

# Duquesne

UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

SPRING 2022

## The College of Medicine Breaks Ground

BUILDING ON A LEGACY OF SERVICE



In this issue: Paths in Pharmacy ♦ Rooted. Uplifting. ♦ Body of Knowledge

# Contents

**On the cover** (left to right):

Rev. Donald J. McEachin, C.S.Sp.,  
Provincial, U.S. Province, Congregation  
of the Holy Spirit

Mary Ellen Glasgow, Dean, School of  
Nursing

David K. Roger, President and Director,  
Hillman Family Foundations Board of  
Directors

Ellen Gawalt, Dean, Bayer School of  
Natural and Environmental Sciences

Diane Hupp, Vice Chair, Duquesne  
University Board of Directors and  
President, UPMC Children's Hospital

Jenn Elliott, Fritzy Family Chair in  
Integrative Medicine and Wellbeing and  
Director, Center for Integrative Health

Bill Generett, Senior Vice President  
of Civic Engagement and External  
Relations

Rich Fitzgerald, Allegheny County  
Executive

John Kauffman, Dean, proposed College  
of Osteopathic Medicine

R. Daniel Lavelle, Pittsburgh City  
Councilman

Ken Gormley, President

Wayne Fontana, Pennsylvania State  
Senator

Jack McGinley, Chair, Duquesne  
University Board of Directors

Jay Costa, Pennsylvania State Senator

Jerome Gloster, CEO, Primary Care  
Health Services

Sam Reiman, Director, Richard King  
Mellon Foundation

Fevzi Akinci, Dean, John R. Rangos Sr.  
School of Health Sciences

David Dausey, Executive Vice President  
and Provost

James Drennan, Dean, School of  
Pharmacy

Rev. William Christy, C.S.Sp., Director  
of Campus Ministry and University  
Chaplain



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# Thoughts from the President

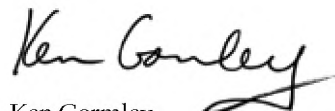
Spiritan missionaries from Europe founded Duquesne University in 1878—just six years after they arrived in the United States. They were determined to provide educational opportunities to recent immigrants and their families, who labored in steel mills and related factories. This year, as we celebrate 150 years of Spiritan ministry in the United States, we're proud to re-envision our founders' dreams for a new era.

Today, at a time when our nation is too often – and, it seems, too easily—divided, a Duquesne University education encourages students to dig deeper and examine issues closely and deliberately. You'll find their inspirational stories on the pages of this magazine—like that of Tiffany Willis, whose educational journey took her from McKeesport, Pa., to her current position as vice president and head of investor relations for Starbucks. You'll read about compassionate, dedicated ROTC nursing students; meet international graduate music students from China; and learn about Rev. Fr. Alain Mayama, C.S.Sp., a Duquesne alumnus who serves as the new Superior General Counsel for the Spiritan Congregation, overseeing Spiritans around the globe —2,500 dedicated priests working in more than 60 countries across five continents.

I'm also immensely proud of this issue's cover story, featuring the groundbreaking for our proposed new College of Osteopathic Medicine, a vital initiative I know our founders would enthusiastically endorse if they were here with us today.

I'm honored to lead this special University as we continue to advance our historic Spiritan mission. And I'm profoundly thankful for the support of our community and friends on this important journey. ♦

Sincerely,



Ken Gormley  
Duquesne University President



## AS YOU READ...

...you will see the icons below on many stories. They reflect the imperatives of *Re-Imagining Duquesne's Spiritan Legacy for a New Era: Strategic Plan 2018-2023*. The stories told here show how the plan is alive and vital, often reflecting more than one imperative. To learn more about our progress, visit [duq.edu/strategicplan](http://duq.edu/strategicplan).

## Five Strategic Imperatives

-  Re-Imagine the Student Experience for 21st Century Success
-  Become a Flagship for Community Engagement
-  Be a Leader in Interdisciplinary Programs
-  Create a Vibrant Campus Community
-  Encourage Entrepreneurial Spirit



(Left to right): Rev. Donald J. McEachin, C.S.Sp., Provincial, U.S. Province, Congregation of the Holy Spirit; Diane Hupp, Vice Chair, Duquesne University Board of Directors and President, UPMC Children's Hospital; David K. Roger, President and Director, Hillman Family Foundations Board of Directors; Bill Generett, Senior Vice President of Civic Engagement and External Relations; Rich Fitzgerald, Allegheny County Executive; R. Daniel Lavelle, Pittsburgh City Councilman; John Kauffman, Dean, proposed College of Osteopathic Medicine; Ken Gormley, President; Wayne Fontana, Pennsylvania State Senator; Jack McGinley, Chair, Duquesne University Board of Directors; Kim Ward, Pennsylvania State Senator; Jerome Gloster, CEO, Primary Care Health Services; Jay Costa, Pennsylvania State Senator; Sam Reiman, Director, Richard King Mellon Foundation

# “ Duquesne’s BOLDEST VENTURE Yet ”

UNIVERSITY BREAKS GROUND ON NEW MEDICAL COLLEGE



**M**arch 1 was a great day for Spiritans. On that day, a University built on the Spiritan mission of “serving God by serving students” broke ground on a venture that promises to benefit thousands of lives in the Pittsburgh region and beyond.

The groundbreaking ceremony for Duquesne’s proposed College of Osteopathic Medicine was attended by hundreds of people, both inside the UPMC Cooper Fieldhouse and via a livestream. A packed Gilliland Pavilion crowd heard from prominent alumni, local officials, foundation and corporate leaders, and community partners about the impact the new college will have on the region.

“I’m convinced that if the Spiritan founders had arrived in Pittsburgh today instead of 1878, this is exactly what they would be doing,” Duquesne President Ken Gormley told the audience. “Because if ever there was a right time to build a college

Foundation, told the audience that such data indicates more must be done to create, train and support the next generation of physicians to ensure people live healthier, more fulfilling lives.

“Duquesne University’s new school of osteopathic medicine acts upon this data,” he said. “It will mean more primary care physicians in our communities that need them most, both in urban and rural settings. It will mean more diverse primary care physicians in our communities, which data shows will also have a meaningful impact on health outcomes.”

With its expertise in nursing, pharmacy, allied health care and the sciences, Duquesne is perfectly positioned to launch a medical college and continue the University’s legacy of medical excellence, said William Generett, Duquesne’s senior vice president of community engagement and external relations.

a desire to help, expressed a desire to question how can we help ... and we have worked collectively on these issues and it has been so refreshing.”

When the college launches in fall 2024, it will enroll 85 students with the plan to grow annual incoming enrollment to 170 students beginning in 2026. The college plans to enroll 680 students over all four years by the 2029-2030 school year.

“This new college is the ultimate expression of our commitment to promoting health care equity in the region and beyond,” Gormley said. “It’s our boldest initiative to date and builds on our legacy of making a positive social impact by working with people and communities, including in underserved areas, to help meet critical needs.” ♦



Visit [duq.edu/magazine](https://duq.edu/magazine) to learn more about how the new College of Medicine hopes to impact the lives of others.

of osteopathic medicine, it would be right now.”

The college’s launch arrives as the nation faces a looming physician shortage. An Association of American Medical Colleges study estimates that the U.S. will experience a shortage of more than 55,000 primary care doctors by 2023. Another study, cited by U.S. News & World Report, indicated that such a shortage could lead to a decrease of the average U.S. life expectancy by two years.

Noting these studies, Sam Reiman, director of the Richard King Mellon

The University also has a long history in promoting health equity in the region, having provided thousands of health screenings, flu shots, COVID vaccines and asthma clinics in underserved communities.

“I’m so pleased to say that Duquesne University has been a true community partner,” said Dr. Jerome Gloster, chief executive officer of Primary Care Health Services, which has partnered with the University on several health initiatives for vulnerable populations. “They have reached out to us from the beginning, expressed

#### **BUILD WITH US: IT’S TIME FOR BIGGER GOALS—GIVE TO THE COM**

The groundbreaking for our College of Osteopathic Medicine (COM) marks an exciting new chapter in the pursuit of Duquesne’s biggest goal. Steel, glass, bricks and mortar are just part of the story.

Modern medical education requires advanced technology—from hand-held ultrasound devices to augmented reality simulation platforms. Equipment for each student costs up to \$10,000, while installed sim-mannequins and machinery items run in the hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Our medical college will recruit a diverse student body that reflects the urban and rural communities we will serve. Gifts will support robust scholarships and funds to help us attract the very best.

Health care touches us all, and this new Medical College offers an opportunity for every Duquesne alumnus and friend to share in a truly historic effort for our University and our region.

**It’s easy to make a gift right now. Just snap the QR code to learn more and make your contribution.**





# Prescribing Paths

PHARM.D. GRADUATES DISCOVER PASSION FOR NON-TRADITIONAL PHARMACY CAREERS

“I learned early on that a career in the pharmaceutical industry would provide me with continuous education and growth.”



Katherine Sulkowski, P'15

By Amanda Dabbs

In the last four decades, pharmacists have significantly changed their public perception as pill counters and medication distributors. Pharmacists are now viewed as trusted patient advocates, educators, medical counselors and health care team members. The range of career opportunities available to pharmacists has expanded exponentially, too.

Today, Pharm.D. graduates can choose from a multitude of traditional and non-traditional career paths.

“Non-traditional pharmacy careers provide pharmacists the ability to utilize their pharmacy and medication knowledge in combination with their other areas of interest to pursue careers they find both exciting and rewarding,” remarked Monica Skomo, Pharm.D., BCACP, CTTS, associate dean for Academic Affairs and Assessment and associate professor of Pharmacy Practice for Duquesne’s School of Pharmacy.



Monica Skomo, Pharm.D., BCACP, CTTS

## DUKES THRIVING IN NON-TRADITIONAL PHARMACY CAREERS

During her pre-professional years, Katherine Sulkowski, P'15, already knew she wanted to pursue a non-traditional pharmacy career.

A clinical and scientific liaison for the global health care company Otsuka Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd., Sulkowski provides scientific education to health care professionals about her company’s products, as well as information on current disease research.

“I learned early on that a career in the pharmaceutical industry would provide me with continuous education and growth,” she said.

Duquesne Pharm.D. student Moses Ngang, P'24, is interested in a nuclear pharmacy career. Nuclear pharmacy was the first specialty recognized by the Board of Pharmacy Specialties in 1978 and focuses on safe and effective use of radioactive medications.

“I’m pursuing this niche career path because it fits well with my hyper-focused personality. This idea of being an expert in a specific area fascinates me more than having general knowledge about many different things,” Ngang said.

Mark Conklin, P'08, didn’t specifically pursue a non-traditional career path, but when he first encountered managed care through his experiential rotations at Duquesne, he thought it would be a good place to start. Since that experience, he has remained open-minded about



Moses Ngang, P'24

“This idea of being an expert in a specific area fascinates me more than having general knowledge about many different things.”

opportunities that come his way.

“It’s fun to be able to work in an environment where we seek to solve health care challenges with technology-supported solutions,” said Conklin, chief technology officer for the health care technology company, Free Market Health.

Conklin oversees the company’s technology and product development efforts including application development, user experience and design, cybersecurity and data management.

In addition to innovative work environments, non-traditional pharmacy careers have the potential for flexible hours and remote work.

“While community and hospital pharmacists care for patients on weekends and holidays, non-traditional roles may offer more standard business hours and remote work options,” explained Thomas Falcione, Pharm, RPh, director of experiential education for the School of Pharmacy at Duquesne.

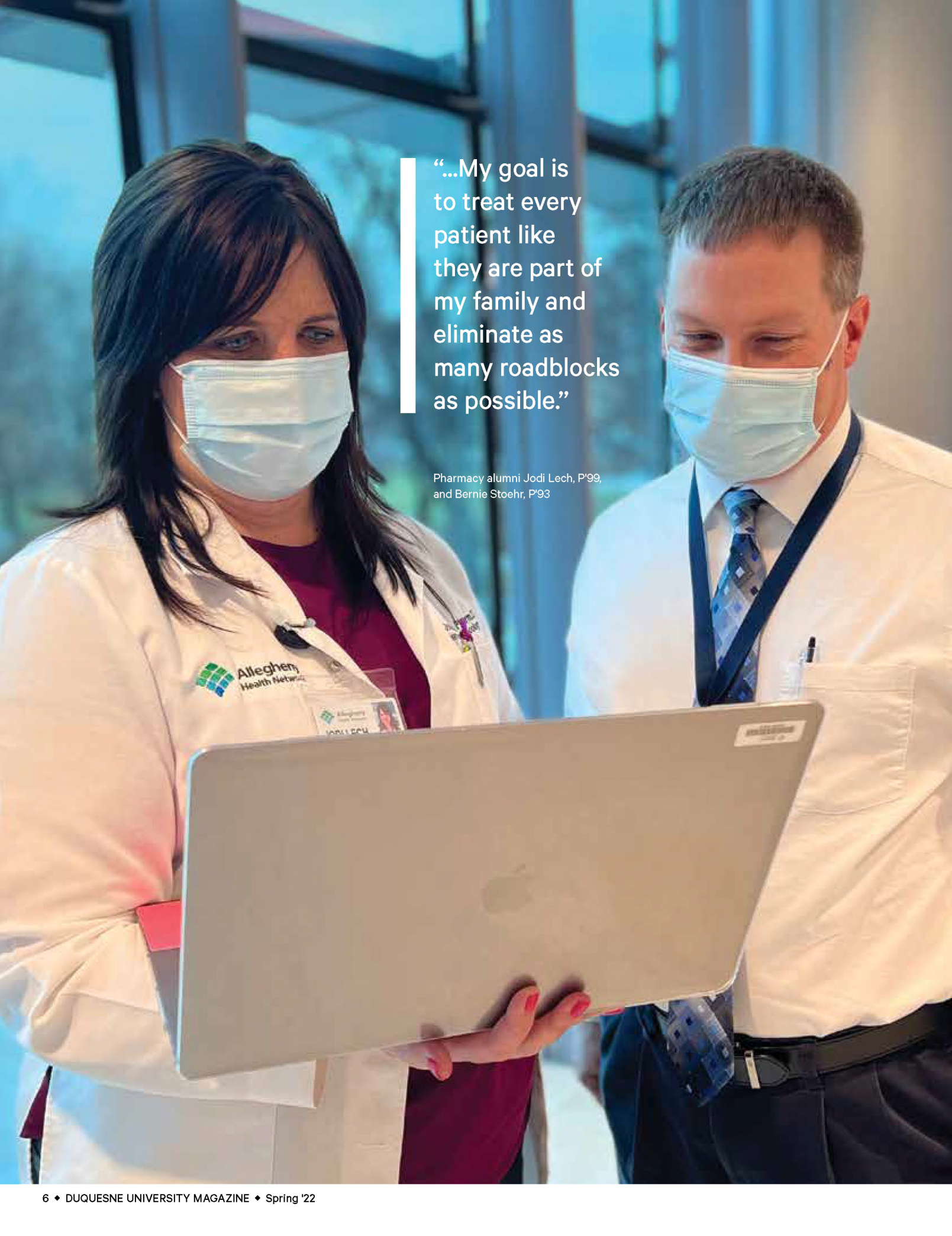
Another benefit for non-traditional pharmacists is the opportunity to have a far-reaching impact on patient care. Molly Shirey, P’15, a fully remote clinical pharmacy specialist for UPMC Health Plan, has learned there are many ways to impact a patient’s life working for a managed care organization.

“I can touch the lives of thousands of our members daily,” Shirey said.

She finds the most rewarding, yet challenging part of her position is that she is always reviewing medications for rare and complex disease states and must stay on top of the most recent guidelines and practice accordingly.

“In my department, we see all of the disease states. One request might be for osteoporosis, while the next might be for an off-label rare cancer treatment. We make life-changing decisions every day,” Shirey explained.

As director of pharmacy—oncology for Allegheny Health



“...My goal is to treat every patient like they are part of my family and eliminate as many roadblocks as possible.”

Pharmacy alumni Jodi Lech, P'99, and Bernie Stoehr, P'93

Network, Jodi Lech, P'99, has also been able to touch many patients' lives. She finds that one of the most rewarding parts of her job is witnessing the effect pharmacists have on the care and advanced treatment efforts for cancer patients.

"My goal is to treat every patient like they are part of my family and eliminate as many roadblocks as possible," said Lech, who credits Duquesne for giving her an amazing foundation for her pharmacy career.

"Duquesne has always been a place that has helped me grow," she added.

## PHARM.D. STUDENTS ARE PREPARED FOR ANYTHING

At Duquesne, Pharm.D. students can choose from concentrations in acute care, ambulatory care, geriatrics, community pharmacy or entrepreneurial pharmacy, as well as elect to complete a public health minor.

Duquesne also offers a Pharm.D./B.S. Pharmaceutical Sciences dual degree for students passionate about research, a Pharm.D./MBA dual degree for those interested in also developing business and leadership skills and an online Pharm.D. program.

