SGA LIGHT UP NIGHT

University President Charles J. Dougherty flipped the switch to light up campus at SGA Light Up Night on November 30, 2005. The event also featured carolers, carriage rides, pictures with Santa, and Christmas crafts.

Dr. Dougherty is pictured with Santa, Matthew Torrence, and his elves, Casey Way and Byron Bartic.

STUDENT ELECTIONS Around the Corner

In January, students interested in running for Student Government offices approach other students in classrooms, cafeterias, residence halls and on Academic Walk for signatures on their petitions. Most petition bearers are attempting to gather 1,000 signatures of fellow students in order to have their names placed on the ballots for Student Government Executive Board elections. Others, running for Commuter Council or Residence Halls Association President, require signatures of only 5 percent of their respective constituencies. According to election rules, candidates must personally approach students for signatures. They are not permitted to have friends circulate their petitions.

Those who succeed in obtaining the required signatures are permitted to “campaign” beginning the third week of January. The campaigning consists of numerous posters around the campus, table tents in cafeterias and lounges, and “issues” discussions with other students.

On February 4, 2006, the election will occur, with all registered students invited to vote at official polling places in Towers and the Union. Later in February, the Student Government Senate election is held with students voting by school to elect senators for their school. All elected students assume their offices at the Annual Installation Ceremony during a Mass on March 19, 2006, where they pledge to support the University Mission Statement and the constitution of their organization.

MUSIC and the Internet: BEWARE!

The Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) is the trade group that represents the U.S. recording industry. In support of this mission, the RIAA works to protect intellectual property rights worldwide. As part of its ongoing effort to protect the record industry, RIAA, on behalf of its member companies, filed copyright infringement lawsuits against 751 new individuals, including students at the college campuses of Drexel University, Harvard University, and the University of Southern California. According to the RIAA Web site, www.riaa.com, the group must do everything it can to protect the integrity of the marketplace, including educating fans about steering clear of pirated product and continuing to enforce the rights to send a clear message that stealing music will bring consequences.

At Duquesne University, when students download illegal music, RIAA notifies Computer Technology Services (CTS). CTS provides the Office of Judicial Affairs with the name of those students, who are contacted and asked to meet with the Director of Judicial Affairs. Students sign a contract which states that they will remove the music and not illegally download or distribute copyrighted materials in the future. Any further violations will result in judicial charges and sanctions under the Duquesne University Code of Conduct.
Duquesne’s new Web portal will be a personal, informational landing page where you can access tools, software, resources, news and upcoming events from a single source. The portal is due to debut this summer but it needs a name NOW! Submit your ideas before January 27 and be eligible to win fun, high-tech prizes. For details, go to www.webcentral.duq.edu.

**FOUNDATION GRANT for Early Childhood Education Programs**

Duquesne has received a $650,000 grant from The PNC Financial Services Group through The PNC Foundation’s PNC Grow Up Great school readiness program. The funds will be used to enhance Duquesne’s early childhood education initiatives in the School of Education and the Speech-Language-Hearing Clinic.

**Super SOPHOMORE Saturday**

The Office of Residence Life will be hosting the first Super Sophomore Saturday on Saturday, February 4, 2006. The day will begin with Brunch in the Sean Hogan Dining Center at 11:00 a.m. followed by the Dukes vs. Fordham Men’s Basketball Game at 2:00 p.m., 5:30 p.m. Mass in the University Chapel, and dinner in the University Ballroom at 6:30 p.m. We look forward to this becoming a new tradition at Duquesne!

**GREEK RECRUITMENT WEEK**

Men and women interested in the Greek Community are highly encouraged to participate in January’s Formal & Informal Recruitment programs. This provides a wonderful opportunity for new students to meet many people and learn about campus life. Throughout the scheduled time periods, students will have the opportunity to visit and become acquainted with every eligible general sorority and fraternity chapter on campus.

During Sorority Recruitment Week, women participants will spend time with many different members of each chapter. Their choice will be narrowed down through a mutual selection process between the chapters and the individual women participating in recruitment. On “Bid Day” potential new members will go to the Duquesne Union on campus and receive an invitation to become affiliated with a chapter. Formal Women’s Sorority Recruitment Registration ends on Monday, January 23, 2006.

**DU Ring Ceremony**

Duquesne students look forward to the junior year tradition of purchasing a Duquesne class ring. Student Life is pleased to recognize the significance of this event by presenting a Ring Blessing Ceremony to be held in the Duquesne University Chapel at 9:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 22, 2006, followed by a reception in the Bayer Rotunda. The Spiritan Fathers will individually bless each student’s class ring during the ceremony.

We hope that students will participate in this opportunity to mark a milestone in their Duquesne experience, and share the pride experienced by wearing a Duquesne class ring. We hope this will become another new tradition at Duquesne.

