

Duquesne

UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

SPRING 2023

A Life-long Connection

DUQUESNE ALUM SHARES INSPIRATION

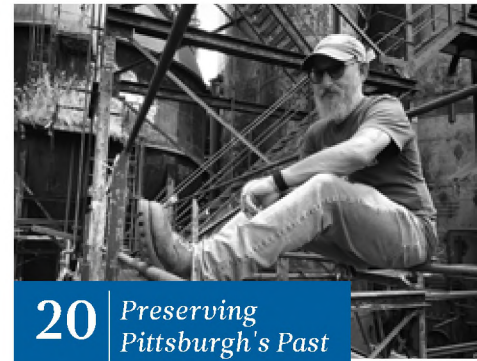


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Check out new *Duquesne University Magazine* videos at duq.edu/magazine highlighting: the College of Medicine construction and transfer student Roberto Laporte.

Thoughts from the President

Community engagement has been central to Duquesne's identity since our founding. The early Spiritan priests were determined to serve those in need—particularly the marginalized in society—providing educational opportunities to recent immigrants and their families, so they could elevate themselves and future generations. On the pages of this magazine, you'll discover how the spirit of service remains at the heart of everything we do. The cover story highlights alumni and students—many pursuing degrees in one of the area's longest-running public history graduate programs—who work with Rivers of Steel to preserve and promote our region's rich industrial legacy. You'll read of our deep commitment to the health and wellbeing of individuals in our city and region, through the launch of our College of Osteopathic Medicine, which recently received generous Congressional funding, and through our Fritzky Family Integrative Health Summit, which covered crucial issues like health equity, women's health and healthy aging.

You'll also see how our graduates continue the Duquesne tradition, using their hard-earned degrees to serve God by serving others, in keeping with our historic mission. Like Dick Letrent, class of 1958, who used his pharmacy degree to build Letrent Pharmacy in Bedford, Pa.—a pillar of that small town for more than 50 years. Our graduates go out into the community and "treat people the way you would treat your mother," as Dick puts it. That kind of compassion is something we're intent on instilling, in all of our academic offerings, and through everything we do here at Duquesne.

Our faculty are determined to connect students with the needs of others—like Dr. Rick McCown, Director of the doctoral program in Educational Leadership, whose students partner with Amachi Pittsburgh, a nonprofit that serves Allegheny County youth who experience parental incarceration. Or Dr. James Purdy, director of the Duquesne University Writing Center, who launched the Community Writing Center in the city's Hill District neighborhood, which, among other things, has secured grant funding for Refuge for Women Pittsburgh, a nonprofit offering safe housing for women who have been victims of sex trafficking.

I hope you'll be inspired by the stories of men and women who continue to advance our historic Spiritan mission. The members of our tight-knit Duquesne University community continue to lead the way with compassion and a deep commitment to changing lives in our city, our region, and around the world. In that way, our graduates continue to write the history of this special institution of higher education on the Bluff, just as our founders had envisioned. ♦

Sincerely,

Ken Gormley

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.

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

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Entrepreneurship student leverages Duquesne education to grow her business



Many Healthy Returns

USING DUQUESNE'S ENDOWMENT TO BENEFIT STUDENTS—
AND THE COMMUNITIES WHERE THEY WILL WORK



By Gabriel Welsch

Last September, eminent physician and orthopedic surgeon Dr. Vonda Wright asked, in an editorial in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, “Pittsburgh is a powerful health care city, but are we a healthy city?”

Two days later, scores of people gathered in the Power Center ballroom, where floor-to-ceiling glass let physicians and students, pharmacists and nurses overlook Pittsburgh’s iconic vistas. They discussed how to answer Wright’s question with an emphatic yes.

A local and national figure in medicine, Wright gave the opening talk, setting the tone for a spirited three days of learning together during the first annual Fritzky Family Integrative Health Summit.

Supported by an endowment created by alums Ed and Karen Fritzky, the summit annually will convene thought leaders and healthcare experts across disciplines to discuss integrative health.

The 2022 summit featured sessions covering healthy aging, transforming models of care, health equity, music therapy and more led one attendee to note, “the [summit] challenged me personally, as a new faculty member and new to the community of Pittsburgh, to blossom were we are planted . . . ensuring that we are working towards better health and well-being for all, starting here in Pittsburgh.”

The professionals left energized, understanding that achieving lofty goals will take work. And it will take steady, sustained attention.

LONG-TERM IMPACT

Steady, sustained attention describes the essence of a new role that alumnus Matthew Rozyczka, B’01, will play. Rozyczka stepped into the position of chief investment officer at Duquesne in early 2022. His role? Manage the roughly \$550 million University endowment.

Duquesne’s endowment is an investment pool comprising hundreds of individual endowment funds earmarked for a variety of purposes. While each fund is distinct, they are commingled for investment purposes and managed similar to how a mutual fund is managed. Alumni, friends, corporations and charitable foundations contribute donations, with numerous gifts to the endowment occurring through the IGNITE campaign.

Duquesne's endowment will help thousands of people breathe easier, live longer, exercise more often, feel less stress and raise healthier families...



The endowment supports faculty chairs like the one held by Jennifer Padden Elliott. In her role as the Inaugural Fritzky Family Chair in Integrative Health, Elliott amplifies the University's holistic health philosophy and advances the idea that the medical practitioner and patient are partners not only in healing but also in prevention and general wellbeing.



Ed (pictured above) and Karen Fritzky established the new chair at Duquesne out of their strong desire to support the University's philosophies of health care as well as their extensive knowledge and personal expertise related to health care.

By its nature, the endowment operates as a perpetual pool of capital. As such, managing the endowment employs a diversified, global and equity-oriented approach. While Rozyczka's goal is to support the University's needs over time, the true potential of his work is perhaps best considered through the impact of the integrative health summit described above.

The Fritzky summit will recur annually, providing students and medical professionals ways to integrate their work and provide comprehensive health care to an array of people. The organizer, Jennifer Padden Elliott, is the Inaugural Fritzky Family Endowed Chair in Integrative Health. Longtime Duquesne supporters Ed and Karen Fritzky created an endowment that funds the chair and the summit. By endowing it, they intend that they last well into the future.

The real impact goes further. With some quick non-investment math, consider this: 165 people attended the first summit, of whom roughly 150 were headed into medicine or health professions. They each may go on to decades-long careers, seeing dozens of patients a week—the variables are many but the long tail suggests, in its way, the endowment will help thousands of people breathe easier, live longer, exercise more often, feel less stress and raise healthier families, among other benefits.

For Rozyczka, knowing his work helps perpetuate the mission of the University sparks his enthusiasm.

MEET MATT

How will the Fritzky Chair and its related health summit last so long? Endowments have spending policies that dictate how much can be spent in a given year. Designed to balance the need to support operations with the goal of preserving purchasing power over time, the spending policy looks a lot like a retirement account—spend a little each year and keep the bulk of the invested money working for you.



Matthew Rozyczka, B'01

For Rozyczka, knowing his work helps perpetuate the mission of the University sparks his enthusiasm. While forging best-in-class investment relationships and allocating capital long-term is a highlight for Rozyczka, it is

crucial for Duquesne's impact. Whether the endowment supports scholarships that make a Duquesne education accessible for students or teaching that one day may literally mean the difference between life and death, Rozyczka maximizes returns in support of bigger goals.

The first to hold his job, Rozyczka replaces firms the University had hired to manage the endowment. Many universities find it more efficient to outsource asset management. They use specialized firms—much the same way they hire bookstore companies, food service managers and other services that have little to do directly with educating.

But with the endowment growing rapidly in recent years, Duquesne reached a point where University leaders could make an advantageous move: replace the fee-based consultant with the new investment office Rozyczka leads.

"With a firm, your consultant may be working on a dozen different endowments," Rozyczka said. "Being in-house, I look only at ours. A focus on long-term investment relationships and decisions matters most—and will accrue to Duquesne's long-term benefit."

Rozyczka arrives with a great network and the right chops, his last post being managing director of The Dietrich Foundation, a Pittsburgh-based charitable trust. Rozyczka helped build that foundation's policies, personnel and portfolio. At the time he left, he managed a portfolio valued at around \$1.6 billion.

