Jewish National Fund Recognizes Dougherty

By Karen Ferrick-Roman

Duquesne University President Charles J. Dougherty, who took the lead in bringing to Duquesne and the Pittsburgh Jewish community the moving exhibit, *A Blessing to One Another: Pope John Paul II and the Jewish People*, received the prestigious Tree of Life Award for the Western Pennsylvania region from the Jewish National Fund (JNF) on Sept. 17.

Past honoree Howard “Hoddy” Hanna, who nominated Dougherty for the award, said, “The recipient of the annual Jewish National Fund Tree of Life Award is a person who has distinguished him/herself through his/her career in life and providing a spirit of working together with all segments of the community. Dr. Charles Dougherty certainly exemplifies that worth, not just one time, but throughout his years as president of Duquesne University in developing one of the finest, most diversified Jewish communities. In July, prayers that were placed in the exhibit’s replica of the Western Wall at Duquesne were delivered to the actual wall in the Holy Land.”

President Charles J. Dougherty delivers his state of the University address.

“Perhaps the point is captured more easily by saying simply that we serve our students best when we demand excellence from them while providing the guidance and support they need to attain it,” Dougherty said. “After all, since serving students is our chosen path to serving God, we can hardly be satisfied with any standard short of excellence.”

Dougherty’s address is available at www.duq.edu/president/convocation.

Duquesne University’s Financial, Academic Accomplishments Highlighted

By Karen Ferrick-Roman

Duquesne University’s 20th consecutive year of operation with a budget surplus and other financial and academic accomplishments were highlighted by President Charles J. Dougherty in his annual convocation address on Sept. 18.

Ending the fiscal year on June 30 with a surplus, “at a time when many of our peer institutions ran significant deficits,” was notable, Dougherty said.

Departments helped to contain costs, along with a general restraint in spending during the last quarter of the fiscal year.

“This positive financial result helped us preserve our running streak of annual surpluses, now at 20 years,” Dougherty told faculty and staff in his annual state of the University address. “I am proud and grateful that, working together, we accomplished this result during the worst economy since the Great Depression, and we did it without any budget-related job losses or program cuts.”

Buoying the financial status of the University was the admission of one of the largest freshman classes in Duquesne’s history, “a remarkable feat given the recession,” Dougherty said.

Earlier in the year, financial conditions led Duquesne, and other institutions, to withhold salary increases. But with the changing situation, as promised, the salary pool allowing performance-based raises has been restored. “The raises, which had been initially based upon a 2 percent salary pool, were increased to a 2.5 percent because they were not distributed for the first quarter,” Dougherty said.

In addition, he announced that University Advancement, despite the downturn economy, garnered gifts exceeding $15 million, more than 5.5 percent over the previous year. This second-best year of the capital campaign has caused the campaign to surpass the $93 million mark, Dougherty said. The Legacy Fund for needs-based scholarship gained more than $5.5 million, and planned gifts also increased, as well as pledges to the Duquesne Athletic Fund.

The Young Alumni Council was formed last year to involve graduates from the last 10 years, and the number of alumni events and participation has grown.

Dougherty highlighted achievements of each school, including new programs, such as a formal partnership with an institute in Ghana, scholarly work, reaccreditation, the banner year for Duquesne’s athletic teams and more.

Highlights included increased racial and geographic diversity among students, with more minority and out-of-state students and students with disabilities on campus, almost 500 international students and a near-equal number of Duquesne students studying abroad. The largest number of students in Duquesne history (3,258) is living on campus.

Dougherty also elaborated on the University’s mission of “serving God by serving students,” both in routine work and guidance and support they need to attain the banner year.

Perhaps the point is captured more easily by saying simply that we serve our students best when we demand excellence from them while providing the guidance and support they need to attain it,” Dougherty said. “After all, since serving students is our chosen path to serving God, we can hardly be satisfied with any standard short of excellence.”

Dougherty’s address is available at www.duq.edu/president/convocation.
Madelyn Reilly, director of risk management...on the H1N1 Virus

Duquesne University has a comprehensive pandemic response plan in place and a team of individuals from 18 departments across campus monitoring the H1N1 situation to ensure that our campus community has a healthy 2009-2010 academic year. Duquesne’s Pandemic Committee co-chairs Madelyn Reilly, director of environmental health and safety and risk management at Duquesne University, and Barbara Galderise, director of Health Service, are in frequent contact with the Allegheny County Health Department and UPMC Mercy to ensure current information and available care to the Duquesne community.

Updates are available from a link on the Duquesne homepage, www.duq.edu, as well as on the Health Service Web site, www.duq.edu/health-service/.

Numerous hand sanitizing stations have been installed around campus, as well as posters reminding people to use good hygiene and encourage attention to prevention as a key goal.

Q: What is the difference between H1N1 flu and the seasonal flu and the common cold?
A: Unlike seasonal flu, which usually strikes elderly people the hardest, the H1N1 flu virus has mostly targeted teenagers and young adults. This flu comes on much more quickly than the common cold, has more severe symptoms and typically lasts 3 to 5 days.

Q: What are the symptoms?
A: Flu symptoms include fever above 100 degrees or chills and cough or sore throat. In addition, symptoms can include runny nose, body ache, headache, tiredness, diarrhea or vomiting. Signs of fever include feeling very warm, having a flushed appearance, sweating or shivering. These symptoms typically last 3 to 5 days.

Q: How does H1N1 flu spread?
A: This flu spreads mainly from person to person, by coughing, sneezing or by touching something with flu viruses on it and then touching the nose or mouth. It cannot be contracted by eating pork products.

