Duquesne Moves into First Tier of Ranking

U.S. News & World Report's annual ranking of America's Best Colleges, which was released in August, has moved Duquesne University into the top tier of national universities.

"This ranking is another independent confirmation of the commitment of the entire Duquesne community to academic excellence," said Dr. Charles J. Dougherty, Duquesne president. "I commend our faculty, staff and administrators for setting and meeting such high standards and for the extraordinary and pervasive focus on our mission."

Under Dougherty's leadership, the University has achieved record-breaking enrollment and has attracted the most academically talented students in its history. Dougherty also initiated and led the successful completion of University's first-ever, Board-approved 2003-2008 strategic plan, with the ultimate goal of entering the first ranks of American Catholic higher education.

Other notable Catholic universities in the top national tier include Fordham, Marquette, St. Louis, Dayton, San Diego, San Francisco, Chicago's Loyola, Catholic University, Notre Dame, Georgetown and Boston College.

DU Convocation Reviews Accomplishments, Looks Forward into 130th AcademicYear

By Karen Ferrick-Roman

Duquesne University has moved into the top tier ranking of national universities, passed muster with five independent assessments, set new records for external grants and funding for research, and initiated conferences of national importance in the past year. President Charles J. Dougherty shared these and other successes of the past year at the University's annual Convocation today, reviewing more steps forward with the opening of the multi-use Power Center on Forbes Avenue and enhancements to the physical, academic and spiritual aspects of campus.

"These achievements are not, and could not be, the achievements of just a few," Dougherty said. "They are the achievements of all of us working together for our students and for the common good. And for all of us, as we celebrate our 130th year, I also express our profound gratitude for the generations who came before us at Duquesne and whose selfless work on our Bluff has made our contributions possible."

In the past year, Duquesne:

• Moved into the top national tier of U.S. News & World Report college rankings.
• Received accolades from the Middle States Commission on Higher Education for the Duquesne mission being central to student experience.
• Received an A-rating with a positive outlook from Standard & Poor's with the report citing "solid financial performance" and "a seasoned management team with success in achieving strategic initiatives."
• Received an A2 rating from Moody's, with reported strengths cited as "healthy growth in financial resources" and "healthy market franchise."
• Received the best possible ratings from the National Collegiate Athletic Association.
• Boosted the academic culture through hosting national conferences and meetings of professional societies, and garnering a record $13.2 million in external funding to promote research and scholarship.

As Duquesne moves forward in this new academic year, Dougherty commented on the unique status of Duquesne and its six generations of caring for students, as well as extending hands to those living in the margins of Pittsburgh and locations around the world.

"There is no other Spiritan university in the world; we alone are academic heirs to the Spiritans' selfless concern for others, ecumenism and inclusiveness, and commitment to academic excellence," Dougherty said. "Each year here has brought me to a deeper conviction that, at Duquesne, we are, together, doing the work of the Holy Spirit."

President Named Pacesetter by Smart Business Pittsburgh

Duquesne University President Charles J. Dougherty has been named a 2008 Pacesetter by Smart Business Pittsburgh.

The Pacesetter Awards recognize outstanding business and community leaders who have made a significant impact on the region and its future. "The class of 2008 represents some of the most innovative leaders who not only are doing the same today, but also have the vision to anticipate trends for tomorrow and build a path that gets there," said Dustin Klein, executive editor of all Smart Business Network publications.

Dougherty is one of only four Pacesetter Award recipients in the large-sized organization category and one of 12 total awardees. Featured as a Smart Leader in the January 2008 issue of Smart Business Pittsburgh, Dougherty began serving as the 12th president of Duquesne University in 2001. During his tenure, Dougherty has led the University through a period of unprecedented academic growth and campus development.

A nationally recognized scholar and expert in health care ethics, Dougherty has served on numerous health care advisory commissions, projects and local boards.
Paul King, Director of Environmental Health and Safety ... on the new smoking policy

This summer, Pennsylvania passed a law forbidding smoking in public places. With the dual purpose of complying with the law and meeting Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards, Duquesne University revised its regulations for smoking on campus and a new smoking policy took effect on Sept. 11.

Q: What is the current University policy on smoking?
A: As of Sept. 11, 2008, smoking is not permitted within 25 feet from all buildings and air intakes. Smoking continues to be strictly forbidden indoors.

Q: Are there designated smoking areas on campus?
A: While ash tray facilities have recently been installed in different campus locations, the University has not assigned specific areas for smoking on campus.

Q: What should members of the University community do if they see individuals smoking in non-permitted areas?
A: This question can be answered by our Administrative Policy no. 25 of the University community if they see individuals smoking in non-permitted areas.

Q: What resources are available to Duquesne employees and students who wish to quit smoking?

The Mylan School of Pharmacy is available to meet with students and employees to offer brief consultation sessions. Smoking cessation programs can be arranged if there is enough interest from the University community. Employees and students who wish to be part of cessation groups may contact the Office of Risk Management at hughes@duq.edu.

Parents, Students Reunite at Freshman Parent Weekend

Duquesne welcomes parents and families of freshman students back to campus for a weekend reunion during Freshman Parent Weekend, Friday, Oct. 3, through Sunday, Oct. 5. This special event is organized annually by the Office of Freshman Development and Special Student Services, and is designed to be entertaining and informative. Activities include a trolley tour of Pittsburgh; a Spotlight Musical Theater performance; lunch hosted by Executive Vice President for Student Life the Rev. Sean Hogan, C.S.Sp.; a Duquesne football game, the popular Freshman Talent Show; and a farewell breakfast with University President Charles J. Dougherty. Parents can also meet with their student’s dean or advisor, attend informational sessions and meet with student life staff or other University officials to address any questions or concerns.

“Freshman Parent Weekend has become a tradition at Duquesne,” said Fred Lorensen, director of the Office of Freshman Development and Special Student Services. “Parents look forward to the time they spend here with their son or daughter and the students enjoy showing their families how well they have adjusted to college life.”

Plenty of down time in the schedule allows students and their families to explore Pittsburgh on their own. The weekend also coincides with a number of programs celebrating Pittsburgh 250. On Saturday evening, Oct. 4, the largest fireworks display ever will soar over Pittsburgh at the Point. For more information or to see the entire Freshman Parent Weekend schedule, call 412.396.6657 or visit www.fds.duq.edu/parentweekend.htm.

Change in Treatment Location for Work-Related Injuries

Duquesne University employees should visit Concentra Medical Centers for treatment of non-emergency injuries that take place at work and cannot be treated by the campus health service.

Concentra has four locations:
- 120 Lytton Ave, Suite 275, Oakland
- 1600 West Carson Street, West End
- 15 Freeport Road, Pittsburgh
- 4390 Campbells Run Road, Pittsburgh

Duquesne currently uses Concentra for pre-employment physicals and has been pleased with their service. With the change in providers, employees no longer are being directed to use Mercy Occurnet for treatment of work-related injuries.

A list of medical providers for work-related injuries and illnesses can be found at the Office of Risk Management Web site, www.els.duq.edu/risk.html#workerscomp, and clicking on Panel of Physicians. Employees needing emergency treatment will continue to go to UPMC Mercy Hospital ER.
New Award-winning, Eco-friendly Ice Storage System Cools Campus

By Karen Ferrick-Roman

Coupling environmental responsibility with cutting-edge technology, Duquesne has implemented a highly efficient cooling system that relies on ice—the first of its kind in a Pittsburgh academic institution and the most efficient available. The project was unveiled during a ribbon-cutting ceremony on July 17.

The process begins by creating ice in 28 massive 8’s x 12’ storage tanks. The ice melts, creating chilled fluid that is pumped across campus to cool University facilities.

By performing energy-intensive ice making at night, the University reduces its peak demand. As Duquesne does its part to ease the strain on the power grid, other consumers will have their needs more easily met and utility companies will have their costs more easily met and utility companies will have their costs more easily met and utility companies will have their costs more easily met and utility companies will have their costs more easily met and utility companies will have their costs more easily met and utility companies will have their costs more easily met and utility companies will have.

“This is about stewardship, not only of the University, but the city and the planet,” said Doug Shields, Pittsburgh City Council president. “Projects like this are going to make a difference in this city.”

For instance, by replacing air conditioners in the A.J. Palumbo Center, the cooling system is expected to use about 35 to 40 percent less electricity, saving the equivalent of cooling about 1,700 homes, according to George Feckl, executive director of Facilities Management. The Palumbo Center, the Power Center and all of Duquesne’s major facilities—30-plus buildings—are now linked to the University’s cogeneration plant, taking Duquesne another step toward improved energy efficiency.

“Duquesne is committed to energy conservation, and the ice storage system is our most recent investment in environmental stewardship,” said Dr. Charles J. Dougherty, University president. “We now have two core systems, the cogeneration plant and the new cooling system, to help us lower the University’s carbon footprint and use our resources wisely.”

Trane, the supplier of the ice storage system, recognized Duquesne’s ongoing environmental commitment by presenting the University with the first Trane Energy Efficiency Leader in Education Award to be given in the Pittsburgh area.