"I have been blessed to be a part of the Dietrich story and success. Working for an institution that benefits the community in which my family lives is a key driver for me," said Rozyczka. "My undergraduate alma mater's decision to seek a leader for its investment function offers a similar but distinct mission—one I enthusiastically embrace and endorse."

Rozyczka's other previous roles include senior portfolio manager at Mellon Capital Management and analyst roles at the Federal Reserve and Federated Investors.

"Our goal is clear and far-reaching: successfully grow endowment operations and generate enduring financial returns to support the mission," Rozyczka said.

Because the mission itself is so focused on serving others, Rozyczka's goals are far-reaching indeed. ♦



The Fritzky Family Integrated Health Summit gave attendees important insight into the future of integrated health and the opportunities that lie ahead.



For the Letrents, Duquesne is a Family Affair

By Ken Walters



The Letrent family (front L-R) Mary Letrent; Connie Letrent Lamb; Connie Letrent; (back L-R) Bill Letrent; Richard Letrent; Dick Letrent and Steve Letrent. All of them are Duquesne alumni.

When Richard “Dick” Letrent, P’58, graduated from Duquesne in 1958, he had no idea how many times he and his wife Connie (Dzmura), P’58, would return to the Bluff. Five children and six grandchildren later, they still find themselves drawn to the University where their career paths started.

“We are all Duquesne proud,” said the 87-year-old Letrent, who retired in 2022 after operating his own pharmacy in Bedford, Pa., for 50 years. “We all received a great education there and met so many wonderful people along the way.”

The five Letrent children—Richard, A’82; Bill, A’83; Connie (Letrent) Lamb, P’87; Steve, P’91; and, Mary, E’91; P’98—are all Duquesne alumni, and Michael Lamb, Connie’s son, is majoring in political science at the University.

COMMITMENT TO FAITH, FAMILY AND COMMUNITY

If you ask what brought them all to Duquesne, the senior Letrent will tell you the University’s commitment to faith, family and community played a major role.

“Duquesne’s tradition as a Catholic university was very important to us,” he said. “Faith has played an essential role in our lives, both personally and professionally. We feel very fortunate that all of our children are still practicing Catholics, and believe Duquesne helped reinforce that faith.”

The University also reinforced the value of hard work and strong character, he said.

“My freshman year, first week, I had a course with Dean (Hugh) Muldoon, who was the founding dean of the pharmacy school,” Letrent said. “He insisted we be professional, right down to the dress code. Ladies wear blouses up to the neck, men wear shirts and ties. He told us we could leave the class if we didn’t like his rules. But when it came time to take our state boards, we scored very well and were well prepared for a lifetime of practicing pharmacy.”

After earning his degree, Letrent began working for Ickes Drugstore in Bedford in 1958 before renting a small place and opening Letrent’s Pharmacy in 1972. His wife Connie, who finished second in her pharmacy class, worked as a pharmacist at the Bedford Memorial Hospital.

Letrent’s Pharmacy soon became a staple in the community—a place not only where people could pick

up a prescription and receive professional advice, but also various sundries, pleasant conversations and a sense of community.

“I really miss my customers and employees,” Letrent said. “Even though it was time to retire, closing the store broke my heart. It’s very special when you get to know and serve four generations of a family by name. And we were so fortunate to have such wonderful and dedicated employees—some who worked with us for over 30 years.”

Creating that sort of professional and personal success was rooted early in Dick and Connie Letrent’s lives, in part thanks to lessons learned while students at Duquesne.

DRIVEN BY COMPASSION AND EMPATHY

“One thing I learned was that when you interact with people, you shouldn’t treat them the way you would want to be treated,” he said. “You should treat them the way you would treat *your mother*. I found that always worked.”

As a pharmacist in a small town, Letrent also knew that discretion would be an important part of the job. As a trusted medical professional, he understood the sanctity of the provider-patient relationship.

“Long before HIPAA laws, I would tell my employees that

they might hear sensitive conversations in the pharmacy,” he said. “I told them that whatever they heard or saw in the pharmacy, it needed to stay in the pharmacy and never be discussed outside of it. It was important to have and maintain the trust of our patients.”

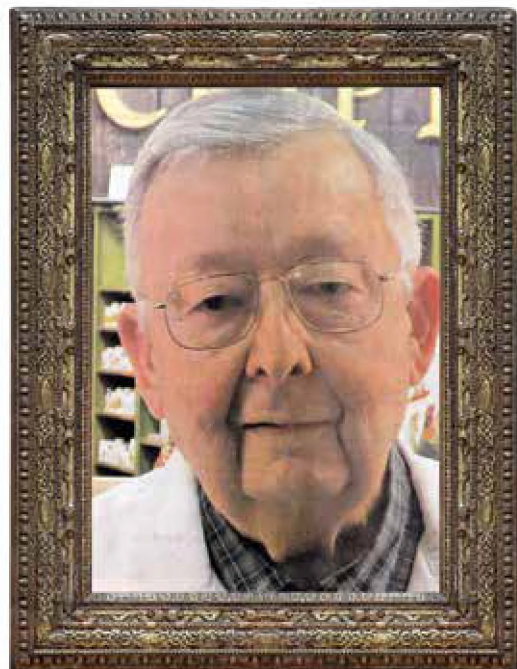
It was a strategy that worked for five decades and made Letrent’s Pharmacy a destination for Bedford citizens. The *Bedford Gazette* named Letrent’s the best pharmacy and pharmacist in Bedford County for three straight years (2020, 2021 and 2022). Dedicated to his community, Letrent also served as the mayor of Bedford for two terms and on the borough council for two years. When he retired, state and local legislators recognized him for his success in serving the Bedford community.

OPPORTUNITY BEGINS AT HOME

The strength of the Letrent family also powered the pharmacy’s success. Daughter Connie, who graduated summa cum laude from the School of Pharmacy, first worked with Thrift Drug and Phar-Mor Pharmacies to gain experience before joining the family business in 1993. She worked with her father for nearly 30 years and



“It’s very special when you get to know and serve four generations of a family by name.”



Richard "Dick" Letrent, P'58

“One thing I learned was that when you interact with people, you shouldn’t treat them the way you would want to be treated. You should treat them the way you would treat *your mother*. I found that always worked.”

is now employed by Boswell Pharmacy Services in Jennerstown, Pa.

Daughter Mary actually earned two degrees from Duquesne before joining the family business. After receiving her degree in education in 1991, she returned to the Bluff to earn her pharmacy degree in 1998. Mary then became a fixture at Letrent’s Pharmacy, working as a pharmacist while also establishing and managing the store’s card shop until her passing in July 2020.

The Letrent-Duquesne legacy also goes far beyond Bedford in some interesting and fun ways. Richard, the oldest Letrent sibling, graduated with a journalism degree and went on to a successful career as a graphic designer. He also started the Sigma Nu fraternity chapter at Duquesne. Now living in Hamilton, N.J., he is a certified hot air balloon pilot who flies regularly in the Garden State.

After earning a Duquesne degree in psychology, son Bill moved on to Frostburg State University, where he received his master’s degree in education with a focus on school counseling and guidance services. Since then, he’s enjoyed a distinguished 35-year career at West Virginia University Potomac State College in Keyser, W.Va., where he has served in a variety of key positions, including as dean of student life for 19 years. He is currently a grants administrator/ writer at the college.

For son Steve, a bachelor of science degree from the School of Pharmacy was the foundation on which he pursued additional training for a career in clinical research and drug development. He completed Pharm.D training at the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science in 1993 and a Ph.D. and fellowship at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1998.

During his career, Steve led the development of several new therapeutics as a director of clinical research at Bristol-Myers Squibb and vice president of clinical development at Pfizer. At present, Steve heads up research and development for two biotech spinouts from UCLA and CalTech in California, focused on the discovery and development of novel therapeutics for cancer.

THE LEGACY CONTINUES

Today, the Letrent legacy continues on the Bluff through grandson Michael Lamb, a junior majoring in political science with a pre-law certificate. Like his uncle Richard, he is a member of Sigma Nu on campus.

Growing up, he remembers his entire family talking about their time at Duquesne—the academics, the friendships created, the community—and his attraction to the University was immediate on his first visit.