As part of the curriculum, Pharm.D. students are required to take Continuous Professional Development courses each semester, in which pharmacist experts from various fields speak to students about unique career paths. There also are student organizations at Duquesne focused on non-traditional careers such as managed care, consultant pharmacy, neurological pharmacy, pediatric pharmacy and more.

"Our curriculum provides a rigorous and contemporary education for our student pharmacists, preparing them to be competent and successful in their career paths," Skomo said.

Additionally, the School of Pharmacy's Office of Experiential Education maintains relationships with preceptors in 45-plus areas of pharmacy. During their final year, Pharm.D. students have *seven* practice experiences in traditional and non-traditional settings and are individually mentored through the process of selecting these experiences based on their career goals.

For Sulkowski, the knowledge, skills and experience she gained from the Pharm.D. program at Duquesne has helped her excel both professionally and personally.

"I am thankful for my Duquesne 'family' of professors, mentors and pharmacy friends I continue to learn from as I progress through my career," she said.

Conklin added: "I've always felt that the best part of a Duquesne education is the focus on the whole individual. Whether we work in direct care settings with patients or strive to improve the patient experience from behind the scenes, our ability to be kind, personally responsible and respectful allows us to distinguish ourselves as Duquesne pharmacists." ♦



Visit [duq.edu/magazine](http://duq.edu/magazine) to learn more about diverse career opportunities in pharmacy.

"...non-traditional roles may offer more standard business hours and remote work options."



Thomas Falcione, Pharm, RPh

"I can touch the lives of thousands of our members daily."



Molly Shirey, P'15

"...our ability to be kind, personally responsible and respectful allows us to distinguish ourselves as Duquesne pharmacists."



Mark Conklin, P'08



# AN A + LOCATION

## Duquesne University's Best of Both Worlds Campus Location Earns A+ Ranking

Duquesne University's locale offers the best of both worlds—nestled in a city that has it all, but also parklike, secluded and safe—so it's not surprising it has earned an A+ score in *Niche's* campus location category for 2022.

*Niche* is a market leader in connecting colleges and schools with students and families through in-depth profiles, including over 140 million reviews and ratings on every school and college in the United States.

Students are within walking distance to all the connections a major city can offer, from internship and job opportunities with Fortune 500 companies, nonprofit organizations and startups to easy access to professional sports teams, cafés, shopping and more.

"There's a lot to do in the city. There are restaurants to try and activities like Pens games, Pirates games and concerts. I love going out to eat in Market Square with my friends. We'll grab food and walk to the Point where there's a lot of nature. It's nice to sit along the river and hear the fountain," said Noah Madden, '23.

*Niche* also ranked Duquesne at #28 for Best Catholic College in America and awarded the University an overall grade of A- for categories ranging from academics, athletics and diversity to safety, student life and value.

OHIO RIVER

### NORTH SIDE

#### HOME RUNS, TOUCHDOWNS AND WORLD-FAMOUS MUSICAL ACTS

Professional and college football and major league baseball games happen in state-of-the-art stadiums on the Northside. When the home teams aren't playing, these venues feature world-famous musicians.



### THE POINT

#### THREE RIVERS AND A GIANT FOUNTAIN

Point State Park or "the Point" is where Pittsburgh's three rivers meet, and is home to a giant fountain, biking and walking trails, the Three Rivers Arts Festival and the Fort Pitt Museum.

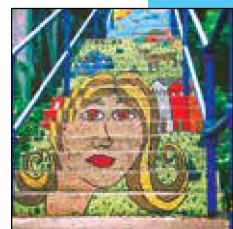


MONONGAHELA RIVER

### SOUTH SIDE

#### A NATIONAL HISTORIC DISTRICT WITH LIVELY ENTERTAINMENT

The South Side boasts 15 blocks of Victorian architecture, as well as boutiques, restaurants, galleries, theaters and live music venues all in a neighborhood that's just a single staircase from campus.



ALLEGHENY RIVER

LIBERTY AVE.

### CULTURAL DISTRICT WORLD-CLASS THEATER AND DELICIOUS DINING

The 14-square-block Cultural District encompasses more than 90 retail shops, approximately 50 dining establishments, seven world-class theaters, eight public parks and art installations and a dozen art galleries.



### THE HILL DISTRICT PITTSBURGH'S JAZZ AND PLAYWRIGHT SCENE

Nationally known jazz artists like Louis Armstrong and Duke Ellington made the Hill District a regular stop on national tours. Students can also visit the birthplace of famed playwright August Wilson and celebrate his legacy at the annual block party with food, games and outdoor performances.



### MARKET SQUARE CAFES, ICE SKATING AND YOGA

Greek, Mexican, Italian and American cafés and restaurants are located in pedestrian-friendly Market Square, and depending on the season, students can also enjoy a Christmas village and ice skating or a farmers' market and Yoga in the Square.



### PPG PAINTS ARENA PROFESSIONAL ICE HOCKEY AND MAJOR CONCERTS

Located across the street from campus, the PPG Paints Arena is home to the Pittsburgh Penguins and features performers of all genres, including most recently, Billie Eilish, Harry Styles, Journey, Justin Bieber, Simone Biles and Shawn Mendes.



FORBES AVE.

FIFTH AVE.

GRANT ST.

### DUQUESNE UNIVERSITY YOUR HOME AWAY FROM HOME.



### DOWNTOWN DESTINATIONS

#### FORTUNE 500 COMPANIES, GOVERNMENT, NONPROFITS AND MORE

Duquesne University students have easy access to various internships and job interviews that are within walking distance of their dorms and apartments.



## Check us out!

You already know Duquesne's campus location IS the best of both worlds, so encourage a future student to discover all that you did!



[duq.edu/about/campus](http://duq.edu/about/campus)



# In Pursuit of Purpose

By Shelly Boehm, MA'12

Philip Krisko's appendix burst during his freshman year of high school. He spent several days in the hospital, and while most of this time is cloudy, one person remains clear in his mind—a nursing student assigned to his care. "He looked like me," Krisko recalls, "So much so that I could picture myself in his shoes caring for others. After that, my path was set. I wanted to become a nurse."

The desire to make a positive difference in the lives of others can result in various career paths. Nursing is one example. Military service is another. Neither is a job, but a calling to serve and be part of the greater good.

“ROTC provides students additional skills not only in the clinical setting but in areas of leadership, delegation and organization, which are important nursing skills.”



(opposite page) ROTC nursing student Joshua Hurst (second from left) participated in a nursing internship at Tripler Army Medical Center. (above) ROTC cadets Anelise McGee (right) and Rose Conlin in the field completing radio communications training.

While the differences between these paths may appear extreme, similarities lie in individuals' shared values. Students who pursue a nursing career care about helping others and want to make that a defining part of their lives. It is no surprise that a rising number of Duquesne nursing students have chosen to join the Reserves Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) and be both soldier and nurse.

According to Office for Military and Veteran Students Director Chris Boissonnault, the Army and Navy have experienced significant increases in the number of nursing students applying for ROTC. "I've worked with ROTC students for eight years, and I believe there is a strong link between those who want to serve their country and those who want to help others."

Duquesne senior nursing student Joshua Hurst joined ROTC his freshman year of college. "I appreciate being able to obtain my degree while serving my nation," says Hurst, who chose Duquesne for both its reputation and location, and nursing for its career opportunities and the fulfilling nature of the work.

Senior nursing student Phoebe Douthwaite says she joined ROTC because she finds fulfillment in helping others and believes that as an Army nurse she'll be sent wherever the need is greatest.

## ROTC TRAINING COMPLEMENTS A NURSING EDUCATION

Blending ROTC cadet training with nursing school can result in a richer learning experience that benefits both roles. Students can apply the discipline, leadership and communication skills of military training to their nursing practice, and in return, use their flexibility and ability to react and adapt quickly to benefit their military role.

"We're thrilled to have a growing number of nursing students in both the Army and Navy ROTC programs," says Dr. Kate DeLuca, associate dean for Student Affairs at the School of Nursing. "ROTC provides students additional skills not only in the clinical setting but in areas of leadership, delegation and organization, which are important nursing skills."

## CADETS LIFE

Many choose ROTC for a combined sense of purpose—service to their patients and their country. But there are other tangible and intangible benefits as well. For students seeking financial assistance, ROTC provides a viable option.

"Students can receive scholarships that cover 100% of their tuition and fees, a book allotment and monthly

paycheck," says Boissonnault. "Plus, Duquesne provides ROTC scholarship students a yearly grant for room and board. This relieves a large financial burden for students and families, which in turn also eases some of the stress associated with college life."

For nursing sophomore Abigail Glime, ROTC represented a sense of community and an opportunity for future travel. "I enjoy being part of a team," says Glime. "ROTC offers valuable team-building and networking opportunities. We work toward goals together, offer support and help one another succeed. And the chance to travel as a nurse is appealing."

Anelise McGee, a junior enrolled in Duquesne's dual biomedical engineering and nursing program, wasn't sure what to expect when she joined ROTC her freshman year. "Coming out of high school, I had no idea," McGee admits. "I initially tried it because I had won a national tuition scholarship senior year of high school. I quickly made close friendships, and I grew to enjoy the motivation and camaraderie that the program offered."

For Krisko, he always knew military service would be part of his life. Most of his family served and during high school, he worked on a farm for a former Green Beret, who admired his work ethic and encouraged him to apply. He helped Krisko complete the application and wrote a letter of recommendation. Through ROTC, Krisko receives military financial support while simultaneously advancing his military ranking before graduation.

## AFTER GRADUATION

While their peers prepare for practice in civilian medical facilities, each of the Duquesne nursing ROTC cadets plan to pursue a career in military nursing. Military nurses work with diverse health care professionals from a wide range of backgrounds and can expect exciting, challenging work in vastly different environments.

"Although one misconception," explains Boissonnault, "is that ROTC students must serve on active duty after graduation." Actually, ROTC graduates have the option of pursuing an advanced degree or serving part-time in the Reserves or the National Guard. This allows members to serve one weekend a month while maintaining civilian careers.

For Hurst, his bigger goal is to pursue additional education—an advanced CRNA degree or Airborne and Air Assault School, while Glime is considering a psych-mental health career.

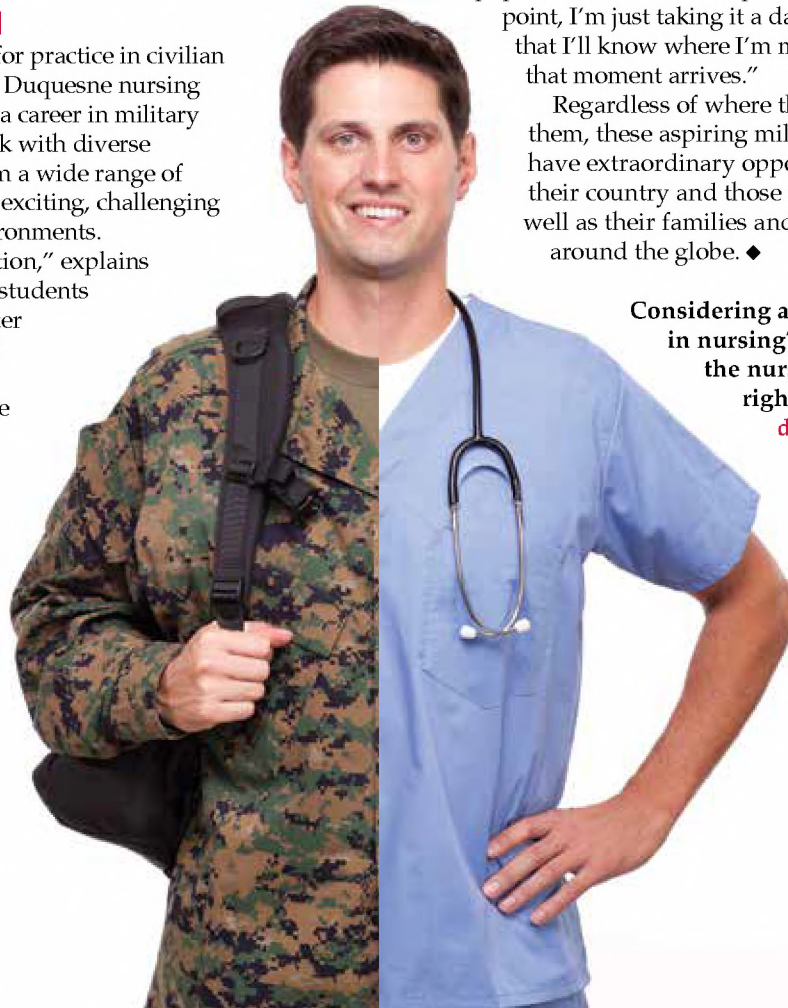
**"We work toward goals together, offer support and help one another succeed. And the chance to travel as a nurse is appealing."**

"The military is taking large steps toward helping the mental health of soldiers, and I'd love to be a part of that," Glime shares.

McGee chose nursing because she desires to make connections through direct patient care, but her love of science is leading her toward a different path. "I chose Duquesne because no other school in the country offers the BME/BSN double major," she explains. McGee loves science and engineering but is a huge people person. "I'd love to someday combine research with hands-on patient care." Long term, McGee hopes to gain experience working in regenerative medicine-focused Army research labs as an engineer and then work in a hospital alongside patients.

Krisko looks forward to rotating through different patient populations, but has no specific plans. "At this point, I'm just taking it a day at a time, but I feel that I'll know where I'm meant to be when that moment arrives."

Regardless of where their paths take them, these aspiring military nurses will have extraordinary opportunities to serve their country and those who defend it, as well as their families and people in need around the globe. ♦



**Considering a rewarding career in nursing? Learn more about the nursing program that's right for you. Visit [duq.edu/nursing](http://duq.edu/nursing).**



# From the Army Medical Corps to the Bluff

## VETERAN PURSUES BIGGER GOALS

By Ian P. Hurley

The label “non-traditional student” is a catch-all phrase that often fails to adequately recognize the varied experiences these students bring to a university. U.S. Army veteran and 2021 Duquesne graduate Robert Larkin brought a rich set of life and professional experience to the Bluff when he began his liberal arts study in political science with a minor in sociology and a pre-law certificate.

Larkin was raised in Northern California by a single father who faced financial difficulties. “We grew up on public assistance, very low income. I saw what he struggled with, and he was a very proud man,” Larkin said. “I played sports my entire life. It was kind of my outlet. We lived in a two-bedroom duplex. My dad slept on the couch. Me and my sister each had our own room. So, any chance I got to not be home, I took it, and that was sports.”

For 10 and a half years Larkin served his country as a surgical technologist in the Army’s Medical Corps. The military runs in his blood with his father and grandfather serving in the U.S. Navy and his uncle, the Marines.

The VA Medical Center originally brought him to Pittsburgh and ultimately Duquesne. Duquesne is ranked as a top 100 college for veterans by U.S. News & World Report and named Military Friendly (ranked sixth in the country) by GI Jobs, eight consecutive years.

Larkin, husband and father of four children, appreciated the proactive financial support and guidance from Duquesne’s Office for Military and Veteran Students with grant and scholarship opportunities. As a student, he also was involved with the Student Veterans of America chapter on campus.

His service did not end when he separated from the military. He appreciated the impact of the work he was doing as part of Dr. Anita Zuberi’s Social Policy and Social Problems course. “My class with her was phenomenal. I worked on a project about veterans experiencing homelessness, collecting data.”

In this course, students explore contemporary issues such as poverty, economic inequality, access to health care, systemic racism and others, learning how to define a social problem, identify solutions and assess how those solutions address the problems.

Zuberi noted, “I was thrilled to have Robert as a student in my course. He was exceptionally engaged, thinking independently and part of a group. He had strong focus and motivation in pursuing his career. His experience as a veteran and his current life-stage are reflected in his strength as a student.”