“We are pleased to acknowledge Duquesne University’s distinguished leadership in environmental matters, specifically energy efficiency, a factor of enormous importance to the sustainability of our planet,” said Steve Wey, district manager, Pennsylvania Trane. “The installation of this system illustrates the University’s forward-thinking plans for energy use.”
Grasinger Awarded the Eugene P. Beard Award for Leadership in Ethics

By Randy Cole

Dr. Mary Frances Grasinger, C.S.J., president of Vincentian Academy-Duquesne University (VADU), has received the 2008 Eugene P. Beard Award for Leadership in Ethics.

In addition to her post as president of VADU, Grasinger is also a professor of educational administration in Duquesne University's School of Education, where her teaching and research focus on preparation of school administrators, curriculum and instruction. She joined Duquesne's School of Education in 1978 as an assistant professor and director of the graduate office of education. Her other roles at Duquesne have included serving as associate dean for graduate education, program director of secondary education and interim dean of the School of Education.

Grasinger also taught for 19 years in elementary and secondary schools for the Diocese of Pittsburgh, including four years as vice principal at Fontbonne Academy. “Dr. Grasinger has touched the lives of so many different people during her life-time service to Duquesne,” said Dr. Jim Weber, chair of the 2008 selection committee. “She embodies exemplary ethical leadership in her actions and commitment to the University’s mission of serving God by serving others.”

During the decision process, one committee member wrote, “I believe that Mary Frances Grasinger has exhibited ethical leadership in every facet of her life.”

The Beard Award, presented annually to a faculty member, honors those who best exemplify the University's commitment to moral and spiritual values through outstanding leadership in ethics in family life or in University or community service. Committee members base their selection on recommendations from a host of individuals, including peers and deans.

Four Receive Presidential Awards for Faculty Excellence

Four faculty members were honored with Presidential Awards for Faculty Excellence in presentations during the Sept. 5 Convocation ceremony.

The recipients were:

- Dr. Mojir Christiania Adeyeye, professor of pharmaceutics, award for Excellence in Service
- Dr. Aleem Gangjee, professor of medicinal chemistry, Mylan School of Pharmacy Distinguished Professor, Excellence in Scholarship
- The Rev. John Sawicki, C.S.Sp., assistant professor of political science, Excellence in Teaching
- Dr. John F. Stolz, professor of biology, Award for Excellence in Scholarship

In presenting the awards, President Charles J. Dougherty noted how scholarship bases their selection on recommendations from a host of individuals, including peers and deans.

In 1996 Stolz received the Presidential Award for Excellence in Scholarship. Nearly a dozen years later, he continues to receive grants and produce significant scholarship. Stolz’s research in the area of microbial ecology and environmental microbiology consists of four active grants amounting to $700,000, 29 research papers, 50 journal articles including articles in two of the most respected journals, Nature and Science, and 24 book chapters. His work has had profound environmental implications.

Dean David Seybert of the Bayer School of Natural and Environmental Sciences writes that, “Dr. Stolz is a focused and dedicated scholar whose intensity and passion for scholarship are clearly evidenced by the high caliber of his work....I feel fortunate to count among our colleagues such a nationally and internationally recognized and respected scholar.”

In addition to these awards, the following faculty members were recognized for 25 years of service to the University: Daniel Barbush, assistant professor of mathematics, Margaret K. Krausk, associate professor of law and Dr. William Presutti Jr., associate professor of supply chain management.

Assumption College Taps Pearson

The Board of Trustees at Assumption College recently elected Provost Ralph Pearson as one of two new trustees to hold three-year terms.

Pearson has held the position of provost/vice president for academic affairs at Duquesne since 2001. He has served as vice president for academic affairs at both the University of St. Thomas in Minnesota and Otterbein College in Ohio; dean of University College at Loyola University, Chicago and dean of community outreach and services at Northern Kentucky University; and founding executive director of the Greater Cincinnati Consortium of Colleges and Universities.

He also was on the history faculty at Xavier University in Ohio and at the University of Bridgeport, Conn.
**Endowment Encourages Public Service for Law School Graduates**

By Karen Ferrick-Roman

A substantial gift from the estate of a Duquesne University School of Law alumnus will be used encourage graduates of the law school to enter public service by providing loan repayment assistance.

Duquesne University President Charles J. Dougherty has announced The William B. Billock Loan Repayment Assistance Program, a $1.4 million endowment fund, will provide approximately $70,000 for annual debt relief to Duquesne law school graduates who pursue careers in nonprofit public interest law or in local, state or federal government. The late Billock, a 1938 law school graduate, served as vice president of Gulf Oil Corp. and represented the company around the world as head of industrial relations.

“The Billock Loan Repayment Assistance Program will encourage more law graduates to pursue careers in public service law by helping them pay off their loans,” said Dougherty. “It will strengthen our public service and encourage more law graduates to pursue careers in public service law by helping them pay off their loans.”

As a Spiritan University, Duquesne carries out its founders’ ministry to serve not only students, but the poor and less fortunate. Through law clinics and educational programs, Duquesne students discover the vital roles that attorneys can play in shaping a better society.

However, some law alumni with outstanding loans find themselves torn between lower-paying careers that pursue social justice and higher paying jobs in private sector. A typical private law school graduate may carry more than $1,100 per month in debt payments while the median annual starting salary for new legal aid attorneys is about $36,000. The Billock endowment will assist alumni pursuing public sector careers by relieving some of this financial burden.

**MBA Sustainability Program Celebrates First Graduates**

By Rose Ravasio

The John F. Donahue Graduate School of Business hosted a diploma ceremony in July for its first graduating class of MBA Sustainability students.

The ceremony featured opening remarks by Dr. Dan Donnelly, associate academic vice president, and a keynote address by William R. Blackburn, president of William Blackburn Consulting Ltd. Business Dean Alan Miciak awarded the diplomas to the 14 graduates.

During his remarks at the start of the ceremony, Donnelly, a former Environmental Protection Agency employee and founding director of Duquesne University’s Center for Environmental Research and Education, called himself a “true believer” in the MBA Sustainability program as well as its “unofficial cheerleader.”

In his address, Blackburn charged the graduates to suppress their egos and be willing to work in teams to achieve important strides for sustainability. He also assured them that business careers centered on sustainability most certainly would lead to fulfillment.

William Blackburn Consulting Ltd. focuses on providing strategies to help organizations manage sustainability; environment, health and safety management; and emergency and crisis response. Blackburn is the author of The Sustainability Handbook—The Complete Management Guide to Achieving Social, Economic and Environmental Responsibility; his book is utilized as part of the MBA Sustainability program’s curriculum.

Though Blackburn admitted that the challenges future business professionals will face may sometimes be daunting, he inspired them by invoking the words of American industrialist Henry Kaiser, who said, “Problems are only opportunities in work clothes.”

With more than 35 years of experience in environmental law and management, Blackburn holds a J.D. and a B.S. in aerospace engineering, and has served in positions at the Fortune 500 company Baxter International Inc. and at Clinton Bogert Associates.
The Rev. David Smith, C.S.Sp.: 50 Years of Living the Spiritan Mission

By Kimberly Saunders

The Rev. David L. Smith, C.S.Sp., professor emeritus at Duquesne University, marked the 50th anniversary of his ordination as a Catholic priest on July 20. Family, friends and colleagues celebrated his jubilee with a Mass and luncheon in his honor on Sept. 7 at Duquesne.

For 50 years, Smith has lived the Spiritan mission, inspiring and empowering others to do the same.

“I think I have tried my best to highlight the Spiritan charism and mission through my writings, my teaching and my ministry,” reflected Smith, who has been a student, educator and chair in Duquesne’s psychology department. “It has been a bumpy ride at times, but always a great one.”

Smith embraced the vision of Francis Libermann, co-founder of the Spiritan Congregation, and his concern for the poor and sense of justice for the disadvantaged and marginalized of the world.

“I did not make the connection at the time that I was one of the poor and disadvantaged that the Spiritans had reached, but it certainly has been a lived experience for me,” Smith said.

Born in the backwoods of northcentral Pennsylvania, Smith was the youngest of six children whose father died before he was born. The only Catholic family in the town, the Smiths attended public school until they relocated to Youngstown, Ohio. Enrolled at St. Dominic Elementary School, Smith, then 11, learned a daily prayer, Psalm 16, that he considers the inspiration for his vocation: “What return can I make unto the Lord for all the good He has given to me? I will take the cup of salvation and call upon the name of the Lord.”

“This Psalm has had a profound influence on my life and has been a great solace to me in good times and in bad,” said Smith, who began exploring the priesthood after eighth grade.

Following his studies at Holy Ghost Apostolic College, the order’s minor seminary in Philadelphia, and after his novitiate in Ridgefield, Conn., Smith entered St. Mary’s Senior Seminary in Norwalk, Conn., where he earned a bachelor of arts in philosophy in 1955. He completed his theological studies in Fribourg, Switzerland, and was ordained in 1958 by the Bishop of Fribourg, along with six other Spiritans from around the world.

