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National Initiative Funds Nursing Scholarships
By Rose Ravasio
The Duquesne University School of Nursing has been named among the first of 58 institutions in the nation to receive funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) through the RWJF New Careers in Nursing Scholarship Program. This groundbreaking national initiative, launched by RWJF and the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN), is designed to help alleviate the nation’s nursing shortage by dramatically expanding the corps of new nurses by providing financial aid to students who enroll in accelerated nursing degree programs.

One of only four schools in Pennsylvania to receive the RWJF funding, the School of Nursing will utilize the $100,000 for scholarships to support students enrolled in its second-degree nursing program.

“This scholarship funding not only addresses the current nursing shortage, but also prepares these second-degree students to become future nursing leaders,” said Leah Vota Cunningham, assistant dean of student services in the School of Nursing and co-director of the project. “We are honored to be among the first institutions in the nation to receive this funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.”

The Second Degree Bachelor of Science in Nursing program at Duquesne enables a non-nurse with a baccalaureate degree to earn a B.S.N. in one year. After 12 months of intensive full-time study, students are eligible to take the nursing licensure examination. Interest in the program has increased so dramatically that the nursing school is considering adding a second cohort of students to the second-degree program within the next few years. Currently, 33 students are in the program’s cohort.

“Over the next 10 months, we have planned a number of activities for our 10 scholarship recipients that will provide mentorship opportunities with nursing faculty and local nursing leaders,” added Dr. Joan Such Lockhart, associate dean of academic affairs in the School of Nursing and co-director of the project.

“The students are expected to engage in leadership development both as a mentee and a mentor to future second-degree students.”

Through the RWJF New Careers in Nursing Scholarship Program, scholarships in the amount of $10,000 each will be distributed to entry-level nursing students in accelerated programs during the 2008-2009 academic year. Award preference is given to students from groups underrepresented in nursing or from disadvantaged backgrounds. Grant funding also will be used by the School of Nursing to help leverage new faculty resources and provide mentoring and leadership development resources to ensure successful program completion by scholarship recipients.

“This scholarship program is designed to ease the shortage of nurses and nurse faculty—an urgent national problem that potentially jeopardizes the health of all Americans,” said John Lumpkin, senior vice president and director for the Health Care Group at RWJF. “Fewer students will be turned away by schools of nursing because of the availability of this support for accelerated nursing degree programs.”

Other schools in Pennsylvania to receive the RWJF funding include Drexel University, Thomas Jefferson University and the University of Pennsylvania.

The RWJF is the nation’s largest philanthropy devoted exclusively to improving the health and health care of all Americans, and works with a diverse group of organizations and individuals to identify solutions and achieve comprehensive, meaningful and timely change.

The American Association of Colleges of Nursing is the national voice for university and four-year college education programs in nursing. Representing more than 630 member schools of nursing at public and private institutions nationwide, the AACN works to establish quality standards for bachelor’s- and graduate-degree nursing education, assist deans and directors to implement those standards, influence the nursing profession to improve health care, and promote public support of baccalaureate and graduate nursing education, research, and practice.

Thanksgiving: A Time to Give Back at Duquesne
By Randy Cole
While the University shares its sense of Spiritan mission throughout the year, efforts grow during this special season focused on friends and family. Over Thanksgiving break, Spiritan Campus Ministry takes students on an annual cross-cultural mission trip to Mullen, W. Va. The trip immerses students in the southern coalfield region, volunteering at school for mentally handicapped adults and repairing homes. Returning students bring home a new perspective and awareness of reasons to be thankful.

The annual Fair Trade Week will take place during the first week of December in the Duquesne Union. Also spearheaded by Spiritan Campus Ministry, the event promotes the sale of artisan goods from around the world, features a fashion show and supports global fair trade.

“Buying fair trade and fair food are great ways to give back, not just during the holidays, but all year long,” said Matt Walsh, campus minister.

At this time of year, Duquesne University Volunteers (DUV) organizes the Holiday Helping Drive to benefit the Brashear Association, a food pantry serving south Pittsburgh communities. The drive, which runs through Christmas, collects non-perishable food and monetary donations, plus Giant Eagle gift cards. Between Thanksgiving and Christmas, the focus shifts to collecting new toys and winter clothing. Donations, accepted year-round, can be taken to the DUV office in Room 305 of the union.

The Office of Greek life sponsored “Can-struction,” a Greek Week event in which each fraternity or sorority created a sculpture from canned goods. Afterward, items were donated to the Brashear Association.

The Office of Multicultural Affairs sponsored its third annual turkey drive, with a goal of providing 200 turkeys to local families.

By helping those in the margins, the Duquesne community continues to live the mission of its founders.
Duquesne Times

By Alison Conte

Big Move Ahead for Duquesne Web Sites

As Duquesne prepares to transfer its Web sites to a new content management system (CMS), more than 100 employees will be intimately involved in the process. These are content managers and Web administrators, as well as other faculty, staff and students who are responsible for the content and organization of their school, program or department Web site.

Though these people work hard every day to keep our sites up-to-date and accurate, during the next year they will be involved in rewriting and restructuring the University’s 156 sites for the move to the CMS. This CMS, called Site Studio, allows for easier editing and management of Web sites by more people, further distributing the ongoing tasks of Web updates.

Before each site can be transferred (copied and pasted into Site Studio files), content managers will be reviewing the copy to make sure it is:

• accurate
• current
• motivating
• targeted to external audiences
• easy to scan (read) on a Web page

These changes will make it easier for our Web users—future students, prospective faculty and others—to find the information they are seeking. Information that is only for current students and staff will be moved to DORI.

Everyone’s Job

The CMS Web conversion is like a smaller version of the Datatel/Banner conversion of 2005 and 2006. While the Office of Public Affairs will guide the process and provide resources to help develop marketing messages, the work of content managers will be key to our success. They will be forming Web teams and reaching out to colleagues to draft articles and confirm the accuracy of content. Please support them in this vital effort.

Finding the Duquesne Times

The Duquesne Times is now being posted online as a searchable PDF. Current issues are available at www.duq.edu/times or through DORI’s Employee Connections channel on the Working tab. We will add with back issues from 2008 in PDF format.
Can Melatonin Prevent Bone Loss?