Q: Should employees stay home from work if they get the flu?
A: Yes, it will be important that ill employees stay home. If an employee, including anyone identified as performing essential tasks, is exhibiting symptoms of flu-like illness and comes to work, supervision, using health screening guidelines provided by the University’s Student Health Service and their best reasonable judgment, should excuse the employee from the work assignment and ask them to leave the workplace.

Q: Should people get flu shots?
A: A vaccine is in development, but it is not currently available. Talk to your healthcare provider about whether you should be vaccinated against seasonal flu and/or the H1N1 flu. The H1N1 vaccine will be distributed on a priority basis. Information about the 2009 H1N1 flu vaccination can be found at www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/vaccination.

Q: What is the recommended treatment?
A: According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), most healthy people will recover from the H1N1 flu without needing medical care. For symptom relief, take fever-reducing medication such as ibuprofen or acetaminophen (not aspirin), drink lots of tea, water or juice and get plenty of rest. Stay home from school or work for at least 24 hours after you are fever-free, without medication, to avoid infecting others.

For the most up-to-date information on the flu, visit www.flu.gov or call 1-800-CDC-INFO (800.232.4636).

Event Scheduling Process Changes

By Alison Conte

Business managers learned of a new process for scheduling campus events at the Sept. 15 meeting. Distinctions are made between events that involve outside speakers or guests, campus-only events and instances where an outside organization is a partner.

The University events office coordinates events planned by University departments that involve outside guests or speakers.

Union scheduling coordinates events where the attendees are exclusively university students, faculty or staff.

Conference services coordinates events where a University department has partnered with an outside organization.

Event requests should be submitted to the correct department 90 days in advance for events occurring on a Sunday through Wednesday and 45 days ahead for events occurring on a Thursday through Saturday. Responses can be expected within two weeks. Additional information will be posted on DORI.

Business managers also reviewed the fiscal year operations, which ended with a surplus for the 20th consecutive year.

Also, supervisors must follow the new P-card online reporting process in approving business expenses promptly.

The first Support Staff Professional Development Program received a satisfaction rating by 100 percent of participants. Registration is due for the next training session by Friday, Oct. 23, and the seven-week session will begin on Tuesday, Nov. 3. Registrations can be completed on Training Tracker.

DU Acquires Forbes Property

Duquesne University has purchased a Forbes Avenue property located between two existing campus buildings. The acquisition of address 705-709 Forbes results in the University owning all of the property on the avenue between Boyl Street and Magee Street, providing for a contiguous campus leading into Uptown.

“A Duquesne education is in strong demand. Strategic acquisitions like this building allow the University to meet its growing need for space, now and in the future,” said Dr. Charles Dougherty, Duquesne University president. Under Dougherty’s leadership, Duquesne has been ranked among the nation’s top universities, and enjoyed record-breaking enrollment and retention.

The building is slated to house administrative offices beginning in March 2010.

Other campus buildings located on Forbes Avenue are Mendell Hall, Fisher Hall, and the state-of-the-art Power Center, which houses recreation, Barnes & Noble, Jamba Juice and the Red Ring restaurant.

Tech Update

Web Addresses Change in January 2010

As regular readers of this column have previously heard, the Duquesne Web site is being converted to the Site Studio Content Management System (CMS) and will be operating on a new server on Jan. 1, 2010. At that time, each department and school Web site will be moved to a new location with a new address (or URL) that looks like this: www.duq.edu/your-department-name.

Your current URL, i.e., www.yourdepartmentname.duq.edu, will no longer work after Jan. 1. The new style includes hyphens between words for better readability.

You should begin using your new Web address now when you print or reprint brochures and business cards, and in advertisements.

In 2010, we will have an improved search mechanism and a site map in place.

This will help anyone who tries to locate your site with the old address. For most sites, the new format is already in effect as an alternative URL.

Some sites have made this switch already. Currently www.publicsafety.duq.edu is www.duq.edu/public-safety and www.biology.duq.edu is www.duq.edu/biology.

If you have questions or concerns about what your URL will be, contact Alison Conte at contea@duq.edu.

Almost half of the school and department Web sites have converted their pages to the CMS. We thank those content managers and their Web teams for their efforts during this exciting renovation.

News about Newsroom

We have also launched a new version of the DU Newsroom. It can be found at www.duq.edu/newsroom or by using the link from the home page. The new format allows you to search for news releases by date, category and key words.

The current archive goes back to June 2008. We will continue the conversion process during the fall to include most of the releases back to 2003. If you need an older release before the conversion is complete, contact the Public Affairs’ media relations team.

By Alison Conte
New Initiatives Offer Faculty Development Opportunities

By Karen Ferrick-Roman

Several new initiatives have been formed to enhance development opportunities for Duquesne University faculty. All faculty members will have the opportunity to discuss new and emerging trends in higher education during Conversations with the Provost, a forum that will address issues impacting higher education. The first session on Sept. 20 focused on graduate interdisciplinary studies.

“Conversations with the Provost will let me hear from faculty colleagues about emerging trends in their disciplines and how they, and we as a university, are responding to them,” said Provost Ralph Pearson, who is facilitating the sessions. “In recent years, there has been a great deal of discussion about the value of and need for interdisciplinary programs. I am not sure that we are giving them as much attention as we should. I hope to get from the faculty their assessment of the value of interdisciplinary programs in their disciplines and, if valued, what steps we should take to implement them.”