Smith’s first assignment was at Duquesne University, where his mission became education—another large part of the Spiritan ethos.

Smith earned an M.A. in existential-phenomenological psychology from the University under the direction of the Rev. Adrian van Kaam, C.S.Sp., a Dutch Spiritan who was at the cutting edge of the phenomenology movement. Smith taught at Duquesne for a year before pursuing advanced studies and receiving a doctoral degree in psychology in 1968 at the University of Montreal. He has authored and edited several books, numerous articles and book reviews, directed dissertations and trained a new generation of psychologists in the holistic approach that phenomenology espouses. From 1989 to 1994, he served as the pastor of a Spiritan parish, St. Ann, in Millvale, Pa.

Smith has had a long distinguished teaching career at Duquesne’s Department of Psychology, where he served as chair from 1976-1985 and executive director of the Simon Silverman Phenomenology Center from 1994-2004.

“He’s always been a careful scholar,” said the Rev. Sean Kealy, C.S.Sp., a theology professor and the Noble J. Dick Endowed Chair in Academic Leadership at Duquesne. “He tried to bring God back into psychology.”

In addition to his academic positions, Smith served as superior of Trinity Hall, chair of the Duquesne Corp. and treasurer of the Spiritan Province-USA East. During his tenure at Duquesne, Smith also worked tirelessly to strengthen the Spiritan mission and identity, helping to create the Office of Mission and Identity and initiating the concept of the Spiritan Cor Unum Award, which is given to a person who exemplifies the charism of the Congregation of the Holy Spirit.

DU Dedicates Symbolic Sculpture, Renovation Projects

On Wednesday, Oct. 1, Duquesne University will dedicate its new sculpture at the center of Locust Street Circle, as well as the renovated Gumberg Plaza and the remodeled Duquesne Union.

This sculpture, named The Spirit of Duquesne, is a symbolic work of art made of steel and glass by artists Kathleen Mulcahy and Ron Desmet, to commemorate the University’s 130th anniversary. It depicts a flame, emblematic of the University’s motto, Spiritus est qui vivificat; It is the Spirit Who Gives Life.

The construction at the Gumberg Plaza has improved access and aesthetics to the library’s entrance and resulted in major structural upgrades. In February, significant renovations began changing the second floor of the union. The dramatic remodeling project enlarged the lobby, created a student lounge and enhanced facilities for the Computer Store, campus health service and other areas. The project observed Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) principles and has been submitted to receive the LEED certificate for renovations.

Details of the ceremony will be announced on the DU Daily.
Duquesne Names Gregory to Associate Provost Position

Duquesne University has named Dr. Alexandra Gregory, to the position of associate provost/associate academic vice president.

Gregory, who has most recently served as dean of the School of Professions at La Roche College, also has academic experience encompassing administration positions at Point Park University, St. Peter’s College, Malone College and Rockhurst University. She began her new position on July 14.

As associate provost/associate academic vice president, Gregory will be responsible for supervising the Center for Teaching Excellence, the Honors College, the English as a Second Language Program, the Office of Service Learning, student advisement and other academic services provided by the University. She also will work with deans and faculty to promote graduate education at Duquesne and serve as chair of the Graduate Council.

Gregory has been active in the arts and community endeavors throughout her career, including serving as resident music director and conductor of the Civic Opera Theater of Kansas City; a co-founder, music director and conductor of The Chancellor’s Singers chamber choir at Rockhurst; a fellow and a mentor with the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities Executive Leadership Development Institute and a recipient of a Joslyn Research grant.

Besides serving as president and a member of the board for Bishop Hogan High School in Kansas City, Gregory also has volunteered as a board member of the Canton Kiwanis International and other positions.

“We are very pleased that Dr. Gregory will be sharing her broad background and diverse interests with the University,” said Provost Ralph Pearlman. “We are impressed with her commitment to Catholic education, her dedication to faculty and students and her involvement in building partnerships with the community.”

Gregory received an executive master of business administration from Rockhurst, a doctor of musical arts from the University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory of Music and Dance, a master of arts from the University of Central Missouri and a bachelor of music cum laude from Southwest Baptist University. She also was inducted into the Alpha Chi national honor society and Pi Kappa Lambda, the national honorary music society.

Former Pittsburgh Journalist Returns as Distinguished Visiting Professor

By Rose Ravasio

James N. Crutchfield, a former journalist for both the Pittsburgh Press and the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, has returned to his alma mater to serve as a Distinguished Visiting Professor of Journalism and Multimedia Arts at Duquesne University.

A 1992 graduate of the McAnulty College and Graduate School of Liberal Arts, Crutchfield is a member of the Duquesne University Board of Directors and its Executive Committee, and chairs its Student Life Committee. He teaches a course on advanced media management in the Department of Journalism and Multimedia Arts in the McAnulty College.

Crutchfield, a McKeesport native who grew up in the Hill District, most recently was the Weil Family Professor of the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication at Arizona State University, where he also served as the school’s student media director. He had served as president and publisher of the Akron Beacon Journal from 2001 to 2006.

Crutchfield’s journalism career began at the Pittsburgh Press in 1968, where he served as reporter for three years before joining the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, where he served until 1976. He then went on to posts at the Detroit Free Press and served as press secretary to U.S. Sen. Carl Levin of Michigan before returning to the Free Press. He joined the Akron Beacon Journal in 1989 and four years later was appointed senior vice president and executive director of the Press-Telegram in Long Beach, Calif. He worked for Philadelphia Newspapers Inc., then returned to the Beacon Journal.

He is a member of the Foundation for American Communications board, the American Society of Newspaper Editors, the National Association of Black Journalists and the National Association of Minority Media Executives. In addition, Crutchfield is board chairman of the Summit Education Initiative and is a member of the Cleveland Film Society board.

Feldhues to Head Career Services

By Kimberly Saunders

Nicole Feldhues has been named director of the Career Services Center at Duquesne University. The Pittsburgh native brings more than 14 years of higher education experience to the post, having served most recently as assistant director of The Career Center at Ball State University in Indiana.

When her husband accepted a job in Pittsburgh last January, Feldhues had to rethink her own career goals.

“I focused on universities in the city and found that Duquesne has a strong focus on the student and an environment that is very personalized,” she said. “But what really stands out is the emphasis on mission here. It was easy to connect the university’s mission of serving God by serving students with the Career Services Center’s focus on helping students discover their talents and how they can use them to make an impact on the world when they graduate.”

As director, Feldhues leads strategic planning efforts for the department as it pursues goals and opportunities to strengthen the career development process for students.

“As I look at all of the areas the center supports—student career decision-making, internships, job search and professional development—I believe a key focus will be on how we build collaborations, both on campus and externally,” she said. “Without key partners such as faculty, employers and alumni, we can’t be successful.”

Feldhues earned a bachelor’s degree in psychology and education from Washington University in St. Louis and a master’s degree in student affairs administration from Ball State University. She also holds a graduate business certificate from the Miller College of Business at Ball State.

Feldhues and her husband, a systems analyst with UPMC, reside in Moon Township with their two children.

New Staff Members to Enhance Web Efforts

Two new staff members in public affairs will be working with the Duquesne community to enhance Web site development and design.

Tammy Ewin joins the staff as associate director for communications. She will work primarily with the Web team to provide strategic development and execution of the University’s public Web sites and employee communications. Her more than 30-year career in marketing and public relations includes serving as the director of community and media relations at Sewickley Academy and as the public information officer with the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police. Ewin holds a bachelor’s and a master’s degree in communication, both from the University of Dayton.

Robin Zolinas, A’04/MS’08, a Web designer in public affairs, will be designing, building and supporting the University Web site.

Before coming to Duquesne, she maintained the Port Authority’s Web site and worked as a Web designer for the Tribune-Review.

Associate Director Named for Faculty Development

Steven E. Hansen has been named associate director for faculty development in the Center for Teaching Excellence and the Office of Service-Learning, effective Aug. 1.

As associate director for faculty development, Hansen promotes sound teaching and learning, coordinates University-wide instructional and professional development programs for faculty and teaching assistants, and oversees the development of online college teaching resources. Additionally, he will create new instructional services targeting adjunct faculty members.

Hansen has served in the Center for Teaching Excellence for three years, first as instructional consultant to teaching assistants, then as university instructional consultant. As a teaching assistant, he won the Duquesne University Graduate Student Award for Excellence in Teaching. Previously, he taught theology part-time at Duquesne and Gannon universities.

He has been active in the Pittsburgh community through pastoral ministry, nursing home chaplaincy and public speaking. Hansen earned his master of divinity and master of sacred theology degrees from the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary and is completing his doctoral dissertation in theology at Duquesne.
Grasinger Accepts Post As Vincentian President
By Rose Ravasio
Dr. Mary Frances Grasinger, was named president of Vincentian Academy-Duquesne University effective Aug. 1. She replaced Dr. Timothy G. Rustak, who now serves as principal at Benjamin Franklin High School in New Orleans. Vincentian Academy holds distinction as the only international baccalaureate, Catholic, university-affiliated private high school in existence. Originally founded in 1932 by the Vincentian Sisters of Charity as Vincentian High School, the school was re-dedicated in 1995 as Vincentian Academy-Duquesne University. Each year, 100 percent of the Academy's graduates are accepted to and enroll in colleges and universities across the globe.