“I really liked the campus,” he said. “It’s close to the city but high on the hill, so you get the best of both worlds. It’s one of the only Catholic universities I considered, and I’m so happy to be here.” ♦



Building Anticipation

The proposed Duquesne College of Osteopathic Medicine (COM) has already raised the bar, literally. On Oct. 31, students, staff, administration and construction partners gathered to sign the building’s symbolic roofing I-beam moments before it was lifted high into the Pittsburgh skyline.

It was a celebration of a milestone towards the school’s construction completion, and provided yet another moment of excited anticipation as the future continues to be built on Duquesne’s campus.

Progress on-site was clearly evident, while behind the scenes, momentum was bolstered by a \$2.2 million investment, part of the \$1.7 trillion omnibus funding package approved by the U.S. Congress. Congressman Mike Doyle (PA-District 18) spearheaded the COM’s inclusion in the funding proposal, which will result in the inaugural student class receiving portable, handheld ultrasound devices, an important tool when examining patients.

Slated for completion in 2024, the COM will combine the expertise of faculty and staff with cutting-edge technology and facilities in order to provide an experience that positions students to excel in their fields and impact their communities in life-changing ways.

Visit duq.edu/COMFunding to learn more about the recent investment. ♦

 Visit duq.edu/magazine to see a time-lapse of construction.



Learning is the Measure of Teaching

By Gabrielle Payne

There may have been a time when teaching consisted of lecturing to rows of students who dutifully jotted down verbatim sentences of what they had heard. Today, the multifaceted role of a teacher has evolved to embrace the essence of education, understanding that a teacher's most vital role is to empower students to become passionate participants in their own lives.

LEARNING ALONGSIDE

Education Professor Dr. Rick McCown believes that students are not mere consumers of reading, writing and arithmetic; they are active vehicles of knowledge.

"Human learning is miraculous," McCown says. "Doing the work alongside one another, students have the opportunity to learn from me while, at the same time, I am learning from them. I get to see

"...I get to see them grow, to see them change, to see them improve. It's incredibly rewarding work."

them grow, to see them change, to see them improve. It's incredibly rewarding work."

As director of the Ed.D. in Educational Leadership program, McCown teaches his students to become courageous leaders who create meaningful improvement in schools, communities and universities.

"Dr. McCown has inspired incredible growth and learning for me as a professional, a doctoral student and a person," says doctorate student of Educational Leadership Brenda Simmonds. "The environment he creates in the classroom is driven by his expertise and experience in education as well as his wisdom, humility and ready smile. Dr. McCown encourages and models a pursuit of justice and inspires joy in the process of learning not only from experts, but from ourselves, the world around us, the systems in which we live and work, and—most importantly—from one another and those we have yet to meet."

For McCown, harnessing educational curiosity and passion is the key to building leadership capacity.

"If there's a way for me to have a multiplying effect and facilitate learning in others, I always seek out those opportunities."

EXPANDING HORIZONS

McCown says that learning alongside others has changed the way he understands and acts in the world.

For nearly a decade, McCown has devoted considerable effort to the Elsinore Bennu Think Tank for Restorative Justice, a collective group that aims to bring together victims, offenders and community members to promote understanding and awareness of social justice. The group, founded by Duquesne Sociology Professor Dr. Norman Conti, meets weekly via Zoom sessions and offers members the opportunity to hear new perspectives and engage in open discussions.

"The think tank is a marvelously diverse group," says McCown. "We have members with over 200 years of lived incarcerated experience in that meeting. We have students, lawyers, professors, journalists, and other professionals. Behind each and every person, there is an entire network of activism. It has become a remarkable learning space."

McCown believes that learning alongside others is the best way to understand the systems of our world that work effectively, and the ones that need to be improved.

"Dr. McCown can be summed up with the word *gracious*," says doctorate student of Educational Leadership Casey Weiss. "His introduction of gracious spaces to my EdD cohort allowed for authentic, judgment-free conversations. In Judaism, we say a



Dr. Rick McCown (back row on the right) joins participants of the Community Learning Exchange in West Philadelphia to support anti-deficit efforts in support of black males entangled in the justice system.

person of moral character is a mensch. Dr. McCown is a gracious mensch; this program is much better because of his service."

AUTHENTIC COLLABORATION

In the Educational Leadership program, McCown and his cohort of doctoral students partner with nonprofit organizations to help improve the systems that influence their outcomes.

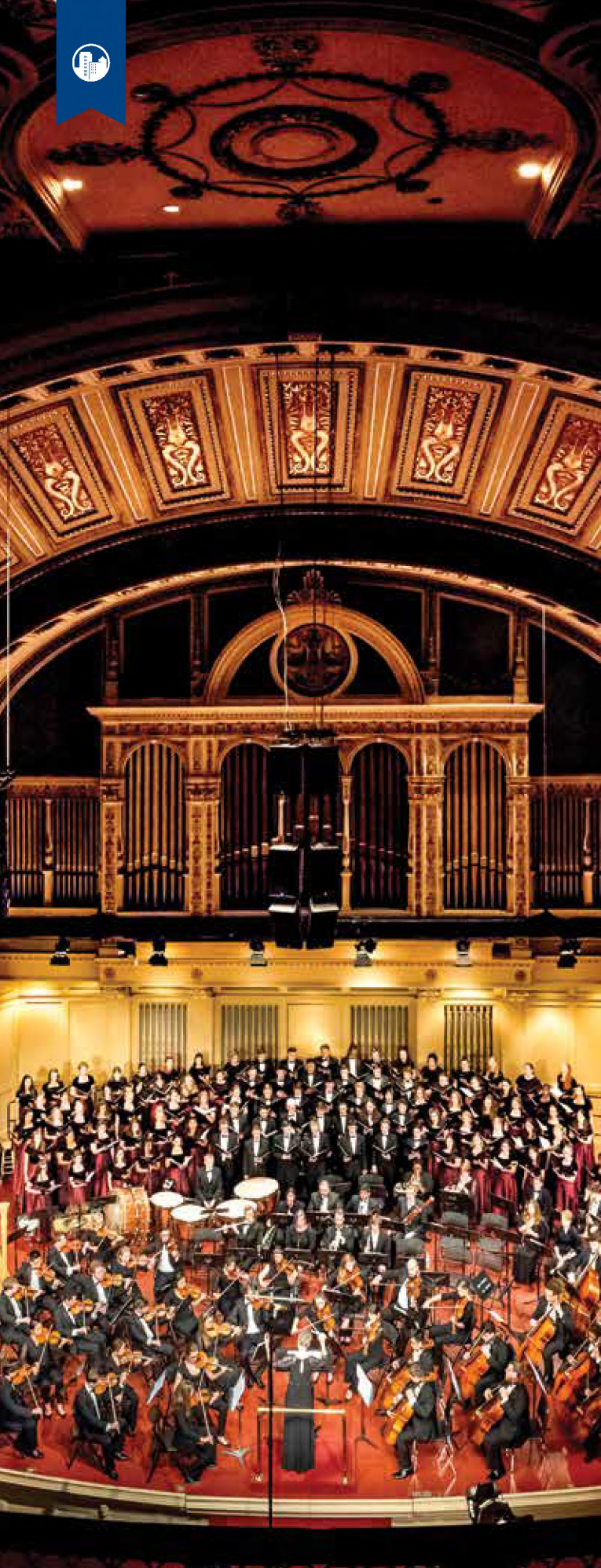
"Our leadership program is an approach to doing research on real systems that serve real people," says McCown. "We're not trying to create theory, we're trying to improve outcomes for people. I teach my students that the best way to learn how to do this type of work, is to actually do this work."

In Spring 2022, McCown's class partnered with Amachi Pittsburgh, a nonprofit that serves Allegheny County youth who experience parental incarceration. Throughout the partnership, the leadership program's cohort conducted research, collected data and, ultimately, used that information to generate deliverables to amplify the work of Amachi Pittsburgh, including its process for grantmaking.

"While completing my Educational Leadership doctorate, Dr. McCown was on my dissertation committee," says 2019 Ed.D. doctoral student Dr. Marguerite Haldin. "He is the type of professor who listens first and speaks second. Without a doubt, Dr. McCown embodies Duquesne's mission."