These sessions will examine developments that are changing the content and context of higher education, said Dr. Alexandra Gregory, associate provost and associate academic vice president. “Students of the 21st century need to be educated differently than students were 50 years ago,” Gregory said.

To become part of the discussion, faculty members are encouraged to visit the Seifet Suite in the Duquesne Union from noon to 1 p.m. for sessions. Doors will open at 11:30 a.m. Attendees are invited to bring sandwiches; beverages and dessert will be provided. Reservations should be made two weeks before the sessions with Melanie Simile at 412.396.4525 or simile@duq.edu.

Dates for upcoming sessions are Wednesday, Nov. 4, undergraduate interdisciplinary studies; Thursday, Jan. 14, topic to be announced; Tuesday, March 9, topic to be announced.

Additional opportunities for faculty growth also are being presented. “We have many development opportunities for faculty who are in the early stages of their careers, and a lot of the work that the Center for Teaching Excellence does and the Office of Research does is focused on supporting faculty who are assistant professors,” Gregory said. “But over the arc of a faculty career, faculty responsibilities and interests change; typically, more senior faculty members take more and more responsibility for leading the University in terms of shaping the curriculum, developing programs and leading in shared governance.”

To address the growth of these faculty members, the provost’s office is supporting a new approach to developing leadership through two programs. Gregory will spearhead a series of department chairs, including some sessions specifically for new chairs. All department chairs are invited to all sessions this year. Besides covering the nuts and bolts of being a new department chair and examining faculty peer reviews, the sessions will delve into other topics related to this important role.

Another opportunity will be available for mid-career faculty members interested in becoming deans, provosts and/or presidents of universities. This invitation-only, six-part series led by Pearson will focus on honing skills needed for these possible future positions and include mentor relationships. Eleven faculty Fellows, representing six of the University’s 10 schools, will participate in this year’s program.

“The goal of the leadership initiatives is to support colleagues who are currently in leadership positions and are interested in continuing a career in academic administration and to provide those who are contemplating pursuing opportunities for leadership with the tools and insights that prepare them for success as academic administrators,” Pearson said. “Having colleagues prepared for leadership will benefit immensely the students and faculty, while providing a path for Duquesne colleagues to succeed us.

“I am deeply committed to supporting my colleagues in the development of their careers,” Pearson continued. “I had notable mentors along the road I traveled to administration, and these initiatives give, I hope, similar guidance to those already on that road or who may soon begin on it.”

Nursing School Secures $500,000 in Funding

By Kimberly Saunders

Duquesne’s School of Nursing was awarded more than half a million dollars in grant funding to provide financial assistance to second-degree and graduate nursing students for the 2009-2010 academic year. The funds will be used to help support students transitioning to nursing from other disciplines in accelerated programs as well as to register nurses pursuing graduate degrees. These scholarships and loans are designed to expand the pipeline to the profession to address the nation’s shortage of nurses and nurse educators.

According to the American Association of Colleges of Nursing, nearly 50,000 qualified applicants were turned away from baccalaureate and graduate nursing programs in 2008, primarily due to a lack of faculty. In addition, more than 1,900 full-time nursing faculty positions went unfilled in 2007, affecting 36 percent of nursing school nationwide.

“We have been persistent in our search for student support funds, and have been successful with extramural funding in the past. This amount, however, more than triples the amount we received last year, enabling us to support more students at the baccalaureate and master’s degree levels,” said Dr. Eileen Zungolo, dean of the nursing school.

For the second consecutive year, Duquesne received funds through the New Careers in Nursing Scholarship Program (NCIN), which was launched last year by The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the American Association of Colleges of Nursing to address the national nursing shortage and increase the diversity of nursing professionals.

The authors of the proposal for funding are Dr. Joan Lockhart, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, and Leah Cunningham, Assistant Dean for Students. The grant provides scholarships in the amount of $10,000 each to entry level students in accelerated programs. Preference is given to students from groups under-represented in nursing or from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Last year, the School of Nursing awarded 10 scholarships to students in its Second Degree BSN program. This year’s funding pool increased by 50 percent for 2009-2010 and $150,000 in scholarship funds was disbursed among 15 students—six men and nine women.

“These students come from diverse educational and professional backgrounds, ranging from business to fashion design. We also have some working mothers who wanted a more meaningful and flexible career. They all wanted to pursue a new career in nursing, but were unable to do so without financial support. An NCIN scholarship truly made a difference,” said Cunningham.

Duquesne also received federal funding from the National Student Loan Program (NFLP) in 2009-2010. Administered by the Health Resources and Services Administration, this loan repayment program is available to nursing graduate students who are preparing to become future nurse educators.

Another opportunity will be available for mid-career faculty members interested in becoming deans, provosts and/or presidents of universities. This invitation-only, six-part series led by Pearson will focus on honing skills needed for these possible future positions and include mentor relationships. Eleven faculty Fellows, representing six of the University’s 10 schools, will participate in this year’s program.

“The goal of the leadership initiatives is to support colleagues who are currently in leadership positions and are interested in continuing a career in academic administration and to provide those who are contemplating pursuing opportunities for leadership with the tools and insights that prepare them for success as academic administrators,” Pearson said. “Having colleagues prepared for leadership will benefit immensely the students and faculty, while providing a path for Duquesne colleagues to succeed us.

“I am deeply committed to supporting my colleagues in the development of their careers,” Pearson continued. “I had notable mentors along the road I traveled to administration, and these initiatives give, I hope, similar guidance to those already on that road or who may soon begin on it.”