By Rose Ravasio

The hormone melatonin has been touted to benefit everything from jet lag to insomnia to depression. A one-year, $20,000 School of Pharmacy Translational Research Program grant is allowing a team of Duquesne professors and a Magee-Womens Hospital physician to explore whether melatonin can prevent bone loss in perimenopausal women, who are at-risk for osteoporosis.

“Estrogen in the body is protective against bone loss. When a woman’s estrogen levels decrease, this leads to brittle bones,” said Witt-Enderby. “Some women go on hormone replacement therapy (HRT) to supplement their loss in estrogen and progesterone. They usually go on this therapy to feel better, but this therapy also protects their bones. Some women may have an increased risk of breast cancer if they go on HRT, so they are afraid to go on HRT.”

Witt-Enderby and her team are trying to develop another therapy to protect from bone loss, in particular, testing to see if melatonin can prevent bone loss right before menopause. “Our lab has shown positive effects of melatonin on making more of the cells that form bone,” explained Witt-Enderby. “This research is really cutting-edge. We are probably only one of a few labs in the country looking at melatonin for preventing osteoporosis. In addition, we are also assessing whether the women feel better on this therapy because they may be able to sleep better. So, we are surveying them on their sleep patterns and overall well-being.”

This research marks the first time that human clinical trials have been conducted in the Mylan School’s Division of Pharmaceutical Sciences. Witt-Enderby pointed out the importance of screening individuals for this clinical trial, each of who are perimenopausal, to ensure that there are no variables that may influence the results. The participants are first screened via questions in a phone interview. Eligible participants then visit the Pharmacy School’s Wellness Center, where they have their blood pressure and their bone density measured. They also complete questionnaires about their sleep habits and their general well-being, and have their blood work screened. They are then given diaries to record their daily activities over a six-month period. “With respect to our clinical trial, we want to know if a dose of melatonin that causes shifts in one's sleep/wake cycle is effective at preventing bone deterioration,” said Witt-Enderby. “The women who participate in this study will be doing something very important for all women, that is, they will have been part of a study that may discover a safe alternative therapy for women to prevent their bone loss. Their participation is critical because osteoporosis is one of the most common skeletal disorders.”

Today in the United States, approximately 10 million individuals have osteoporosis and 34 million more have low bone mass or osteopenia, which places them at an increased risk of developing osteoporosis, said Witt-Enderby. Of the people affected by this, 68 percent are women. Osteoporosis is characterized by low bone mass and microarchitectural disruption, such that fewer, thinner bony spicules—needle-like structures—are present, leading to less structural support. These hallmark features of osteoporosis lead to increased skeletal fragility and fracture risk.

“Study candidates will also gain a better understanding about their relative state of their bone mass, whether they participate in the study or not,” noted Witt-Enderby. “They will receive their bone density scores and information on how to improve their bone health to prevent their bones from becoming fragile.”

If the results from the research are promising, Witt-Enderby and her team plan to submit for larger National Institutes of Health grants to run bigger clinical trials at Duquesne in the Wellness Center. Members of Witt-Enderby’s team include: Dr. Christine O’Neil, professor of pharmacy practice and director of the Academic Research Center for Pharmacy Care; Dr. Hilde Berdine, assistant professor of pharmacy practice; Dr. Holly Lassila, assistant professor of pharmacy practice; and Dr. Judith Balk, a physician at Magee-Womens Hospital.

Participants are still needed for this study—compensation is included. Interested women are 45 and older and are experiencing irregular periods can call 412.396.5874.

University Recognizes 25-year Employees

Duquesne University and President Charles J. Dougherty, center, first row, recently recognized 25-year employees, from left:

First row, Monica Evanish, Office of the Controller; Linda Rendulic, McAnulty College and Graduate School of Liberal Arts; Dougherty; Anna Priore, Office of Admissions; and Terry Tatrai, Division of Student Life.

Second row, Dr. William Presutti, School of Business; Joseph Karpientjak, Facilities Management; Professor Daniel Barbush, Department of Math and Computer Sciences; and Dennis Erin, Computing and Technology Services. Unable to attend were: Margaret Krasik, School of Law; Dr. Gustav Lundberg, School of Business; and Irene Spychalski, Mylan School of Pharmacy.

Tent of Hope on National Display

Nearly 50 Duquesne students, faculty and staff joined members of the National Save Darfur Coalition in Washington, D.C., on Nov. 9, to erect a “Tent of Hope” in a show of solidarity and compassion for victims of the humanitarian crisis in Darfur, Sudan. Duquesne’s tent, embellished with messages of peace and hope, was first displayed on campus from Oct. 19 to Nov. 4, and housed educational materials related to human rights issues ranging from hunger to genocide. Following the national exhibition, the tent will be dismantled and shipped to Darfur.
St. Anthony Program at Duquesne: Teamwork All the Way

By Karen Ferrick-Roman

The Three Musketeers—Chris McGough, Jason Borza, David Woltz—form a team, working together within a larger team.

These special needs students are enrolled in the St. Anthony School post-secondary program at Duquesne University. After a day in the classroom and at a job site, their 20 classmates ride buses home. But Chris, Jason and David head across the Duquesne campus to Rooney Field for football practice. They know they can’t be late.

“It’s a responsibility,” said Coach John Rosato, director of football operations. “We need them.”

From 3 to 6 p.m., the Three Musketeers lug bags of equipment for different drills, man the down-marker sticks, tidy the field and chase footballs after field goal kicks. Each has his job, knows it and does it.

“They’re not going to slack on me,” Rosato said. “I promised their parents I’d treat them like my own kids—nothing special.”

These no-nonsense words are no surprise coming from a square-jawed wall of muscle with 30-some years of football under his cleats. But as he tells tales of fishing out managers who tangled over, revealing an ex-seminarian with a soccer net, a huge smile takes over, revealing an ex-seminarian with a joyful past of working with special needs children.

About four years ago, Rosato and Head Coach Jerry Schmitt learned that some St. Anthony students wanted to join the team.

“Coach Schmitt and I are strong Catholics, and when this opportunity came up, we jumped on it,” Rosato said.

The Duquesne University mission is “to serve God by serving students;” its goal is to work with the marginalized and underserved. The coaches applied the mission statement to St. Anthony students. Rosato interviewed the students, just as he would any other potential candidates; trained the managers, just as any supervisor would; and now, counts on each to do his job correctly and safely, just as any employer does.