McCown's goal is to provide impactful educational experiences that allow students to become active creators and extenders of new knowledge.

"I wrote a book in 1993, and the first sentence was: 'Learning is the measure of teaching.' I still think it's the best sentence I've ever written," says McCown. "As educators, when we learn alongside our students, that learning becomes generative of more learning. After we leave, we're not taking the capacity away, we're empowering them to facilitate learning in others." ♦



Todd Goodman, M'05

Beyond Oompah

It's not every day you get to hear a tuba concerto. Of all the instruments in a contemporary symphony, the tuba is arguably the least well understood—at least for non-musicians. Even the most famous, Ralph Vaughan Williams' *Concerto in F Minor for Bas Tuba and Orchestra*, is not well known outside music aficionados.

Duquesne alum Todd Goodman, M'05, notes, "The tuba is really a graceful instrument and more than just some *omm-pha-pah* device."

Goodman, the chief academic officer and resident composer at Lincoln Park Performing Arts Center in Midland, Pa., composes for tuba. And in February, the Duquesne Symphony Orchestra performed a program at the storied Carnegie Music Hall in Oakland, in which they premiered Goodman's "This Too Shall Pass: Concerto No. 2 for Tuba."

In that grand space designed and built in 1895 specifically for music performance and appointed with red velvet seats and ornate carving across its pillars and balconies, audiences heard for the piece for first time—and were educated on what a tuba truly could do.

Under the direction of Daniel Meyer, the orchestra and soloist James Gourlay, performed the roiling and atmospheric piece that Goodman feels expresses "the angst, desperation and resilience" felt during the grimmest days when the COVID pandemic effectively stopped society—and music.

The sounds Gourlay drew from the tuba were at points as sonorous as a French horn, then rumbling almost tympanically, and at one point almost squeaking like an oboe. For audience members afterward was the special surprise of the conductor asking Goodman, who was in the audience, to stand.

The concerto had been commissioned by a consortium of 53 tubists, many of whom hailed from universities and ensembles around the world. Its premiere by the symphony orchestra of his alma mater was an astounding reflection of the moment that inspired the piece: that moment, indeed, had passed into something different, with applause rising to the domed ceiling in celebration of a new music in the world.

More about Goodman's music and work can be found at WrongNoteMedia.com. ♦



Helping Clinicians Become Nurse Educators

A recent grant from the Conway Innovation Challenge supports development of Duquesne University's School of Nursing faculty residency program: Transition from Clinician to Faculty: A Residency for Aspiring Nursing Faculty. This project aims to address the serious shortage of nurses by increasing the number of high-quality nursing faculty.

"COVID was a huge driver for the present shortage, and for a lot of different reasons," said Dr. Mary Ellen Glasgow, dean of the School of Nursing and vice provost for research at Duquesne. "Through this grant, we hope to address that shortage by helping nurses make the transition from the clinical setting to teaching in the classroom and labs. By offering a horizon-expanding education, Duquesne can prepare these nurses, many with numerous years in the field, to educate and train the next generation of nursing students."

Concerns about the dire nursing shortage have dominated the national conversation about health care delivery for years. Numerous causes have been identified, including the stress and resulting burnout caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, poor working conditions and safety concerns.

Some specialties and parts of the country may feel shortages more acutely than others. "If current trends hold, 29 states will not be able to fill the demand for nursing talent, coming up almost 100,000 nurses short in the next five years," states a 2021 report by Mercer, a professional services firm. The report also noted that some of the largest projected nursing shortages will occur in Pennsylvania.

McKinsey & Company predicted that by 2025, the country will be short 450,000 nurses, about 20 percent of

the nursing workforce. Western Pennsylvania reported 9,800 vacant nursing positions in 2021, with the top two health systems in the area each reporting 31 percent vacancy rates, double pre-pandemic rates.

In 2021, over 90,000 qualified applicants for undergraduate or graduate nursing programs were turned away due to a lack of resources, and nursing schools reported that faculty shortages were the primary reason.

Nursing faculty vacancies are equally alarming, with the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) showing more than 2,100 full-time faculty vacancies in 2022; and the number is expected to rise.

"This is a critical time for the nursing profession and health care in general," Glasgow said. "For our clinical nursing alumni who may be thinking about pursuing a faculty role, the Conway grant offers a terrific opportunity to reach for bigger goals and use their current skills in a new and challenging way."

The focus of the Conway challenge is to facilitate development of hybrid nursing faculty residency (NFR) programs to make them more accessible to recent graduates and current clinicians with the goal of increasing adjunct and clinical teachers who may move to full-time faculty roles after obtaining the education credentials.

The NFR initiative will create a mentorship program with nursing school faculty as mentors, provide state-of-the-art simulation training, and deliver instruction on curriculum development, classroom teaching, theory and clinical evaluation, among other skills. ♦



Connections and Community

Beyond Campus Classrooms

By Elizabeth Shestak

When the Hill District's first-ever community newsletter hit households last year, its six colorful pages included love poems, an archival history of the forming of the Macedonia FACE Active for Life Senior Center and a first-person narrative about a trip to Zimbabwe where the author attended a lunch with Nelson Mandela.

Without the newsletter, these stories would have remained untold, unshared, unknown by many, and this is precisely the kind of impact Dr. James Purdy had in mind when he applied for the John G. Rangos Sr. Prizes grant.

"As I've worked at writing centers over the years, one thing that I've noticed is they're very centered within the higher education community on helping students and writers at the university level succeed," said Purdy, director of the Duquesne University Writing Center. "But what seemed to be missing for me was the fact that this is work that could be really useful in the larger community."

The Community Writing Center was first funded by an NEH Endowment grant provided by the McAnulty College and Graduate School of Liberal Arts, but Purdy needed additional funds to keep it going.

In 2019 he first applied for the annual Rangos Prize, which seeks to enhance current student and faculty curriculum. From that grant, the Community Writing Center, the public-facing arm of the University Writing Center, was born. Subsequent Rangos Prize grants have kept it going.

The impact has been incredible.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

To date, the Community Writing Center has worked on projects that involve securing grants for Refuge for Women Pittsburgh, a nonprofit offering safe housing for women who have been sexually trafficked; working with children in afterschool settings on everything from elementary



Top: Duquesne University Writing Center staff members Tommy DeMauro and R.J. Pugh conduct consulting sessions with Woodland Hills High School Writing Center staff members Emma Reyes (left) and Makenna Santoro on their writing. Bottom: Woodland Hills High School Writing Center staff member Tierra Bush (right) responds to a question from Duquesne University Writing Center Assistant Director Noel Stanger.



homework to college and job applications; and counseling area high schools as they establish their own writing centers, such as the one that exists now at Woodland Hills Senior High School in Churchill, Pa..

"Dr. Purdy is the reason I started a peer staffed writing center at my high school this year," said Lisa Silverman, MA '13, chair of the English Department at Woodland Hills and Duquesne graduate. "He has been incredibly generous with his time and expertise while I have gotten this project off the ground. He welcomed me into his Writing Center sessions with his tutors to teach me the ropes last year and I adapted his work to a high school model."

At a school like Woodland Hills, students often have family obligations or constraints after school hours, be it jobs to support their households or needing to watch younger siblings while parents work. Having writing support available during the school day is a game-changer for the kids who need it, Silverman said, and the Writing Center's assistance with that has been essential.

While the Rangos Prize does not stipulate a community engagement focus, many of the recipients' projects ultimately impact the community in many ways.

UNITING EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING AND MISSION

"Community engagement is a high-impact learning experience for our students," said Dr. Darlene Weaver, who oversees the Rangos Prize as associate provost for academic affairs. "It often has formative impacts on our students. It's also a way many of our faculty integrate Duquesne's mission into their teaching."

For Professor Norm Conti, Duquesne sociology professor whose work with incarcerated populations via the Elsnore Benu Think Tank for Restorative Justice also won Rangos Prize funding, the Writing Center has been essential. The think tank has partnered with Writing Center students to edit the manuscripts of formerly incarcerated authors to prepare for publishing.

"It would be impossible," Conti said, without the resources the Writing Center has provided.