The amount, however, more than triples the amount we received last year.”

—Dr. Eileen Zungolo

Dean, School of Nursing

By Kimberly Saunders

Duquesne’s School of Nursing was awarded more than half a million dollars in grant funding to provide financial assistance to second-degree and graduate nursing students for the 2009-2010 academic year. The funds will be used to help support students transitioning to nursing from other disciplines in accelerated programs as well as to register nurses pursuing graduate degrees. These scholarships and loans are designed to expand the pipeline to the profession to address the nation’s shortage of nurses and nurse educators. According to the American Association of Colleges of Nursing, nearly 50,000 qualified applicants were turned away from baccalaureate and graduate nursing programs in 2008, primarily due to a lack of faculty. In addition, more than 1,900 full-time nursing faculty positions went unfilled in 2007, affecting 36 percent of nursing school nationwide.

“We have been persistent in our search for student support funds, and have been successful with extramural funding in the past. This amount, however, more than triples the amount we received last year, enabling us to support more students at the baccalaureate and master’s degree levels,” said Dr. Eileen Zungolo, dean of the nursing school.

For the second consecutive year, Duquesne received funds through the New Careers in Nursing Scholarship Program (NCIN), which was launched last year by The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the American Association of Colleges of Nursing to address the national nursing shortage and increase the diversity of nursing professionals. The authors of the proposal for funding are Dr. Joan Lockhart, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, and Leah Cunningham, Assistant Dean for Students. The grant provides scholarships in the amount of $10,000 each to entry level students in accelerated programs. Preference is given to students from groups under-represented in nursing or from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Last year, the School of Nursing awarded 10 scholarships to students in its Second Degree BSN program. This year’s funding pool increased by 50 percent for 2009-2010 and $150,000 in scholarship funds was disbursed among 15 students—six men and nine women.

“These students come from diverse educational and professional backgrounds, ranging from business to fashion design. We also have some working mothers who wanted a more meaningful and flexible career. They all wanted to pursue a new career in nursing, but were unable to do so without financial support. An NCIN scholarship truly made a difference,” said Cunningham.

Duquesne also received federal funding from the National Student Loan Program (NFLP) in 2009-2010. Administered by the Health Resources and Services Administration, this loan repayment program is available to nursing graduate students who are preparing to become future nurse educators. Part-time and full-time students can apply for NFLP scholarships. Following their program completion, students may be eligible to have up to 85 percent of their loan forgiven over a consecutive four-year period while they serve as full-time nursing school faculty members.

Duquesne has been successful in obtaining HRSA-NFLP support since the fund’s inception in 2003 but the sizeable increase for the current academic year was a welcome surprise. The average award for 2009-10 is approximately 100 nursing schools who participate in the program was $107,000. Duquesne received $381,052, which includes $79,000 in stimulus money from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, placing it among the nation’s top ten recipients.

These funds will be used to support 31 students enrolled in one of Duquesne’s three graduate nursing programs: MSN, PhD and DNP. Students can receive loans of up to $30,000 each year for a maximum of five years.

“Funding nursing education at all levels is critical. Students who may never have considered a career in nursing education because of lower salaries and inability to pay back loans changed their focus to education upon receiving NFLP funding,” said Cunningham.

Kimberly Atwood, who used NFLP funds to complete her master’s degree, post-master’s certificate in and doctoral studies, agreed.

“The loan provided me with the opportunity to pursue areas of interest that have added richness to my learning experience and changed my outlook on life. And I have no doubts that the NFLP has facilitated the diversification of the workforce. Rather than losing talent to higher paying nursing careers, motivated graduate and doctoral-level students are encouraged to maintain academic careers throughout the duration of the loan repayment process,” Atwood said.

“Once I complete my degree, I will have the credentials necessary for a promising career in academia,” added Aaron Bellow, a PhD candidate and NFLP recipient. “As an African-American male, I address diversification in nursing through race and gender, so I think the purpose of the funding has definitely been fulfilled.”
President Awardees Honored

By Rose Ravasio

Four Duquesne University faculty members were recognized at the annual Convocation as recipients of the Duquesne University Presidential Awards for Excellence.

Dr. H.M. Kingston, professor of analytical chemistry in the Bayer School of Natural and Environmental Sciences, received the second Presidential Award for Excellence in Scholarship. He previously received the award in 1995. Kingston holds dual appointments in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry and the Center for Environmental Research and Education at Duquesne. He also is director of a focused research center at the University in mass spectrometry and analytical chemistry.

Among his research accomplishments, Kingston developed and patented the technique of Speciated Isotope Dilution Mass Spectrometry, which enables the precise determination of trace environmental toxins. His work also includes collaborating with a neurological pediatrician at The Children's Institute of Pittsburgh to measure and evaluate environmental toxins' effects on children with autism. Kingston most recently was awarded the second annual Charles E. Kaufman Award of $50,000 for his contributions to the research of chemical influences in autistic children. The award is presented annually for contributions to science for both the betterment of life and understanding of human life.

Dr. Tammy L. Hughes, an associate professor in the Department of Counseling, Psychology and Special Education, received the Presidential Award for Excellence in Teaching. Hughes has conducted research in the prevention and treatment of aggression in children. She teaches graduate-level courses in the School of Education on topics including deviant behavior, learning disabilities and psychological testing, and she has developed courses in child violence in schools, the biological basis of behavior and personality assessment for intervention. Hughes is president of the Division of School Psychology (16) of the American Psychological Association.

