its April 9 Second Century Dinner.

Dr. Dean McFarlin, dean of the business school, shared how the school is poised for innovation in its second century of existence.

"Today, business education is less about acquiring knowledge and more about giving students opportunities to use information to solve real problems," McFarlin said. "So we are pivoting to a ‘cornerstone to capstone’ approach that instills practical wisdom."

Besides relying on excellent faculty and outstanding programs to enhance the business education experience, McFarlin will seek external feedback from the new Business Advisory Council on school-wide issues. A second new council, the Investment Center Advisory Council, will help develop and promote the work of the Investment Center and Duquesne’s finance program.

McFarlin also discussed renovations of Rockwell Hall, and how the School of Business will be developing additional experiential opportunities for undergraduate students as part of these new strategic initiatives.

SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY SYMPOSIUM EXAMINES CHILDHOOD APRAXIA

Childhood apraxia of speech (CAS), a motor speech disorder that makes it difficult for children to say sounds, syllables and words, was the main focus of the Department of Speech-Language Pathology’s sixth annual symposium in March.

Dr. Jonathan L. Preston, assistant professor in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders at Syracuse University, presented the event’s keynote address, Current Perspectives on Assessment and Treatment of Childhood Apraxia and Other Speech Sound Disorders.

In addition to his address, Preston provided symposium participants with an overview of assessment and treatment approaches for children with CAS and other speech sound disorders, discussed treatment options and showed examples of treatment to local speech-language pathologists.
Student First, Athlete Second

TABATA STEPS ON TO NATIONAL STAGE AS MEMBER OF PRESTIGIOUS NCAA COUNCIL

By David Jakielo, A'05, GA'10

Senior women’s soccer goalkeeper Devon Tabata not only practices the philosophy that the student comes first in “student-athlete”—she now gets to preach it nationally.

Tabata was recently named to a high-profile, high-level NCAA council that conducts the daily business of Division I. The council is made up of athletic directors, faculty representatives, administrators, commissioners and, for the first time, student-athletes—who have a voice and a vote at every level of decision-making. Of the 107,000 Division I student-athletes, Tabata and one other were asked to serve on the council.

The prestigious honor is a natural progression for Tabata’s role as a leader.

With a desire to get involved in a leadership capacity as a freshman, she became involved with Duquesne’s Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC), which then led her to represent Duquesne on the Atlantic 10 Conference SAAC. From there, she was appointed to represent the Atlantic 10 Conference on the national level as the co-chair of the NCAA Division I SAAC.

“Devon has done an incredible job for both our student-athletes and on the national level with SAAC,” says Bernadette V. McGlade, Atlantic 10 Commissioner. “She has taken advantage of the opportunities she’s been given to be a leader, including being engaged in national discussions and providing a student-athlete voice to high-level NCAA administrators. We’ve been very impressed with how she has represented the Atlantic 10.”

Tabata’s goal during her six-month term is to establish student-athletes on the council and lay the groundwork for how they will operate in the future.

“I’m proud to be in this history-making role and want to be instrumental so the next student-athlete appointed to my position will be well-prepared and feel that they are welcomed by the committee,” she says.

Tabata’s passion for academics initially drew her to
Duquesne. The fact that her love for soccer could also be nourished on our Bluff completed her college experience, and her teammates have been wonderful academic and athletic partners.

“If I was on a team where soccer was the only priority and nobody cared about school, then that could have been contagious and I may have not been as dedicated,” she says. “At Duquesne, I see so many examples of well-rounded student-athletes who are in class all day, practice at night and then are in the library until midnight. To me, that’s what college athletics are all about. We are students first and athletes second. I wouldn’t have been able to accomplish all that I did without being in that type of environment.”

The humble Tabata, a finance major, is not likely to talk about those accomplishments, but they are many: Atlantic 10 Commissioner’s Honor Roll, Dean’s List, Director of Athletics’ Honor Roll and a former Duquesne Student-Athlete of the Year.

“One of Devon’s strengths is her positivity and her natural willingness to be a leader,” says McGlade. “She is proud of her experience and skills acquired as an undergraduate at Duquesne. Clearly the educational environment at Duquesne has given her the confidence to step on to the national stage as a student leader within the NCAA. Devon has made the Dukes and the A-10 proud.”

Tabata has already accepted a job with Deloitte’s Columbus, Ohio, office to work in enterprise risk services. It was the result of an internship she held at Deloitte’s Pittsburgh office last summer.