The Community Writing Center employs current Duquesne students who hail from all programs including English, psychology, philosophy and education. In addition, the on-campus Writing Center has had staff members from those disciplines plus law, physical therapy,



Katie Green (center), Woodland Hills High School Writing Center staff member, discusses writing strategies with Duquesne University Writing Center staff members Kaytlin Black and Jesse Smoot.

occupational therapy, public relations, counseling, political science, history, environmental science and medical ethics. The student workers can end up learning just as much from being tutors as their tutees.

LEARNING TOGETHER

"There's something about teaching that is scary in the aspect of getting in front of a group of strangers and talking to them," said Kaytlin Black, Duquesne senior and Writing Center staffer. "But there's something about making a connection one-on-one with a person, even if it's in a half-hour session. I like to ask at the end of my sessions 'How are you feeling? Are we feeling good with the assignment? Are you still confused? Did this session help you?' I'm always like, please, like give me the blunt honest truth—if it didn't help you, let me know so I can do better next time." Black will graduate from Duquesne in May 2023 with a dual degree, earning a B.A. in English and a B.S.Ed. in Secondary English Education while also obtaining an equity certificate.

When Purdy hears that the Writing Center is resulting in community engagement and human connection, he knows a lot more than grammar and sentence structure are on the line.

"We talk about creating the Writing Center as a brave space," Purdy said. "The Rangos grant gives us the money to stay open. There's no question." ♦



Roberto Laporte, B'22

Stepping Outside His Comfort Zone to Pursue a World of Opportunity

Upon graduating high school, Roberto Laporte, B'22, decided that instead of waiting for opportunity to knock, he would build his own door. The recent Palumbo-Donahue School of Business graduate grew up in a small, rural town in Ohio. A once-booming coal industry hub, his hometown now grappled with economic challenges and finding a sustainable future beyond mining.

Although LaPorte felt an eagerness to experience the world outside of his small town, it was also the place he felt most comfortable and at ease.

"Initially, I had not even considered going to college," LaPorte said. "I was ready to graduate high school and enter the workforce, but, after seeing the economic conditions my community has gone through and continues to go through, I knew that my journey had to be different."

LaPorte said it became clear to him that the knowledge he hoped would give him a new and clearer vantage point would require him to move away from his small town. As the oldest of many siblings and one of the first in his family to go to college, he knew this was a big decision, but one that he wholeheartedly believed was a valuable investment for his future.

"I'm someone who wanted to seek opportunity, and with that, I knew I needed to go on to higher education," LaPorte said. "I was ready to create a new life for myself."

LaPorte moved to Pittsburgh to pave this new path—a path that he hoped would lead him back to his hometown one day to help revitalize the economy.

"My goal is that the skills and knowledge I've gained from my business education and my workforce experience will one day lead me back to my hometown to help those in my community."

LaPorte first enrolled at Community College of Allegheny County before transferring to Duquesne as a double major in information systems and technology and supply chain management.

From making the initial leap of moving to a big city to once again making the jump from one college to the next, LaPorte said he has never shied away from pursuing bigger goals, especially ones that he believes will impact his growth, both as a person and a professional.

"I have always known that I need to be my own self-advocate. My biggest advice for anyone starting something new is to embrace the change rather than be scared of the unknown," LaPorte said. "Once you get involved, the ambiguity disappears and the more at home you will feel."

By stepping outside of his comfort zone, embracing his new surroundings and creating friendships with his new classmates and professors, LaPorte said coming to Duquesne broadened his perspective about the world around him.

Driven by his goal of sharpening his skills and expanding his network, LaPorte went on to become president of the Association for Information Systems and the Duquesne Supply Chain Council by his senior year. He also took on internships with FedEx Services and Proctor & Gamble.

Upon graduating in December 2022, LaPorte accepted his dream role with IBM in Boston.

When looking back on his journey, LaPorte said that leaving his hometown to pursue his degree was the most important decision of his life because of the opportunities he has experienced. He looks forward to the day when he will return to his hometown and extend those same opportunities to others in his community. ♦



Visit duq.edu/magazine to hear Laporte's thoughts on transferring to DU.



Imagine you're a student athlete listening to a prominent alum who's been a global leader in the tech world tell his story—and then suddenly you're holding a pair of customized Duquesne Beats.

That was the scene when Matthew Costello, B'95, visited in the fall to talk about the place he calls home.

Costello vividly describes his connection to campus as one that is not easily quantifiable, but is instead full of challenge, support and emotion.

"There's a warmth to Duquesne," said Costello, "A feeling I don't even really know how to express but is extremely important to my experience. It's different than other places, and I don't even think you realize it until you're gone—and then you come back, and you really see and feel it."

Costello, vice president, hardware engineering and operations at Apple and the chief operating officer of Beats by Dr. Dre, elaborated on this feeling of home to an electric UPMC Cooper Fieldhouse filled with current Duquesne student-athletes on Oct. 10. Within the short moments it took for Costello to take center court, he had already captivated the crowd—some students hurriedly getting out notebooks and pens to take down his anticipated advice, and others scrambling to get a seat where they could engage in the Q&A session soon to come. The event held pockets of life-changing impact, paired with a surprise, unbeknownst to the students in the stands.

"Mr. Costello was as informative as he was friendly and relatable," said Connor Barrett, a current

...his time at Duquesne expanded his horizons, while his involvement on campus helped shape his professional success.

student-athlete, a senior studying sociology. "He was able to translate key factors that helped him become so successful to fit the business world we will graduate into today, but what made Mr. Costello so easy to listen to was in the way he paid homage to Duquesne. It was clear his true heart and purpose were on display because of his connection to us as Duquesne student-athletes."

Costello, a former student-athlete himself, shared anecdotes about how his time at Duquesne expanded his horizons, while his involvement on campus helped shape his professional success. He shared stories of risks, moments in which his core values were shaped, and insight as to why

Duquesne holds so much meaning to him. Costello's passionate desire to give back to the Duquesne community was tangibly understood by the student-athletes in the crowd when he showcased a pair of custom Duquesne Beats that would soon be distributed to everyone present.

"The event itself was a surprise and a very nice way to get to know a Duquesne University alum who has not only had success, but also shared with us how he got there, including the good and the bad times in his career and life," said women's basketball student-athlete Kaitlyn Ammons, a sophomore studying history. "Matthew was so kind when I talked to him one-on-one after the event. With this being my first year at Duquesne, he helped me understand why alums appreciate their time here so much and how successful the Duquesne alumni community is."

The energy in the arena was at an extreme high that extended throughout the remainder of the semester. Now, several months later, student-athletes can be seen with their Duquesne Beats on display, whether working in the Gilliland Academic Center, traveling to an away game or on Academic Walk—but the impact stems far beyond the physical reminder of Costello's visit. Costello inspired many to dig within, leaving students with newfound motivation to discover their own potential for bigger goals.

"It was a pretty emotional time," said Costello, who after reflecting on the event, noted the impact the event had on himself as well. "To think, 12 years later of involvement, to see the impact the Beats brand had on these kids, it was just awesome. It is so inspiring for me." ♦

DIG WITHIN:

ALUM MATTHEW COSTELLO SHARES EXPERIENCE AND DUQUESNE-THEMED INSPIRATION WITH STUDENTS





Preserving Pittsburgh's Past

STUDENTS AND ALUMNI HELP RIVERS OF STEEL PRESERVE THE REGION'S INDUSTRIAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE

By Amanda Dabbs

Carrie Hadley, A'15



"Rivers of Steel internship really opened my eyes to the region's industrial life."

For her internship with Rivers of Steel, Carrie Hadley, A'15, worked with museum collections at the Bost Building in Homestead and assisted with events at the Carrie Blast Furnaces. One of her jobs was to make sure people didn't climb up into the furnaces!

"It was the beginning of my collections career, which is what I do now at the Heinz History Center, so I remember this internship fondly. I had a general knowledge of the steel and labor industries in Pittsburgh, but my Rivers of Steel internship really opened my eyes to the region's industrial life," comments Hadley.

For the past 25 years, over 30 Duquesne students—many of them pursuing master's degrees in public history—have interned at Rivers of Steel, a nonprofit showcasing the artistry and innovation of southwestern Pennsylvania through programs and attractions. Eight of these interns went on to land full-time positions with the organization.