Dr. Rodney K. Hopson, a professor in the Department of Educational Foundations and Leadership in the School of Education, received the Presidential Award for Excellence in Scholarship. Hopson, who serves as the Hillman Distinguished Professor at Duquesne, conducts research that focuses on social policies and politics, foundations of education, sociolinguistics and ethnographic evaluation research. He has studied the impact of education and schooling on marginalized and underrepresented groups in the United States, southern Africa and other areas. Hopson has raised more than $3 million in funds through organizations such as the W.K. Kellogg Foundation and the National Science Foundation in the support of graduate students of color in natural and social sciences. He held a visiting fellowship at Cambridge University's Wolfson College, and he was a J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholar at the University of Namibia, where he studied the changes in language policy and societal changes that had occurred since the end of apartheid there.

Dr. Janie Fritz, associate professor of communication in the McAnulty College and Graduate School of Liberal Arts, received the Presidential Award for Excellence in Teaching. She is co-director of both the M.A. program and the B.A. program for the communication and rhetorical studies department. Fritz teaches courses in interpersonal communication, communication and gender, public speaking, and communication ethics and professional civility, among others.

Co-editor of Professional Relationships in the Workplace, Fritz received the Eugene P. Beard Award Faculty Award for Leadership in Ethics at Duquesne University in 2007 and is a member of the Phi Beta Kappa academic honor society.

Award continued from Page 1

By Rose Ravasio

hanna noted that, in addition to his role at Duquesne, Dougherty exhibits guidance on the board of trustees for the Catholic Health Association and the board of editors at both Creighton University Press and Health Progress. He served as commissioner for the State of Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission and is nationally known as an expert in ethics and healthcare.

Dougherty also serves on the boards of UPMC Mercy, the Sen. John Heinz History Center, the Allegheny Conference on Community Development and the Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh.

“In his position as the president of Duquesne University, he has shown great guidance as a member of the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Pennsylvania, as well as the President's Committee of the Pittsburgh Council on Higher Education,” Hanna said.

Members and friends of the Jewish Faculty Forum (JFF) at Duquesne extended congratulations to Dougherty, noting his leadership in sustainability and his role in making Duquesne an exemplary "green" campus. "While we are very grateful to him on this score, of course, we also take this opportunity to acknowledge the fact that, over the years, he has been quite responsive to the needs and concerns of Jewish students and faculty here at Duquesne," said Dr. Daniel Burston, chair of the psychology department and JFF president, on behalf of the organization. "His kindness and consistency on this score have not gone unnoticed."

Each year, the honoree has the option of selecting one of the JNF partner programs to benefit from proceeds of the testimonial dinner. Dougherty chose the Arava Institute for Environmental Studies, a graduate program teaching many aspects of environmen- talism and, as a program of co-existence, fostering Israeli-Arab cooperation.

“Duquesne was formed on the premise that education serves as a gateway to a better life, and we share that core value with the Arava Institute, which brings together Israelis and Arabs in environmental stewardship and collaboration,” Dougherty said. “I am honored to be chosen for this award, which is known for recognizing civic engagement in our local community and around the world.” The JNF, which considers itself the keeper of the land of Israel, has planted 240 million trees to reforest the desert, built more than 1,000 parks and recreational areas and developed innovative irrigation systems.

Philosophy Chair Recognized For Leadership in Ethics

By Rose Ravasio

Dr. James Swindal, associate professor and chair of philosophy, has been honored with the 2009 Eugene P. Beard Award for Leadership in Ethics at Duquesne University. “It is wonderful to work here at Duquesne. It has afforded me, in conjunction with my colleagues, particularly in the philosophy department, the opportunity to teach a broad range of talented students,” said Swindal. “It is because of Duquesne that I am able to be part of a group of educators committed to ethical thinking and practice.”

Presented annually to a Duquesne faculty member, the Beard Award 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.

Swindal specializes in critical theory and Catholic philosophy, and teaches courses on Christian thinkers, theory of action, and Marxism and critical theory.

“In many diverse and extraordinary ways, Dr. Swindal embodies the core focus of the Beard Leadership Award for faculty. As an educator, scholar and administrator, he brings the University’s mission of serving God by serving others to light. This award is well deserved,” said Dr. Jim Weber, chair of the 2009 Beard Award Selection Committee.

Widely published, Swindal’s work has appeared in Philosophy Today, Catholic Education and Philosophy and Social Criticism. He is the author of Reflection Revisited: Jürgen Habermas’s Emanicipative Theory of Truth and co-editor of The Shred and Ward Catholic Philosophy Anthology. Swindal is currently working on Action and Existence, a book examining recent action theory in light of an existential analysis.

Swindal is a past president of the Philosophers in Education organization. He holds a B.A. in political science from Seattle University, an M.A. in philosophy from Gonzaga University and a Ph.D. in philosophy from Boston College. In addition, he has a bachelor’s in sacred theology from Gregorian University and a master’s of sacred theology from the Jesuit School of Theology at Berkeley.

President Dougherty Selected as Leading Pittsburgher

Duquesne University President Charles J. Dougherty, right, receives his Leading Pittsburgher award from Mars CEO and Pennsylvania representative Patrick Farrell. Dougherty, who has guided Duquesne since 2001, was chosen for this recognition based upon professional experience, leadership, initiative, creativity and dedication. Active on a number of area boards, Dougherty serves on the Advisory Committee of Independent Colleges and Universities of Pennsylvania and the President’s Committee of the Pittsburgh Council on Higher Education. He received a 2008 Pacesetter Award from Smart Business, Pittsburgh and the 2008 Humanitarian of the Year Award from the Jerome Bettis Foundation.
Center for the Study of Catholic Social Thought To Present Inaugural Paluse Lecture Series

By Randy Cole

The Center for the Study of Catholic Social Thought will present Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Catholic Social Thought on Wednesday, Oct. 28, at 3 p.m., in the Duquesne Room of the Duquesne Union.