His yoga philosophy class expanded his horizons for how he perceived his relationships with other people. “It opened my eyes; we all think we know how to treat someone and be polite and, you know, be courteous but actually talking to somebody, it’s hard for a lot of people to do.” Those small but important classroom experiences have prepared and will



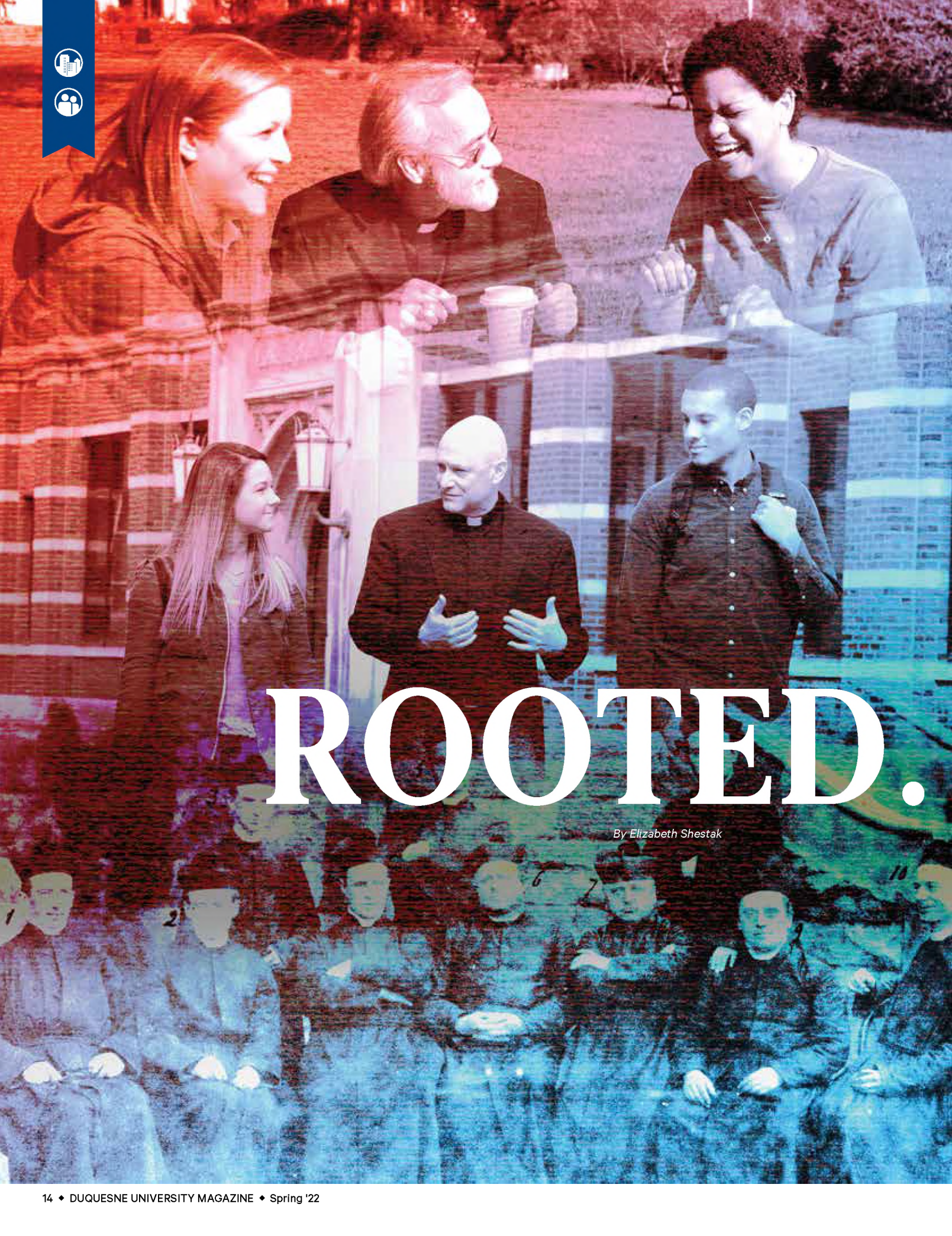
**DUQUESNE IS RANKED AS A  
TOP 100 COLLEGE  
FOR VETERANS**

**BY U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT AND NAMED MILITARY FRIENDLY (RANKED SIXTH IN THE COUNTRY) BY GI JOBS, EIGHT CONSECUTIVE YEARS.**

serve him well in his future endeavors.

After completing his undergraduate degree, Larkin continues his work as a surgical technology instructor and is studying for the LSAT. “My goal is to become an attorney.” Larkin wants to help veterans and other vulnerable populations. In particular, the School of Law’s Veterans Clinic is one of his top reasons for wanting to pursue his law degree at Duquesne. “I’d rather be a Double Duker than I would go somewhere else,” he remarked.

Larkin’s life experiences and his most recent stop at Duquesne have infused him with a “never say quit” attitude that helped him balance the multiple roles of being a parent, husband and full-time student. “I look at life as it’s going to happen regardless. Make the best out of what you have and just don’t quit.” ♦



# ROOTED.

*By Elizabeth Shestak*



It is early December, the Rev. Alain Mayama, C.S.Sp., has a small window for a family visit in the Democratic Republic of Congo, a long way from his current home in Rome. Even with the distance, it is essential he makes the trip—his family will be displeased if not given the opportunity to celebrate him.

While Mayama simply wants to see his loved ones and enjoy some *fumbwa*, a traditional stew made with the *koko* leaves of the forest, catfish of the rivers and peanuts from the ground, his recent promotion is a pretty big deal.

A few weeks earlier he was elected Superior General Counsel for the Spiritan Congregation—akin to being made president of the Spiritan priesthood. This makes him responsible for inspiring the 2,500 missionaries working in more than 60 countries across five continents.

Mayama is the first African superior general, remarkable considering that the Spiritans have been a strong presence in the continent for centuries. Still, the Duquesne University alum never expected to be named to this post.

When he arrives in Congo, he is able to worship with his parents in their local parish, and visit with many of his six siblings who still live in Africa. It is jubilant. There is traditional Congolese dancing, and the kind of singing not often found in Western Catholic church services. And eating. Lots of eating. The food of his childhood is not something he is able to enjoy very often in Rome, though he has developed quite the appreciation for mozzarella.

He soon returns to Italy, having stuffed his bags with



The Rev. Alain Mayama, C.S.Sp.

Heart of the Virgin Mary—or, simply, the Spiritans—have a unique identity. While the Jesuit order focuses on education and the Franciscans on austerity as a means of knowing Christ, the Spiritan *thing* is rooted in uplifting.

And not just anyone.

“The most abandoned of souls,” says Adam Wasilko, dean of students, vice president of student life and Spiritan enthusiast. Wasilko simply loves this concept; so much so, he spent a number of years as a lay Spiritan.

“For me, the Spiritan charism is so relatable,” Wasilko says. “The reality that they exist solely to lift up others around them, but in a gentle and unassuming way, is incredibly inspiring.”

The Spiritans were formed in 1703 by a young, wealthy man who chose to uplift those who his society deemed unworthy. The Rev. Claude-François Poullart des Places, C.S.Sp., had difficulty abiding the poverty of others, particularly when it came to access: access to education, access to basic needs, even access to faith. According to *The Spiritans: A History of the Congregation of the Holy Ghost* by the Rev. Henry J. Koren, C.S.Sp., des Places’ mother was known to pay for many a baptism in their city.

His response was to found the Seminary of the Holy Ghost. Though des Places would die a few years later, he left a legacy of uplifting the poorest of the poor. Later, the Congregation of the Holy Ghost merged with the Congregation of the Holy Heart of Mary, a similarly minded order established by the Rev. Francis Libermann, C.C.Sp., to form today’s Spiritans.

In 1872, the invigorated order found their way back to the United States, namely Pittsburgh, where life for steelworkers and their children was as challenging, and unchanging, as anywhere on the globe. The Spiritans sought to break

# UPLIFTING.

local peanuts, *koko* and dried fish. Because as he has been increasingly preaching, there is much work to be done. And like his predecessors knew a few centuries ago, it’s time for bigger goals.

## DRAWING STRENGTH FROM THE ROOTS

Mayama, like many Spiritan priests, studied at Duquesne, earning his master’s and then doctoral degree in 2007. Since being founded in 1878 by the Order of the Congregation of the Holy Ghost, Duquesne University has been the preeminent center for the training, formation and education of members of the Spiritan congregation across the globe.

Like all Catholic congregations, the Congregation of the Holy Spirit under the Protection of the Immaculate

that cycle with education, and in 1878 founded Duquesne University, then called Pittsburgh Catholic College of the Holy Ghost.

## SERVING GOD BY SERVING STUDENTS

In true Spiritan form, they walked the “going where the need is greatest” walk even when it came to real estate. When Duquesne dug its foundation into the side of the bluff overlooking the highly industrialized riverbanks, the view was quite different. It sat across the way from the neighborhood of tenement housing in the South Side, and on the border of the Hill District, home to Pittsburgh’s growing community of recently emancipated African Americans.

From here the Spiritans sought to make education

## A MILESTONE ANNIVERSARY

The identity of Duquesne University is a modern expression of the Spiritan tradition that the Fathers of the Holy Spirit began here in 1878. This year marking the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Spiritans.

According to Rev. Raymond French, C.C.Sp., senior vice president for mission and identity at Duquesne, “Generations of students, faculty and staff continually reshape the face of the school, but our true identity remains unchanged. Duquesne University is a community of scholars who live the Spiritan-led commitment of service to all and who share God’s wisdom and academia’s knowledge with those who seek it.”

The University is celebrating the work of those early Spiritans and those who continue today through a series of special events in 2022, including a gala in early April.



## NOTABLE ELECTIONS IN THE SPIRITAN LEADERSHIP

In addition to Mayama, other Duquesne alumni have been elected to leadership positions in the Spiritan congregation. In October 2021, during its General Chapter meeting in Bagamoyo, Tanzania, the Spiritan Congregation elected the Rev. Jeffrey Duaine, C.S.Sp., to serve on the six-member General Council and as the first general assistant at its international headquarters in Rome, Italy.

In November 2021, the Rev. Donald J. McEachin, C.S.Sp., assumed his post as the new provincial as elected by members of the U.S. province of Duquesne University’s founders, the Congregation of the Holy Spirit (Spiritans).



Duquesne University, circa 1920

attainable to the masses, starting first with the immigrant children of steelworkers, later with American veterans on the G.I. Bill. As is often heard from Duquesne President Ken Gormley, the University’s mission is rooted in serving God by serving students so they, in turn, can go on to serve others.

## LEARNING TO SERVE OTHERS

This rich heritage from the Spiritans still calls to students today. Eddie Zakreski, A’21, originally chose Duquesne because it ticked many boxes: not too big, Catholic, a few hours from home. He didn’t appreciate, initially, just what being a *Spiritans* Catholic university would afford his college experience.

“The Spiritan roots at Duquesne helped facilitate my drive for social justice both in and out of the classroom,” says Zakreski. “Spiritans Campus Ministry is great at fostering a spirit of social justice amongst Duquesne’s students.”

Zakreski notes that volunteer work with St. Vincent DePaul Society, for example, brings students face-to-face with extreme poverty and some of America’s greatest failings in a service-based and humanizing manner.

Now in law school, Zakreski’s goal is to provide social justice legal work to the most disenfranchised—sound familiar?

## LIVING THE FAITH TRADITION

Mayama shared similar sentiments in his closing homily of the General Chapter of the Congregation in 2021, saying, “May the Lord ... open our minds and hearts to the signs of his action in our Congregation today and give us the courage ... to go beyond outdated missionary models that are inconsistent with the needs of the women and men of our time. Amen!”

“The Spiritan idea that we are called to look for those who are marginalized, or underserved, in the world and then get to know them by forming authentic relationships is motivating,” says Wasilko. “So, to work at Duquesne, where this runs through its core, means more to me than you could imagine. The Spiritans have been doing this in Pittsburgh since 1878. We can’t rest on that legacy; we owe it to the Spiritans, and the community around us, to continue that and keep moving forward.” ♦



Novelist Kathleen George; John Fried, associate professor of English; RJ Pugh; Brandon Hart; Ken Gormley, Duquesne University President; *Post-Gazette* columnist and books editor Tony Norman.

# Heiress Storms Pittsburgh

From the godfather of creative nonfiction, Lee Gutkind, Duquesne student Brandon Hart got to hear a story about a blacksmith making his own prosthetic arm after having it shattered by a shotgun blast in a hunting accident.

And Gussie Beaver, who had just that week received acceptance into one of the premiere graduate creative writing programs in the U.S., reflected about “getting out of my own little bubble and accepting that I have much to learn from many people around me.”

Brandon and Gussie—and five of their peers—had these distinctive conversations at the Writer’s Conference of Northern Appalachia (WCoNA), held in March on Duquesne’s campus. They attended thanks to a special fund created to support student interest creative writing.

The fund itself originated from another novel drawn from life, stories from the region, and celebrating the idiosyncratic characters of Pittsburgh: Ken Gormley’s *The Heiress of Pittsburgh*.

Published in October 2021 after 30 years of gestation in the Duquesne President’s literary imagination, the book drew early acclaim from such luminaries as bestselling author Scott Turow, PEN Faulkner Award-winning novelist John Edgar Wideman, founding editor of *Creative Nonfiction* Lee Gutkind, Costanza Romero Wilson, and Pittsburgh notables Franco Harris and Art Rooney II, among others.

The novel, part legal thriller, part love story, provides a window into little mill-towns around Pittsburgh in the 1950s and 1970s, as seen by characters engaged in a courtroom battle over a multi-million dollar estate in 2008. It’s a powerful tribute to the qualities and virtues that once existed in working-class towns across America and an inspirational story about life choices and defining success for oneself.

In addition to positive reviews in the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, *TribLive*, *Pittsburgh Quarterly*, and other regional newspapers, the novel also spurred articles in the publications of Gormley’s alma maters, the University of Pittsburgh and Harvard Law School.

Enthusiasm came from former faculty and alumni as well. “My fingers are still warm from burning through the pages of your novel,” said English alumnus and Mary

Pappert School of Music benefactor David Pappert. “No wonder Scott Turow was gracious enough to invite you to share the national and international literary stage with him.”

“Your book kept me up into the early morning hours,” wrote George J. Agich, emeritus professor of philosophy. “That’s not a complaint since I found it so engaging. Your description of Pittsburgh was remarkably apt and many of the building and landmarks you mentioned were known to me.”

Gormley gave readings and talks on campus and at area book destinations, and most recently as part of the Pittsburgh Arts & Lecture Series. His readings also included a special event for Duquesne students that featured, naturally, the Pirate Parrot and pierogi, extending the Pittsburgh theme to its culinary conclusion.

And in May, the American Bar Association will host Gormley for a talk during its WellBeing Week in May focusing on writing legal fiction as a form of well-being.

Adding to the accolades, Sunbury Press selected *The Heiress of Pittsburgh* as a 2021 SUNY AWARD winner “for best exemplifying the mission and values” of that publishing house.

*The Heiress of Pittsburgh* continues to generate interest, and its support for writers at Duquesne resonates with the novel’s themes. After the WCoNA conference, Brandon Hart said, “I received practical and usable writing advice. It also filled me with a zeal for writing. I loved all the amazing stories I got to hear.”

Not a bad result for a writer who wrote a love letter to Pittsburgh *and* who runs the university Brandon attends. ♦



Ken and Laura Gormley created a fund to support creative writing students. Give here:



[duq.edu/supportwriting](https://duq.edu/supportwriting)



Cai is aware of the struggles female musicians have faced, and is thrilled that at Duquesne there is a concerted effort to seek out music from underrepresented groups.

# Hóngbāo, Coffee Breaks and the Intensity of Clara Schumann

By Elizabeth Shestak

Lily Cai has to be in the studio most of the afternoon through the evening, and then she has her work with the Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, which is why the pianist in Duquesne's Mary Pappert School of Music is making sure she gets in her feast at lunch.

The Chinese performer and her boyfriend, who is also from China, are both doing graduate work in Pittsburgh, but that doesn't mean the Lunar New Year traditional meal of fish, a whole chicken and lots of veggies, all with spiritual significance, won't be enjoyed—it will just be a bit earlier in the day.

Cai is just one of the many Duquesne music students who hail from abroad. The program boasts a considerable percentage of international students—including about half of the graduate students.

But maintaining her cultural traditions is not the only way Cai is remaining true to herself. Though the program is rooted in the European orchestral tradition (think Brahms, Beethoven and Bach), Cai's desire to perform works written by female composers has been fully supported by her artist-teachers and advisors.

## ACTIVE INCLUSION

"Since I started my music master's, I have been playing at least one female composer in my recitals," Cai says.

It is important to her to acknowledge and honor work by fellow female musicians, many of whom are often unsung, literally and figuratively, despite their extraordinary contributions to the canon of musical art.

And this is what sets Duquesne apart.

Most recently, Cai performed a piece by Clara Schumann, perhaps better known as the wife of composer Robert Schumann. In the 19th century, she was often noted as the more accomplished Schumann, though much of history has struggled to acknowledge her role beyond that of a supportive wife.

"The first time I heard this piece, I felt how strong Clara can be. Even though she had to give up some of her musical life because of her family, she wants to be a musician," Cai says of the piano trio in G minor.

"We can hear some 'fighting' style from the first and last movements," Cai says. This intensity is part of what drew Cai to the piece, and what she wants people to feel when she's playing it.

"I have always required my international students to bring in, study and perform music from their own countries," says David Allen Wehr, dean of the music school and, as he puts it, Cai's proud grand-teacher. As an undergraduate, Cai studied with one of Wehr's first pupils at Duquesne.

During her fall recital last year, Cai's teachers approved her selection and supported her playing a piece by a contemporary Chinese composer, Dr. Yin Chen—it meant a lot.