One of those former interns is Ron Baraff, A'99, director of historic resources and facilities and intern supervisor. Baraff oversees Rivers of Steel's preservation and historic interpretation efforts, including its museum and archives programs, unique preservation projects and national

historic landmark sites. These sites are the Carrie Blast Furnaces, the Pump House, the Bost Building and the W.A. Young & Sons Foundry and Machine Shop.

"Rivers of Steel's mission is to preserve, interpret and promote the region's rich industrial legacy. What happened here on a technological, capital, cultural and social level during the 19th and 20th centuries changed the world. I am proud to help preserve that legacy for current and future generations," explains Baraff.

Rivers of Steel President and CEO Augie Carlino remarks that as a Duquesne graduate, Baraff immediately understood the value of Rivers of Steel's partnership with the University.

"He worked hard to develop a relationship that benefits both organizations and the students. His continued involvement with Duquesne University has other potential projects in the development stages that I hope will become a reality," says Carlino.

Carlino adds: "Rivers of Steel's work relies upon partnerships that can come together to accomplish projects that benefit Pittsburgh and the southwestern Pennsylvania region."

Ryan Henderson, A'16, interpretive specialist and grant

Ron Baraff, A'99



"I am proud to help preserve that legacy for current and future generations."



Ryan Henderson, A'16

writer for Rivers of Steel, explains that the organization fills a historic niche that doesn't exist elsewhere in the region.

"We look the closest at Pittsburgh's industrial history and are at the forefront of trying to collect, preserve and make publicly accessible the legacy that people most closely associate with the region," notes Henderson.

IMPACTFUL INTERNSHIPS

Duquesne Master of Arts in public history student Keen Owen, A'23, is currently interning in the Museum and Archives division at Rivers of Steel. His work includes historic preservation and interpretive efforts at the organization's historic sites, maintaining a public archive and developing exhibits for various museums.

"It is an honor to be one of Rivers of Steel's archival interns this spring. This organization's deep connection to Pittsburgh's steel history also overlaps with my history as a descendant of multiple steel workers from West Virginia. I am gaining valuable first-hand experience and learning about the variety of archival practices Rivers of Steel employs in their collections," says Owen.

Rivers of Steel internships are tailored to fit students' interests and skills. Internship work ranges from exhibit research, museum collections management, media digitization and interpretative projects to tourism and historic preservation efforts, exhibit design, artifact acquisition, label writing/editing, product development and visitor interaction.



Keen Owen, A'23

"I am gaining valuable first-hand experience and learning about the variety of archival practices..."

"Interning at Rivers of Steel and visiting the Carrie Furnaces was an absolute dream," remarks Cassidee Knott, A'21. For her main internship project, Knott researched current and former steel mills and steel adjacent companies in and around Pittsburgh. She then created a map of those mills segmented by region and time period.

Luke Masa, A'20, landed his internship with Rivers of Steel during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic so his work was nearly all digital. One of his main projects was to write descriptions of prominent former and current industrial sites in western Pennsylvania, such as the Homestead Works and Edgar Thomson Works steel mills, for the organization's



Cassidee Knott, A'21

relaunch of an interactive Google Earth map.

"I wrote about the people who made everything run on a day-to-day basis: the workers! Their unions, ethnic and religious backgrounds and local communities were all aspects of their identities," Masa explained.

CURATING CAREER CONNECTIONS

As associate professor of history and internship coordinator Drew Simpson, Ph.D., connects his students and their interests with Rivers of Steel's organizational needs.

"It's been a pleasure working with Rivers of Steel to tell the story of our region's history while also helping Duquesne students gain meaningful, practical preparation for a career in history and public history," says Simpson.

Duquesne University archivist and curator of special collections for the Gumberg Library Thomas White also frequently encourages students to intern at Rivers of Steel.

"Ron Baraff and his associates are always working on interesting preservation and community-based projects. Rivers of Steel has done a tremendous amount of work preserving the industrial and labor history of Pittsburgh and the Monongahela Valley," says White.

For Baraff, the top benefit of collaborating with Duquesne is that Rivers of Steel staff gets to impart their experiences and knowledge to the next generation of public historians.

"It has always been an honor for me to host Duquesne interns," he remarks.

PREPARED TO PRESERVE

Duquesne has one of the longest-running public history graduate programs in the region.

"We offer coursework designed to teach critical thinking, research and writing skills while encouraging students to gain internship experience in museums and museum education, historic preservation, digital humanities, oral history, and collections and archival management," says Simpson.

"It's been a pleasure working with Rivers of Steel to tell the story of our region's history while also helping Duquesne students gain meaningful, practical preparation for a career in history and public history."

Henderson enjoyed the program's major focus on useful skills and best practices for working at museums, archives and historic sites.

"Background knowledge without the skills isn't particularly useful in the real world, but Duquesne did a great job at exposing us to both, in the classroom and through internships with established historic institutions all over the city," explains Henderson.

For Masa, Duquesne's public history graduate program was the perfect next step toward achieving his goal of pursuing a Ph.D. in history.

"My undergraduate degree in neuroscience from Carnegie Mellon, while extremely useful in its own way, did not equip me with the primary research writing necessary in applying to most history Ph.D. programs that Duquesne did. On top of that, Duquesne is the alma mater of both of my parents and several other relatives, so it seemed like a natural fit," says Masa.

Knott adds: "I cannot speak highly enough about the history department at Duquesne. I loved my two years there. I graduated prepared with the skills I needed and proof of them through my internship with Rivers of Steel, which is awesome." ♦



Luke Masa, A'20





Spiritans in Poland Help Displaced Ukrainians

Since March 1, 2022, the Spiritans in Poland have been receiving women and children from Ukraine who have been forced to leave their homes and their country because of the cruelty of war. Some have managed to return to Ukraine while others are finding their place in Poland. Children and young people are attending schools and kindergartens and many have found jobs to earn a little to cover some of their expenses.

The Spiritan Provincial of Poland, Rev. P. Marek Myslinski, C.S.Sp. recently contacted Rev. Don McEachin, C.S.Sp., regarding Duquesne University's generous monetary donation in support of Ukraine refugee relief.

The Spiritans have managed to organize two humanitarian convoys carrying food, medicine and other items to Bucha, Irpien, Borodzianka and surrounding villages of the Kiev region. The convoys highlight the tragedy of war and the incredible gratitude of the Ukrainian people.

McEachin shared with President Ken Gormley the message of thanks from Myslinski, along with these photos that showed stoves purchased with donated funds from Duquesne and some of the food delivered in the second convoy. The Spiritan mission in action of helping those most in need demonstrates truly that equity and opportunity can begin at home. ♦





Duquesne Student Balances Education with Business Endeavors

By Zach Petroff, Opinions Editor, The Duquesne Duke
Reprinted with permission

This story originally appeared in The Duquesne Duke, Oct. 27, 2022. It caught our eye not only because it is well written but also because the story exemplifies the kind of student who is a Duquesne student, with bigger goals, on a path they may have imagined while also discovering new destinations through their Duquesne education.

At 8:15 a.m. on Tuesday mornings, Isis Philibert takes the 40-minute bus ride from Homewood to Duquesne University. Her first class starts at 9:25 a.m.—and after her five consecutive classes end at 4:20 p.m.—she walks a mile and a half to the Investment Building in Downtown.

Most Tuesdays, she makes an effort to see just one client, but Monday, Oct. 24, she has two regulars booked. A typical session lasts anywhere from 2 to 2 1/2 hours. Philibert finishes in time to catch the bus back home.

A current junior and entrepreneurship major at Duquesne, Philibert is not a stranger to working from sunup to sundown.

While it is not unusual for a college student to have a heavy workload, what separates Philibert from her peers is her fierce work ethic and her ambition. The soon-to-be 21-year-old is the owner of ICEY Aesthetics, an eyelash extension artist and supplier located on 4th Avenue in Pittsburgh.

Philibert started selling sunglasses in the summer of 2019 as a way to supplement her income and lay the foundation for her future business endeavors. Operating from a rented room out of South Side, Philibert made the slow transition from retail to lashes.