The inaugural lecture series features paper presentations from four Duquesne faculty members who contribute to the study of Catholic social thought from the perspective of their own disciplines. This year’s recipients include Dr. Linda A. Kinnahan of the Department of English; Dr. James P. Bailey and Dr. Elizabeth Agnew Cochran, both of the Department of Theology; and Dr. Norman P. Conti of the Department of Sociology. A question-and-answer session will follow the presentations, and light refreshments will be available.

“The breadth and scope of the scholarship of this year’s winners is impressive,” said Dr. Ma. Christina Astorga, director of the Center for the Study of Catholic Social Thought. “Their work shows that Catholic social thought spans disciplines, evoking a moral resonance in all earnest inquirers of the truth and seekers of justice.”

The Fr. Richard V. Paluse Mission-Related Research Awards, which are funded from an endowment by the late Paluse, are granted in support of fostering study and research on social issues consistent with the ethos of Catholic social thought from various perspectives of academic expertise. Up to four awards are given annually, and each is in the amount of $5,000.

The applications, which are open annually to all faculty except current recipients of other University research awards, will be available in early 2010.

For more information about the award or the event, contact Astorga at astorgac@duq.edu or at 412.396.1595.

School of Law Dedicates Bridget & Alfred Peláez Legal Writing Center

By Emily Goossen

The School of Law held a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Aug. 28, for the grand opening of the Bridget & Alfred Peláez Legal Writing Center. The 120 guests included faculty, staff, students and alumni, at the 2,400-square-foot space was dedicated.

The new writing center is located on the first floor of the law library and houses offices for full-time writing professors, adjunct professors and teaching assistants. It also has a common area where tutoring sessions and meetings can be held.

The space, solely dedicated to the writing program, is a great step forward for the law school’s legal research and writing team, says Professor Jan Levine, director of the nationally recognized legal writing program. “The donor wanted the gift to provide intensive and high-quality training and support to Duquesne’s students, which is something Professor Peláez has provided for his entire career at Duquesne,” Levine said.

Named for Professor Alfred Peláez, a faculty member for 44 years, and his late wife, Bridget, the writing center was described by Interim Dean Ken Gormley as “the most significant improvement to the law school in decades.”

Peláez joined the law faculty after graduating from the Yale Law School, where he was a Sterling Fellow. He serves as a Distinguished Visiting Professor at China University of Political Science and Law, and he is director of the joint Duquesne University-China University Summer Legal Study Program held annually in Beijing, China.

Peláez is grateful that his name could be added to something that is useful to law students. “Now the writing program will have physical space dedicated to work with students one-on-one in an atmosphere befitting to this purpose,” he said.

The donor, who prefers to remain anonymous, contributed $500,000 and was a student of Peláez’s. He describes his former professor as an “excellent teacher who put a human caring face on the law school.”

The donor remembered several instances when Peláez assisted in difficult situations, even when not asked.

“This was a great way to honor a professor who honors us each day with his knowledge and zest for teaching law,” said Steve Singhaus, co-president of the Student Bar Association at Duquesne.

The donor’s gift ensures that the Peláez name will be positively influencing law students for generations to come.

Campus Collaborates To Present Dialogue Conference

By Randy Cole

Ten departments, colleges and centers across campus will come together at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 7, in the Duquesne Room of the Duquesne Union to present Dialogue Between Believers and Secular Thinkers.

The event will feature Dr. Gregory Baum, professor emeritus in the religious studies faculty at McGill University in Montreal. He will discuss how interaction between thinkers coming from different religious groundings is crucially important for many academic fields and scholarly specialties across a university.

“Professor Baum is an academic giant internationally who has dramatically influenced discourse on the relation between religion and society for over half a century. “We are truly fortunate to have such a renowned scholar visit us, especially because Duquesne University and our Spiritan mission constantly seek to foster this type of constructive dialogue,” said Dr. Gerard Magill, the Vernon F. Gallagher Chair for the Integration of Science, Theology, Philosophy and Law. “His remarks should spark fascinating interdisciplinary discussions across the University.”

Free and open to the public, the event is sponsored by the McAnulty College and Graduate School of Liberal Arts; the Vernon F. Gallagher Chair; Spiritan Campus Ministry; the Center for Healthcare Ethics; the Jewish Faculty Forum; the Simon Silverman Phenomenology Center; and the Departments of Philosophy, Psychology, Sociology and Theology.

For more information, please call 412.396.4504.

Going Green

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

The light switch is one of the most ignored energy conservation devices. According to a Green Seal report, lighting accounts for 30 to 50 percent of a building’s energy use or about 17 percent of the total annual U.S. electricity consumption.

The University’s electricians continue to advance energy conservation efforts on campus through the installation of occupancy light switches in classrooms, offices and restrooms. The switches, which interrupt the energy circuit, turning the lights off after 15 consecutive minutes without detecting movement or body heat.

The use of occupancy lights is proven to reduce energy waste and is an environmentally sound practice.