Lessons have been internalized. “You need to keep your head up and focus,” David explained. “You keep your eyes on the ball, on where you need to be, where the players need you to be.”

Lessons have paid off. The St. Anthony student-managers, just like the football players, have earned respect, learned purposefulness—and, for each of the previous four years, acquired gleaming championship rings.

This ultimate team-building exercise, as embodied by the St. Anthony post-secondary program, helps special needs students to contribute to society and to achieve as much independence as possible, said Gary Eiseman, program director. Duquesne serves as the sole collegiate location for St. Anthony students in the Pittsburgh diocese, developing life and job skills in 18- to 21-year-olds from Allegheny, Washington and Westmoreland counties. In this program, the only one of its kind in the nation, students maneuver bus schedules on their own, learn what on-the-job behavior is acceptable and practice interactions with others. St. Anthony students work at more than 20 job sites on and off campus, some under the tutelage of Duquesne students, to gain experience in housekeeping, food service, mailroom, office and early childhood settings. New this year is training in a Squirrel Hill apartment where students learn to hone cooking, laundry and housekeeping skills.

Riding the bus alone, cashing that first pay check and paying taxes were milestones for Kristin Wagoner, a 2007 graduate of the St. Anthony program who now has her dream job in a day care center, said her mother, Rosie Wagone of Highland Park. Duquesne students, she said, were part of the team contributing to her daughter’s success.

“Students provided job coaching services, but they went over and beyond.

Kristin was invited to their rooms sometimes to do things; they accompanied her to her job sites, gave encouragement and helped to structure what she was doing there. They kept in touch, even to this point,” said Wagoner.

The St. Anthony program is rich in work-readiness skills, agreed Cindy Bechtold of Wexford. Her son, David, graduated from the program in May and is living in a Squirrel Hill apartment on his own, working in a grocery store and inviting his two brothers and sister for a home-cooked dinner and Wii games.

“My children have a fully independent sibling who they can interact with on the same level,” Bechtold said. “From the spiritual point of view, David’s life has meaning, like everyone else’s.”

Although Rod Dobish, Duquesne’s director of facilities management, was one of those to jump-start the program at Duquesne 13 years ago with three students, he was surprised at its impact across the campus. “You sit here and go through your day-to-day work, and you think you have problems—and you see these kids. They struggle every day,” Dobish said. “It helped us internally.”

Ed Bayer, University materials manager, also sees the positives the St. Anthony’s students bring as they work in the central receiving department.

“They deliver express packages, from the president’s office to every imaginable department on campus,” Bayer said. “They do a great job; everybody gets a little pick-me up in the middle of the day from them.”

Overall, the St. Anthony program creates the feeling of being part of something bigger than yourself—of being part of a team.

“We need to stay together as a team, as a family of brothers here,” said David, peering at a threatening sky during an October football practice. “We don’t get wet—or we get soaking wet—as a team.”

The Three Musketeers walked through the player lines during warm-ups and added extra encouragement to stretches. They took their positions for field goal practice. David and Jason stood on either side of the goal post. Chris waited on a raised level behind netting. The ball split the uprights and sputtered in the netting.

“I’ll get it,” Chris yelled to his teammates, shaking the net to free the ball. Just like the kick, it’s good.

At left, Chris McGough shows his speed as he runs from the field, recovering the tee after kickoff. Bottom left, David Woltz keeps the pads in place the Three Musketeers, from left, David Woltz, Jason Borza and Chris McGough, share in the victories and challenges of Duquesne football as team managers. Woltz and McGough, returning managers, show off last year’s championship rings.
Graduate Pharmacy School Contributes To Improving Processing, Quality of Drugs

By Karen Ferrick-Roman

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has awarded a $1.19 million contract to the National Institute for Pharmaceutical Technology and Education (NIPTe), a consortium of 11 leading pharmaceutical engineering universities, to develop guidelines for the processing, scale-up and validation of drug manufacturers.

Duquesne’s Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences is one of the consortium members participating in this first major FDA-funded NIPTe project. The only university in Pennsylvania and the only private school in the nation to join NIPTe, Duquesne has been a member of the group since its founding in 2005. Known for its expertise in developing and implementing technology that improves safety, quality and efficiency across the industry, the graduate school will receive about $165,000 of the funding to apply Quality by Design (QbD) techniques to the optimization of pharmaceutical drying processes with consideration for product stability.

“By tapping into the knowledge of drug manufacturing here at Duquesne and at our partner institutions, we hope to advance and standardize the processes used around the globe in the pharmaceutical industry,” said Dr. James K. Drennen, associate dean for research and graduate programs and co-principal investigator for the project.

The DU team also includes Drs. Carl A. Anderson, Ira Buckner and Peter Wildfong. Additionally, Anderson and Drennen will facilitate a formal risk assessment for the entire NIPTe team in preparation for the project.

Business Managers Focus on Computer Safety

By Alison Conte

Did you ever downloaded a fun computer game—say decorating a Christmas wreath—that then wreaked havoc on your computer system? Preventing these kinds of toxic applications is a new initiative at Duquesne’s computing and technology services (CTS) department.

Don Maue, director of Computing Support Services, told business managers at their October meeting how CTS is taking steps to stop viruses, spam and toxic applications.

These downloads have malicious coding that can take over computer systems, hurting productivity and destroying data. Employees may install them unknowingly as they appear to be innocent fun. But once installed, these toxic programs use computers as servers to facilitate illegal file sharing like music and movies.

Maue suggested that employees never download applications that are not work related.

He also described a new spam defense tool, Barracuda, that has been installed on our systems to help combat the 1 million unwanted spam messages that are delivered each month to duq.edu e-mail addresses. Employees will see e-mail messages from Barracuda as it learns what each of us considers spam.

Additon, CTS staff will be moving 4,000 computers from the “staff” domain to the “Duquesne” domain before Aug. 1, 2009. Generic computer logins that are not tied to a specific person—such as “Student Aide”—will be eliminated. Department e-mails, such as biology@duq.edu will not be affected. This will help to increase the security of desktop computers.

In other news:

• Russell Grunebach, university controller, reported that the DeltaPoint auditors prepared a “clean” report for Duquesne in the fiscal 2008 audit that ended June 30, 2008. Though we have been affected by economic conditions, the University remains very able to reinvest in our campus and stay conservative in our investments.