**THE BUBBLE—Duquesne’s Roundest Facility**

Everybody sees it, but few know how busy it is. The “Bubble” on Rooney Field has been a fixture on Duquesne’s campus for the past 11 winters, providing an indoor practice facility for the varsity athletics programs and, more recently, a home to the Greek Life Carnival, giving hundreds of Duquesne students an opportunity to utilize the structure.

Throughout the course of the winter, numerous activities are held in the lighted, temperature controlled Bubble, including camps, coaches’ clinics and practices for the baseball, lacrosse, soccer, football, track and field and golf teams, as well as intramural events. There is an Ultimate Frisbee Football club that uses the Bubble and the annual Jimmy V fundraiser is held there too.

Each year, the 70-yard structure is erected in late November after football and soccer season has concluded and is dismantled in March to make way for lacrosse season. It was originally constructed in 1995 as a practice facility for the Pittsburgh Steelers to use during inclement weather. The Steelers paid for the structure while Duquesne allowed it to be placed on Rooney Field, with the understanding that Duquesne’s student-athletes would be able to use the facility as well.

Since the Steelers built a new facility on the South Side and no longer have a need for the Bubble, they have donated it to the University for the spring sports teams for pre-season preparations and the fall teams to use for off-season conditioning. While the sports teams are busy using the facility nearly 10 hours a day, it is also rented out on Friday evenings and weekends. 

**How are we doing? We need your comments!**

The Gumberg Library will be surveying all students for their opinions and perceptions on library services, information resources, and our facility.

This user satisfaction survey, called LibQUAL+, has been well-tested and established as a standard tool used by many colleges and universities for tracking quality of library service. The web-based survey will begin on March 20 and continue through April 7. Look for an e-mail from the University Librarian containing a link to the survey. Additional information will be forthcoming on the Library’s Web site.

The survey, consisting of 27 questions and an open-ended comment box, will take less than 10 minutes to complete after which you are entered into a pool of participants to be randomly selected for one of several incentives to be awarded by the Library. It will take just a few moments of your time, but your input will make a world of difference to us!
PERSONAL SAFETY TIPS

The following tips, reprinted from the Winter issue of BluffStuff, can provide you with information that will help you to be safe both on and off campus.

- For campus emergencies, call Campus Police at 412.396.4747. Our police are on duty 24/7 and can respond immediately so program their number into your cell phones. For off-campus emergencies, dial 911.
- To report suspicious situations on campus, call Public Safety at 412.396.6002.
- At night, don’t walk alone and avoid short cuts or isolated areas; walk close to curbs and away from doors and bushes.
- Walk confidently and with attitude. Portray confidence.
- Stay alert and tuned into your surroundings.
- Stay away from isolated ATM locations.
- Have your keys ready as you approach your car or residence.
- If you suspect you are being followed, go to the nearest business establishment and ask someone to call the police.
- Use the buddy system at parties or events. Avoid excessive use of alcohol.
- You should always be aware of your surroundings and follow your gut instincts; if your intuition tells you that you are at risk, try to leave the situation quickly.
- Familiarize yourself with the Campus Escort Service and use it when you feel uncomfortable walking alone. Escorts are available on a 24-hour basis. All security and police personnel carry radios, identification, and will be in some type of security or police uniform. Call 412.396.6002 anytime to arrange for an escort.
- Familiarize yourself with the location of campus Code Blue Emergency Telephones: Bluff Street, near Rooney Field, Locust Circle, near Gumberg Library; Shingiss Street at Rockwell; Gibbon Street at Magee Street by the rear of the Physical Plant; Locust Street at McAnulty Drive near Rangos School of Health Sciences.
- Use the SGA Loop Bus (free with Duquesne I.D.) on Fridays and Saturdays from 7:00 p.m.-3:00 a.m. Schedules are available at http://www.sga.duq.edu/rscLoop.html.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH OBSERVED

Throughout the month of February, numerous events have been planned for Black History Month, beginning with the Opening Ceremony and Poetry Slam scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on February 1 in the Duquesne Room. For a schedule of the events or more information, please contact the Office of Multicultural Affairs at 412.396.1117.

SCAM ALERT

It has come to the attention of the University that parents have been receiving mail soliciting orders for Valentine’s Day Care Packages and/or “Finals Survival Kits” to send to their sons or daughters at the University. Duquesne University has no knowledge of this, has not given mailing addresses to this company, and does not endorse this solicitation.
Orientation is Recognized for THIRD NATIONAL AWARD IN FOUR YEARS!

The National Orientation Director's Association (NODA) recently recognized Duquesne University's 2005 Orientation program, Dive into Duquesne, with an award in “Recognition of Excellence in Design, Outstanding Welcome Week Publicity.” Michael Johnston, 2005 Orientation Director and a senior Business major, and Allison Murtha, Assistant Director and a fourth year Forensics major, received the award at the Annual NODA Conference in Miami, Florida. The 2002 and 2004 Orientation programs received the “Outstanding Orientation Web site Award.”