The final whistle has blown on Tabata’s athletic collegiate career. She has made her last save on Rooney Field. But, because of her commitment to academics and leadership during her time on our Bluff, the game clock has only started ticking on what she will achieve as a proud alumna.

Sherene Brantley, A’02, GA’04, assistant athletic director for student services, senior woman administrator and the Duquesne SAAC facilitator, has worked closely with Tabata.

“Look at what she has already accomplished,” says Brantley. “She is serving as a voice for both her peers and Duquesne on the national level. Because of her, the voice that speaks for all comes from Duquesne University. It speaks volumes for what she has accomplished and is a story we can all be proud of.”

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Alumni Updates

1960s

Dr. Bert Ghezzi, A'63, is the author of *The Power of Daily Mass* (Ave Maria Press). He is the author of 26 books and has been involved in religious education for more than 40 years.

Henry Perkin, A'69, L'72, has been reappointed to a second term as U.S. magistrate judge for the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

1970s

Mary K. McDonald, L'79, a partner at McCarthy McDonald Schulberg & Joy, was named 2015 Pittsburgh Family Law “Lawyer of the Year” by *Best Lawyers in America* 2015. The firm has also been ranked by U.S. News Media Group and *Best Lawyers* 2015 as a Tier 1 Best Law Firm concentrating in the area of family law in the Pittsburgh metro region.

1980s

Sam Spanos, B'80, joined Raymond James as a managing director, senior vice president of investments and branch manager for the newly-created Beaver, Pa., office. He brings to Raymond James more than 34 years of experience as a financial advisor to individuals, families, businesses and institutions throughout the Pittsburgh area and the country.

Thomas P. Quinn, P'81, has been named president, chief executive officer and member of the board of Infonaut Inc. The chairman felt he was “uniquely suited to drive the development of Infontaut with an emphasis on accelerating the commercialization of our novel disease surveillance and infection prevention and control solutions.” He and his wife, Peggy, have three children. Tom Jr., B'07 (wife Lisa Mentzer, N'07), and Kathleen, B'11, are graduates of Duquesne.

1990s

David Cullen, A'92, GE'93, is now K-8 principal at Hillsborough Academy of Math & Science in Tampa. He is married to Jennifer McKenna, and obtained his doctoral degree from the University of Phoenix in educational leadership with a specialization in curriculum and instruction.

1960s

Donna (Leffingwell) Cessna, B'87, is a senior account manager with Hunter-Ross, LLC, a professional search and recruiting firm. She specializes in HVACR manufacturing/technology, metals and steel industries, food and beverage manufacturing and consumer products, delivering on search projects across multiple professions and functional areas within each organization.

Brian Klisavage, E'87, has been elected president of the Federation of Pittsburgh Diocesan Teachers.

Mark J. Dudick, B'88, was promoted to vice president of sales for Jubilant Cadista Pharmaceuticals Inc., where he is responsible for U.S. sales. He serves on the board of directors for United Way of Lower Eastern Shore, Duquesne Alumni Recruitment Team and New Hope Winter Festival Committee. He is deacon at First Presbyterian Church of Lambertville, and a local baseball and basketball coach.


1990s

Dino Martino, P'93, has been appointed executive director of PerformSpecialty. He will be responsible for the leadership, strategic direction and clinical oversight for PerformRx’s new full-service specialty pharmacy headquartered in Orlando.

Dr. Kerri (Beck) Golden, HS'97, GHS'98, was awarded the OT Outstanding Academic Educator Award, the President’s Award and a Service Award at the Pennsylvania Occupational Therapy Association Annual Conference. The Academic Educator Award was “based on outstanding mentorship to students and teaching through Advocacy in Action.” The President’s Award was presented for her work as the chair of the legislation committee for the Pennsylvania Occupational Therapy Association. She is associate professor and curriculum coordinator of the Department of Occupational Therapy at St. Francis University.

Michael Grandinetti, B'99, began taping the second season of *Masters of Illusion* for the CW, with eight new illusions. The season will premiere this summer. He is one of the featured performers in Street Magic on the POP Network, which will also begin airing this summer. And he was the featured performer for the halftime show at New York’s Barclays Center, on the final day of this year’s Atlantic 10 Men’s Basketball Championship.

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Dr. Kerri (Beck) Golden, HS'97, GHS'98, was awarded the OT Outstanding Academic Educator Award, the President’s Award and a Service Award at the Pennsylvania Occupational Therapy Association Annual Conference. The Academic Educator Award was “based on outstanding mentorship to students and teaching through Advocacy in Action.” The President’s Award was presented for her work as the chair of the legislation committee for the Pennsylvania Occupational Therapy Association. She is associate professor and curriculum coordinator of the Department of Occupational Therapy at St. Francis University.