School of Education’s Center for Teaching Excellence Mentors Candidates for Certification

By Emily Goossen

Duquesne University’s National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Center for Teacher Excellence, housed under the School of Education, has served more than 200 teachers or state-licensed school counselors since its inception in October 2005. The center, one of only four in the state, helps candidates to become better teachers through National Board for Professional Teaching Standards certification mentoring and support.

The National Board is considered the profession’s gold standard for teaching excellence. Improving the quality of classroom instruction is one of the most effective ways to improve student achievement, which is why this initiative’s goal is to increase the number of Pennsylvania’s board-certified teachers by as much as 200 percent.

“Out center has the privilege of dealing with teachers who care. These people are here because they want to be the best teachers possible,” said Dr. Joe Maola, director of grant funding for the center and professor of education.

The center’s 10-plus staff members mentor teachers seeking pre-candidacy training and candidacy mentoring either one-on-one, online or through small groups.

David Taylor, a candidate whose certification application is currently pending, has taught at the middle and high school levels, as well as at a local university. He pursued certification partly because of the challenge, and partly because he was told by a past participant that the program is the best individualized professional development opportunity available.

The National Board estimates that it takes approximately 200 to 400 hours to achieve certification and can take one to three years. Candidate preparation and support is provided at no cost to the teacher. The life of the certificate is 10 years.

Taylor acknowledges that the program is rigorous and adds, “I cannot say enough about how important the candidate support was, both in helping complete the process and for emotional support when needed.”

The National Board offers 24 certificate areas that cover 15 subject areas and are classified into seven student age categories. Candidates can opt for a generalist certificate or one that is subject-specific.

According to the National Board, Pennsylvania ranked 25th in the country in the numbers of new National Board Certified Teachers and ranks 25th in the total number of teachers who achieved certification since the program was established in 1987. Specifically, Pennsylvania shows a 40 percent increase in the number of teachers who achieved certification in 2007 over 2006.

In 2008, the Pennsylvania Department of Education awarded $297,000 to the Center for Teacher Excellence, which will allow the center to continue mentoring teachers and counselor seeking certification through March 2009.

For more information on the program, contact Maola at maola@duq.edu or call 412.396.6099.
Living Wage Expert Speaks at Duquesne

By Richard Tourtellott

Workers rights has been an important issue for the Catholic Church for more than a century, and Duquesne University has shared that concern from its founding.

A Nov. 19 presentation, Living Wages in a Time of Economic Uncertainty, by Dr. Stephanie Luce, a nationally recognized expert on the living wage issue, affirmed that the spirit of the Catholic Church to improve the lives of the marginalized and oppressed remains a vital issue for members of the University community.

The Office of the Provost and the University Social Justice Committee hosted Luce’s visit. Her presentation and the following question-and-answer session deal with issues ranging from the current financial crisis and the history of the living wage movement to public perceptions and the policy issues facing living wage advocates. Luce is a research associate at the Political Economy Research Institute of the University of Massachussets-Amherst and a distinguished lecturer at The Joseph S. Murphy Center for Worker Education of the City University of New York. She is the author of numerous scholarly articles and books on the subject of the living wage, including Fighting for a Living Wage, published by Cornell University Press in 2004.

The living wage issue is considered by activists to be a fundamental human rights problem. It is also a concern for economists and policy experts and important for persons interested in ethics and Catholic social thought as well, said committee member Dr. James Bailey, assistant professor of theology.

The Catholic Church has written extensively and consistently on the morality of providing workers with a living wage. Bailey explained, starting with the 1891 papal encyclical Rerum Novarum and continuing to the present. In the tradition of Catholic social thought, a just wage is not a bare minimum but, rather, the wage necessary to provide a comfortable life for oneself and one’s family.

As Pope Leo XIII put it in Rerum Novarum, “remuneration must be enough to support the wage earner in reasonable and frugal comfort.” From that point forward, support of a living wage and related issues became commonplace in Catholic teaching. Bailey said. In 1919, for example, U.S. Catholic bishops provided a robust defense of a living wage, which they said was a wage sufficient to provide for the present and future needs of one’s family.

In our own era, Pope John Paul II argued that a criterion by which socio-economic systems ought to be evaluated morally is the just compensation of workers, Bailey explained, defining the latter as wages that “will suffice for establishing and properly maintaining a family and providing for security for its future.”

According to Pope John Paul II, socio-economic systems that fail to do this cannot be said to be just.

For more information about the work of the University Social Justice Committee, contact Bailey at 412.396.4087.

To hear President Charles J. Dougherty’s interview with Luce, tune into WDQFM at 6 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 25.

“In the Spotlight”

The Center for Biotechnology

The Center for Biotechnology brings together the various scientific disciplines to stimulate applied research, promote interdisciplinary education and translate basic science into technology that can be applied to products or entrepreneurial efforts. It pursues grant funding, collaborates on research programs, offers seminars and was instrumental in the development and approval of a Master of Science in Biotechnology. This degree spans biology, chemistry and business, and offered through the Bayer School of Natural and Environmental Sciences. Housed within the Office of Research, the center also has been active in supporting education and presentations in scientific, medical and business ethics.

Director/Faculty: Dr. Alan W. Seadler, director, associate academic vice president for research and Edward V. Fritzky Chair in Biotechnology Leadership, and faculty representing the Bayer, Mylan and Rangos Schools.

Services: The mission of the center is to enhance the innovative development and application of biotechnology through collaborative research, education and a commitment to translational science and commercialization. Founded by faculty of the School of Health Sciences, the Bayer School and the School of Pharmacy, the center is expanding its vision to promote the promise of biotechnology along with the ethical and social issues integral to this rapidly evolving field across the University while helping to train the next generation of multidisciplinary practitioners.

Faculty engaged in the center utilize cutting-edge, interdisciplinary methods to develop new technologies that impact all areas of human health and welfare.

Notable/Quotable: The infrastructure in the Bayer and Mylan Schools supporting the Center for Biotechnology include more than 15,000 square feet of modern research laboratories equipped with state-of-the-art instrumentation. Among the facilities relevant to the center are high-tech laboratories and cell culture facilities for molecular and cellular components that provide all necessary equipment for culture and analysis of anaerobes, biochemical and molecular techniques, such as anaerobic chambers, thermocyclers, super-speed and ultracentrifuges, ultra low freezers, DNA analyzers, spectrophotometers and electrophoresis units.