To date, the following areas have been retrofitted with this device: all classrooms in Fisher, College, Mellon and Canevin halls. Additionally, all offices in the Administration Building, Canavan Hall, the Facilities Management Building and 80 percent of the offices in College Hall.

Facilities management plans to install occupancy light switches in more campus locations.

Catch the Times Web Extras

Visit the Times online at www.duq.edu/public-affairs/publications.cfm to read expanded news and see special Web-only articles and photos.
Distinguished Professor Focuses On Urban Issues, Educational Partnerships

By Rose Ravasio

Dr. Arnetha F. Ball has been named the inaugural Barbara A. Sizemore Distinguished Professor in Urban Education at Duquesne University, effective Aug. 24.

The new position is named for the late Sizemore, a pioneer in urban education research who was the first black woman to lead a major American school district.

“I am deeply honored to carry on the legacy of this great woman,” Ball said. “Barbara Sizemore fought tirelessly to bring about change, not only for Pittsburgh students, but for students everywhere.”

Housed in the School of Education, the professorship was established with initial funding from the Pittsburgh Foundation and will focus on advancing Duquesne and the school’s strategic emphasis on urban issues, educational partnerships and other related matters.

“We are privileged and honored to have Dr. Ball join our faculty as the inaugural Dr. Barbara A. Sizemore Distinguished Professor,” said Dr. Olga M. Welch, dean of the School of Education. “With her scholarship in urban education as well as vast international and national experience, I am confident Dr. Ball’s leadership will enable us to prepare educators who can become effective generative change agents in urban classrooms.”

9th Annual Wecht Conference: Evidence in the Information Age

One of the world’s leading authorities in urban education, Ball is vice president of the Teaching and Teacher Education Division of the American Educational Research Association, and is past president of the National Conference on Research in Language and Literacy. She most recently served as a professor of education at Stanford University.

Ball is currently pursuing an interdisciplinary research agenda that aims to improve education for urban populations in three intersecting areas:

• Community-based organizations that are part of an alternative education providing “second chance” or “last chance” opportunities for individuals in search of personal, academic and economic success
• Teacher education programs across the United States and South Africa
• American schools in which predominantly poor African-American, Latino and Pacific Islander students are underachieving

This research integrates socio-cultural, sociolinguistic and ethnographic approaches to investigate the processes of teacher change and development, as well as the language and literacy practices of students in multicultural settings.

Before entering higher education, Ball was a speech language pathologist, taught in pre-school, elementary and secondary classrooms for more than 25 years, and founded and directed an early education center for students of diverse backgrounds.

In a recent speech announcing the creation of a White House cyber-security office, President Obama spoke of “the great irony of our Information Age”—the fact that “the very technologies that empower us to create and to build but also empower those who would disrupt and destroy.”

But while the Obama administration’s new initiative will employ all the tools at the federal government’s disposal to fend off the sorts of large-scale attacks that can cripple economies and compromise national security, law enforcement officers and attorneys nationwide—along with the public they serve—must grapple daily with those who would use personal computers, cell phones and other digital devices to do everything from perpetrate Ponzi schemes to lure children into harm’s way.

On Thursday, Oct. 23, and Friday, Oct. 24, the Wecht Institute’s 9th annual conference, Evidence in the Information Age, will seek to impart a more current and comprehensive knowledge of both the crime-fighting challenges and the investigative and legal opportunities presented by the proliferation of digital technology in the 21st century.

The event, which will feature expert presenters from the fields of law enforcement, digital forensic examination and criminal law, among others, will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. both days in the Duquesne Union Ballroom.

“This conference will review the tools and techniques for collecting, analyzing and preserving digital evidence, legal issues in the investigation and prosecution of computer and cyber-crime, and the preparation and utilization of digital evidence and experts in court,” said Dr. Frederick Fochtman, director of the Wecht Institute.

For more information about the conference, visit www.duq.edu/digitalevidence or call 412.396.1330.
Liu Receives National Honor

By Karen Ferrick-Roman

Professor Frank Y. Liu, director of Duquesne’s Center for Legal Information as well as the Allegheny County Law Library, has been named one of two American co-chairs of a joint executive board for the newly created Chinese and American Forum on Legal Information and Law Libraries (CAFLL), which will plan and carry out future conferences and exchanges between the two nations’ legal information and law library professionals.

Liu initiated, organized and co-chaired a conference that brought together, for the first time, Chinese and American law libraries and major universities to discuss fundamental issues in both countries at the unprecedented China–United States Conference on Legal Information and Law Librarians in Beijing in May. This conference was attended by 146 Chinese registrants who represented 25 law libraries and legal institutions, including university presidents, vice presidents and national government officials, as well as law library directors, law deans and professors. The U.S. and other countries were represented by 58 registrants representing 41 law libraries and institutions. Among the attendees from Duquesne’s Center for Legal Information were Dit-kavai Rao, associate director; Tsegaye Beru, assistant director for public services; and Milan Komljentric, manager of information technology.

MBA Sustainability More Than Doubles Enrollment

By Karen Ferrick-Roman

In merely three years since its launch, enrollment has more than doubled in the Master's of Business Administration-Sustainability (SMBA) program at Duquesne University. The program, which infuses financial, social and environmental responsibility into the hard-skills classes of more typical MBA degrees, has 35 students enrolled for the yearlong course starting later this month. Students are drawn from local and international locales, including China, France and Korea, said Dr. Kenneth A. Saban, who was named director of the award-winning program in July.

The SMBA program, which incorporates best practices from the financial, human and environmental areas, positions students to lead for the future.