I am very honored to have been given the opportunity to serve students and their families in this important role,” said Grasinger, a Sister of St. Joseph of Baden. “I am eager to further develop and enhance the Academy’s relationships with Duquesne University and the Pittsburgh community, and to cultivate our students to be influential leaders in a global society.”

A professor of educational administration in Duquesne University's School of Education, Grasinger’s teaching and research focus on preparation of school administrators, curriculum and instruction. She joined Duquesne’s School of Education in 1978 as an assistant professor and director of the graduate office of education. Her other roles at Duquesne have included serving as associate dean for graduate education, program director of secondary education and interim dean of the School of Education.

“I am confident that, under Dr. Grasinger’s leadership, Vincentian Academy-Duquesne University will continue its longstanding tradition of providing a premiere college preparatory experience for its students—with emphasis on the mind, heart and spirit,” said Duquesne President Dr. Charles J. Dougherty.

Grasinger also taught for 19 years in elementary and secondary schools for the Diocese of Pittsburgh, including four years as vice principal at Fontbonne Academy.

As a scholar, Grasinger’s work has been published in College Teaching, Principal, Pennsylvania Educational Leadership and Principal Leadership. Her past honors include a Fulbright-Hayes Scholarship for group summer study in Hungary, the Duquesne University President’s Award for Excellence in University Service and the Kevin Burns Award for Excellence in Science Teaching. Grasinger is the 2008 recipient of the prestigious Eugene P. Beard Award for Leadership in Ethics at Duquesne. Grasinger is a member of the board of directors at the Providence Heights Alpha School, sits on the education committee for Girls Hope of Pittsburgh and is director emerita for the board of Mount Gallitzin Academy of Baden.

McCarthy To Lead DU Recreation
By Kimberly Saunders

Dan McCarthy has been named the director of recreation at Duquesne University, effective July 21. He is charged with managing program- ming and operations for intramural sports, club sports, fitness, wellness programs and special events at the University’s new Power Recreation Center. Before his appointment at Duquesne, he was director of compliance at West Virginia University.

McCarthy brings nearly 20 years of administrative experience in athletics to Duquesne University. He got his professional start at Duquesne in 1990 when he was hired as assistant sports information director for women’s basketball and volleyball. From 1991-2000, he served as an assistant athletic director at Duquesne. His duties included providing oversight of NCAA compliance and eligibility, scheduling and game management for 19 sports, administration for three sports, coordinating athletic fields and arenas, and administering a $3 million scholarship budget.

He left Duquesne for a post at the University of California, Santa Barbara, where he was an assistant athletic director for three years. He returned to the East Coast in 2003 and served as associate athletic director at New York’s Hofstra University for five years.

Born and raised in Pittsburgh, McCarthy is happy to be back on the Bluff. A fitness enthusiast, he is energized by the programming, equipment and amenities the recreation department can now offer students.

“I love working with students and have great memories of the 10 years I spent here in the past,” he said. “Duquesne has certainly changed for the better—there has been a lot of progress! My challenge is to keep all our students as happy as possible. We have an ongoing goal of ultimate service and providing additional opportunities in the areas of intramurals, fitness and wellness for students, faculty and staff of Duquesne University.”

McCarthy holds a bachelor's degree in marketing from Slippery Rock University and a master's degree in sports management from the University of Virginia.

Silverman Center Names New Director
By Randy Cole

Dr. Jeffrey McCurry has recently been named director of the Simon Silverman Phenomenology Center.

His primary responsibilities as director include advancing the body of literature housed in the center and planning the center’s annual spring symposium.

“With the rich and interesting history of the Silverman Center, I am privileged to be a part of the center’s growth into an equally interesting and rich future,” McCurry said. McCurry received his Ph.D. in religious studies from Duke University. He specializes in European continental philosophy, philosophy and the meaning of life, hermeneutics or the study of interpretation and philosophy of religion.

Currently working on a book on the poetics and creative interpretation in continental philosophy, McCurry previously taught at the College of St. Catherine in Saint Paul, Minn. Inspired by Dr. Amedeo Giorgi, the Simon Silverman Phenomenology Center was founded in 1980 and is named after Silverman, the late president of Humanities Press and the center’s first major benefactor. The center is renowned for its collections in phenomenological research and known widely for its annual symposium. Phenomenology is the study of how humans perceive or understand lived experience.
Rachel Carson Legacy Conference Investigates ‘Green Chemistry’

By Emily Goossen

What’s in your cleaning cupboard? It could be chemical products that reduce or eliminate hazardous substances in the environment.

Green Chemistry: Solutions for a Healthy Economy is the focus of the second annual Rachel Carson Legacy conference, which will gather at Duquesne on Saturday, Sept. 20. Scientists, business leaders, government officials and consumers are welcome to discuss “green” or sustainable chemistry, as it has been defined by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Duquesne’s Bayer School of Natural and Environmental Sciences and the Center for Environmental Research and Education are the co-hosts of the event, sponsored by the Rachel Carson Homestead Association and featuring keynote speaker Dr. Paul Anastas, professor in the practice of green chemistry at Yale University. Anastas, who has been called “the father of green chemistry,” developed the 12 principles of green chemistry with Dr. John C. Warner, in the 1990s. These principles create the foundation of the EPA’s Green Chemistry Program, which was established in 1991.

This Green Chemistry Program includes national awards and led to enormous growth in national and international meetings devoted to green chemistry, and significant research and leadership activity in scores of other countries.

Research shows a very real connection between health and long-term exposure to toxic chemicals, said Dr. Patricia DeMarco, executive director of the Rachel Carson Homestead Association.

“Not to be overlooked is the effect toxic consumer products can have on the environment,” DeMarco said. “For instance, every time we clean our bathrooms, solvents, phosphates that deplete oxygen and glycols that act like anti-freeze, are washed down the drain and into our rivers and other bodies of water.”

Consumers armed with information will make better choices when offered healthier options, within a degree of price elasticity, according to the Homestead. “What’s in your cleaning cupboard?”

“Consumers are driving a change in the market,” DeMarco said. “In the United States, supermarket giants Wal-Mart and Kroger have pledged to have rBST-free milk, which is milk free of genetically engineered bovine growth hormone, because of consumer preference. Two of the major cleaning product companies, Clorox and S.C. Johnson, have introduced green choices to their product lines.”

Rachel Carson, biologist and nature writer, developed her love for nature in Allegheny County, the place she was born and raised. In 2007, the centennial of her birth, the Homestead partnered with Duquesne University and other area institutions to host the first Rachel Carson Legacy Conference.

To learn more about green chemistry and how it can improve the environment, visit www.rachelcarsonhomestead.org. Tickets for the conference are $25 for adults and $10 for college students. Admission for high school students is free.

Large Instrumentation Grant Will Aid Research On Human Health and Environmental Issues

By Karen Ferrick-Roman

Duquesne University recently received the largest grant for scientific instruments in its history—a $572,000-plus award from the National Science Foundation that will allow professors and students in the Bayer School of Natural and Environmental Sciences to measure the mass of ions. In the last year, the University received $13.2 million in external funding from government, foundation and corporate funding for research.

The new grant, which was awarded in July, will provide Duquesne’s laboratories with access to a tandem mass spectrometer. This major piece of equipment, which can be used in conjunction with other high-tech equipment, will provide a scope of instrumentation and exacting measurements typically found at research-intensive universities, said Dr. Mitchell Johnson, associate professor of chemistry and biochemistry and principal investigator on the grant.

“This grant will provide for the sensitivity in measurements that will enable our students and professors to move forward in top-level basic science research,” said Dean David Seybert of the Bayer School. “Acquiring this instrument will allow our research to push forward on many interdisciplinary fronts by coupling the spectrometer’s ability with the capabilities of other tools already at the University.”

The spectrometer, Johnson said, will allow professors and students to work more quickly and in more detail because of a smaller sample size and heightened sensitivity of equipment.

“It means we can measure how much of any compound is in just about any material,” Johnson said. “When the spectrometer has the sensitivity to work with very small samples, that’s beneficial because many of our samples are small. Also, reagents can be expensive, and using small amounts of material can cut that cost and minimize waste on a significant scale.”

Co-principal investigators for the grant include Dr. Jana Patton-Vogt, associate professor of biology; Dr. Partha Basu, associate professor of chemistry and biochemistry; and Dr. H.M. “Skip” Kingston, professor of chemistry and biochemistry. Johnson and Patton-Vogt will work to identify fat molecules and to trace metabolic changes in these molecules, particularly in mental disorders.