"I had worked three other jobs, and I used that money to pay my rent. I was working at TGI Fridays, I worked at FedEx, I went to school and I worked at Cold Stone Creamery throughout that whole duration," Philibert said. "I only had one client who was coming in every month. That was it. I made \$60 for the whole month and my rent was \$275. So everything else I did made up for rent. I did that

Aside from selling her own brand of eyelashes to vendors, Philibert was able to utilize the maker space to expand her brand into merchandising.



for about nine months. I didn't start making money with lashes until March of 2021."

During the pandemic, Philibert used her time to hone her skills and prepare to enter the world of entrepreneurship. Even though she was not making money for her lashes, she had the foresight to create an LLC.

Initially a biology major, Philibert said she had "no plan B" as she mapped out her path to become a veterinarian. Her decision to get into entrepreneurship came from being a client herself.

"I always got my lashes done, and I was like, 'oh this is cool.' And one day I just asked my lash artist, 'How much money do you make a week or something?' and she never told me how much, but she said she made 'decent money,'" Philibert said. "I was like, wow, I come here every two weeks and if I can figure out how much money I put into this, about \$60 every two weeks, that's about \$120 a month I just spend on lashes. That's decent money for one person. So OK, maybe I should try it."

From there, Philibert took the three-month course, on top of her Duquesne classes, to obtain the proper licenses. As she learned the craft of eyelash extension, she would practice on friends from her dorm, where sessions could last anywhere from four to six hours.

"I have really good friends," Philibert said. "I really appreciate them."

The business started out slowly for Philibert. She had only one client for nine months.

"I had friends who had come, but there was only one consistent client. She would do it roughly twice a month. And like I said, my rent was \$275 a month, so I was making about \$60 to \$120 a month," Philibert said.

Not to be deterred, with the help of social media, an intense work ethic and persistence, Philibert has grown her client base to around 60 customers in a year and a half. Not only has she focused on honing her craft but makes a strong effort to provide top-notch customer service.

"I come every two to three weeks and I've been coming for about six months. She's one of the best. I've been to a couple of lash artists around Pittsburgh, and I really appreciate the work that she does and how reliable and responsible she is with appointments," said Abby Settembrino, one of Philibert's regular clients.

Her success and increase in clientele led her to partner up with Brianna Maenz, a former client, to open up a salon Downtown.

"She is literally my low-key inspiration. I wish I had done that at her age," Maenz said. "I really appreciate her and I just love our dynamic. We really feed off of each other. I have ideas, she has ideas, and we just work together. It's the best, we're business partners but we can also be besties."

Philibert's work ethic stems from her upbringing.

"I'm originally from New York City; if you're familiar with that city, it's a hostile city. I didn't come from much, you know. I have a great family support system and all that good stuff but nobody's been to college," said Philibert.

Philibert also credits her mother.

"We came from humble beginnings. My mom was a really hard worker. It was just natural. When I started school I worked at Cold Stone. I worked crazy hours. I would pull 96 hour weeks."

On Friday during the Black Student Union's annual Black Expo, Philibert debuted another retail venture. Aside from selling her own brand of eyelashes to vendors, Philibert was able to utilize the maker space to expand her brand into merchandising, offering black tote bags that said "Lashes that just make sense." Shoppers could pick from a variety of colors for the lettering.

"I went to the maker space, and every night after class or clients, I made 37 bags. The goal was 48 but I couldn't get to all of them. I was too tired. I actually made my own money back and some profit. ... It was a really pleasant surprise" Philibert said.

She still finds time to participate in organizations on campus. She is a member of the BSU and the co-president of the Duquesne entrepreneur council.

"Isis is an amazing businesswoman who truly is inspirational to everyone including members of the Black Student Union. It truly is not easy running a Black-owned business, but to also be a college student while doing that. Isis has mine and BSU's respect" said BSU President Lindsey Harris. ♦



Finding the Spirit on a Walk:

Leaning in to the Mission of Duquesne

On Sept. 27, Sean Tierney, A'05, E'05, a beloved math instructor in the McNulty College and Graduate School of Liberal Arts, shared heartfelt remarks about the Spiritans, Duquesne's founding order, at the annual Heritage Week Luncheon. At the conclusion of his keynote, he was surprised with the Faculty Collaborator of the Year Award from the Division of Student Life. His words to a packed room reflected what so many on campus and throughout our broader Duquesne community know about the ways the Spiritans' ideas shape the daily work we do with students.

**Note, this address was edited for length*

For over 25 years I have had a personal history and relationship with the Spiritans. How do I convey all those experiences, conversations, lessons learned? Faced with that task, I did what I often do when challenged with such a task—I took a walk.

My original motivation was exercise, but I quickly realized the psychological, emotional and interpersonal benefits. What started as a “hello” or “good morning” have become opportunities to give hugs, to talk of family and friends and more.

My walks start when my wife Audrey and I leave the parking garage for her office in the Administration Building; and end when I walk into my office in College Hall where I often talk with students.

It's an opportunity to walk with—physically and metaphorically—many members of our community. That lesson of walking with others is so fundamentally Spiritan. It is a lesson I was first taught as a first-year high school student at Holy Ghost Preparatory School in Bensalem, Pa.

Students were often given the opportunity to interact with the Spiritans. The Holy Ghost Fathers were our mentors and taught us valuable life lessons.

Father Norm Bevan would come to have an immeasurable impact on my life. When I told him that I wanted to be a teacher, he called it “a noble profession,” and one tied closely to the Spiritan mission. Norm encouraged

of the Spiritan Center in nearby Bethel Park, so I was able to see him regularly.

“Educate the person,” he said, “because it's not always about a transfer of content - it's also about inspiring growth as individuals: mind, heart and spirit.” I didn't fully comprehend the lesson until I joined the faculty at Duquesne, where we are called to serve God by serving students.

My duty as a faculty member is to convey to students that this is not one-sided—it is collaborative. We learn from one another, because teachers and students forge partnerships; and like any partnership, it requires effort. Educating the person means striving to show students that they matter ... because they do.

After the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, I offered “Open Chat” Zoom sessions—a half-hour, once a week, where students could sign on and talk to someone who wasn't their roommate, friend or family. I was shocked at how many popped on throughout the semester.

It's been five semesters and I still offer it every Wednesday. This is only effective if students feel comfortable enough to ask questions, to come visit, to send those emails.

To me, the word “Spiritan” is synonymous with “community” and “collaboration.” I'm going to keep walking because it's part of my journey and a place where I can meet people on theirs.



me to consider the priesthood. He also introduced me to Duquesne and Pittsburgh. Upon my visit, I fell in love with our campus and the people. It motivated me to pursue my undergraduate study here.

Shortly into my first year I met the beautiful, smart and hardworking Audrey Innocenti and started to think that the priesthood wasn't my calling. That didn't change my love for the Spiritans and their mission.

Audrey and I quickly became active in Campus Ministry, leading retreats and student groups, serving as readers and ministers at Mass and singing in the chapel choir. Father Raymond French, C.S.Sp., married us in the chapel 15 years ago and he still stops to chat with us as we walk across campus.

When I called Father Norm to tell him about Audrey, he couldn't have been happier. And as fate would have it, upon my acceptance to Duquesne, Norm was appointed superior

I never could have imagined that taking that first walk 25 years ago around Holy Ghost Prep would lead me to the love of my life, wonderful colleagues and a job that is meaningful and allows me to make a difference, even in small ways.

But perhaps that is the most significant lesson to be learned from the Holy Ghost Fathers and their actions: the importance of being open to the Spirit, whatever that may bring.” ♦

Sean Tierney, A'05, E'05, met his wife, Audrey A'05, GB'20, on campus as they each pursued their undergraduate degrees. Audrey works as the director of alumni programming in the Office of Alumni Engagement. Both Sean and Audrey embrace the Duquesne mission of serving God by serving others.

Seen and Heard

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



⬆ DU students showed off their cooking skills on [Pittsburgh Today Live](#) ahead of the 8th annual “Chopped” competition held on campus.

“It’s hard to find enough good things to say and the right words because he’s an outstanding young man.

*Duquesne coach Jerry Schmitt speaking about player **Ayden Games’** donation of bone marrow to a young woman battling blood cancer.*



⬆ To welcome students back and wish them well for the spring semester, President Gormley once again hosted his [“Donuts with the President”](#) event at Hogan Dining Center and the Union.