Cai is aware of the struggles female musicians have faced, and is thrilled that at Duquesne there is a concerted effort to seek out music from underrepresented groups, such as female or African American composers.

For Cai, that struggle for representation is evident in 200-year-old compositions.

"Until today, the musicians' life is not really fair to females," Cai says. "Personally, I like most of Clara's music because it is challenging, beautiful ..." and expresses the additional struggles faced by female musicians.

## SIMPLY HUMAN KINDNESSES

In the Pappert School of Music, efforts at inclusivity do more than check boxes showing Duquesne is aware. Of the students pursuing their unique interests, "It's one of the ways we get to know them and get to know these other cultures," Wehr says.

While these efforts might result in better musicianship, they are also simply human kindnesses. It's nice to feel welcomed, plain and simple.

Each Lunar New Year, which Cai equates to Christmas in China, Cai also passes out hóngbāo, traditional red envelopes stuffed with money. She hands them out to friends before they start their four-to-six-hour-long practices, or perhaps during one of the many coffee breaks they take where the Latin American students often share imported coffees.

"We have an incredible amount of talent here but we promote it in a way where people aren't competing with each other," Wehr says. "They are cheering each other on."

Learn more about Mary Pappert School of Music programs at [duq.edu/music](http://duq.edu/music).





# Crayons to Coffee

ONE ALUMNA'S INSPIRATIONAL JOURNEY

By Amanda Dabbs

**T**iffany Willis, B'99, CPA, has a love and talent for numbers that goes back to her early childhood days when she used to identify crayons by numbers (red was a “three” and blue was a “four” ...) rather than colors as she counted the letters in each word. That passion for numbers followed her to the remarkable finance career she has today as vice president, head of investor relations, for Starbucks.

However, her journey to an executive-level position at Starbucks—in which she manages relationships with Wall Street investors and analysts and oversees financial communications on behalf of the Fortune 100+ multinational company—was far from ordinary.

She became a mother at a very young age when her son, Anthony, was born. “When you become a teenage mom at age 14, school and education take a back seat,” remarked Willis, who bounced between friends’ couches and homeless shelters until she found stability living with a family friend who encouraged her to return to school.

Willis enrolled at McKeesport Area High School, while her son attended the on-site daycare there. After graduating, she joined the Job Corps program, which helped her enroll in the Community College of Allegheny County (CCAC) to major in business and discover her aptitude for accounting. Her high GPA allowed her to begin pursuing a bachelor’s degree, in accounting, at Duquesne University while still a student at CCAC. Willis chose Duquesne because of its strong reputation in business, and after completing her associate degree, she became a full-time Duke.

## FACULTY SUPPORT

“I began at Duquesne taking one class a semester and loved it. The faculty were so supportive and truly met me where I was. They took the time to mentor me, encouraging me to pursue a CPA license and connecting me to NABA, the National Association of Black Accountants,” she explained.

Willis also remembers the faculty being supportive when her young son tagged along to an evening class. “All of this support made such a difference in my success at Duquesne and helping me achieve my goals. It wasn’t easy deciding to bring my son to class, but I refused to turn any dilemma into an excuse,” she said.

## FACING CHALLENGES, FINDING A WAY

Following graduation from Duquesne, Willis landed an accounting position with PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) in Pittsburgh, and then later with PwC in Atlanta. She went on to earn a CPA license and an MBA from Emory University and graduated from The Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania Advanced Management Program. Throughout her education journey, she captured the title of Ms. Black Georgia USA and took on management positions at EY and Time Warner, and then vice president roles at Fiserv and Ingredient, before landing her position with Starbucks.

“Who would have ever thought that this homeless teenage mom, who at one time didn’t even have the ability to buy a cup of coffee, would grow up to become a Starbucks partner?” said Willis.

A challenge Willis faced throughout her career was being one of few women—and almost always the *only* African

Tiffany Willis, B'99, is pictured with her oldest son, Anthony, at her college graduation years ago and recently at their home in Atlanta.



American woman—in top-level executive meetings. “It’s difficult not to develop imposter syndrome when you walk into a room, and no one looks like you. Being at Starbucks has been a breath of fresh air, as the diverse and inclusive culture has been refreshing.”

As a member of the Accounting Advisory Council at Duquesne, Willis hopes to serve as an inspiration for students interested in the accounting profession, especially those who look like her.

“As someone who is always trying to find a way to give back, I accepted the invitation to join the Accounting Advisory Council to serve as a resource to the business school and accounting program, as well as to current and prospective accounting students. It’s a great opportunity for me to lend my voice and be a highly visible contact for individuals considering the accounting program at Duquesne,” Willis explained.

**“All of this support made such a difference in my success at Duquesne and helping me achieve my goals. It wasn’t easy deciding to bring my son to class, but I refused to turn any dilemma into an excuse.”**

## DIFFERENCE MAKING

“As a school, we are in The Business of Difference Making® and Tiffany is an incredibly impressive alumna who has risen to senior corporate leadership while also making a profound difference in the world. Tiffany embodies how technical expertise in accounting, when combined with influence and problem-solving skills, makes a tremendous difference,” said Dean B. McFarlin, Ph.D., dean of the Palumbo-Donahue School of Business Administration.

Kathryn A. Marley, Ph.D., chair of the Accounting, Information Systems and Technology and Supply Chain Management Department and associate professor of supply chain management, added: “Tiffany’s remarkable career success is a great testament to her resilience and perseverance. We are proud to call her a Duquesne School of Business alumna and thrilled to have her as a member of our Accounting Advisory Council.”

Willis often shares affirmations and empowering quotes with the teams she leads. Among her favorites are: “Don’t downgrade your dreams to match your reality, upgrade your faith to match your vision,” and, “Chin up Queen, or the crown slips.”

Faith continues to play a strong role in Willis’ life and career journey. “I’m constantly reminded that God won’t put me through anything He knows I can’t handle,” she said.

Willis lives in Atlanta with her husband, Anthony, of 15 years, and their blended family of five children. ♦



## LIFE-LONG LEARNING YOUR WAY

When she took over the finance and accounting responsibilities of her family-owned business, Elizabeth Gallaway, 28, completed Duquesne’s Business Essentials micro-credential program after her boss suggested she research related courses to gain additional knowledge.

A micro-credential not only enables professionals to make a bigger impact in their field and those it serves, it demonstrates to employers a commitment to invest the time and resources to professional development. At Duquesne, it may even help to prepare a smooth pathway for admission and credits toward graduate programs, including the Professional MBA or the MS in Management in the Palumbo-Donahue School of Business, which offers micro-credentials in business essentials and business analytics fundamentals.

Duquesne recognizes the growing demand for and popularity of micro-credentials as industries shift and organizations evolve. Credit-bearing and non-credit bearing micro-credentials offered by Health Sciences, Law and other schools at the University are open to professionals—including alumni—in any field.

“At the time, I considered going back to school to get my MBA, but was hesitant due to the time commitment,” says Gallaway. “The micro-credential offers a good overview of what I was looking for as well as additional classes that are beneficial. It provided a perfect opportunity to add to my skillset and determine if taking classes while working was manageable.”

Earning a Business Essentials micro-credential at Duquesne not only added to Gallaway’s professional confidence, it helped to prepare her for bigger goals—she’s enrolled in the Professional MBA program and will graduate in December. “It’s appealing because it’s completely online, and it’s made for working professionals like me who want to complete the program while still working full time,” Gallaway says.

“Our micro-credentials offer alumni a way to enhance their professional skillset and advance career opportunities. And they’re delivered by faculty who are experts in their fields at the University that alumni know, love and trust,” explains Daria LaTorre, associate provost for academic initiatives at Duquesne. “Micro-credentials are offered in a variety of ways. Whether you’re interested in one course, a series of courses or modules, Duquesne is prepared to help guide you because your success is our success.”

**To learn how to expand your horizons with micro-credentials at Duquesne University, contact the Office of Online Learning & Strategy at [online@duq.edu](mailto:online@duq.edu) or 412.396.1165.**



# BODY OF KNOWLEDGE

DR. REBECCA MAATTA WON THE UNIVERSITY'S HIGHEST AWARD FOR CREATIVE TEACHING, IN A COURSE PROBING THE HISTORY OF ANATOMY, HELPING HER STUDENTS LEARN TOGETHER IN A HORIZON-EXPANDING WAY.

By Gabriel Welsch

"Today, some of you will flip your body and will see its face for the first time," Dr. Rebecca Maatta tells students in an 8 a.m. session of Anatomy I. A teaching associate professor of English, Maatta is an expert in the history of medicine. She is talking about dissection with about 60 students clad in hoodies and surgical masks.

"Sometimes, too, when you carefully flip the body over," Maatta says, "a limb will move. It can be a little jarring."

She scans the room. The only sounds are a burble of laptop typing and scratching notes. Maatta continues, hands moving as she projects.

"What is your feedback? What is your level of comfort or discomfort? Anyone at, say, a 6?" No hands rise. Only when she gets to 3 and then 2 do more hands raise.

Low discomfort is the hope. That considering everything involved in dissection of human remains of what they will do—its history, its meaning, its emotional and practical layers—will have prepared them.

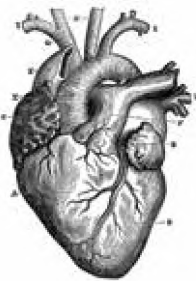
Maatta's previous lectures have discussed how anatomical knowledge was shaped and presented in different texts.

"I've been glad to see so many of you engaging more of your learning mechanisms," she says. The students are hands-on for more than the dissection they do. For this basic anatomy class required for those

pursuing health sciences fields, students listen to lectures, engage with practice quizzes, work in learning groups, take polls and even edit their professor's slides.

Maatta then discusses why dissection rubs up against many social and religious taboos even now, and she details why it was even more challenging up until very recently.

For centuries, the Church considered the secure burial of



a body to be very important. When the resurrection came, souls would require the mortal husk they had sloughed at death. Ideally, it would be intact.

In the 1960s, the Vatican ruled that cremation was permissible, making it possible for Catholics to donate their organs to save others—and their bodies for science.

The rule removed moral dilemmas for Catholic students

and physicians who chose to study anatomy through dissection—or other medical topics that involved donated organs or tissue.

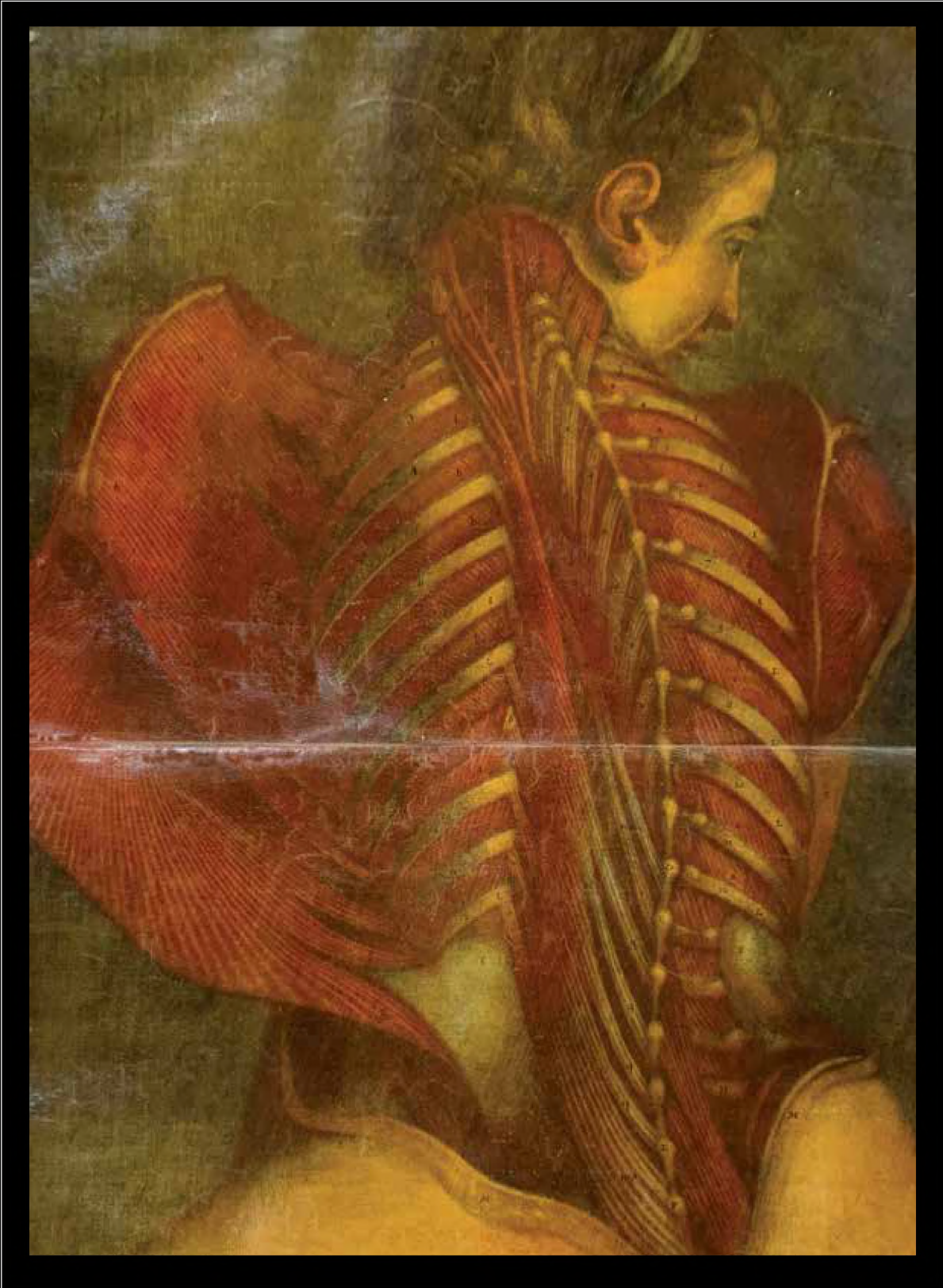
Many of Maatta's students hear this history for the first time. One student, a self-described "pretty devout Catholic," had no idea that during his parents' lifetime, what he now was doing to pursue his education would have been a moral issue.

"Students learn to appreciate the decisions that have led to how they learn," Maatta says. "And that's beneficial preparation for more than people in the health professions."

The Rangos School of Health Sciences requires medical humanities courses for all of its graduates—the only health sciences school in the nation to do so with such depth. Beyond her role in Anatomy 1, Maatta teaches Healthcare and Literature for the school, hoping to attract students with various interests to the interconnected web of ideas the course covers.

## ANGEL IN THE PAPER FOLDS

*Gray's Anatomy* is a standard text in teaching anatomy, and has remained so since its revolutionary publication in 1858. Instead of often lurid and stylized presentations of previous texts, *Gray's* presented line drawings, black ink on paper, accompanied on the same page by keys that named the specific parts illustrated.

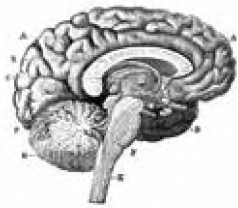


Gautier D'Agoty, *Myologie complete*. Paris 1746.

Courtesy of Rare Books Collection, Falk Library of the Health Sciences, University of Pittsburgh.



Dr. Rebecca Maatta discusses anatomy with a student.



“They get furious when they see the weird cultural forces that led to that sort of objectification.”

Designed for affordable mass printing, it drew instant praise and was adopted in medical training everywhere.

Its utility is clear when contrasted with a typical pre-*Gray's* image: Jacques Fabian Gautier D'Argoty's 1746 *Anatomical Angel*. The “Angel” shows exposed muscles and bones in the back of a sitting female torso, her skin folded away to resemble sanguine wings. Her head gazes demurely in profile, hair caught in a chignon adorned with a modest ribbon. Her cheeks blush, and are not the pallor we know cadavers possess. The key to identify any of the (artfully inaccurate) body parts revealed is on a whole other page.

Students accustomed to “objective” information notice the difference. “They get furious when they see the weird cultural forces that led to that sort of objectification,” Maatta says.

D'Argoty's *Angel* is but one example of where observable science, cultural mores and artistic license collide. *Gray's*

more useful and accessible guide feels contemporary even in its first edition. But why, more than 160 years later, with all the technological tools developed since, is it *still* the basic first anatomy text?

Such questions are not top of mind for new physical therapy students or for those studying the history and literature of medicine, but once the question is asked, the reaction often is, *Yeah—why IS that?*

The illustrations provide a glimpse into complex issues students will later confront. How do we know what we know about the body, and what does it matter? For those who will have to dissect a cadaver as part of their education, how was their guide—an anatomical atlas, illustrations hanging on the walls of the cadaver lab—created? Who decided how to present that information?

“The illustrator has to decide whether to present a specific example drawn from a real person, or an ‘ideal,’ or a composite of what is typical,” Maatta says. “What is the most helpful?”