Contact Information: Dr. Alan W. Seadler, Room 421 Health Sciences Building, 412.396.1568, seadler@duq.edu or visit www.science.duq.edu/biotech.
By Karen Ferrick-Roman

The Pittsburgh Penguins and the Duquesne University Sports Marketing Association have developed a cooperative apprenticeship program that provides management training for sports marketing students. This ongoing partnership offers each student the opportunity to develop skill sets in different facets of the sports industry including customer service, sales, marketing and special events.

The partnership was developed by Penguins Senior Vice President of Sales Dave Soltesz and Vice President of Marketing James Santilli in conjunction with Duquesne University’s Adjunct Professor and Associate Athletic Director Robert Derda.

The program is designed to give senior sports marketing students real-life experiences in producing successful sporting events. Participating students will help manage fan experiences at every Penguins home game during the 2008-09 season under the supervision of a Penguins’ full-time staff member. Using skills taught in their discipline of study including marketing, event planning, promotions and sales, students will work with the Penguins to ensure that all fans have “A Great Day for Hockey.”

“It is a great opportunity for Duquesne students to participate in real-life managerial situations in a game-day environment,” said Steve Greenberg, Executive in Residence-Sports Marketing and associate director of the Master of Science in Sports Leadership program at Duquesne. “With 40 home games, it will provide a significant number of students the opportunity to develop their skill set to prepare them to work in the business of sports.”

The Duquesne University Sports Marketing Association is a student group composed of sports marketing majors in the Palumbo Donohue School of Business at Duquesne. This major provides an understanding of the role of marketing in sports and develops skills needed in strategic marketing, sales management, product development and marketing research.

By Rose Ravasio

Recent visitors to second floor of Duquesne Union may have noticed the addition of a new crucifix and two new crosses. They include an ebony crucifix from Africa, a sacred heart cross from Haiti and a southwest Curillo cross.

Purchased through the generosity of the Office of the President, these international crosses were selected as signs of faith from different cultures, reflecting the Spiritan mission reaching out around the world.

The African crucifix features Christ on the cross and emphasizes his sacrifice and his death by crucifixion. The sacred heart cross from Haiti is made from an oil drum. In Haiti, it is traditional art to convert oil drums into wall sculptures. The Southwest Curillo cross is designed to celebrate God’s love for variety, with its many colors representing the many spiritual gifts.

By Rose Ravasio

Those from the Duquesne community who attended the 23rd annual Columbus Day Parade in Bloomfield last month, may have seen a familiar face pass in the motorcade. Dr. Carla Lucente, professor of modern languages and director of the Center for International Relations at Duquesne, had the honor of serving as grand marshal at the parade.

Lucente, who has been the Italian honorary consul for Pittsburgh since 1999, is the first sole woman to be chosen as grand marshal for this parade.

“A few weeks before the parade, I got a phone call to inform me that the Pittsburgh Columbus Day Parade Committee had unanimously voted me to be the first individual female Grand Marshal,” said Lucente. “I was surprised, happy and honored to have been chosen.”

A group of six women served as Grand Marshal for the parade during the 1990s, but Lucente is the first woman to go solo in the job.

Organized by the Italian Sons and Daughters of America, the Columbus Day Parade followed a route from Baum Boulevard and Liberty Avenue and to the Bloomfield Bridge.

“The parade was wonderful. People came from around the tri-state area and even from as far as San Antonio, Texas, to see me as the Grand Marshal,” said Lucente. “The weather was beautiful. I had a wonderful time, and I also enjoyed riding in a new Lamborghini in the parade!”

The Facilities Management’s United Way dunk tank and bake sale raised about $500 through activities on Academic Walk on Oct. 20. One of the biggest draws was the ever-popular dunk tank, which rewards good aim and arm strength with a soaked volunteer, left, Rod Dobish.
New English Professor to Head Writing Center

By Rose Rasavio

As the new director of Duquesne’s Writing Center, Dr. James P. Purdy has been working hard to achieve one of his biggest goals: increasing awareness and accessibility of the center as a valuable resource for both students and faculty.

Purdy, who also is a new assistant professor of English in the McAnulty College, previously served as the Writing Center director at Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania.

“Writing Centers at colleges are becoming more common as it is becoming more recognized what a crucial role writing plays across a university curriculum, not just for students taking an English writing course,” said Purdy, whose research and teaching interests include digital writing, composition theory and new media technologies, especially digital archives and plagiarism detection technologies. “A Writing Center is very important because it provides the opportunity to shape how students are instructed in writing and helps faculty to better instruct students in their writing.”

The Center for Teaching Excellence regularly collaborates with the Writing Center and encourages both faculty and teaching assistants to utilize its valuable resources.

“I’m delighted that Duquesne has hired Dr. Purdy to direct the Writing Center, and I look forward to his collaborating with the Center for Teaching Excellence in helping faculty know how to teach writing across the curriculum,” said Dr. Laurel Willingham-McLain, director of the center. “Learning to write well is a complicated task—one that requires the attention of each faculty member. And now faculty have a colleague with expertise in teaching writing with whom they can consult.”

In addition, Purdy’s goals for the center include using new technologies to teach writing in productive ways, allowing students to develop texts in a variety of media and updating the center’s Web site, in particular, the site’s faculty component.

The Writing Center is staffed by Purdy, a Pittsburgh native who holds a B.A. in English from Pennsylvania State University, and an M.A. and a Ph.D. in English from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, along with approximately 20 trained Duquesne graduate and undergraduate students. It offers free, one-on-one consulting sessions, and consultants work with writing from all disciplines and at all states of the writing process, from outlines and notes to drafts and revisions. “The center does not serve as a proof-reading service,” Purdy pointed out. “We offer a teaching service.”

The Writing Center is located in Room 216 College Hall and has satellite locations in the Gum Library and the Union Commuter Center. Call 412.396.5209 for more information.

Sobehart Inaugurated at Cardinal Stritch

Duquesne Provost Ralph Pearson, left, participated in the installation ceremony of Dr. Helen Sobehart, former associate provost and associate academic vice president at Duquesne, as president of Cardinal Stritch University.