“Lipids can act like a messenger in the cell,” Johnson said. “When the messenger is disabled, there are implications for mental health. There also are implications for children; one of the Sudden Infant Death Syndromes is associated with a metabolism disorder of fatty acids.”

In addition, Basu and Kingston will use the new instrument to measure proteins and environmental samples.

External Grants Grow

The National Science Foundation grant for high-tech instruments is only one example of increased external funding Duquesne received from government, foundation and corporate sources in the last year, said Dr. Alan W. Seadler, associate academic vice president for research. In 2008, the University received about $23.3 million more from these sources, increasing support for research in science, on new drugs and therapies, and in education and nursing.

“It represents significant effort on behalf of our faculty,” said Seadler, who noted that all schools across campus have increased participation in seeking and obtaining grants. “We’re really hoping this represents an era of increasing scholarship and increasing funding for that scholarship across the campus.”

Duquesne is ranked as one of the top 10 universities in research expenditures statewide.
Making Sense of the Sixties: Conference Reveals New Evidence in Assassinations

By Emily Goossen

Forty years after the brutal and untimely deaths of civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. and presidential hopeful Robert F. Kennedy, and 45 years after the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, questions still abound about the circumstances of their murders.

Were they the acts of lone gunmen, as the history books have so long advocated, or are there clues that might yet prove that James Earl Ray, Sirhan Bishara Sirhan and Lee Harvey Oswald did not act alone?

To achieve a better understanding of not only the cases themselves but also their historical contexts, the Cyril H. Wecht Institute of Forensic Science and Law and the Duquesne University School of Law are presenting Making Sense of the Sixties: A National Symposium on the Assassinations and Political Legacies of Martin Luther King Jr., Robert F. Kennedy and John F. Kennedy on Oct. 3-5 in the Power Center Ballroom.

“New evidence uncovered through forensics questions what we think we already know about the details of these assassinations, from ballistics to conspiracy theories,” said Dr. Fred Foehlman, director of the institute. “Especially as we approach another election, we face questions about how these leaders might have changed the political arena. Their assassinations have left an indelible mark on American culture and still fascinate scientists, academics and the public, including people who remember those fateful days and others who are just learning about them.”

Top experts on these historical figures and their murders will convene for three days of presentations and panel discussions. Speakers include Isaac Farris Jr., chief executive officer of The Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change and King’s nephew; William Pepper, Sirhan’s attorney and a former attorney for Ray; and William Turner, a former FBI agent and author of multiple books on the Kennedy assassinations.

Additional guest speaker information and symposium details, along with an online registration form, are available at www.duq.edu/makingsense.

Scholar to Address Myths Plaguing Urban Education

By Emily Goossen

The misconception that failing urban schools are solely in need of “good teachers” without consideration for cultural differences and physical locations of schools is compounding problems for urban students. In an effort to dispel this myth, Duquesne University’s School of Education welcomes Jackie Jordan Irvine to present Teaching in Urban Schools: The Difference Makes A Difference on Sept. 24-25.

Irvine, a Charles Howard Candler Professor Emerita of Urban Education at Emory University and visiting professor at University of Maryland, College Park, will present a set of recommendations on how urban schools can be reformed for student achievement.

“Urban educators operate within complex, distinct and sometimes overlapping layers at many administrative levels—federal, state, city, district, school and classrooms,” Irvine said. “Each layer involves changing cultural, political and historical matters involving a variety of passionate stakeholders. Urban teachers, particularly novice teachers, must negotiate this thorny terrain, and their success, sense of professionalism and confidence are at stake.”

According to Irvine, urban schools are different from suburban and rural schools. Likewise, large schools and small schools have different climates and teacher-student relationships—and these distinctions matter.

“Context and culture are the operative words here,” Irvine said. “Urban schools have difficulty attracting, selecting, recruiting and retaining teachers in spite of the fact that researchers, teacher educators, think tanks, foundations and policy makers have been working on this problem for decades.”

Irvine’s visit includes an afternoon presentation on Wednesday, Sept. 24, and a day workshop on Thursday, Sept. 25. Wednesday’s presentation, Teaching in Urban Schools: The Difference Makes A Difference, will be given at 4:30 p.m. in the Pappert Lecture Hall of the Bayer Learning Center. It is free and open to a broad audience of school district and University faculty, philanthropic and non-profit agencies, and other key stakeholders concerned with urban education in the region.

The event began by featuring a photo and video display that explored the conference theme, dealing with worldwide inequalities in access to basic health care needs such as potable water and vaccinations.

Two keynote speakers, The Rev. John Kilcrann, C.S.Sp., director of the Spiritan Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation; and Dr. Lisa Sowle Cahill, Vernon F. Gallagher Chair, Center for Health Care Ethics presented Priorities of Social Justice for Global Health Ethics, a half-day symposium, on Sept. 10, in the Power Center. The event began by featuring a photo and video display that explored the conference theme, dealing with worldwide inequalities in access to basic health care needs such as potable water and vaccinations.

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Conference Explores Justice of Health Care Worldwide

By Randy Cole

Duquesne University’s Center for the Study of Catholic Social Thought; Center for Spiritan Studies; and the Vernon F. Gallagher Chair, Center for Health Care Ethics presented Priorities of Social Justice for Global Health Ethics, a half-day symposium, on Sept. 10, in the Power Center.

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Faith and Politics Symposium Explores Human Genomics, Biotechnology, Ethics

By Rose Ravasio

In its most thought-provoking Faith and Politics Symposium yet, the McNulty College and Graduate School of Liberal Arts will host Human Genomics, Biotechnology and Ethics, a gathering next month to explore the scientific and ethical issues surrounding these topics.

The conference, which will be held Wednesday, Oct. 15, from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Duquesne Room, will address these urgent topics that lie at the heart of what it means to be human.

“In many ways, this year’s topic could not be more central and engaging for discussing faith and politics. What will drive politics from the perspective of health for the foreseeable future will be biotechnology questions. And these questions will be engage research, federal funding, pharmaceuticals and access—the whole range,” said Dr. Gerald Schatten, director of the Pittsburgh Development Center, director of Magee-Women’s Research Institute and director of the Division of Development and Regenerative Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. He will address Biological Possibilities of Customized Stem Cells: Genetically-Modified Babies, Human-Animal Chimeras and Gametes from Stem Cells: What is Likely Within the Next Decade?

• Dr. Audrey R. Chapman, professor and the Joseph M. Healey Endowed Chair of Liberal Arts will host Human Genomics, Biotechnology and Ethics is free and open to the public. Registration is required as space is limited. To register and for more information, call 412.396.6388, e-mail faithandpolitics@duq.edu or visit www.faithandpolitics.duq.edu.

CITRA and SBDC to Host Unique Cultural Event

By Randy Cole

The Center for International Regulatory Assistance and Small Business Development Center will present a forum to showcase European business, academic and cultural developments and collaborative opportunities for U.S. businesses in the Duquesne Union on Thursday, Sept. 25.

The event begins with registration and lunch at noon, followed by the keynote address, “Exploring the European Union’s Place in a Changing World,” by Mattias Sundholm, deputy spokesperson, press and public diplomacy of the European Commission to the U.S.

Afternoon breakout panel discussions will cover a variety of issues including politics, economics, investment and collaborative opportunities for U.S. businesses in the Duquesne Union on Thursday, Sept. 25.

The day’s event will conclude with the Everything Europe Tradeshow, which will provide interesting ideas and export guidance for business owners who want to increase reach and revenue in the international market.

Cost is $45, and $25 with a student I.D. Visit www.sbdc.duq.edu. for more information.

Lifting Belly High Focuses On Women’s Poetry Since 1900

By Rose Ravasio

Women’s poetry from the last 100-plus years was the focus of a recent conference on campus, Lifting Belly High: A Conference on Women’s Poetry Since 1900 attracted more than 200 attendees and celebrated women poets of the 20th and 21st centuries with a national gathering of critics, scholars and poets.

Dr. Linda Kinnahan, one of the conference coordinators and a professor of English at Duquesne, explained that women’s poetry, despite a continued marginality, has drawn much more positive attention during the last 25 years.

“There has been some fascinating creative work and scholarly work being done in women’s poetry, and we really wanted to bring the creative and scholarly into conversation with each other through this conference,” said Kinnahan. “It was an academic conference, but also a real way to celebrate the achievements in women’s poetry.”

The three-day conference, which was held Sept. 11-13, kicked off with an athletically known poet, Kathleen Fraser, Pittsburgh poet Jan Beatty and poet Dawn Lundy Martin.

A past Guggenheim Fellow in Poetry, Fraser founded The American Poetry Archives and published and edited HOW(ever), a journal that focused on contemporary and American modernist women writers. She is the author of numerous books of poetry, including What I Want, When New Times Told Us Up and Discrete Categories Forced Into Coupling. Fraser is considered a part of what is known as “second-generation New York school poetry.

“I think Kathleen is the generational voice that has been around and is associated with a really vital poetry community in New York City in the 1960s,” said Kinnahan. “A lot of people look to her as someone who started writing within a generation of poets who were becoming aware of the women’s movement and, at the same time, they were becoming aware of new ways of writing poetry. A lot of experimentation in poetry was going on at the time.”