Students find some answers in the most peaceful place on campus.

“The illustrator has to decide whether to present a specific example drawn from a real person, or an ‘ideal.’”

### THE MOST PEACEFUL PLACE ON CAMPUS

With rare Pittsburgh sunlight beaming through high windows, the cadaver lab on Duquesne’s campus is an unusually bright space. Rows of stainless steel tables hold blue bags in which the remains of a body donor are kept and carefully handled. The room smells unexpectedly of musky flowers and rubbing alcohol, and the chill makes the extra lab coat welcome.

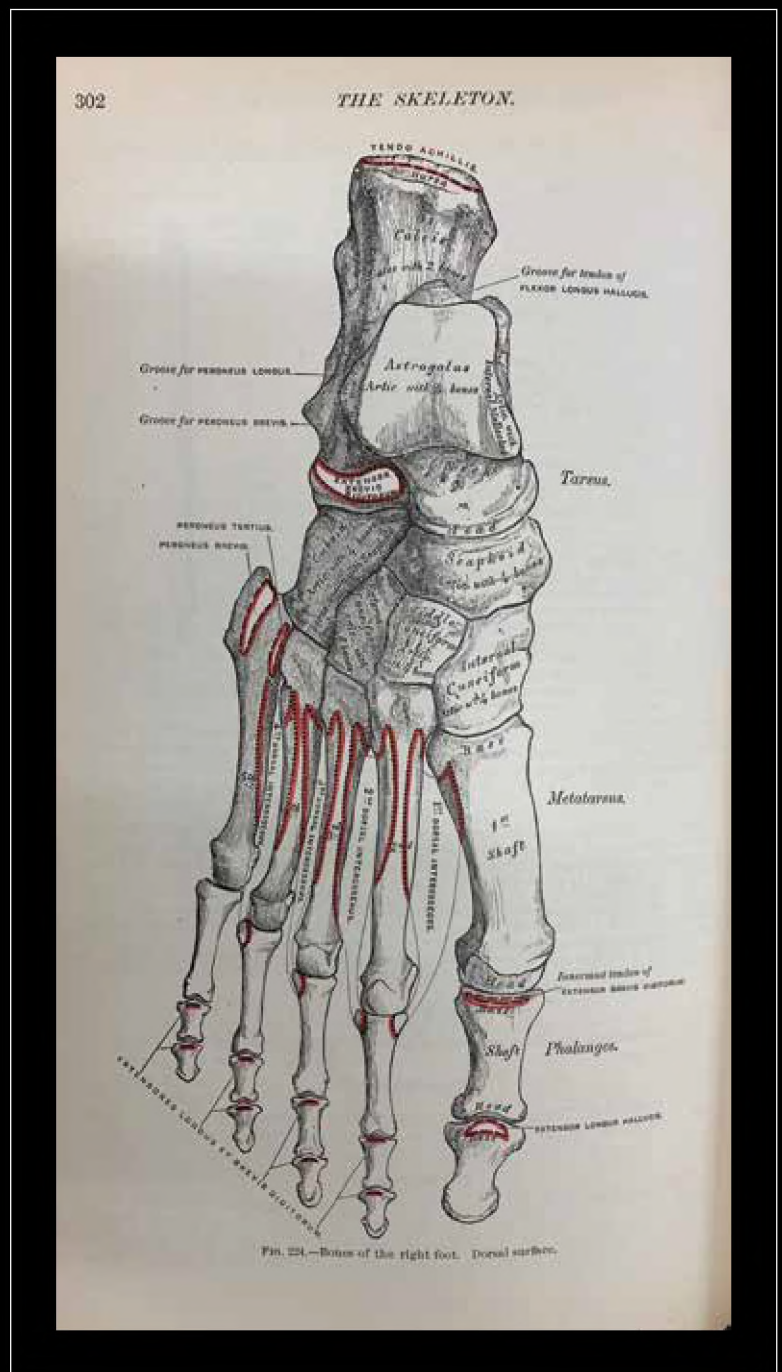
In the hallway before entering, Anne Burrows, professor of physical therapy, reviews some of the rules of the lab for the benefit of non-health science students attending who are part of Maatta’s Healthcare and Literature course. Burrows has taught anatomy at Duquesne, to health science students and others, for more than 20 years.

“This is the most peaceful place on campus, a space for reflection, for learning, and for thinking ahead,” Burrows says. She asks students to pause and consider the gravity of the room.

The anatomy students find their bodies, and the other students follow and observe.

“Every emotion you feel is valid,” Maatta says.

Each table has an anatomical atlas attached to it. A person can look up charts for a hand, the



Henry Gray. *Anatomy descriptive and surgical*. A new American from the 13th English ed. Philadelphia: Blanchard and Lea, 1893

Courtesy of Rare Books Collection, Falk Library of the Health Sciences, University of Pittsburgh.



## “Nothing about your curiosity is bad or morbid.”

shoulder, or whatever specific region they are dissecting and observing. It is easy to see the direct utility of those guides.

In addition, each table includes a card with details about the donor. One person, named Homer (first names only) died at age 84, of a heart attack. He built homes, worked in construction. A student observes that his skin is thicker, almost slab-like, where arms or shoulders would have been exposed to the sun. The skin is far different than what is found on another, Ruth, who worked in a clerical position and who died of cancer.

Asked what they notice, the students' tone is respectful and curious. Details inspire observation and inquiry, and the room grows louder—though not boisterous. As Maatta asks students to consider what they observe, from texture to color to shape, she says, “Nothing about your curiosity is bad or morbid.” They are there to learn together, and to do so thanks to the generosity of those who donated their bodies.

Shannon, a third-year PT student, said, “Because others were there and excited, I was OK. Some days it is overwhelming, but it's good to get used to this now.”

Another student said, “I have spent so much time with this donor that it feels like my own personal friend,” he says. He proceeds carefully and with respect. “I don't want to destroy it.”

“You have to be careful with the hands,” Kalina, another PT student, says. Her specimen also was a laborer, the skin on the hands very thick and callused. Kalina is ginger as she lifts it to show the delicate web of tendons connecting to the muscles that actually move fingers.

Fingers themselves do not have muscles.

“The more you cut into a body,” Kalina says, gesturing toward the anatomical atlas, “the more you have to orient.”

### ANATOMY AND THE ARCHIVE

The atlases that students like Kalina use to orient come from somewhere—and that opens the layers of history and ethics Maatta covers.

The checkered history of medical scholarship shows that up until very recently, obtaining human specimens was clandestine at best, and horrifying in many cases.

Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* fictionalized problems that were quite real in her day. To learn anatomy, scientists and doctors of the 19th century did seek bodies, whether unclaimed corpses from morgues or specimens acquired from grave robbers. Some physicians dissected the bodies of enslaved people.

Women's anatomy was especially charged, such that for lack of serious exploration many texts were grossly inaccurate. Beyond that, the presentation of anatomical drawings and renderings were complicated by sexist expectations of how bodies should be presented.

“The medical humanities offer students an opportunity to think critically about the body, illness, treatment and death—and health care as a culturally constructed institution,” Maatta says. “When health science students read and write about the history of their profession, they become more reflective and careful health care practitioners.”

The issues raised in Maatta's years of teaching the Healthcare and Literature course led to a special class she offered in spring 2021: Anatomy and the Archive. It won her the University's Distinguished Teaching Award. At the award ceremony, the story of her course's considerations of health care and societal values was told as attendees sat masked and apart, protections hugely inflected by cultural and political constructions.

The final product of the class was to have been an exhibit of antique anatomy texts, from the special collections at the University of Pittsburgh Medical School's Falk Library and at Carnegie Mellon University, as well as from digitized resources selected by the students in her class and in a sister class at the University of Colorado, Boulder.

Due to COVID-19, the exhibit never happened in Pittsburgh—though they are working on doing so in the near future. Anatomy and the Archive enrolled 12 students who, among them, pursued majors in English/theater arts, math, political science, and occupational and physical therapy.

Through this class, Maatta says, “Students could have a basis for comparison when evaluating the illustrations in the textbooks we studied, and also because OT and PT students perform a dissection in their third year. Visiting the lab before it's required allowed them to mentally and emotionally adjust to the experience.”

Their final proposed exhibit centered on how women's bodies were presented in anatomical texts, starting with Vesalius' 1543 *De Humani Corporis Fabrica* through Gray's 1859 *Anatomy Descriptive and Surgical*. It included plans for a dramatic presentation of the *Anatomical Angel* at the entry.

The choice made Maatta think with her students. “How can we be sure we are educating and not just making a prurient spectacle?” she asked. “These conversations were rich, complex and student-driven.” ♦



## Crossing Bridges

### A FIRST-GEN JOURNEY

By Gabrielle Payne

When you speak with Rayelle Davis, it's evident that she is someone who goes the extra mile—about 6,000 miles per semester. As a first-generation college student commuting from a small town outside of Cumberland, Md., Davis' journey at Duquesne has been anything but traditional.

From her first time commuting two-hours into the city for her master's program in 2012 to now as she is pursuing her Ph.D. in counselor education and supervision, Davis has always recognized the valuable opportunities that education provides.

"I remember crossing the bridge into Pittsburgh on my first day of class and I cried. I couldn't believe I was here," she said. "The opportunity felt so much bigger than myself, and I knew I needed to make the most of it."

As a wife and working mother of three, the road to becoming a doctoral candidate was not always easy. "Before continuing my education at Duquesne, I was a young mom in a small Appalachian town, and I became very familiar with minimum wage and living off of food stamps. I associate education with options and knew that getting my graduate degree would lead to better opportunities."

Davis describes how many people, both in her hometown and other neighboring Appalachian communities, do not have access to or cannot afford mental health treatment. "Coming to grad school in a big city really opened up my eyes to new horizons. My classes on multiculturalism taught me how important it is to make mental health treatment more equitable and solidified my decision to become a therapist."

As her experience has expanded her worldview, she now hopes to expand it for others.

This year, Davis is publishing a workbook that provides a one-stop resource for individuals seeking guidance on how to better understand themselves and to strengthen their empathy for others. Her workbook *The Systems That Shape Us* aims to help readers dive deeper into self-reflection and improve their access to and attitudes towards mental health services.

"I've gained so much experience and knowledge during my time at Duquesne, and now I'm hoping to impact others who may feel lost and alone. I want to be a force for good."

Now, she hopes that her journey can be a roadmap for other aspiring students who dream of achieving bigger goals. ♦

## The DeJames Legacy

### A SPECIAL BOND WITH DUQUESNE

By Ken Walters

The entrepreneurial spark for John DeJames, P'88, started with a paper route.

As a boy, the Duquesne alumnus and long-time pharmacist had one of the largest paper routes in Pittsburgh in the 1970s. Energized by his success, he began working as a disc jockey at dances in high school—a job he is still doing today.

Now 43 years later, DeJames, manager of clinical services and development at Value Drug Company, still DJs about 30 weddings a year.

Fast forward to 2022: John's son Zac DeJames, R'18, '21, graduated from the University with a master's degree in health administration.

Like his dad, Zac had a keen interest in business and learned a lot from watching his father work as a pharmacist. "He was a role model," Zac said.

Spending time in the Rx section with his dad paid off. While earning his undergraduate degree at Duquesne, Zac was asked to help improve inventory processes at the University's Hill District pharmacy, which led to similar work at other pharmacies.

He became so good at judging inventory supplies that he could estimate the inventory's value just by looking at it. Overall, his new processes helped eliminate nearly \$9 million of inventory waste.

The DeJames legacy includes a special bond with Duquesne.

"The values and ethics taught at Duquesne were so important to me," John said. "The faculty and friends there helped me. And when I graduated, I knew I was prepared for anything."

Zac, now a lead order coordinator for PANTHERx, said Duquesne was like a second home.

"I wouldn't be where I am today without Duquesne," he said. "I'm really grateful for my education and the connections I still have today."

John serves on the Pharmacy Dean's Advisory Council and is a former president of the Duquesne Pharmacy Alumni Association. "I've always enjoyed being involved and helping people where I can," he said. "When I was young, my family made a point of giving back to the community, and that is what drives me now." ♦



# Seen and Heard

FROM FESTIVE CAMPUS EVENTS TO NEWSWORTHY HAPPENINGS,  
THE DUQUESNE SPIRIT BRINGS PEOPLE TOGETHER.



Duquesne students spent their spring break serving others in Houston, Baltimore and Dayton as part of Duquesne University Spiritan Campus Ministry's [Spiritan Mission Experiences](#).



...a great example of a promising interdisciplinary collaboration among the three schools that will prepare highly qualified and compassionate CRNAs. These highly skilled professionals will address the unmet health care needs of underserved patients in both rural and metropolitan areas.

*Rangos School of Health Sciences Dean Dr. Fevzi Akinci discussing the new three-year **Doctor of Nurse Anesthesia Practice Program**, a collaboration between the schools of Nursing and Health Science and the Allegheny School of Anesthesia*



Duquesne grads Dr. Pat Lackey and Ally Susko Bove made appearances on the classic game show [Jeopardy](#) this past winter.



Since there is too much information out there to filter through and critically analyze, people are just sharing material that serves their confirmation bias, which can lead to the spread of misinformation.

*Dr. Mai-Ly Nguyen Steers, assistant professor in the School of Nursing at Duquesne University, as quoted in a recent **Forbes** article about navigating social media in wartime*



Darryl Yokley, M'03, an up-and-coming jazz saxophonist and composer, returned to the Mary Pappert School of Music for a performance with the [Jazz Ensemble and Jazz Workshop](#).



**Chopped**, the Duquesne University student cooking competition, was held once again. Promising chefs from all backgrounds created numerous delectable dishes.

Students enjoyed many fun activities during Duquesne University Mission and Identity's **Founders Week**.



“ Without the evening program, my trajectory in life may have been dramatically altered. Because of Duquesne Law School, I have been exposed to countless diverse experiences that have allowed me to have an incredible legal career.

*The Honorable Elliot Howsie, L'98, serves on the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas. He is formerly the Allegheny County Chief Public Defender, the first African American to hold the position. A Wilkesburg native, Howsie earned his law degree from **Duquesne Law** while juggling two full-time jobs*

“ This year we had three students apply for the horizon-expanding Fulbright scholarship and all three were accepted as semi-finalists. As faculty and staff, it's our joy to partner with them as they connect to new, immersive experiences.

*Christine Pollock, director, **Office of National Fellowships***



Students from our **Rome campus** kicked off the spring semester taking in the sights.



DU economics graduate and Fulbright Scholar, Alex Wolfe, A'21, recently took over our Instagram account to give followers an inside look into his life as he is **teaching English in Taiwan**.



# Brother André's Café Serves Hope

By Gabrielle Payne

When you walk into Brother André's Café, it's easy to feel at home in the warm, inviting space bustling with the friendliest people. It's hard to believe that such a welcoming place all started because of a closed door.

When Patrick Fitzgerald—a vibrant young man who lives with autism—wanted to find a job, he and his parents discovered the unfortunate reality of how difficult it is for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) to find employment. Upon receiving rejection after rejection, Patrick's parents, Mike and Terri Fitzgerald, saw this closed door as an opportunity to make a difference, both for Patrick and for other individuals living with IDD.

The Fitzgerald family joined forces with the Rev. Chris Donley, pastor at Divine Mercy Parish, and opened Brother André's Café in the church's cozy basement in fall of 2021.

From the outside, the café looks like a relaxing place that serves coffee. Once you're inside, it doesn't take long before you witness the true magic of the café. It's a place where Patrick uses his incredible memory skills to bake delicious treats. It's a place where Morgan's creativity shines as she decorates the tables with beautiful flower arrangements. It's

a place that serves far more than just coffee; it serves hope.

"Our goal is to find their strengths and empower them. We want to help our employees embrace and expand their natural gifts and talents," said café manager Ree Mitra.

Occupational therapist Bridget Loiselle and Rangos School of Health Sciences' OTD student Emma Naegler work alongside the employees, using tools and interventions to help them become as independent as possible.

"We want to improve not only their competence on the job but also their confidence. We want them to feel supported and know that they can do this," said Naegler.

Starting with a core team of six employees, the café has now grown to employ 10 individuals with IDD. Several of the employees are current students or graduates of Duquesne's St. Anthony's Program, an inclusive education environment for young people with special needs to enhance self-sufficiency.

"I'm hoping to have an impact on the people who work here, but I'm even more excited because I know that they're going to have an impact on me," said Naegler. "I'm grateful to work alongside them, and I know I'm going to take away so much from this special experience." ♦



## DUQUESNE STUDENT LEADER NAMED CAMPUS COMPACT NEWMAN CIVIC FELLOW

Nominated on the basis of her potential for public leadership by President Ken Gormley, Duquesne graduate student Kayla Harris has been named to the 2022-2023 class of Campus Compact Newman Civic Fellows. Following a rigorous selection process this prestigious honor is awarded to college students who have created positive change in their communities and beyond.