Brian Paliotti, B'98, became vice president and chief financial officer of NewMarket Corporation on Jan. 1, 2015. He joined NewMarket in 2008 as financial officer for Afton Chemical Corporation, NewMarket’s largest subsidiary, and was subsequently appointed vice president, finance, NewMarket Services Corporation.

The Women’s Law Association (WLA) recently honored Tracey McCants Lewis, L’00, assistant clinical professor of law, at its 23rd annual Woman of the Year event.

The WLA, an organization housed in the School of Law, is dedicated to raising awareness about issues affecting women. Each year, the organization recognizes an alumnus and a recent graduate who demonstrate leadership and dedication to their community. Gabriela Steier, L’12, was honored as the Recent Graduate of the Year.

McCants Lewis, who also serves as assistant director of clinical education at the law school, teaches in the Civil Rights Clinic. Her scholarship focuses on critical race theory, feminist legal theory and the application of legal storytelling in clinical legal education.
2000s

Chris Kail, A’01, GA’04, director of marketing and shareholder at Legend Financial Advisors, Inc., was recognized by Pittsburgh Magazine and PUMP as one of the “40 Under 40” award recipients for 2014.

Erica (Krings) Livingston, S’02, GS’03, joined Horsehead Corporation as an environmental manager at the company’s corporate office in Pittsburgh in January 2015. Her responsibilities include waste management, and emergency preparedness and response for the company’s four recycling facilities.

Jerry Marsico, L’02, joined Raymond James as a vice president, investments, for the newly-created Beaver, Pa., office. He brings to Raymond James more than nine years of experience as a financial advisor with Alcoa Inc. in Pittsburgh.

Dana E. Vojtko, HS’04, recently obtained certification as a registered nurse and is employed by UPMC McKeesport in the medical surgical orthopedic unit.

Randy Cole, GA’07, Ph.D.’13, was recently posted as a diplomat to the U.S. Embassy in Nicosia, Cyprus, by the Department of State. For the next two years, he will work on public diplomacy, political and economic issues before being assigned to an onward post.

Sheree (Graham) Fish, E’09, is now an assistant sourcing manager with Alcoa Inc. in Pittsburgh.

Joseph R. Williams, L’09, has been named a partner in the family law firm of Pollock Begg Komar Glasser & Vertz LLC. The firm name will not change. He is also chair of the ACBA Young Lawyers Division, which serves nearly 2,000 attorneys in the county.

2010s

Kaitlyn Johnston, GA’11, was appointed deputy editor of Boston.com, one of the most highly visited regional news websites in the United States.

Ethan Leatherbarrow, A’13, is currently a community and economic development Peace Corps volunteer in Senegal.

Timothy C. Quinn, L’13, has joined Meyer, Unkovic & Scott as an associate. He works in the firm’s corporate and business law, real estate and lending, mineral rights and litigation groups.

Ryan Fish, B’14, has joined EQT Corporation in Pittsburgh as an associate SCADA specialist.

Marriages

Tracy Milai, A’93, married Tim Klanica.

Keri Muller, E’02, married J.M. Castro Valera.

Colin Murphy, A’06, married Dawn Crowell.

Allison C. Murtha, S’06, GS’07, married Joseph Laneve.

Kaitlin Hess, HS’08, GHS’09, married Timothy Bugalie.

Gretchen Dron, E’11, married David Crissman, L’12.

In Memoriam

It is with deep sadness that we list the following alumni and friends who recently passed away.

Francis Albright, LPA’13
Charles Allerton, GB’69
Robert Alspaugh
Helen Alton, E’45
Ruth Ault
Dorothy Avins
John Bahl, B’50
Caroline Bah, B’59
Robert Baker, GS’47
Eugene Bamford, B’69
Inez Beckel, M’55, GM’55
Richard Bertini, E’51, GM’51
Patricia Black, E’69
David Blinzer, P’62
Sandra Bodnar, A’63
Charles Bosco, B’67
Terrence Bott, A’69
Charles Boyer, E’72
Mary Ann Brandt, E’79
Robert McConaha, B’61
Mary McConaha, B’61

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Kaitlin Hess, HS’08, GHS’09, married Timothy Bugalie.

