

New Monument Memorializes a Familiar Ring

A larger-than-life version of the distinctive Duquesne University class ring now greets those walking across campus.

Sponsored by Herff Jones and the Student Government Association, *The Tradition Project* on the walkway from Rockwell and Rangos halls was developed by recent graduate Franklin J. Giovannelli and student Gregory D. Caspero.

The ring, perched on a blue granite base, was dedicated during a special ceremony in October.

"The ring is as unique in its production as its history merits," says Steve Bickley, sculptor and professor emeritus at Virginia Tech.

This version of the ring weighs about 100 pounds instead of the usual half-ounce, according to Bickley. The statue showcases the oversized red stone in ruby glass with the Old English "D" associated with Duquesne. The inclusion of 1878 reminds all of the roots of the Duquesne legacy in the year the Pittsburgh Catholic College was founded.

"We want the ring monument to celebrate Duquesne's long and distinguished history.."

The internal diameter is 19 inches, compared to a more human-sized scale of 1 inch—which would mean the ring is a perfect size for a giant who would be about 114 feet tall, says Bickley.

"Herff Jones is honored to have partnered with Duquesne on *The Tradition Project*," adds Ken Langlois, vice president of sales. "We want the ring monument to celebrate Duquesne's long and distinguished history, and represent the unique experiences and school pride we know students and alumni feel when they look at their own class rings."

The recognizable ring, unchanged since the 1920s, has united people around the world, according to Sarah Sperry, executive director of alumni relations:

"It's not only a great memento of their time at the University, but represents their connection to Duquesne." ♦



DU Magazine, Media Initiatives Receive Awards

The Office of Public Affairs received two awards at the 36th annual Pittsburgh Golden Triangle Awards held in October by the International Association of Business Communicators (IABC).

The *Duquesne University Magazine* received an Award of Honor in the Publications category.

The media plan to publicize the University's pioneering joint undergraduate degree in biomedical engineering and nursing also received an Award of Honor in Media Relations. ♦