**“People do not get to choose the circumstance they are born into, so I want to work with communities to provide them with better opportunities...”**

A student in the Master of Education in Clinical Mental Health Counseling program, Harris is a resilient advocate for equity and access to opportunities. From a young age, she has aspired to be a changemaker and create a better world for future generations.

“When I learned that my race and sex created automatic setbacks for me in society, it challenged me to understand how other societal systems define us,” said Harris, a native of Beaver County. “People do not get to choose the circumstance they are born into, so I want to work with communities to provide them with better opportunities so that every person has the ability reach their greatest potential.”

Campus Compact is a national coalition of colleges and universities working to advance the public purposes of higher education, connecting 173 students to form this year’s cohort.



Read more about Kayla in her BLUFF STORY at [duq.edu/bluffstories](http://duq.edu/bluffstories).

# Volunteer

DUQUESNE UNIVERSITY

## Alumni Volunteer Recognized for Paying Forward Experience

On Sept. 26, 2021, Scott Ackerman, GB’05, was presented with the University’s Alumni Award for Volunteer Service to Duquesne. The award is given to a member of the alumni community based on their exemplary post-graduation volunteer service to Duquesne.

Ackerman was nominated for the award as a result of his involvement in the Career Champions Network, with which he has volunteered in numerous ways since 2018. His nomination referenced his passion for service and mentorship, as described in his DukesConnect profile: “I see a great benefit in my own personal and professional development in giving back by mentoring students. As alumni, we have a lot to share that will help them more quickly become productive employees when they enter the workforce.”

Ackerman works as a technical account manager for Intel and lives in Gibsonia with his family. His wife, Anita, is a Duquesne alumna.

Additional information on the Alumni Award for Volunteer Service to Duquesne can be found at [www.myduquesne.duq.edu/volunteerawardform](http://www.myduquesne.duq.edu/volunteerawardform).



Alumni Board of Governors President-Elect Chuck Peterson, B’06, GB’08, presents the Alumni Award for Volunteer Service to Duquesne to Scott Ackerman, GB’05.



# RAISING THE BAR

*By Amanda Drumm*



Nicole joined by her mother, Kathleen Lyke, and her son, Levi.

In her first semester in the Duquesne School of Law's day program, Nicole D'Jovin, L'21, learned she was pregnant. She finished the semester then left school to have her baby. "I thought 'there is no way I cannot go back to law school,' so I took a little time off and went back the next year," she said.

D'Jovin reenrolled in 2017, this time in the law school's evening program to enable her to spend time with her eight-month-old son, Levi. She worked full-time during the day for a call-center to support them. "I would work from home and take care of my son during the day. I had help from my family who would watch him while I was in school in the evening," D'Jovin said.

She spent the little free time she had reading, studying and completing her schoolwork. The 45-minute drive four nights a week from her home in Beaver County to the School of Law made for a frenetic schedule, but one that D'Jovin was determined to make work.

"Having a kid and trying to study is tough, but when I thought about it, I thought 'I can't look my son in the face and say I quit because I had you.' It was the hardest thing I ever did in my life, but he was the reason I didn't give up," D'Jovin said.

Her biggest motivator kept her focused, and D'Jovin successfully completed her degree in May 2021. The most difficult part of the journey was not over, though. It was preparation time for the crucial bar exam, a daunting, time-consuming task for any attorney-to-be, but one that is particularly difficult for someone who has other responsibilities.

D'Jovin's unpaid internship in her last year of law school with the Beaver County District Attorney's Office netted her invaluable experience, but meant no income was coming in. With school out, she needed to find reliable childcare for her 4-year-old son during the day while she studied. She reached out to Ashley London, Duquesne's director of bar studies, who called Jeremiah's Place in Pittsburgh, an organization that provides free, emergency childcare to families. D'Jovin met with the sanctuary and secured childcare for Levi.

"I couldn't believe the amount of people willing to help me during the bar exam," D'Jovin said. That included the unbounded support from London and other Duquesne professors and a local attorney who helped tutor her and ask

**"I met a large network of people I otherwise would not have met. My education was top notch..."**

her prep questions.

Determined to pass the bar, D'Jovin also enrolled in an intensive program that provides pre-exam preparation. After her extensive effort, it was finally time for the remote exam.

"I stayed in a rented farmhouse for three days—it was the first time I was away from my son that long. It was the weirdest experience of my life. I didn't even take my cell phone; I didn't want any distractions. I was in total silence for three whole days," D'Jovin said.

Her countless hours of studying ensured she was prepared for anything. She passed the bar exam on her first try.

"I felt accomplished. For a while I think I had imposter syndrome, but I put a lot into it and got rewarded for the work I did," D'Jovin said.

She landed her dream job as an associate attorney working in criminal defense at Valsamidis Law in her hometown, a connection she made during her internship. D'Jovin is grateful for the support of Duquesne and her family.

"[At Duquesne] I met a large network of people I otherwise would not have met. My education was top notch; it challenged me and prepared me for a legal career. Also, I honestly couldn't have done this without my mom always pushing me to chase my dreams and being there to support me every step of the way," she said.

Likewise, being a Duquesne graduate is profoundly significant to D'Jovin because it's a special reminder of past support from those who are undoubtedly bursting with happiness for her from afar, including her sister, Duquesne alum Tina Marie (D'Jovin) Spragg, GE' 06.

"My dad passed away when I was 16 from pancreatic cancer and I always remember how much he would brag about my sister Tina for going to Duquesne and how proud he was of her for all of her hard work. Following in her footsteps makes me feel like he would be super proud of me, too." ♦

**DUQUESNE SCHOOL  
OF LAW IS RANKED**

**6<sup>TH</sup>**

**NATIONALLY  
IN BAR PASS RATE**

**DUQUESNE'S FIRST-TIME PASS RATE OUTPACED  
THE STATEWIDE FIRST-TIME PASS RATE FOR  
THE FIFTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR.**

**DUQUESNE'S OVERALL PASS  
RATE EXCEEDED THE STATE'S  
OVERALL PASS RATE OF 75.80%.**





# DUQUESNE

The first Dukes' home basketball game saw a record crowd roar into the new UPMC Cooper Fieldhouse, setting the tone for a raucous run from fall into winter. Duquesne athletes pushed for bigger goals—with near shake-ups, championship runs, some heartbreak along the way and a historic victory for soccer. Your Duquesne Dukes left it all on the field, the court and the lanes!



A record student crowd was on hand for the Rider game.

Chuck Cooper III was presented a game ball by Duquesne President Ken Gormley as part of a formal UPMC Cooper Fieldhouse dedication ceremony prior to the men's basketball home opener vs. Rider on Nov. 9, 2021.



The men's soccer team advanced to the title game of the Atlantic 10 Championship for the first time since 2002. DU's 10 wins in 2021 were the program's most since 2006.



The volleyball team came within two points of stunning top-seeded Dayton in the Atlantic 10 Championship semifinal at UPMC Cooper Fieldhouse in November.

The bowling team made history last April in earning a bid to the 2021 NCAA Championship in Kansas City. The Dukers – who were just the sixth program in school history to earn an NCAA Championship bid, joining men's and women's basketball, football, volleyball and women's soccer – advanced to the second day of play in finishing among the top 12 teams in the nation.



The swimming and diving team continued to enhance its reputation as one of the top programs in the Atlantic 10 with a runner-up finish at the 2022 A-10 Championship in February. DU has now either won or finished second in the conference in six of the past seven seasons.



# Bluff in Brief

DUQUESNE  
PEOPLE AND  
PLACES ARE  
ABOUT THOSE  
MOMENTS  
THAT MOVE  
YOU TO A NEW  
AND CLEARER  
VANTAGE POINT;  
THESE BRIEFS  
EMBRACE  
“BIGGER GOALS”  
IN ACTION.



## CRYSTAL MCCORMICK WARE NAMED INAUGURAL CHIEF DIVERSITY OFFICER

Crystal McCormick Ware has joined Duquesne University as the first chief diversity officer and senior advisor to President Ken Gormley.

“Diversity and inclusion has been my life’s work, and I look forward to more of this important work in a deeper capacity at Duquesne University,” said McCormick Ware. “Duquesne was where I launched my professional career, and I am honored to come full circle and return to continue this for the benefit of all who are part of the Duquesne community.”

Previously director of diversity and inclusion at the University of Pittsburgh Library System, she developed diversity programming and training for the entire system and led efforts throughout the larger academic community.

Well known for community involvement, McCormick Ware is a founding member of the Greater Pittsburgh Higher Education Diversity Consortium. Launched in 2014 with Duquesne as the host institution for several years, the consortium comprises professionals at colleges and universities in Southwestern Pennsylvania.

McCormick Ware holds several certifications related to diversity, equity and inclusion, from Pitt’s first Diversity and Inclusion Certificate Program to Duquesne’s School of Professional Development. She has bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Duquesne and is a past member of the University’s Alumni Board of Governors.

Learn more at [duq.edu/cdo](https://duq.edu/cdo).



## DUQUESNE FORMALLY ESTABLISHES BLACK ALUMNI NETWORK

Through a series of meetings beginning in late summer 2020 until December 2021, a group of Black alumni of Duquesne University organized a new alumni network: the Duquesne University Black Alumni Network (DUBAN). DUBAN affirms and incorporates the missions of the University and the Alumni Association by helping alumni who want to support the overall goals of the University maintain positive relationships with their alma mater.

The DUBAN’s members will promote the presence, engagement, empowerment and success of Duquesne University’s Black Alumni Network by building relationships with students, alumni, faculty, staff and other community members through professional, educational, social, leadership and networking programs, as well as through philanthropic support and opportunities.

In addition, DUBAN will develop an enduring club structure and intends to play a pivotal role in creating a protected environment for the Duquesne Black community, which includes alumni, students, faculty and staff.

Learn more at [duq.edu/duban](https://duq.edu/duban).



**PRESIDENT KEN GORMLEY NAMES JAMES MILLER VICE PRESIDENT FOR UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT**

Duquesne University President Ken Gormley appointed Jim Miller senior vice president for university advancement. Since July 1, 2021, Miller had held the position on an interim basis after a long tenure as associate vice president and senior advisor to the president for leadership giving.

Miller has worked in various advancement capacities at Duquesne for nearly 35 years. After he earned a bachelor's degree in business, management and marketing from Duquesne in 1987, he joined the Division of Advancement that same year.

"I am humbled to have had a voice in the strategic conversations at the highest levels at Duquesne and to better connect our work with alumni and friends to the future-focused vision for Duquesne," said Miller. "I look forward to collaborating with our campus community and our alumni communities to formally launch the new campaign soon, with significant momentum already taking place thanks to key donor-supported projects."

Learn more at [duq.edu/vpa](http://duq.edu/vpa).



**PHARMACY STUDENTS POST HIGH SCORES ON NAPLEX**

Recent graduates from the School of Pharmacy achieved an impressive 95.9% first-time pass rate on the North American Pharmacist Licensure Examination (NAPLEX), surpassing the 83.7% national average and 85.1% Pennsylvania state average, according to the official report of the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy.

"Congratulations to the Class of 2021 for its outstanding success on the NAPLEX," Dr. Monica Skomo, associate dean for academic affairs and assessment, said. "Their accomplishment is indicative of our high-quality pharmacy program, the dedication of our faculty to our students and to pharmacy education, and the aptitude and commitment of our student pharmacists."

The NAPLEX is a standardized test that measures a candidate's knowledge of pharmacy practice and is an important part of the pharmacist licensure process used by state pharmacy boards. It was developed to help individual state pharmacy boards assess an individual's competency to practice as a pharmacist.

Learn more at [duq.edu/naplex](http://duq.edu/naplex).



**CHIEF JUSTICE EMERITUS THOMAS G. SAYLOR AS INAUGURAL JUDICIAL SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE OF THE THOMAS R. KLINE CENTER FOR JUDICIAL EDUCATION**

The Thomas R. Kline Center for Judicial Education of Duquesne University's School of Law appointed Pennsylvania Chief Justice Emeritus Thomas G. Saylor as the center's inaugural Judicial Scholar-in-Residence. In this role, Saylor provides invaluable assistance to the center in its work to support the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania with high-quality continuing judicial education.

Learn more at [duq.edu/saylor](http://duq.edu/saylor).

Duquesne University ranked

**#3  
in the  
Northeast**

**in a recent workforce analysis  
focused on R2 institutions**

**PRODUCING THE  
MOST HIGH-EARNING  
FEMALE ALUMNI**

**under 40 in the United States.**



**THE SCHOOL  
OF NURSING**

and Allegheny School of Anesthesia will launch a new three-year Doctor of Nurse Anesthesia Practice Program in fall 2022.

**Duquesne University (#6) and  
the School of Nursing (#1) achieved**

**TOP 10**

**Gold-level ranking  
as Military Friendly®  
Schools for 2021-2022.**



The University has launched a third  
**STATE-OF-THE-ART  
MEDIA STUDIO,**

located on the third floor of the Union, that will enable students to produce professional broadcasts, podcasts, livestreams and pre-recorded content.

## A Message from the Outgoing Alumni President

Fellow Duquesne Alums:  
For the last two years, I've been honored with the opportunity to lead the Alumni Board of Governors as President. When I signed on for the role, however, I never could have guessed what these years would have really turned into. From building off of the momentum and guidance created by my predecessor, Ann Hohn, A'83, to everything coming to a screeching halt, the uncertainty created in our personal lives was certainly present for our involvement with our alma mater. However, through the perseverance of our volunteer Alumni Board of Governors, and the dedication of the University's Alumni Engagement Team, numerous new ways to connect with the Duquesne Family materialized, and allowed for Bigger Goals to spread from the Bluff around the world.

Increased levels of engagement from alums with the Day of Giving, participation in virtual events, and contributions to the emergency Student Success Fund reinforced my passion for the University to which we all owe so much. It's the dedication showed by you, our alums, in so many ways to benefit current students of Duquesne, that reinforced my love for the University and made me feel so proud to lead a volunteer group of 30 that represent all areas of University life as your Alumni Board of Governors.

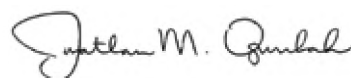
In short – thank you. Thank you for being involved...for staying involved...for finding new ways to get involved. Thank you for coming back for a basketball game or for Sunday Mass in the Chapel. Thank you for proudly wearing

your Duquesne ring as you make impacts in the community and the world on a regular basis. You, as alumni of this prestigious university, continue to represent your alma mater in the best ways possible – and it's that reputation that continues to benefit current students as well as your other fellow alums.

More importantly, thank you to President Gormley, Jack McGinley and the rest of the Board of Directors, and the rest of the University Administration for continuing to allow Alumni to have a seat at the table in driving the University forward. Without that voice to be ever-present, there would be no room to utilize the Alumni in the best ways possible.

I'm more excited than ever to see how the next generation of Duquesne's story will read. With new growth, new programs, new facilities and a new emphasis on alumni engagement, the future is bright, and I can't wait to see how we all play a part in it.

See you around campus, and Go Dukes!



Jonathan Ogurchak GP'09  
*Outgoing President, Alumni Board of Governors, 2020-2022*



## An Interview with Incoming Alumni President Chuck Peterson, B'06, GB'08

**Tell us about how you've been involved with Duquesne over the years and why you stay involved.**

While completing my undergraduate degree in business at Duquesne, I was involved in Delta Chi serving in various positions from president to rush chair. I was also involved with Spotlight Musical Theater Company, not only as a performer in the musicals, but on the board as well serving as president, vice president and secretary.

My experience at Duquesne was so special that serving in leadership roles with student organizations sparked the desire to continue being involved as an alumnus. I started as a member of the Delta Chi Alumni Board of Trustees and then joined the Alumni Board of Governors.

**What do you hope to accomplish as the next Alumni Board of Governors president?**

In my role as president, the hope is to continue to bridge the gap between active and inactive alumni volunteers. As ambassadors to the University, it is vital that we continue to reach out to alumni to find new ways to provide service opportunities to our alumni so that many organizations and communities can benefit from the volunteers.

**What are your "bigger goals" for the alumni board?**

For the "bigger goals," I hope that we can increase diversity on our board and work with other alumni organizations like the newly formed Black Alumni Network to create awareness for new events and opportunities for alumni participation.

I also hope that we can utilize our connections as alumni to assist Career Services with career opportunities for graduating students as well as to assist Admissions in the recruitment of new students.

**Other things you might want to let the readers/alumni know about you, the ABOG or getting involved with Duquesne?**

I hope that our alumni recognize that their time at Duquesne doesn't have to end at graduation. We've got alumni networks throughout the country and local opportunities to get involved with as well. Financial assistance and donations are extremely important to the success of the University. However, if you can give your time to volunteer in the community, mentor a current student or assist Career Services, that is priceless.