Gretchen Dron, E’11, married David Crissman, L’12.
IN MEMORIAM

Janet S. Pappert, S’59, died Aug. 18 at age 77. The recipient of both a bachelor’s degree in biology and a teaching certificate from Duquesne, she and her husband, former University board chair P. David Pappert, A’60, were generous benefactors whose gifts included a lecture hall in the Bayer Learning Center and the naming endowment for the Mary Pappert School of Music. She was inducted into the Century Club of Distinguished Duquesne Alumni in 1996.

IN MEMORIAM

Acclaimed jazz vocalist Maureen Budway, M’85, passed away Jan. 12 at the age of 51.

While students at Duquesne, she and her brother, pianist David Budway, M’81, began performing in local venues, quickly building a reputation as rising stars. Though blessed with a versatile voice and adept in styles ranging from rock to rhythm and blues, Maureen Budway is best remembered for performing and recording jazz with local and national artists, including drummer Roger Humphries, guitarist Joe Negri, trumpeter Sean Jones and flutist Hubert Laws.

Diagnosed with breast cancer nearly two decades ago, Budway persevered. In the fall of 2014, she recorded an album, Sweet Candor, which was released on the MCG Jazz label shortly after her passing. She also taught voice classes in Duquesne’s School of Music until December 2014.
HOMECOMING
& Reunion
Weekend 2015

October 9-11, 2015
www.duq.edu/homecoming

Starring Duquesne University Alumni, Family and Friends
Special celebrations for the Red Masquers, Burrows Travel Group, the Golden Dukes and Tau Kappa Epsilon
Directed by the Office of Alumni Relations

#DUQHOMECOMING

REGISTRATION OPENS JULY 1
May 19, 2015
First Annual Duquesne University Nursing Alumni Wine & Appetizers Event
6-8 p.m.
Blue Line Grille, 1014 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh
Contact/RSVP: 412.396.6209 or washing9@duq.edu

May 22, 2015
Duquesne Athletic Fund Vinnie Vaccarello & Patsy Crisafi Memorial Golf Invitational
TPC Sawgrass, Ponte Vedra, Fla.
Contact: Bryan Colonna at colonna770@duq.edu or 412.396.5927

June 1, 2015
Duquesne Athletic Fund Spring Golf Invitational
Sewickley Heights Golf Club, Sewickley, Pa.
Contact: Bryan Colonna at colonna770@duq.edu or 412.396.5927

June 3, 2015
Scranton Law Alumni Reception and CE
4-7 p.m.
Scranton-Radisson
Lakawanna Station
Contact: lawalumni@duq.edu

June 6, 2015
Laurel Highlands Area Alumni Wine and Beer Tasting
6-9 p.m.
Green Gables Restaurant
Jennerstown, Pa.
$30 per person includes tastes of six craft beers or six fine wines and hors d’oeuvres.
Questions and details at www.myduquesne.duq.edu/laurelhighlands15

June 7, 2015
School of Law Commencement
11 a.m.
A.J. Palumbo Center

June 20, 2015
Washington Nationals vs. Pittsburgh Pirates
4:05 p.m.
Nationals Park, D.C.
Questions or to RSVP: www.myduquesne.duq.edu or 412.396.6209

June 22, 2015
Beethoven’s Fifth of Whiskey: A Mary Pappert School of Music Alumni Barbeque
6-9 p.m.
Wigle Barrelhouse, Pittsburgh’s Northside
Contact: Jordan Mroziak at mroziak415@duq.edu

July 2015 (TBD)
Alumni Day at the Zoo, Sponsored by the Young Alumni Council
Time TBD
Pittsburgh Zoo and PPG Aquarium
Join alumni and friends for a family-friendly picnic and day at the zoo.
Details: www.myduquesne.duq.edu or 412.396.6209

Aug. 3, 2015
Duquesne Athletic Fund Vinnie Vaccarello Memorial Golf Invitational
Valley Brook Country Club, McMurray, Pa.
Contact: Bryan Colonna at colonna770@duq.edu or 412.396.5927
Filming continued yesterday and today for the new #Duquesne University television commercial!
Free Delivery!

Duquesne University Pharmacy—formerly known as the Center for Pharmacy Services—is on the leading edge of helping patients manage their medications and live healthy lifestyles. In addition to filling prescriptions and delivering them locally for free, the pharmacy provides a number of complimentary health and wellness services, including screenings for blood pressure, cholesterol, blood glucose and bone density.

Staffed by licensed pharmacists, the pharmacy is operated by Duquesne’s School of Pharmacy and serves both the public and the University community.

- Free local delivery
- $4 generic drug program
- Online refills and automatic monthly refills
- Free wellness screenings

Order your prescriptions at duqpharmacy.org or call 412.246.0963.