Dr. Helen C. Sobehart, former Duquesne University associate provost and associate academic vice president, was recently installed as the first lay president in the history of Cardinal Stritch University, the nation’s largest Franciscan institution.

The university hosted nine days of festivities in conjunction with Sobehart’s inauguration, which began Oct. 3, the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, with the blessing and sending of the Franciscan pilgrims and ended with Sobehart’s installation ceremony and inaugural dinner on Oct. 11.

Duquesne University Provost and Academic Vice President Ralph L. Pearson delivered remarks about Sobehart at the installation. Following his speech, Pearson gave the “Call to the Office of President,” and participated in the investiture part of the ceremony, during which Sobehart was presented with the presidential medallion of office. Pearson presented her with school’s ceremonial mace.

“It was very exciting to be a part of Dr. Sobehart’s installation,” said Pearson.

Additional representatives from Duquesne University who were invited to attend Sobehart’s installation included Dr. Ma. Christina A. Astorga, director of the Center for the Study of Catholic Social Thought; Dr. Dorothy E. Bassett, dean of the School of Leadership and Professional Advancement; Lisa Drostl, director of the Office of Service-Learning; Ken Gormley, professor of law and associate vice president for interdisciplinary scholarship and special projects; Dr. Alexandra Gregory, associate provost and associate academic vice president; Kimberly Hoeritz, University registrar; Karen Krzywicki, assistant to the department head; Center for Teaching Excellence; Ruth Newberry, director of educational technology, Computing and Technology Services; Dr. Alan W. Seldler, the Edward V. Fritzky Chair in Biotechnology Leadership and director of the Center for Biotechnology; Melanie Simile, assistant to the associate academic vice president; Dr. Laurel Willingham-McLain, director of the Center for Teaching Excellence; and Dr. Eileen Zungpolo, professor and dean of the School of Nursing.

Concert Welcomes Advent Season

The Mary Pappert School of Music and Campus Ministry are joining forces again this year to present O Come All Ye Faithful, the annual concert that celebrates the season of Advent through music and sacred readings chosen to prepare the hearts of the faithful for the Christmas season.

The concert takes place on Sunday, Dec. 7... at 3 p.m. in St. Paul Cathedral at 108 N. Dithridge Street in Oakland. The event is free and open to the public. More than 100 performers from the Mary Pappert School of Music, including vocalists in the Voices of Spirit and the Pappert Men’s Chorale and Pappert Women’s Chorale, a brass ensemble and other musicians will take part.

Christine Jordanoff, director of choral organizations and professor of music education in the Mary Pappert School of Music, serves as artistic director for the concert. The Rev. Ray French, C.S.S.P., University chaplain and director of Spiritan Campus Ministry, Stephen Steinbeiser, the liturgy director for campus ministry, and Edward Kocher, dean of the School of Music, are helping to organize the event.

Advent is the traditional time for spiritual preparation in anticipation of the birth of the Savior, and the program of O Come All Ye Faithful is an amalgam of musical styles and compositions.

This year’s presentation of O Come All Ye Faithful marks the fourth performance of the concert in St. Paul Cathedral. For more information, visit www.music.duq.edu or call 412.396.6083.
Project SEED Wins National Award
For High School Chemistry Program

By Karen Ferrick-Roman

The American Chemical Society Pittsburgh Section Project SEED Committee, which includes a summer chemistry program at Duquesne University that involves high-achieving, low-income high school students in hands-on research projects, has received the national ChemLuminary Award for the Most Outstanding Project SEED Program in 2007.

The winning Pittsburgh team was chosen as the winning program in the local Project SEED category, with winners announced at the August national American Chemical Society meeting. The committee’s work involves summer chemistry programs at Duquesne and Washington & Jefferson (W&J) College.

“Highlighting this accomplishment not only brings recognition to Duquesne University, but also serves to publicize the Project SEED program so that more people may get involved,” said Dr. Jennifer Aitken, project coordinator and assistant professor of chemistry at Duquesne.

Aitken played a key role in initiating the local program in 2003, along with Dr. Michael Leonard, assistant professor in the chemistry department at W&J.

This was the first time the local committee was nominated, Aitken said. Receiving this recognition this year was particularly meaningful, she said, because this national meeting observed the 40th anniversary of the creation of Project SEED.

“The award will help to bring attention to the program and show current and potential donors what we’re doing, and show high schools how to get involved,” Aitken added, explaining that besides involving the colleges and the American Chemical Society, Project SEED has the backing of many companies, organizations and individuals.

In Pittsburgh, Aitken, Leonard and Tabitha Riggio, chair of the Pittsburgh Project SEED Committee, have created a flourishing Project SEED program with successful alumni who have gone on to college studies. The program’s objective is to encourage economically disadvantaged students to pursue their interest in chemical sciences and expand their education and career outlook.

The positive impact of the program is palpable, Aitken said. “When I called one girl to let her know she was selected for the program, she just screamed like she won the lottery. This is a life-changing opportunity for them,” explained Aitken.

Over the past four years, 15 students have been hosted at Duquesne and three at W&J. Of the total 18 students, five participated in the program for a second year. Of the total over the four years, 67 percent were minority students and 67 percent were female, two groups that traditionally have been underrepresented in the chemical sciences.

Three of the students from the Duquesne program have won Bader Project SEED College Scholarships, which provide $5,000 to each student majoring in a chemical science during the first year of college.

After completing their summer research, students have presented posters at the national American Chemical Society meetings; two of the past summer’s students have become authors of papers that are either published or pending publication in scientific journals.

Applications for the 2009 summer program will be available in January, and the selection process will begin in March.

To obtain an application, contact Aitken at aitken@duq.edu.

The Red Ring Hosts CD Party

By Carolina Pais-Barreto Beyers

Duquesne University’s Red Ring Restaurant is preparing for the holiday season with an array of special events including the release party of the Mary Sappert School of Music holiday CD at 6 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 5.

Contributing performers will be at The Red Ring following a 4:30 p.m. CD signing opportunity at the Barnes & Noble bookstore. The CD release event also will feature performances by the music school’s faculty guitar ensemble, Catch 22 (Ken Karsh, Jeff Mangone, Mark Koch, Bill Purse, Billy Kuhn, George Jones) and other distinguished musicians including Guendo Guetcher, Maureen Budway, Lynn Purse, Joe Negri and Tom Kikta.