# By the Numbers

The 7th annual Duquesne Day of Giving raised a record-breaking \$667,363 from 1,939 gifts. We are truly in awe of our generous alumni and friends. Your support will have a lasting impact across the Bluff in 2022 and beyond.

To learn more and see our list of generous donors, visit [duq.edu/dayofgiving](https://duq.edu/dayofgiving).

## 1,939

**total gifts**  
made by our alumni and friends

## \$667,363

**raised**  
to support Duquesne students

 **\$280,000**  
**in Challenge Gifts issued by some of our most generous donors**

 **7 countries**  
Donations came in from seven countries, including a gift that came 9,636 miles from Castlereagh, New South Wales, Australia.



# THANK YOU!

Save the Date for the 8th annual Duquesne Day of Giving on Feb. 8, 2023.

If you would like to issue a Duquesne Day of Giving 2023 Challenge or Matching Gift to drive more giving to your favorite area of campus, please contact David Jakielo, A'05, GA'10, director of annual giving, at [jakielod@duq.edu](mailto:jakielod@duq.edu).

# Alumni Updates

## 1970s

**Dr. Janice Glunk, E'70, GE'74**, was promoted to Professor of Education at Point Park University.

**Mark Tolan, B'71**, Private Wealth Advisor with Confluence Wealth Management Group, an advisory practice of Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC, was named to Forbes Best-in-State Wealth Advisors for 2021.

**Jim Anderson, M'73**, and his wife, Ulrike Shawrz, were nominated for a Grammy Award for their immersive sound production and engineering of Patricia Barber's album, "Clique."

**George Gorman, B'74**, has been elected Board Chair of the Eaton Vance Mutual Funds Board. He joined the Board in 2014 and previously chaired the Audit and Compliance Committees.

**Inez Miles, A'74, GA'79**, was elected to the Board of Directors of WQED-TV and Classical FM Radio. Miles also is vice chair of the Board's Governance Committee and serves on the Audit and Education Committees.

**Marie Hammerling, M'76**, published a novel, *Distant Turns*, through Author House. It is the story of a Jewish woman, the daughter of Holocaust survivors, who becomes entangled in a narcissistic relationship with an Argentine Hollywood pianist.

**Nicki Cohen, M'77**, recently retired from Texas Woman's University, where she taught Music Therapy for nearly 30 years.

**Thomas Devereaux, A'77**, wrote a novel, *The Strongest Buck*, set in the southwest United States in 1886 and published by Pittsburgh-based Dorrance Publishing Co.

**Richard Esposito, B'77**, retired as Assistant Vice President of Student Financial Services from Duquesne University in May 2021 after serving for more than 27 years. His career in financial aid spanned a total of 43 years.

**Charles Lennox, L'78**, was promoted to Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer of Corning Natural Gas Holding Corporation.

## 1980s

**The Rev. Mark Eckman, A'81**, pastor of Resurrection Parish in Pittsburgh, was appointed by Pope Francis as an auxiliary bishop for the Diocese of Pittsburgh.

**Thomas Quinn, P'81**, CEO of WNY Impact Investment Fund since 2017, successfully completed the fund's Series 1 and opened Series 2 in early 2022.

**Paul Flaherty, B'82**, has been promoted to the newly created position of Chief Strategy Officer at Herculite Products Inc., responsible for the development and

implementation of the company's long-range strategic initiatives.

**Andrea Geraghty, L'83**, earned a spot on the top 10 2021 *Super Lawyers* List in Pennsylvania, a Thomson Reuters business rating service of outstanding lawyers across the nation.

**Annette (Kraisinger) Hostoffer, A'85**, published her first children's book, *Pittsburgh Dog & Frog*, a whimsical approach to helping kids to learn fun facts about Pittsburgh.

**Chris (Cassidy) Kormis, A'87**, launched her own business, Kormis Strategic Consulting, LLC., drawing from her 30-year career in higher education to offer her expertise on marketing and communications plans. She's working with fellow Duquesne University alumnus **Ed Grier, B'77**, who became dean of Santa Clara University's Leavey School of Business in 2021.

**W. Scott, L'87**, earned a spot on the top 10 2021 *Super Lawyers List in Pennsylvania*.

**Paula Witt, S'87**, joined the Association for Accessible Medicines as Senior Manager, State Government Affairs.

**Joseph Schaper, L'88**, has been selected for inclusion in the 2022 edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*, one of the legal profession's oldest and most respected peer review publications.

## 1990s

**William Caye, A'90, L'93**, was honored to be recommended, endorsed and nominated for Judge of Allegheny County Common Pleas Court on the general election ballot for Nov. 2, 2021.

**Eric Luttringer, B'93**, has been named Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of St. Clair Health.

**Michael Antone, L'94**, was announced as the newest addition to the law firm Nemphos Braue, LLC.

**Joseph Olsavsky, GS'94, GB'97**, shares his family's first-time experiences with a family pet and the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in the nonfiction book, *The Adventures of Cadet Cody*, released in May by Page Publishing. He currently serves as a West Point field force representative, encouraging youth to apply for an appointment to the military academy.

**Patricia Pritchard, A'94, GA'99**, the on-air host of Armstrong Cable's "The Butler Buzz" since July 2021, interviews Butler County community members and shares news about upcoming projects and events.

**Aaron Daniels, GA'95**, is now a Visiting Associate Teaching Professor at Northeastern University in Boston. In January, he edited and wrote four chapters in a volume from Routledge, *Dante and the Other: A Phenomenology of Love*, growing from his work at the Psychology and the Other conferences at Boston College.

**Sharon Perry, A'95, GE'96, GE'12**, was appointed Superintendent of the Conewago Valley School District in Oxford, Pa.

**Ali Kiboro, B'96**, has been named Chief Financial Officer of Quotient Limited, a commercial-stage diagnostics company.

**Sherri Breier McEwen, GS'96**, published a nonfiction book, *Washing Ourselves Sick: We Have Never Been So Clean, Yet So Unprepared*, about the everyday dangers of sanitizers and overcleaning in the attempt at a germ-free lifestyle. The book went to #18 on the Amazon best sellers list, #8 in immunology and #6 in short parenting reads.

## In MEMORIAM

**Sidney Dambrot, B'54**, passed away on Oct. 26, 2021, in Copley, Ohio, at age 90. A native of New York City and the father of current Duquesne head men's basketball coach Keith Dambrot, Sid was a standout performer for the Dukes at a time of national prominence. Duquesne finished fourth, ninth and fifth in the final Associated Press rankings during Dambrot's three seasons on the Bluff. Following graduation, Dambrot served in the U.S. Army and spent 35 years as a personnel manager for Ford Motor Company.

**Joseph Wilson, A'96**, has been named President of North Catholic High School in Cranberry Township, Pa.

**Diane Schaming Hupp, N'97, GN'05**, was appointed president of UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh. Hupp began her career at UPMC Children's 36 years ago as a volunteer. She served most recently in a dual role as chief nursing officer and vice president of Patient Care Services and vice president of Operations.

**Jan Jumet, J.D., L'97, GB'01**, founder and CEO of Jumet Financial, announced the grand opening of his national headquarters in Beaver Falls, Pa. Jumet and his team service more than 562 clients in 33 states.

**Brian Williams, B'97**, was appointed as Vice President and Controller of PPG.

## 2000s

**Julie Yelen, A'00**, has been named news director of WVIA, the PBS and NPR affiliate for northeastern and central Pennsylvania.

**Rev. Alain Mayama, GA'00, GA'07**, was elected Superior General of the Spiritan Congregation, the founders and sponsors of Duquesne University. The Superior General is the highest position of authority within the Congregation. He is the first African Spiritan to hold the position.

**Eric Starkowicz, A'00**, is the new Executive Director of the Ohio Valley Construction Employers Council in Wheeling, W.Va.

**Matthew Fajt, GB'01**, was named Line Manager for Physical Test Equipment by Paul N. Gardner Co. in conjunction with BYK-Gardner USA.

**Frank Kosir, L'01**, earned a spot on the top 10 2021 *Super Lawyers* List in Pennsylvania.

**Jennifer McDonough, L'01**, was named Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary of Nordson Corporation.

**Deacon Adam Perza, L'02**, was ordained by Most Rev. William Koenig, Bishop of the Diocese of Wilmington, on Aug. 7, 2021. Perza is assigned to ministry at St. Benedict Parish in Caroline County, Md., and is a partner at the law office of May & Perza, P.A. in Dover, Del.

**Christine (Brennan) Cook, GE'04**, was honored as Milton Hershey School's 2021 Alumna of the Year. Milton Hershey School is a pre-K through 12th grade residential school.

**Elisabeth Slater, L'04**, was promoted to Senior Vice President and Senior Trust Officer at Security National Trust Company.

**Stacy Wallace, L'04**, was welcomed by Pennsylvania's Commonwealth Court as its newest judge. She was sworn-in by the Hon. P. Kevin Brobson, Justice of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania.

## In MEMORIAM

**The Hon. Gustave Diamond, L'56**, died on Oct. 30, 2021, in McMurray, Pa. at age 93. Diamond attended Duke University on a football scholarship, served in the U.S. Navy and worked at Jones & Laughlin Steel before beginning night classes at Duquesne's School of Law. After graduation, he clerked with a federal judge and served as United States Attorney for Western Pennsylvania. President Jimmy Carter appointed Diamond to the federal district court for Western Pennsylvania in 1978. He retired from the bench in 2017. Diamond was a member of the inaugural Century Club of Distinguished Duquesne Alumni class in 1978.

**Nicole Sloane, L'05**, a criminal defense attorney, has been named Erie County Public Defender.

**Sara Traeger, E'05, GE'06**, was the recipient of the 2021 GIBSON Award in Education. She received her award at the Josh Gibson Foundation Gala on Oct. 30, 2021.

**Myrna Doumit, GN'06**, received a 2021 Heroines of Health Award from the Women in Global Health (WGH) Organization.

**Whitney Grespin, A'06**, has been awarded a Postdoctoral Research position at the U.S. Air Force Academy's Institute for Future Conflict. Grespin completed his Ph.D. at King's College London in June 2021. He teaches and conducts research in the departments of Military, Strategic Studies and Behavioral Sciences.

**Suzanne Costanzo Lachut, A'06, GA'08**, was elected Chair of the Board of Directors of the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank.

**Barbara Nightingale, GS'06**, a McKeesport, Pa., physician, has been named deputy director of clinical services for the Allegheny County Health Department. Nightingale oversees clinics for tuberculosis, immunization, sexually transmitted diseases and HIV, as well as dental services and the health department's emergency preparedness program.

**Jennifer Webster, Esq., A'06**, has been included in *Marquis Who's Who*, selected on factors such as position, noteworthy accomplishments, visibility and prominence in a field.

**Ami Bavishi, S'07**, joined Rallybio Corporation as the company's Head of Investor Relations and Corporate Communications.

**Bryan Crable, Ph.D., GS'07**, an Assistant Professor of Biology at The University of Scranton, was awarded a National Science Foundation grant for a two-year study of the impact of plastic debris on the physiology of freshwater microorganisms in Lake Lacawac.

**Kevin Edwards, B'07**, was promoted to Senior Vice President at Global Skills X-Change, where he is elevating brand awareness and supporting growth strategies by leading the firm's marketing, communications and brand development.

**Kelly Geer, L'07**, has been promoted to MD Legal Compliance AMEA at FedEx. She has relocated to Singapore and is responsible for legal compliance in the AMEA region spanning 103 countries, with compliance team members based in Singapore and India.

**Tania Jarjur, B'07**, General Counsel of Yellow Door Energy, was named Woman in Solar of the Year by the Middle East Energy Industry Association at the World Future Energy Summit in Abu Dhabi, UAE.

**Shane Sims, GA'07**, has been named Chief Executive Officer of Kivu Consulting, a leading provider of cybersecurity and forensic services to organizations worldwide.

**Jamie Dunlap Coates DPT, GHS'08**, was awarded the professional designation of

## In MEMORIAM

**Robert E. Irr, Sr., B'47**, passed away on Aug. 28, 2021 in Winter Springs, Fla. at age 98. After serving in the Army following graduation, Irr co-founded the the Eiben and Irr discount department store chain, a familiar western Pennsylvania fixture in the 1950s and 1960s. After leaving the retail business in 1969, Irr joined the Diocese of Pittsburgh, where he reorganized the finance and administrative operations, serving under four bishops before his retirement in 1989. Irr was a member of the University's Board of Directors, a co-founder of the Duquesne Society and a 1978 charter member of the Century Club of Distinguished Duquesne Alumni.

board-certified clinical specialist in geriatric physical therapy by the American Board of Physical Therapy Specialties of the American Physical Therapy Association. Coates currently serves as the Director of Clinical Education and Assistant Professor in the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program at Seton Hill University.

**Nathaniel Sann, GN'09**, was named the 12th President of The American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery Integrated Health Section. Sann is a family nurse practitioner at Advanced Surgical Partners of Virginia.

## 2010s

**Amanda Daquelente, L'10**, was recognized on *The Best Lawyers in America 2022*, "Ones to Watch" List.

**Patrick Sebastiano, B'10**, recently joined the Estates, Trusts and Probate Litigation team at Reminger Co., LPA.

**Rabee El-Jaouhari, GA'12**, received an AV rating from Martindale-Hubbell, a preeminent peer review rating recognizing lawyers for their legal ability and ethical standards for over 100 years. He is an associate attorney based in the Raleigh, N.C., office of Cranfull Sumner, LLP.

**Mark McNaughton, S'12, A'12**, completed his residency in Emergency Medicine at Wellspan York Hospital. In June, he earned the Resident Educator of the Year Award, as well as the highest score on his medical boards among his residency class. He will continue as an emergency room physician at

UPMC in Carlisle, Harrisburg and Mechanicsburg, Pa.

**Annette Stithem, GA'12**, enjoyed 20-plus years in real estate and owned her own company for the past three years. Both of her children and their spouses now live in Nashville, and she has two beautiful grandchildren. Her son owns Proper Sake, a local sake brewery; his wife is with Brookdale Senior Living corporate offices. Her daughter is charge nurse in the BMT Outpatient center of Vanderbilt Medical Center; and her husband works with individuals with special needs through Project Search.

**Cara Murphy, Esq., L'13**, has been elected to the Muhlenberg College Alumni Board. She is Counsel with Santomassimo Davis LLP in Parsippany, N.J., and concentrates her practice in complex commercial litigation.

**Mary Riedy, GP'13**, was named the first Hempling McGlynn Endowed Chair at the University at Buffalo. She works to address rare genetic pediatric disorders through clinical pharmacy.

**Talia Kirkland, A'14, GA'15**, a Penn Hills native, returned home to Pittsburgh to join WPXI-TV's news team after working at WHP-TV in Harrisburg as a general assignment reporter, and as a multimedia reporter for WTXF-TV in Philadelphia and WDTV-TV in Clarksburg, W.Va.

**Alexis McGann, A'14, L'16**, was recognized on *The Best Lawyers in America 2022* "Ones to Watch" List.

**Daniel Sutton, GB'14**, was named manager for Value Added Products

## In MEMORIAM

**Thomas M. Reich, Esq., L'65**, died on July 2, 2021, in Los Angeles, Calif. At age 82. Reich was one of the pioneers of sports agency law, signing his first major client—Pirates pitcher Dock Ellis—in 1970. Reich represented a stellar roster of baseball players from the Pirates and other major league teams during a turbulent era when ballplayers gained free agency, salaries rose rapidly and labor strife emerged. Later expanding his representation into other sports, he negotiated on behalf of Penguins superstar Mario Lemieux. Reich was inducted into the Century Club of Distinguished Duquesne Alumni in 1989.

**Charles L. Winek, Ph.D., P'57, GP'59**, of Allison Park, Pa., died on Dec. 26, 2021, at the age of 85. Winek earned his doctoral degree at the Ohio State University and worked as a toxicologist for Procter & Gamble, returning to Pittsburgh in 1966 as director and chief toxicologist for Allegheny County's crime laboratories. Recognized as a national pioneer in forensic toxicology, Winek was a beloved professor in Duquesne's School of Pharmacy and operated a private criminalistics lab for more than 40 years. Winek was inducted as a member of Duquesne's inaugural Century Club of Distinguished Duquesne Alumni class in 1978.

at Vitro Architectural Glass and serves as a liaison between R&D, field teams and operations, customers and end-users. He coordinates product launches for Vitro's newest offerings, beginning with VacuMax Vacuum Insulating Glass.

**Rev. Christopher Pujol, A'16**, was ordained to the transitional Diaconate by Bishop Larry Kulick in Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Greensburg, Pa.

**Rachael Ritz, S'16**, graduated from Midwestern University College of Veterinary Medicine. She started her career as an associate veterinarian at WestSide Veterinary Hospital in Kingston, Pa.