"Profitability, of course, remains a key component; if a company cannot sustain itself in a real-world marketplace, its tactics will have little impact," said Saban, an associate professor of marketing at Duquesne since 1998. "But incorporating solid ways of handling people and forming environmental strategies to resolve issues that challenge companies operating in today’s complex global economy are also critical.”

As director, Saban brings deep experience in supply chain management, technology and world-wide collaboration to the program. Over the last four years, Saban has generated more than $1.2 million in federal research grants from the departments of commerce, defense and justice.

Duquesne’s SMBA program incorporates an overseas experience for students into its curriculum. Faculty and students have exchanged knowledge with academic peers and corporate and government operations in India, Japan, China, Germany and Brazil, among other locations. Students participate in three semester-long projects with nonprofits and for-profit organizations.

"In this difficult economic climate, it is very important to continue, and if possible increase, our support for United Way programs and affiliated agencies," said Laverna Saunders, University librarian and campaign chair for the second consecutive year. "I encourage my colleagues to give according to their values, designating their contributions to agencies that are aligned with their faith, core convictions and interests."

In order to achieve this year’s goal of $80,000 in pledges, Saunders is contacting deans, directors and department heads, seeking nominations of employees who wish to serve as volunteers and solicits for the United Way. This year, United Way introduced the opportunity to donate through e-pledge—a cost-saving, efficient and environmentally friendly way to make donations.

An all-campus meeting will take place on Friday, Oct. 30, at the Power Center Ballroom to inform the University community on the United Way efforts and needs. Detailed information about this year’s pledge drive is forthcoming on the DU Daily and DORI. Contact Saunders at lsanders@duq.edu with questions.
Benefit Concert Honors Memory of Beloved Musician

On Saturday, Oct. 3, a special benefit concert, A Tribute to Mr. Wonderful, will be held in memory of the late Nicholas Jordanoff, a man with numerous achievements and contributions to Pittsburgh’s ethnic, arts and educational communities. The concert, which begins at 7 p.m. in the PNC Recital Hall in the Mary Pappert School of Music, was organized by both the music school and the Office of Alumni Relations.

The concert will feature a performance of a jazz piece composed in Jordanoff’s honor by saxophonist and chair of jazz studies Mike Tomaro that will include an all-star lineup of Jordanoff’s friends and colleagues. The ensemble will include Pittsburgh jazz guitar legend Joe Negri; Duquesne’s jazz guitar ensemble-in-residence Catch 22; one of the jazz world’s rising stars Sean Jones in a special digitally recorded performance; Grammy-award winning producer and nationally known trombonist and percussionist Jay Ashby; jazz vocalist and Duquesne adjunct professor of voice Maureen Budway; Duquesne Chancellor John E. Murray Jr.; founding member of the Grammy-award winning group New York Voices Kim Nazarian; Tam- buritzan alumna; and Tomaro and the Faculty Jazz Ensemble. Tony Mowod, on-air personality for WDUQ-FM, will serve as master of ceremonies at the event.

Jordanoff unexpectedly passed away earlier this year at the age of 73. He was affiliated with Duquesne for more than 50 years. He received his teaching certificate and a degree in business from Duquesne and was asked to join the Tamburitzans as artistic director in 1970. He met his wife, Christine, when she auditioned for the Tam- buritzans. After completing his tour with the Tamburit- zans, he became director of music admissions at the School of Music, where he remained until his retirement in 2008. His wife remained at Duquesne as a music professor and also serves as artistic direc- tor of the Children’s Festival Chorus of Pittsburgh.

Jordanoff was a beloved member of the Duquesne community. Faculty and staff often referred to him as “Mr. Wonderful.” Edward Kocher, dean of the music school, remembers the impact Jordanoff had on the students he advised. “He counseled hundreds of music students and their families as they considered the important decision about studying for a professional career in music,” said Kocher. “He was a highly skilled evaluator of talent, and over the decades, he quietly and earnestly helped our music students to pursue and achieve their dreams.”

A drummer and trumpet player, he was a board member of the Pittsburgh Jazz Society and longtime member of the organization. He founded the Pittsburgh Folk Festival and served as program director from 1961-89.

The cost is $75 per person for the concert and reception following, $50 of which is tax deductible and will benefit the Nicholas Jordanoff Jazz Trumpet Scholarship.

### Together Again: Homecoming and Carnival

History records show that Duquesne’s football program—a national power- house in the pre-World War II era—was suspended in 1951 due to the Korean War and rising costs. That same year, Carnival was born to fill the autumn void in student life. With colorful booths and entertaining tent shows, Carnival quickly became an established fixture on the Bluff.

After football returned, Carnival shifted in schedule from fall to spring, several times, but nearly six decades later, it remains a hallmark of the Duquesne experience and a treasured memory for generations of alumni. This year, Carnival once again combines with Homecoming to create an unforgettable weekend of excite- ment to campus from Oct. 2-4.

On the field, the Dukes will host crosstown NEC rival Robert Morris in a battle for local and conference bragging rights. Meanwhile, every corner of campus will be energized with activity—the best of two traditions plus other exciting events.

Homecoming highlights include a Student Life Pep Rally, a Wine & Cheese Reception, Autumnfest on Academic Walk, the pre-game Beef & Beer sponsored by the Office of Alumni Relations, the Greek Alumni Council, the Nicholas Jordanoff memorial benefit concert and the Alumni Ring Blessing, among others.

For details and to register, visit www.MyDuquesne.duq.edu or call 412.396.6209.