Among the many other poets participating in Lifting Belly High were Mei-mei Benssenbrugge, Claudia Rankine, Rachel Blau DuPlessis and Elizabeth Frost.

The event featured additional poetry readings and various plenary, panel and roundtable discussions that covered such topics as The Cultural Turn in Women’s Poetry Studies, Waves in Feminist Poetics, Poetry and the Visual, and New Currents in Native American Women’s Poetry. It also included book signings, a book fair and a conference book display at Barnes & Noble@Duquesne.

The conference was named for Lifting Belly, a book of poetry by Pittsburgh’s renowned poet Gertrude Stein.

“The significance of using Stein is that Allegheny City is Stein’s birthplace, so we like to think of Pittsburgh as having a special connection to this important writer,” Kinnahan said.

Lifting Belly High was sponsored by the English department, the McNulty College of Liberal Arts, the Office of the Provost and the Women’s and Gender Studies Program.
Bioethics Expert to Help Launch Pascal Day

By Richard Tourtellott

Robert P. George, one of the nation’s leading experts in constitutional law and civil liberties, will deliver the keynote speech at Pascal Day, a new annual lecture series sponsored by the McAnulty College and Graduate School of Liberal Arts. Pascal Day will be devoted to exploring issues that cut across science, philosophy and faith.

George will speak Thursday, Oct. 2, at 7 p.m. in the Duquesne Room, in a program titled Science, Philosophy and Religion in the Embryo Debate. It is free and open to the public.

A member of the President’s Council on Bioethics and the Council on Foreign Relations, George currently serves as Princeton University’s McCormick Professor of Jurisprudence and director of the James Madison Program in American Ideals and Institutions. He is a proponent of “New Natural Law” theory, which holds that moral principles are accessible to rational inquiry. Additionally, he has authored numerous scholarly works that have influenced Catholic, Protestant and Jewish thinkers alike.

Pascal Day’s genesis can be traced to 2006, when Associate Professor of Political Science Charles Rubin conceived the idea of an annual lecture series devoted to the ways that reason and revelation inspire and inform our actions.

He floated the concept to Dr. Albert Labriola, acting dean of the McAnulty College of Liberal Arts, who wholeheartedly supported the effort to create the event.

The purpose of Pascal Day, Rubin said, is to focus attention on vital issues, such as stem cell research and reproductive technologies. In these areas, decision making involves experts from many disciplines, and policies are rarely based solely on reason or solely on faith, but represent a complex blend of both, along with other factors. These are the issues, Rubin said, where moral and legal standards are themselves part of the controversy, and where—despite differences of starkly contrasting opinion—the clarity that helps us define what is moral or legal is often lacking.

Today, the sparks that are struck when reason and revelation collide not only touch off public and policy debates, they ignite hotter passions than one could have predicted a generation ago, according to Rubin. Then, intellectuals assumed that prosperity and secular progress—like science itself—were the natural outgrowth of empiricism and rational thought, forces that eventually would marginalize religious beliefs.

Rubin chose to name the lecture series for Blaise Pascal, a 17th-century French mathematician and scientist whose posthumously published defense of Christianity, the Pensées, probed the tension between faith and reason in ways that have had profound meaning for each subsequent age, making the work a classic of religious philosophy.

Pascal, according to Labriola, remains an important figure in ongoing discussions. “In his research and reflection,” Labriola said, “Pascal enters this debate of faith and reason, clarifying many issues of contention and striving to reconcile disparate ways of knowing.”

Rubin agreed, pointing out that the ages-old problem of faith versus reason lies at the root of contemporary conflicts. “Pascal is an appropriately integrative figure for a lecture series like this,” Rubin said. “Today, understanding how reason and revelation relate to one another is one of the central issues with which civilization must grapple.”

For details, visit www.duq.edu/pascal.

New Television Studio Debut

By Randy Cole

Sounds of construction in College Hall recently gave way to a new, state-of-the-art television studio.

The new studio—which was funded in part by the family of Luke Caulfield, A’07, who advocated to his parents the need for a new professional facility on campus—boasts space for three sets: a news set, a green screen special effects area and an interview/utility set. Additionally, the studio houses a video control room and an audio control room where students can learn the production end of television.

Students will have the opportunity to learn various editing techniques, including digital editing on the Adobe Suite software. Professional cameras with teleprompters and a lighting grid round out the studio.

Acting McAnulty College Dean Al Labriola and Department of Journalism and Multimedia Arts (JMA) professors Dr. John Shepherd and Dennis Woytek partnered with Mike Clark, a WTAE-TV anchor and adjunct JMA faculty member, to bring the idea to life.

In furnishing the space, the MA department turned to Clark and it’s relationship with WTAE. And thanks to the generosity of the station, the department was able to secure WTAE’s former professional news set.

“It’s just an incredible opportunity for the hundreds of students at Duquesne University,” says Clark, of the new studio.

While students will have wonderful learning opportunities inside the studio itself, students participating in fieldwork also will be able to make use of the new space. For example, students who traveled this summer to Sydney, Australia, to attend World Youth Day—a gathering of young Catholics from around the world—will utilize the studio to edit and produce material gathered in Sydney.

The hope is that the new studio will be used to highlight some of the Spiritan work around the world, including domestic work in spots such as New Orleans and New York City, as well as international efforts in places as varied as Africa, Haiti and Mauritius.

Other ideas include interviewing Duquesne faculty to create “expert capsules” that the University can market to television stations that may not have a reporter in a given area; adding broadcast meteorology to the curriculum; and producing a series of interviews of faculty who have recently published full-length works.

New Library Entrance Plaza Opens, Features Wireless Internet Access

By Randy Cole

Gumberg Library has a new look for the 2008-2009 academic year. The newly finished entrance plaza, which carries library patrons from Locust Street to the Library’s fourth-floor main entrance, was completed this summer as part of an ongoing initiative to revitalize the building. Those who followed the construction know that the plaza is also a bridge over a deep chasm between the library and Locust Street.

Students, faculty and staff enjoy wireless Internet access on the plaza as they use the space for study and recreation. The space is also equipped with electrical outlets to plug in laptop computers for outdoor study.

The new entrance plaza features a more open space than the old plaza and will be used for public presentations such as poetry readings and study groups, as well as music performances and other recreational student activities.

Gumberg's first floor remains closed for the installation of compact shelving units, which will be used to store many of the print journals that are currently located on the fifth floor. The units are designed for storage and are equipped with rollers to allow individual shelves to be moved to access other shelves. When completed, the units will house many of Gumberg’s older print journals, making way for increased and more aesthetic space on the library’s upper floors.

Though some services were displaced over the summer during construction, library operations have returned to their pre-construction locations and the library can fully accommodate the campus community’s needs.
By Richard Tourtellott

This year, performances by the Mary Pappert School of Music’s faculty artists and student ensembles will find a larger audience through Pittsburgh’s classical music station, WQED-FM (89.3).

The Music School will take center stage in six of the radio station's Performance in Pittsburgh shows, a weekly anthology of performances by Pittsburgh artists, on Fridays at 7 p.m., hosted by Stephen Baum. In previous years, the Music School had a more limited presence on the station's Sunday evening schedule.

According to Dean Edward Kocher, Performance in Pittsburgh’s eclectic format provides an exceptional opportunity for the Music School to share its broad range of musical talent with the public. “High quality performance is at the heart of our School, and over the years many parents and friends have thanked us for sharing our talent through the broadcasts,” Kocher said.

Being part of the broadcast lineup on WQED-FM has also given the music school an international listening audience through Internet streaming, and the school has garnered praise from listeners as far away as Uzbekistan. “We are grateful for those words of encouragement,” Kocher said, “and every year, we are energized by the opportunity to increase our listening audience.”

A glance at this year’s concert calendar reveals the breadth of high quality performances that Kocher looks forward to sharing with listeners. (See sidebar.) This fall the music school will launch Musique on the Bluff, a new two-year concert series of French masterpieces performed by David Allen Wehr, holder of the Jack W. Gelz Distinguished Piano Chair, along with faculty and guest artists. The series will bring a stellar lineup of guest performers to PNC Recital Hall and promises to attract a large audience, as did Brahms on the Bluff, the Music School’s previous multi-year concert series, which wrapped up last spring.

In addition to that major undertaking, this fall the music school will present Celebration Messiaen, a major, four-day conference centering on the life and work of the mystical French composer Olivier Messiaen. The conference features concerts by Messiaen’s former students and foremost interpreter as well as the composer’s haunting musical piece End of Time, a joint presentation with Musique on the Bluff of the composer’s haunting Quartet for the End of Time, created while he was a prisoner of war of Nazi Germany.