Hurricane Relief Activities RAISED +$36,000

To date, Duquesne has raised $36,570.30 for relief efforts in the Uptown district of New Orleans. Among the many fundraisers were:

- Rock 4 New Orleans, held on the Perron coordinated by two Music School students
- Golf Outing sponsored by Law students
- Nacho Sale sponsored by Gamma Phi Beta Fraternity;
- Bake Sale sponsored by Commuter Council
- Bluffstock sponsored by Duquesne Program Council
- Brottier Hall fundraisers
- Learning Communities Performances
- Duquesne University ring raffle sponsored by the Office of Residence Life
- A Golden Key Book Drive that collected and donated 22 crates of books to the National Family Literacy Council for schools and libraries in areas affected by Hurricane Katrina.

Contributions continue to be welcomed. To pledge your support, or for more information, please visit: www.hurricaneinfo.duq.edu.
Upcoming Student Awards

RECOGNIZE LEADERS

The Division of Student Life recognizes graduating seniors who have demonstrated outstanding student leadership throughout their tenure as students at Duquesne University. Each year, two awards are presented at the Senior Celebration Dinner held annually in April.

The Eugene Beard Student Award for Leadership in Ethics recognizes a graduating senior who has demonstrated superior ethical leadership. Eugene Beard, a generous friend of Duquesne University, established this award over 10 years ago with a cash value of at least $2,500. Faculty and staff are encouraged to submit nominations, which are reviewed by a special Committee assigned by Rev. Sean Hogan, C.S.Sp., Executive Vice President for Student Life. Students are selected based upon their commitment to moral and spiritual values through their outstanding leadership in the area of ethics in campus life, family life in the community.

The Student Life Leadership Award is presented to five seniors who have been nominated by the Student Life staff. They are evaluated on their dedication to the Mission Statement, leadership positions, service, academic achievements and their presence on campus. President Charles Dougherty presents a beautiful plaque to each student leader after Fr. Hogan reads their impressive resumes.

For more information on these awards, contact Sharon Oelschlagler, Director of Residence Life, Assumption Hall, at X5028 or goedert@duq.edu.

CARNIVAL

The annual Duquesne University Carnival is in its 56th year! One of the longest standing traditions at the University, the Greek-sponsored event occurs each year in the spring semester. All of Duquesne's general fraternities and sororities participate in the event, as well as many professional and service groups. A fraternity is paired with a sorority and they team up to write, produce, direct, choreograph and star in their own original mini-musical productions. The student organizations put on several performances throughout the week. The groups even build their own scenery and make their own costumes! To add to the atmosphere, dozens of other student organizations sell their wares at concession booths throughout the week. Carnival 2006 will take place on Rooney Field from February 20-25. Saturday is Alumni Day at Carnival. For additional detailed information, please contact the University Carnival Office at 412.396.6618.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY Mozart!

Come celebrate Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's 250th birthday at Gumberg Library. Find out more about Mozart's life, hear students play his music, have some birthday cake!

When: January 27, 12 p.m.-1 p.m.
Where: New Book Area, 4th floor Gumberg Library

If you like Mozart, visit these Web sites: www.studio-mozart.com/mozart/ or www.mozartproject.org

MAJOR Upcoming EVENTS

January 16  Martin Luther King Day, 5:45 p.m. Candlelight Vigil, Assumption Commons/6:00 p.m. Prayer Service, Chapel
January 27  Model United Nations Program, Ballroom, 9:00 a.m.
February 1  SGA, RHA, Commuter Council Executive Board Elections
February 2  Feast of Venerable Fr. Francis Libermann, Noon Mass, Chapel/12:30 p.m. Luncheon, Duquesne Room/4:30 p.m. Vespers Prayer Service, Chapel
February 4  Super Sophomore Saturday
February 5  Golden Key Induction, 11:00 a.m. Mass, 12:00 p.m. Ballroom
February 7  Sean Jones Jazz Performance, Duquesne Room, 7:00 p.m.
February 10  Valentine Ball, 7:00 p.m., Ballroom
February 16  Guest Speaker Robert “Biko” Baker, Room 608 Union, 7:00 p.m.
February 19  Gospel Concert, 7:00 p.m., Ballroom
February 22  SGA Senate Elections
February 23  Night at the Apollo, Ballroom, 7:00 p.m.
February 24-26  Carnival in the Bubble
March 6-11  Spring Break
March 19  Student Leaders Installation Ceremony, Mass 11:00 a.m., Chapel
March 22  Duquesne University Ring Ceremony
April 13-17  Easter Break
April 28-May 4  Final Examinations
May 6  Commencement

For more details on any of the above events or other student activities, visit www.studentactivities.duq.edu/index.html and click on the Activities Calendar.