The Red Ring restaurant continues to offer special-priced appetizers and drinks during Monday Night Football and NFL Sundays. The restaurant’s events calendar includes special discounts during ladies’ night, happy hour, tourney night, open mic and more. Student Jazz Jam Sessions are often part of The Red Ring’s entertainment options.

The restaurant’s menu features unique American cuisine, a wide variety of appetizers, entrées, light fare and fusion specialties in a contemporary setting where the Duquesne community can socialize at lunch and in the evenings.

The venue is available Monday through Thursday from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 8 p.m. All events are free.

For more information about The Red Ring, restaurant, including the calendar of events and holiday hours, visit www.theredring.com.

Facilities Management not only manages Duquesne University’s “green campus” efforts, but also leads the charge. This feature will highlight the University’s efforts to conserve, preserve and protect resources and promote environmentally sound practices across campus.

The second floor of the Duquesne Union was recently upgraded with substantial aesthetic and functional enhancements. The renovation project used an environmentally responsible waste management plan that diverted more than 75 percent of the construction, demolition and packaging debris from landfills to a specialized facility that separates and recycles the various materials.

Besides helping the environment, this type of waste management strategy is required to obtain Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification for both new constructions and renovations. The Duquesne Union project is currently being evaluated to obtain LEED certification.
Duquesne Mock Trial Teams Win Titles

The mock trial team from Duquesne University’s School of Law won the title of top team in the country at the National Tournament of Champions competition on Nov. 1 at the University of Maryland School of Law. Additionally, a second team won the Buffalo-Niagara competition on Nov. 10. A third team also brought home a title from the American Bar Association (ABA) National Labor and Employment Law Regional Championship Nov. 14-16 in Chicago.

Sixteen law schools with the top national rankings in mock trial competition are invited to compete in the annual National Tournament of Champions sponsored by the National Institute for Trial Advocacy (NITA) and LexisNexis. This “Sweet 16” of trial powerhouses includes such law schools as Syracuse, Temple, University of Maryland, South Texas, Loyola-Los Angeles, Pepperdine, Baylor, St. John’s and North Carolina.
They competed for three days before 150-plus judges consisting of members of the trial bench, appellate bench, accomplished trial practitioners, and former state and federal attorneys general.

“Every trial at this competition is like a Super Bowl,” said Law Professor Michael Streib, director of the Trial Advocacy Program and a team coach. “There are no easy wins. To be named the best is astounding. I am incredibly proud of our teams.”

Team members are Lisa Burnett, Megan Lehman, Brock McCandless and also Linda Obioha, who was awarded Best Advocate at the competition. In addition to Streib, other coaches include Duquesne Law Professor Amelia Michele Joiner and attorneys Michael Gianantonio, Peter Giglione and Michelle Maninte.

By virtue of this win, the Duquesne University School of Law will host the National Tournament of Champions competition in 2010. The trophy will reside at Duquesne for the next year, until the next competition in New York City.

A separate mock trial team from Duquesne also won the national Buffalo-Niagara Mock Trial Tournament. The team earned its title by defeating the University of Akron team in the last round of four days of competition with 30 other schools across the country, including Syracuse, Fordham, John Marshall, Temple, Emory, Catholic University and American University.

Adrienne Sadowsky, a law student who works in the Office of University Advancement at Duquesne, was named Best Advocate in the final round and won Best Cross Examination in the preliminary round. Other team members were Kelly Kaufold, James McGraw and Alicia Nocera.

Coaches, along with Streib, were Joiner, Gianantonio, Giglione and assistant coaches Professor Bruce Andorkwaj, J. Richard Narvin and Michael Waltman.

In the ABA competition, 14 teams competed. Duquesne defeated the University of Illinois in the final round of the competition to advance to the national championship, which will be held in Chicago on Jan. 24 and 25. Teams from seven other regions will compete.

“For our team, composed entirely of students who had never competed for the law school before, to prevail in this was a truly remarkable achievement.”

Team members were Megan Arrington, Emily Fullerton, Tara Fertelmes and Michael Watson. In addition to Antkowiak, coaches included Marla Presley and Ann Schiavone and attorney Peter McIlhahan.
The End of Time
A Celebration Messiaen and French Seasons Collaboration

An upcoming chamber music recital, *The End of Time*, scheduled for Monday, Dec. 1, at 8 p.m. in the PNC Recital Hall, is a unique collaboration between two music school initiatives—*Celebration Messiaen* and *Musique on the Bluff: The French Seasons*.

*Celebration Messiaen*, a four-day conference focusing on the life and work of Olivier Messiaen, the mystical French composer, brings together Messiaen’s former students and foremost interpreters for concerts, master classes and scholarly presentations Nov. 30 to Dec. 3. *Musique on the Bluff: The French Seasons*, which began its first season this fall, is a two-year concert series of French masterpieces performed by David Allen Wehr, holder of the Jack W. Geltz Distinguished Piano Chair, along with faculty and guest artists. *The End of Time* features the monumental *Quartet for the End of Time* written while the composer was held in a German prisoner of war camp during World War II. Saturated with Catholic mysticism and visions of the Apocalypse, this 20th-century masterpiece reveals Messiaen’s fascination with birdcalls, complex rhythms and the idea of music as color.

The concert also includes *Le Merle Noir* (the Blackbird) for flute and piano and *Theme and Variations* for violin and piano. Performers include Wehr along with faculty artists Ken Burky, chair of piano; Rachel Stegeman, violin; David Premo, cello; and Ron Samuels, clarinet; and special guest Louise Burky, flute.

The concert will be preceded by a 7:15 p.m. informative talk on Messiaen by Dr. Paul Barte of Ohio State University. Visit www.duq.edu/celebration and www.duq.edu/frenchseasons or call 412.396.6083 for details.