The month of December, in which the music school will present nine concerts in the first nine days, will bring another performance of O Come All Ye Faithful, the School’s annual Advent concert held in St. Paul Cathedral. In addition, before the end of 2008, there will be major concerts by the Duquesne University Symphony Orchestra, the Jazz Ensemble, Jazz Guitar Ensemble, Contemporary Ensemble, Classic Guitar Ensemble, Electronic Ensemble, Percussion Ensemble, Wind Symphony, and its vocal ensembles—the Voices of Spirit and the Pappert Men’s Chorale and Pappert Women’s Chorale.

Recordings of selected music school fall and spring concerts will form the content for 90 minutes of each of the six, scheduled three-hour broadcasts. The Power of Diversity: enabled and empowered, the third annual Disability Awareness Month Luncheon, sponsored by the President’s Advisory Council on Diversity and the Office of Mission and Identity, will take place at noon on Wednesday, Oct. 8, in the Duquesne Room. Speaker Jim Homme, project manager for Bender Consulting Services and a 1981 alumnus of Duquesne University’s School of Music, will address The Power of Diversity: enabled and empowered.

RSVPs are required by Friday, Oct. 3, at mission@duq.edu or 412.396.5097.

**Concert Schedule**

**WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 24, 8 P.M.**
Duquesne University Wind Symphony and Symphony Band
Robert C. Cameron, conductor
Power Center Ballroom

**WEDNESDAY, OCT. 1, 8 P.M.**
Duquesne University Jazz Ensemble
Mike Tomaro, director
Room 322, School of Music

**FRIDAY, OCT. 10, 8 P.M.**
Duquesne University Opera Workshop: Arias Night
Guenther Guaechev, director

**SUNDAY, OCT. 12, 8 P.M.**
Duquesne University Symphony Orchestra
Sidney Harth, music director laureate
Carnegie Music Hall, Oakland

**THURSDAY, OCT. 16, 8 P.M.**
The Duquesne Contemporary Ensemble
David Stock, conductor

**THURSDAY, OCT. 23, 8 P.M.**
Music of David Stock
Duquesne Faculty and Guest Artists

**MONDAY, OCT. 27, 8 P.M.**
Faculty Recital
Randolph Kelly, viola

**WEDNESDAY, OCT. 29, 8 P.M.**
Duquesne University Jazz Ensemble
Mike Tomaro, director
Room 322, School of Music

**SATURDAY, NOV. 1, 8 P.M.**
Voices of Spirit, Pappert Women’s Chorale and Pappert Men’s Chorale
Christine Jordanoff and Robert Kurth, conductors
Trinity Episcopal Cathedral

**WEDNESDAY, NOV. 2, 3 P.M.**
Faculty Recital
Kenneth Burky, piano

**WEDNESDAY, NOV. 9, 7:30 P.M.**
Duquesne University Jazz Guitar Ensemble
Mark Koch, director
Room 322, School of Music
Free Admission

**TUESDAY, NOV. 11, 8 P.M.**
Duquesne University Wind Symphony and Symphony Band
Robert C. Cameron, conductor
Power Center Ballroom

**SUNDAY, NOV. 16, 8 P.M.**
Duquesne University Symphony Orchestra
Sidney Harth, music director laureate
Carnegie Music Hall, Oakland

**MONDAY, NOV. 17, 8 P.M.**
Duquesne University Percussion Ensemble
Devin Flynn, director
Power Center Ballroom

**THURSDAY, NOV. 20, 8 P.M.**
Duquesne University Jazz Ensemble
David Liebman, saxophone
Mike Tomaro, director
Manchester Craftsmen’s Guild
$15 Suggested Donation

**SUNDAY, NOV. 30, 7 P.M.**
Livre du Saint Sacrement
Jon Gillock, organ
East Liberty Presbyterian Church

**MONDAY, DEC. 1, 8 P.M.**
The End of Time
A co-presentation of Musique on the Bluff and Celebration Messiaen

**TUESDAY, DEC. 2, 8 P.M.**
The Early Works of Olivier Messiaen
Susan Ferré, organ
Epiphany Roman Catholic Church

**WEDNESDAY, DEC. 3, 7 P.M.**
Messiaen Organ Recital
Duquesne University faculty and students
Calvary Episcopal Church

**WEDNESDAY, DEC. 3, 8 P.M.**
Duquesne University Electronic Ensemble
Lynn Purse and Ken Karsh, directors

**THURSDAY, DEC. 4, 8 P.M.**
The Duquesne Contemporary Ensemble
David Stock, conductor

**SATURDAY, DEC. 6, 8 P.M.**
Duquesne University Wind Symphony
Chamber Music Concert
Robert C. Cameron, conductor

**SUNDAY, DEC. 7, 3 P.M.**
O Come All Ye Faithful
Voices of Spirit, Pappert Women’s Chorale and Pappert Men’s Chorale
Christine Jordanoff and Robert Kurth, conductors
St. Paul Cathedral, Oakland
Free Admission

**SUNDAY, DEC. 7, 8 P.M.**
Duquesne University Classic Guitar Concert
Michael Chapman, director
Free Admission

**TUESDAY, DEC. 9, 8 P.M.**
Duquesne University Symphony Orchestra
Concerto Competition Concert
Sidney Harth, music director laureate
Power Center Ballroom
First National Poll by DU Gauges Economic Expectations of College Seniors

By Karen Ferrick-Roman

A national survey of more than 750 graduating college seniors conducted by Dr. Charles Wilf, assistant professor of economics at Duquesne, has set a baseline to gauge economic expectations of college graduates.

These findings are part of an inaugural study known as the Collegiate Seniors’ Economic Expectation Research (SEER) Survey and Index. The survey is intended to capture a snapshot of economic expectations of college graduates as they are poised to enter the work force, and an index of economic expectation will enable year-to-year comparisons on a combination of indicators.

While other studies have surveyed the nation’s economic picture, none focuses on graduating students’ economic expectations, said Wilf. By continuing the survey annually, Wilf and his undergraduate economics students plan to spot trends in career expectations, anticipated spending habits, credit, debt and other indicators.

One facet of the study, which grabbed national media attention, shows that female students expect to earn less than their male counterparts in the next three years, and the anticipated earning gap grows even more pronounced by the end of three years.

A breakdown of earnings expectations by gender showed that 51 percent of the women polled anticipated earning $30,000 or less in the next year, compared with 35 percent of the men. At the same time, only 12 percent of the women expected to earn more than $50,000 in their first year on the job, compared with 24 percent of the men.

Salary expectations for the next three years showed an even sharper divide along gender lines. Only 38 percent of the females, compared with 59 percent of the males, expect to be earning $50,000 or more by the end of three years.

Female students surveyed were clustered in social sciences and education majors, which typically earn less than the computer science and engineering fields more often selected by males, Wilf said. Still, the expectation variation was significant.

Economic Expectation Research (SEER) study known as the Collegiate Seniors’ Economic Expectation Survey and Index include:

- Job prospects. Overall, students are positive about their employment prospects. Sixty-five percent believe their prospects in their chosen careers are good or very good. Yet, they are not as optimistic for their classmates. Only 36 percent believe career prospects are good or very good for all seniors.
- Political correlation. Students’ career outlooks fell along party lines.
- Republicans were the most optimistic, ranking their own prospects as good or very good (72 percent); 44 percent rated their classmates’ prospects as good or very good. Those who claimed to be “other” than Republican or Democrat held the most pessimistic outlook. Just over half, 56 percent, ranked their career prospects as good or very good; about one-third (34 percent) ranked their classmates’ prospects as good or very good. About 66 percent of the Democrats polled felt their job prospects were good or very good, but only 33 percent thought their classmates’ prospects were good or very good.
- Preparation. Overall, 74 percent of the students surveyed felt their major prepared them well or very well. However, Wilf pointed out that nearly one student of every four does not feel primed for the workplace in their chosen careers, despite completing college coursework. Differences among majors were pronounced.

“The SEER Survey and Index provided us with some solid results for future comparisons of these issues and spending patterns,” Wilf said. “We hope to build on this base, creating data that will let us gauge how students’ economic perceptions change over time.”

Support Council

In the Spotlight focuses on the variety of centers and clinics operating from campus, and sharing information about their accomplishments in the University community and beyond.

What: The Support Council is a group of Duquesne program administrators who coordinate confidential, integrated and comprehensive support services for students who need assistance emotionally, mentally, socially, physically or academically.

Who: The council includes two faculty members along with representatives from the Health Service, University Counseling Center, Freshman Development, Spiritual Campus Ministry, Office of Residence Life and Duquesne CARES (drug and alcohol education).

Services: When students’ behavior indicates they need help, faculty and staff are urged to call the Support Council. The council will respond immediately to offer the student assistance, providing additional referrals as needed.

Organization: The council meets monthly during the academic year to collectively review the needs of at-risk students. In time-sensitive situations, a special meeting may be called. The council will recommend an appropriate response and a specific strategy to manage a student’s behavior. All actions will be consistent with University policies, state and federal law.

Notable/Quotable: “This is about keeping kids with problems on the radar screen. Often they need more support than one program can give them, so this lets us work as a group to determine the best course of action,” said Barbara Galderise, chair of the Support Council and director of the Health Service. “Faculty may see evidence of problems in lower academic performance and not know what to do. By referring students to the Support Council, you can be sure they will get the help they need.”