**Casey Black, A'17, L'21**, recently passed the Pennsylvania bar exam and joined Robert Peirce & Associates, P.C., in Pittsburgh as an associate attorney.

**Bryce Walat, A'17, GA'19**, started a position as a Senior Technical Writer with Carnegie Mellon University's Software Engineering Institute.

**Emily Sanchez-Parodi, A'17, L'20**, was appointed as County Solicitor by Shenango school directors.

**Darian Villalobos, A'17**, was promoted to Senior Media Strategist at Infinity Marketing, a fully integrated marketing agency in upstate New York.

**Rev. Peter Mary Ojobo Emmanuel, GE'19**, was ordained on Aug. 14, 2021.

## 2020s

**Devon Schoonover, L'20**, has joined Stock and Leader, Attorneys at Law, as an associate in the Real Estate law group.

**Natalie Shields, S'20**, is enrolled at Queen Mary University of London working on her master's degree in Clinical Drug Development. She was recently offered a fully funded Ph.D. position in immunology.

**Katherine Hermann, L'21**, joined Steptoe & Johnson, PLLC, as an associate attorney.

**Tori Kocsis, HS'21**, completed her training in Conemaugh Health System's Mentoring in Medicine Program. The program features a 10-week summer experience for undergraduate students interested in pursuing their medical education to become physicians.

## In MEMORIAM

**Gene Alden Riley, Ph.D., P'52**, passed away on Dec. 23, 2021. After serving as an officer in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War and earning his Ph.D. at Case Western Reserve University, Riley returned to his alma mater as a professor of pharmacology in 1966. He remained on the Duquesne faculty for 29 years, retiring in 1995. Riley founded Duquesne's chapter of the Kappa Psi national pharmacy fraternity.



Check out [myduquesne.duq.edu/events](https://myduquesne.duq.edu/events) for more information on upcoming virtual and in-person events that will be scheduled. Alumni also can visit [duq.edu/alumni](https://duq.edu/alumni) for the latest details on what's happening at Duquesne, events, and how to get involved and stay connected.

# DUKESCONNECT

The Office of Career Development, in partnership with the Office of Alumni Engagement, is excited to offer our DukesConnect platform. This online community provides the platform for alumni who wish to serve as mentors for alumni and students, or wish to find a mentor themselves. You can register for the platform using your personal email or LinkedIn account.



SCAN TO CONNECT

## Marriages

**Kimberly Litvin, B'09, and Andrew Litvin, A'07**, were married on Oct. 31, 2021, in Washington, D.C.

**Emily (Godshalk) Paisley, GP'09**, married Kevin Paisley on May 29, 2021, in Columbus, Ohio.

**Katelin Lambert, A'11**, married **Jason Hunt, BA'11**, on Aug. 28, 2021, in Chaumont, N.Y.

**Cara Murphy, Esq., L'13**, and Michael L. Fialkoff, Esq. (University of Michigan BA'11 and L'15) were married on Oct. 17, 2021, in Asbury Park, N.J.

**Noelle (Lelakus) McClellan, GN'17**, married Matthew McClellan on Feb. 20, 2021.

**Dr. Yoelit Lipinsky, GA'21**, married Ariel Greene on Oct. 17, 2021, in Toronto, Canada.

## New Arrivals

**Jennifer (Henk) Herrig, B'08**, and her husband, Brian, announced the birth of their son, Nolan Philip, on July 7, 2021.

**Megan Bosko Panayi, B'08**, and her husband, Evan, welcomed Nikolas (Niko) on July 9, 2021.

**Angela Kursey, S'09**, and her husband, Adam, had a baby girl, Avery Grace, on Sept. 17, 2021.

**Juliane Murphy Brumbaugh, S'10, GS'11 and Aaron Brumbaugh, B'13**, welcomed Edith "Edie" Rose Brumbaugh on January 7, 2021.

## In Memoriam

It is with deep sadness that we list the following alumni and friends who recently passed away. This list is provided through Duquesne's Advancement Services office and includes deaths reported to us between June 19, 2021, and Jan. 31, 2022. If you have information about an alumnus or friend who is not listed, please contact the Office of Alumni Engagement at 412.396.6209 or [alumnionline@duq.edu](mailto:alumnionline@duq.edu).

### Deceased Alumni from June 19, 2021-Jan. 31, 2022

Sanford Danovitz, B'43  
 Sr. M. Clement Pavlik, N'43  
 Lorraine M. McArdle, N'45  
 Virginia M. Philbin, E'45  
 Jean F. Beatty, N'47  
 Robert E. Irr, B'47  
 Edward P. Battle, B'48, GB'50  
 Stephen K. Bench, M'49, GM'56  
 John J. States, A'49  
 Lt. Col. Vincent Tocci, USAF, Ret., S'49, GE'54

Francis P. Corbett, A'50  
 Vincent L. DiRicco, A'50  
 Elwood W. Krahn, E'50  
 Carol Pavlakovich, E'50  
 Kathleen T. Ruefle, A'50  
 Guy P. Sutton, P'50  
 Joseph J. Virostek, B'50  
 John F. Wilt, A'50  
 Edward M. Chekan, B'51  
 Joseph L. Gurecka, Sr., B'51  
 William N. Kohler, E'51, GE'56  
 Dr. Gilbert J. Mains, S'51  
 Joseph M. Mattinat, B'51  
 Michael G. Repasky, A'51

Edward J. Sokulski, E'51  
 Rev. Igor R. Soroka, M'51  
 Philip L. Stack, A'51  
 Rev. Myron M. Badnerosky, A'52  
 Peter E. Blystone, Esq., L'52  
 James Q. Haney, B'52  
 Marilyn Herron, E'52  
 Gene A. Riley, Ph.D., P'52  
 Daniel G. Wynn, B'52  
 Frank T. Anania, A'53  
 John J. Angel, B'53  
 Timothy M. Curran, B'53  
 Robert P. Hindman, B'53  
 Dr. William S. Knapic, P'53  
 Joseph L. Marchione, A'53  
 Sr. M. Catherine Paff, OSF, E'53  
 James W. Powers, B'53  
 Beatrice K. Schmidt, A'53  
 James E. Ashbaugh, B'54  
 Francis W. Balombiny, E'54, GE'58  
 Sid Dambrot, B'54  
 Rev. Joseph Jugan, A'54  
 Gertrude U. Kugler, M'54  
 Sandra G. Meili, E'54  
 Rev. Gregory Ofiesh, A'54  
 Edward F. Schcosky, E'54  
 Robert A. Seitz, B'54

Joseph A. Brennan, Jr., A'55  
 Dr. Paul W. Dishart, S'55  
 Thomas F. Elias, P'55  
 Peter H. Kohonen, M'55  
 Rosemary F. Morrissey, A'55  
 Paul D. Palmer, B'55  
 LTC W.D. Vergot, USA (Ret) USX, A'55  
 The Hon. Gustave Diamond, L'56  
 Rose G. Ferraro, GE'56  
 Jacquelyn C. Harvey, M'51, GM'56  
 Dolores A. Lovin, P'56  
 Lois R. McAuliffe, E'56  
 Donald J. Pipko, D.D.S., S'56  
 Rev. Elmer A. Kacinko, A'57  
 Lois W. Kiselica, E'57, GE'60  
 Bernadette S. Murcko, E'57  
 Daniel M. Philbin, M.D., P'57  
 Dr. Charles L. Winek, P'57  
 John D. Boncella, B'58  
 Allan B. Cook, E'58, GE'63  
 Jean A. Lenart, E'58, GE'60  
 Angelo A. Perrotta, S'58  
 John Adolphe Slagle, E'58  
 Adrian A. Thomas, P'58  
 Thomas A. Brown, B'59  
 Doreen E. Franceschini, M'59

## In MEMORIAM

**Dr. Ruth G. Biro** passed away Dec. 12, 2021 in Butler County, Pa., at age 81. Biro earned her B.A. at Chatham College and an M.L.S. and Ph.D. from the University of Pittsburgh. She served Duquesne University for 47 years as a reference librarian and as a professor in the School of Education, where she taught library science courses, Children's and Adolescent Literature, Cultural Diversity, Intercultural Education, Multicultural and International Literature, Perspectives on the Holocaust, and doctoral courses.

Philip D. Henry, E'59  
 Raymond W. Lemaster, GE'59  
 Rev. C. Patrick Mulrooney, P'59  
 Joseph J. Murray, B'59  
 Robert P. Shavor, A'59  
 Sr. Margaret M. Wagner, Cdp, E'59  
 Paul W. Gallagher, B'60  
 Henry F. Kasper, B'60  
 Sr. Rose Immaculate McBreen, GE'60  
 Ronald L. McCaffrey, B'60  
 Robert H. Mrozinski, A'60  
 Ronald H. Scott, GE'60  
 Roberta M. Shearson, A'60  
 Lillian M. Terreri, E'60  
 Sr. Louise Angelini, CDP, E'61, GE'70  
 Selma W. Baker, A'61  
 Robert W. Beuley, B'61  
 Rev. George A. Bujnak, A'61  
 Hance H. Huston, Jr., GE'61  
 Theodore Kisiel, Ph.D., GA'61, GA'62  
 Rev. John Kovach, A'61  
 Richard A. Mellick, Sr., E'61  
 Sr. Lucille M. Qualters, CDP, E'61  
 Sr. Aquinas Tolusciak, Csfm, GE'61  
 Sheila A. Germusa, E'62, GE'93  
 Richard W. Pratkanis, P'62  
 Carol G. Reynolds, E'62  
 Sr. Myra Rodgers, M'62, GM'66  
 Carl T. Samson, B'62  
 Juanita M. Sokolowski, M'61, GM'62  
 Robert P. Spine, B'62  
 Sally Mrvos, Esq., L'62  
 Robert T. Dansak, GE'63  
 Alice H. Dukich, GE'63  
 William J. Foley, B'63  
 Thomas Kemper, A'63  
 Ronald S. Kochman, Ph.D., E'63, GE'65  
 Sr. Jean Louise McIntyre, E'63, GE'70  
 Dale E. Oesterling, GE'63  
 Michael J. Pulice, Sr., E'63

John F. Stangl, B'63  
 Charles J. Swick, Esq., L'63  
 Margaret Bittner, E'64  
 Sr. M. Raymunda Brooks, OP, GA'64  
 Mary Felicia Iski, E'64, GE'69  
 Robert C. Jones, D.M.A., GM'64  
 Ernest J. Kociban, E'64  
 Sr. Patricia Milko, CDP, E'64, GE'72  
 Fred W. Montanari, GB'64  
 Owen R. Stanley, GB'64  
 Mary Ann Stickle, N'64, GE'66  
 Sr. Anne E. Arnold, CDP, E'65, GE'73  
 Gerald J. Derbish, A'65  
 Dr. Mary F. Gainer, N'65, GE'68  
 Joan H. Grady, N'65  
 James R. Hostert, A'65  
 Patricia A. Jacklitch, E'65  
 Maryann B. Kreutzer, E'65  
 Thomas M. Reich, Esq., L'65  
 Thomas W. Smith, Esq., A'65, L'68  
 Sr. M. Julia Zilka, VSC, E'65, GE'70  
 William R. Judd, E'66  
 Dr. Robert C. Lieb, B'66  
 Joyce S. Hoffman, E'66, GE'72  
 Joan A. Barry-Lang, A'67  
 Charles J. Beuley, B'67  
 R. Everett Burns, B'67  
 Gerard A. Como, A'67  
 Sr. Margaret Blanch Haring, RSM, GE'67  
 Joan M. Lazzari, GE'67  
 Thomas P. Ravis, Esq., L'67  
 Sr. Marietta Russell, MHSH, GA'67  
 James R. Sanderson, GE'67  
 John A. Volpe, B'67  
 Thomas S. Craig, B'68  
 Marie F. Devlin, E'68  
 David J. Elash, USA, A'68, GE'73  
 Dr. James S. McKeown, GA'68  
 John A. Palus, A'68  
 John M. Revicky, Jr., A'68  
 Alexandra C. Trzcinski, N'68

Henry G. Barr, Esq., L'69  
 John J. Cherry, A'69, GE'73  
 Anna M. Eltschlager, GE'69  
 J. David Jura, M'69, GE'72  
 Louis F. Kalinowsky, M'69, GM'72  
 Linda C. March, A'69  
 Carl G. McVicker, GM'69  
 Richard R. Meister, A'69, GE'71  
 Stephen J. Prelewicz, A'69  
 Sr. Mary Michel Rodgers, Op, GA'69  
 James R. Baird, A'70  
 Patrick L. Bourgeois, Ph.D., GA'70  
 Basil M. Degrazia, Jr., Esq., L'70  
 Steven J. Delcorso, B'70  
 Leonore M. Kotwicki, A'70  
 Raymond F. Myers, B'70, GB'75  
 David J. Di Tommaso, B'71  
 Michael Ferchak, A'71  
 Joseph W. Gulaskey, B'71  
 Mary Ellen Keough, S'71  
 Eugene A. McGuinness, A'71,  
 Patricia M. Mocello, GE'71  
 John R. Oshaka, Ed.D., E'71, GE'77  
 Vincent J. Senko, Esq., A'71, L'74  
 Barry A. Thomas, A'71  
 Robert J. Trageser, Esq., L'71  
 Leonard L. Frauen, GB'72  
 Richard L. Hamilton, M'72  
 Charles V. Smith III, GA'72  
 Benton G. Weimer, GB'72  
 Rev. Ha Kyung C. Kim, Ph.D., GA'65, P'73  
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 John P. Hartley, Esq., L'86  
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 Roger M. Bould, Esq., L'89

### Submit Alumni Updates or a Photo

*Class Notes, online and in print, are an opportunity for alumni to share personal and professional news and accomplishments. Members of our alumni community are invited log into [www.myduquesne.du.edu/alumninews](http://www.myduquesne.du.edu/alumninews) to tell us and others about a recent job change, promotion, award, publication, marriage, new family member, reunion or anniversary.*

*Submissions are subject to editing for clarity and length. All submissions will be available online; however, space limitations prohibit us from including all alumni updates in our magazine.*

## In MEMORIAM

**Nicholas J. Hanna, Ph.D.**, died in Pittsburgh on Oct. 25, 2021, at age 88. Hanna earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from Penn State University and his doctorate at Ohio University. He joined the counselor education faculty in Duquesne's School of Education in 1970 and served as a teacher and mentor to thousands of students until his retirement in 2011. He was an active and influential leader in professional counseling organizations and a recipient of numerous honors, including the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Pennsylvania Counselors Association. Known for his faith and love of poetry, Hanna published an acclaimed book of reflections on the Prayer of St. Francis.

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 Scott Laird, GA'12  
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 Carrie A. Rafuse, A'19  
 Trista M. Cottrill, Pharm.D., GP'20

**Deceased Friends from June 19, 2021-Jan. 31, 2022**

Arlene M. Bick  
 Dr. Ruth G. Biro  
 Edward Carr  
 Jean Chiappetta  
 The Hon. Maurice B. Cohill, Jr.  
 Charles Conlogue  
 Gabriel J. DeSalvo  
 Rebecca Donatucci  
 Robert J. Fantazier  
 Tommaso Floro  
 Mary Lou Grasser  
 Marcia M. Gumberg  
 Nicholas J. Hanna, Ph.D.

Richard Holan  
 Patricia E. Hrosik  
 The Hon. Justin M. Johnson  
 Vlada M. Kohane  
 Conway L. Lackman, Ph.D.  
 Philip J. Lichtenfels  
 Mary Lee Linsenmayer  
 Linda A. Mann  
 Dr. Elaine Patricia-Mary McGivern  
 Rev. Dr. Philip H. Pfatteicher  
 Ronald M. Ponton  
 John G. Rangos, Sr.  
 C. Ruth Ryan  
 Robert A. Theleen  
 Velma Uricchio  
 Clem Wandrisco



# HOMECOMING

## & FAMILY WEEKEND 2022

**October 7-9**

Two of Duquesne's signature events will be packed into three big days as Homecoming and Family Weekend are combined for 2022. Save the dates for Oct. 7-9 and make plans to join alumni, students, parents, friends, faculty and staff in a vibrant celebration of the Duquesne community.

Check [duq.edu/homecoming](http://duq.edu/homecoming) regularly for more details and the latest updates.





## Do you know a high-school sophomore, junior or senior who is ready for **BIGGER GOALS?**

At Duquesne it's our joy to help students dig into what they're good at and discover why it's good for the world.

As an alum, are you ready to pay forward the trust, patience and sense of possibility that you gained at Duquesne?

### **REFER A STUDENT.**

We promise our students a horizon-expanding education that's exactly what they need and more than they could have ever imagined.

Contact us at [admissions@duq.edu](mailto:admissions@duq.edu) to get your student started. Be sure to include Student Referral in the subject line. Or, call us at **412-396-6222** to speak to an admissions rep or schedule a visit to campus.