Vardy Article Reveals Hungarian Revolutionary

A photo of Dr. Steven B. Vardy, McAnulty Distinguished Professor of History, graced the cover of the spring 2008 issue of *Western Pennsylvania History.* Vardy, who is shown posing outside a sign marking “Village of Kossuth,” near Clarion, wrote the magazine’s cover story about the late Hungarian revolutionary Louis Kossuth. Kossuth, though no longer a household name, cut a dashing figure in the 1850s that drew crowds, lent his name to more than a dozen towns, counties and institutions, and even set the fashion pace, according to Vardy’s article entitled *Louis Kossuth: A Celebrated, Disillusioned Hungarian Revolutionary’s visit to Pittsburgh in 1852.*

When Kossuth visited the St. Charles Hotel in Pittsburgh, now a Point Park University building, he was given superhero treatment, Vardy writes, “visibly revered like an Elvis Presley or John F. Kennedy.”

Newspapers carried a multitude of flattering articles describing the throngs and events that surrounded Kossuth during his nine-day visit to the city. Amid this hoopla, he was ably raising money for the Hungarian struggle for independence against the Habsburg dynasty. Unfortunately, Kossuth failed to overcome two obstacles: the extensive cost reception committees charged back to him and the young United State’s noninterventionist policies established by George Washing- ton, according to Vardy.

Though Kossuth left Pittsburgh embittered about the erosion of funds intended to aid Hungary’s liberation, Vardy writes, “he also had many uplifting experiences in Pittsburgh,” where church groups and workers supported his cause.

Besides authoring this article, Vardy and his wife, Dr. Agnes Huszar Vardy, spent the summer in Europe interviewing those who had been prisoners of Soviet forced labor camps, or gulags, 60 years ago.

**DU In The News**

executive director of admissions, in an article about how local school administrators are pondering whether all A grades are equal. This article also appeared in Everygreen Investments.

Local Residents Do Their Part To Help Victims in Darfur

The Post-Gazette featured an Oct. 13 article about Pittsburgh residents’ efforts to focus international attention on the genocide in Darfur. Many local organizations, including students from Duquesne University, participated in the campaign.

Giant Eagle Online Mall Open for Business

The Tribune-Review quoted Marketing Professor Audrey Guskey in an Oct. 14 article about Giant Eagle introducing an online mall where its shoppers can earn fuel discounts through purchases. This article also appeared in PlainVanillaShell.com, Evergreen Investments and Individual.com. In addition, Guskey was featured in an Oct. 21 article about retail surcharges that appeared in the Tribune-Review. Trading Markets.com, Calibre Macro and Macro World.

Gasoline: $3 and Failing

In an Oct. 14 article, the Valley News Dispatch quoted Kent Moors, director of the Energy Policy Research Group at Duquesne University, about the steep decline in gasoline prices. Moors was also interviewed by WTAE-TV on Oct. 27 and by WMNY-Radio on Oct. 35 about gas and oil prices.

Choosing a Major More Like Shopping Than Soul-Surfacing

The Post-Gazette featured an article on Oct. 10 on college students picking a major. Bill Klewien, an academic advisor in the McAnulty College and Graduate School of Liberal Arts, was quoted about students mistakenly thinking that someone else will choose their major for them. A sidebar article featured prominent Duquesne alumni and their majors.

Feds to Pump $125 Billion In America's Banks

In America’s Banks

KDKA-TV interviewed Donachie Chair Tom Nist on Oct. 14 for a story about the Federal Reserve’s plan to invest billions of dollars into American banks.

NCQA Graduation Rates Hit All-time High

The Tribune-Review reported on Oct. 15 that the Duquesne women’s basketball team recorded perfect 100 percent graduation rates.

Trend Toward Retail Clinics

Reflects Growing Need

The Times Express quoted Dr. Hilde Berdine, assistant professor of pharmacy practice at Duquesne, in an Oct. 16 article on the practice of pharmacy transitioning from a dispensing profession to one that is more patient-centered consultation.

For Nordstrom Launch, Business as Usual—Sort Of

The Wall Street Journal featured an Oct. 25 article about the economy and the opening of a new Nordstrom store in Pittsburgh. Duquesne Marketing Professor Audrey Guskey was interviewed and shared her thoughts that the Nordstrom store will be successful, despite her expectations that overall holiday sales will be flat or slightly lower than last year.

How to Keep Election Hype in Check

Dr. Calvin Troup, professor of communication and rhetorical studies, was quoted in an Oct. 28 article in The Tribune-Review about whether or not it’s appropriate to talk about politics in the workplace.

FDA Awards NIPT $1.19 Million Contract to Develop Quality by Design (QbD) Guidance Elements


Six Questions for Kent Moors on Saudi Economic Problems, American Foreign Policy and the Future of Oil


Retailers Leak Black Friday Deals Early

Duquesne Marketing Professor Audrey Guskey was interviewed by KDKA-TV on Oct. 30 for a story about retailers announcing Black Friday and Cyber Saturday sale price breaks much earlier than in the past in an effort to get more shoppers. In addition, Guskey predicted a decrease in holiday shopping profits in the Oct. 31 Pittsburgh Business Times, an article that also appeared in the Phoenix Business Journal.
Views of Homecoming 2008

The snap of autumn is in the air, crackling leaves are underfoot and Homecoming returns to Duquesne. This year, Oct. 24-26, those who had not returned to campus within the past year were greeted by the dominating presence of the new Power Center on Forbes Avenue, the sweeping Sklar Skyway connecting the multipurpose building to campus, permanent grandstands and other improvements to Rooney Field, and a host of other enhancements across campus.

Besides the traditional football game and booths lining Academic Walk, participants were treated to a first-time laser production recapping the University’s 130-year history, entertainment at The Red Ring and the solemn ring blessing ceremony. The journalism and multimedia department observed its 60th anniversary, and special pins were awarded to the Class of 1958.

DU Community Calendar
November & December 2008

Thursday, Nov. 20
The Duquesne University Jazz Ensemble
David Liebman, saxophone
Mike Tomaro, director
8 p.m./Manchester Craftsmen’s Guild
$15 suggested donation

Friday, Nov. 21
University Reception
Hosted by the Spiritans
4–6 p.m.
Duquesne Room, Duquesne Union

Thursday, Nov. 27
Thanksgiving Day

Nov. 30 – Dec. 3
Celebration Messiaen
Concerts/master classes daily
www.duq.edu/celebration

Calendar Notice: Please submit information for the Dec./Jan. DU Community Calendar by 3 p.m. Fri., Dec. 5. Please include event title, name and title of speaker(s), date, time(s) and location(s). Send information to mccues@duq.edu.