Contact Information: Barbara Galderise at 412.396.1650, galderise@duq.edu or any member of the Support Council, listed at www.supportcouncil.duq.edu.

Autistic Youths in Juvenile Detention Facilities: On the Rise, but Often Preventable, DU Researchers Say

By Karen Ferrick-Roman

Two Duquesne University researchers presented groundbreaking work on autism in juvenile detention facilities at the American Psychological Association’s annual meeting in August.

Few individuals with autism are in the juvenile justice system, but these numbers are growing as autism increases in the general population, according to the research of Dr. Tammy Hughes, associate professor in the school psychology program in the School of Education, and Dr. Lawrence Sutton, a research associate in the school psychology program. They found that individuals with autism, a developmental disorder that impacts auditory processing, language and social interaction, also may have delayed sexual development, which may contribute to delinquent acts.

However, Hughes and Sutton have established that many situations bringing autistic youths ages 14-20 into the juvenile justice system are preventable.

“The main theme is we’re trying to inform people that treatment is available,” said Hughes, who has encouraged exchanges among the families of autistic children, educators and justice personnel. “Just as students with autism require adjustments to teaching strategies in school, so too do they require adjustments to intervention strategies that are impacted by the disorder.”

Effective treatment entails teaching autistic youth to react in socially accepted ways, then practicing this new reaction in supervised, real-life circumstances.

When autistic youths are excited, Sutton explained, they fall back to the last way a task was performed, so the follow-up practice is a critical step that, until now, often was bypassed.

Proactive steps also are needed to safely handle issues related to sexual development and sexual education in autistic youths so they will neither become victims nor victimizers, Hughes said.

“Some children with autism are taken advantage of by teasing or bullying in this way because they are different, and they don’t know how to run, to tell on other people or that they should not repeat what has been done to them,” Hughes said.

Overall, the research is intended to impact policies, Hughes said. She and Sutton noted that on July 1, Pennsylvania became the first state with entitlement services for adults, independent of their IQs. These services are expected to foster independence by developing social and life skills that would allow autistic youths to eventually live in group settings or on their own and to obtain jobs.
Arsenic: A Life-supporting Element, Stolz Says

While many people commonly consider arsenic as a toxic, life-snuffing substance, Duquesne Biology Professor Dr. John Stolz and his collaborators have proven that arsenic is used in some forms of photosynthesis. The finding, reported in the Aug. 15 issue of Science magazine, shows that arsenic provides a life-supporting function for a diverse community of organisms and indicates its importance in the ancient Earth.

"While the arsenic-dependent photosynthesis process is limited to hot springs and other restricted environments today, it may have been very important in the early days of life," Stolz said.

Plant and algal photosynthesis produces oxygen from water, yet a certain group of photosynthetic bacteria use sunlight, but do not produce oxygen, Stolz explained. These bacteria utilize hydrogen sulfide, the gas that carries a rotten egg smell, instead of water.

The new findings show that some bacteria in both green and red biofilms substitute a form of arsenic for either water or hydrogen sulfide, said Stolz, who worked on identifying the particular enzyme involved.

The study, which was led by Dr. Ronald S. Oremland of the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), also included collaborators from the USGS, Southern Illinois University, the University of Georgia and the Desert Research Institute.

College Women Expect Less Earnings

The June 16 Post-Gazette featured an article about a survey conducted by Dr. Charles Willis, assistant professor of economics, that focused on graduating college seniors' economic expectations. The study also received coverage on Business Week Online, USA Today, WDEL Radio, Delaware, WPNX's Night Talk, Fox Business Network, WAMO Radio, Yahoo!Singapore, AANW Newsletter and Feminist Daily Wire.

Duquesne Science Camp Struggles for Applicants

A June 22 Tribune-Review article focused on Project SEED, a program at Duquesne that gives economically strapped, high-achieving high school students access to college research opportunities. The story quoted Dr. Jennifer Allen, assistant professor of chemistry and director of the program.

Pay In Cash, Get Cheaper Gas

The June 26 issues of the Wall Street Journal and Smart Money featured an article about paying cash and getting cheaper gas, quoting Dr. Kent Moos, director of the Energy Policy Research Group. This summer, Moos was quoted on energy issues by Oil and Gas Investor, Portfolio.com, the Post-Gazette, the Tribune-Review, KDKA Radio, Fox Business Network, KDKA-TV and WTAE-TV.

How a Promotion Can Test a Friendship

The June 8 New York Times quoted Dr. Janeen Hardy Fritz, associate professor of communication, in an article about promotions and friendships in the workplace.

People on the Move


A Deadly Week, a Timely Forum

The July 8 Post-Gazette featured an article about the Coalition Against Violence gathering at Duquesne, which included President Charles Dougherty as a speaker. The event was also covered by KDKA-TV and WTAE-TV, and was featured in the New Pittsburgh Courier.

Special Report on Immigration

On July 11, WTAE-TV aired an interview with Martha Benson of the Small Business Development Center about immigrant entrepreneurs.

Meet Your (Board) Match in Minutes

In its July 15 issue, FundRaising Success magazine featured the nonprofit speed dating program operated by Boards-by-Design, quoting Director Allison Jones on its success.

Baseball and TV

The July 16 Wall Street Journal Digital Network featured a story on how TV has shaped baseball, quoting Bob Bellamy, associate professor in the Department of Journalism and Multimedia Arts. This article also appeared in Market Watch.

Summer Concert Series

On July 18, the Tribune-Review announced that bassist Bob Babbitt, a Pittsburgh native who has become a national studio mainstay, will be a special guest at the annual guitar workshop and jazz concert at Duquesne. A similar item appeared in the Beaver County Times.

Duquesne U. Unveils Eco-Friendly System

On July 17, KDKA-TV reported that Duquesne University unveiled a new, Earth-friendly cooling system for campus buildings, and included quotes from President Charles J. Dougherty and George Fecik, executive director of facilities management. Stories also appeared in the Tribune-Review, Phily.com, Johnstown Tribune-Democrat, Indiana Gazette and Pennlive.com.

Line from T.S. Eliot Poem Intrigues Literature Buffs

A July 30 Post-Gazette article quoted English Professor Dr. Linda Kinnaman on graffiti citing T.S. Eliot.

Back-to-School Issue

The August issue of Pittsburgh Magazine quoted Paul-James Cukanna, associate vice president for enrollment management and director of admissions, about the value of the College Prowler publication.

Higher Learning, Higher Calling Go Hand in Hand

On Aug. 1, the Pittsburgh Catholic featured an article on the region's Catholic institutions of higher education. Duquesne was included as one of the "big three" institutions in the area, attracting students from all over the world.

Experts Try to Quell Fears

On Aug. 3, the Tribune Review quoted Dr. Anthony Davies, associate professor of economics, on the mortgage crisis. The article also appeared in Macworld Investors.

Duquesne University Gets $572,000

The Aug. 9 Tribune-Review reported that Duquesne University has received a grant of more than $572,000 from the National Science Foundation to measure the mass of ions. A similar story appeared in the Post-Gazette.

University IT Managers Juggle Server Safety, Academic Freedom

The Aug. 15 Pittsburgh Business Times quoted Paul King, director of environmental health and safety, on managing IT challenges in a university setting. In a related story also in the Business Times, Ruth Newberry, educational technology director, was quoted on the use of technology in the classroom.

DU Professor Says His Find May Link to Possible Extraterrestrial Life

On Aug. 15, the Tribune-Review quoted Dr. John Stolz, biology professor, who analyzed arsenic-reliant bacteria and determined there could be a connection with life on Mars' or Jupiter's moon. Stolz also addressed the importance of these bacteria to the ancient Earth. Articles on the find were reported in Science magazine, SpaceRef.com, WebIndia123 and Kansas City Info Zone.

The Children Are Listening

On Aug. 21, Trinidad & Tobago Newsday interviewed Dr. Launcelot Brown, associate professor of education, who warned that the uncouth behavior of some radio talk-show hosts can influence children.

Five Minutes With: Mary McKinney

Brown Bag Seminar Focuses on Technology Transfer

By Lisa Mikolajek

The first of two brown bag sessions to discuss identifying commercially valuable technologies within academic research will start at noon on Wednesday, Oct. 8, in Room 608 of the Duquesne Union. Dr. Alan W. Seadler, associate vice president for research and Edward V. Fritzky Chair in Biotechnology Leadership, will lead the sessions.

Determining which research discoveries might have commercial value and should be protected is not easy, Seadler explained. “Many great ideas would not have become tools of the trade if not for the flow of inventions to companies that turned those ideas into products and made them available,” Seadler said. “E-mail, DNA fingerprinting and drugs that treat AIDS and cancer trace their beginnings to basic academic research. These technologies would not have been available without the connection between academic research and industry development.”

The second session will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 8, also from noon to 1 p.m. in Room 618 of the Union. To register, e-mail Marianne Volk at volk@duq.edu.