⬆ Female student-athletes celebrated [National Girls and Women in Sports Day](#) by teaching skills to the next generation of athletes.

“Two organizations with distinct Pittsburgh identities that contribute to the local community in a similar way are joining forces to take action now, so together we can cooperatively champion our region’s future health care providers.

*Amy Bunger, vice president and chief academic officer at St. Clair Health, commenting on a recently established **partnership with Duquesne University’s proposed College of Osteopathic Medicine.***



⬆ Deep in the heart of Texas this spring break, students on [Duquesne University’s Spiritan Campus Ministry Mission Experience](#) worked in the multicultural parish ministry at St. Benedict the Abbott Catholic Community in South Houston.



ignite | Forging the Future.
THE CAMPAIGN FOR DUQUESNE UNIVERSITY



⬆ As Duquesne continues lift-off with its Ignite campaign, what better venue to host an alumni gathering than the **U.S. Space Force at Cape Canaveral?**

In early March, surrounded by aircraft and rockets suited for the upper stratosphere, Duquesne alumni and friends gathered with President Ken Gormley and his wife, Laura, along with Jim Miller, senior vice president of advancement, and the alumni engagement team to talk about exciting initiatives and bigger goals for the University and our students.

The Cape Canaveral gathering, hosted by alum Shawn Walleck, GA’17, who serves as director of operations at the Space Force, capped a four-city swing in Florida that included events in Naples, Sarasota and Clearwater (in conjunction with the Carol Carfang, N’73, Nursing & Health care Ethics Conference)—and came just weeks after an event in St. Louis.

The Naples Bay Club event was hosted by Nannette Staropoli, A’87 (center, next to Laura Gormley), who established the Staropoli Family Term Scholarship and Family Endowed Scholarship for Duquesne students.

Among the Naples attendees were Brian, B’82, and Lisa Sullivan (above right), who generously established the Sullivan Co-Investment Fund in Entrepreneurial Finance and the John J. Sullivan Endowed Scholarship at the School of Business. Brian serves on the University Board of Directors, where he chairs the enrollment management committee.

Such alumni events happen regularly throughout the year, igniting interest and forging the connections that create Duquesne’s future. Be sure to attend when Duquesne brings an event to your area!





HOMEcoming

& FAMILY WEEKEND 2023

October 7-9

How do we top the biggest Homecoming and Family Weekend in Duquesne history? We plan for big surprises, strike up some bands, and pull out more surprises! Plan now to meet your Duquesne friends for three packed days on the Bluff from October 7-9, 2023. Watch for more details soon! You can always check the website for details—and be sure to follow Duquesne's social media channels for updates and the latest news.

Check duq.edu/homecoming regularly for more details and the latest updates.



ignite
DUQUESNE
day of
giving

2023

By the Numbers

Duquesne University's 8th annual Day of Giving was a success! Members of the campus community—alumni, families, faculty and staff, and friends—came together and generously gave over \$638,500. Through these donations, virtually every area of campus was touched. Donors chose to enhance the student experience by giving to schools, scholarships, athletic teams, student organizations and much more.

To learn more and see a list of our donors, visit duq.edu/dayofgiving.

1,619

total gifts
made by our alumni and friends

\$638,500+

raised
to support Duquesne students



THANK YOU!

Save the date for the 9th annual Duquesne Day of Giving on Feb. 7, 2024.

Regardless of the day, you can make an impact on students on the Bluff. Scan the QR code to make a gift, in any amount, to your favorite area of campus.



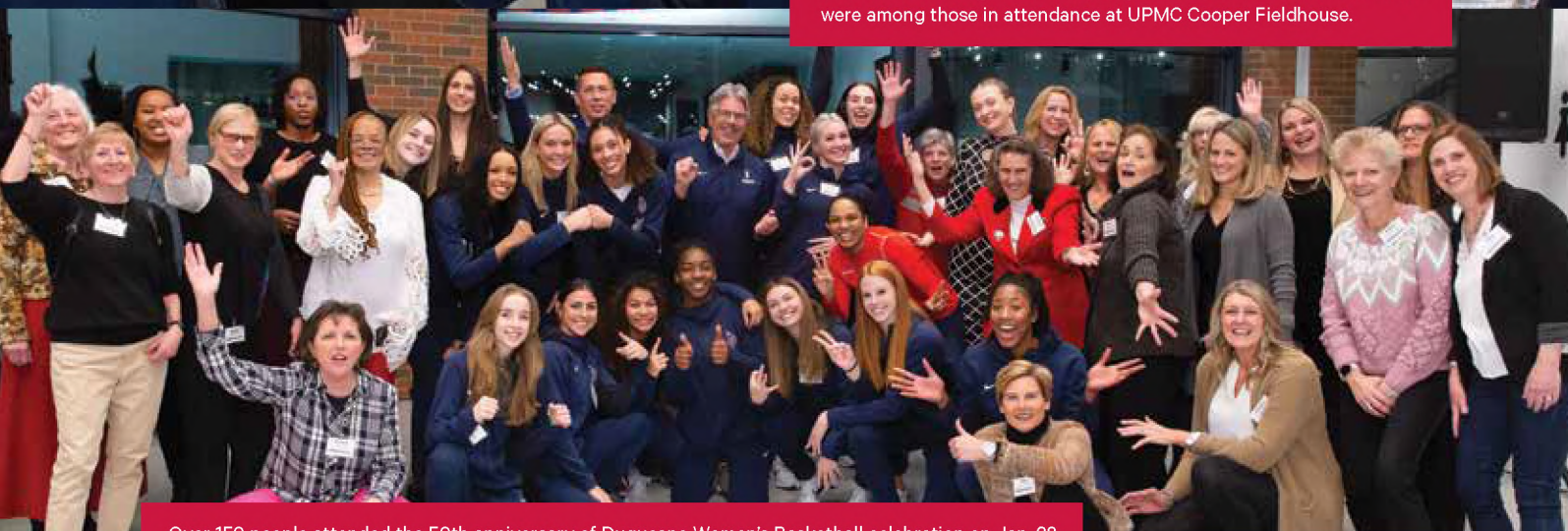


CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

Over 150 former student-athletes and friends of the program gathered to celebrate Duquesne's 50th anniversary of women's basketball on Jan. 28 at UPMC Cooper Fieldhouse. University President Ken Gormley, former player Amy Irvin (Alger), current player Amaya Hamilton and head coach Dan Burt all spoke at the Friday night reception. The weekend concluded with the 50th Anniversary Celebration Game vs. Massachusetts on Sunday afternoon.



Current Dukes Singo Lekeune, Meg McConnell and Precious Johnson were among those in attendance at UPMC Cooper Fieldhouse.



Over 150 people attended the 50th anniversary of Duquesne Women's Basketball celebration on Jan. 28.



WATCH SOME OF THE HIGHLIGHTS FROM THIS 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION:



DAMBROT
500
CAREER WINS

BURT
ALL-TIME
WIN LEADER



A PAIR OF MILESTONES

Women's basketball coach Dan Burt and men's head coach Keith Dambrot both reached impressive milestones during the 2022-2023 season. Burt, who just completed his 10th season at Duquesne, became the program's all-time wins leader when the Dukes defeated Vermont on Dec. 10.

Dambrot, who just completed his sixth season on the Bluff, put a cap on his 25th season overall when he notched win No. 500 on Feb. 8 vs. George Mason. Dambrot became just the 27th active Division I coach to reach the 500-win plateau.



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.

PEIRCE FAMILY MAKES TRANSFORMATIONAL GIFT TO SUPPORT DYSLEXIA EDUCATION

The Peirce Family Foundation has given nearly \$9 million to support and extend programs at both Duquesne and Robert Morris University that focus on literacy education, with a special emphasis on dyslexia and related reading disabilities. Announced during National Dyslexia Awareness Month in October, the gift is the largest ever made in Pennsylvania by individuals to prepare teachers to help those with dyslexia, and among the largest gifts of such a focus ever made in the United States.

Of the total gift, Duquesne received \$4.47 million to establish the Bob and Joan Peirce Center for Dyslexia Education and Support in the School of Education.

The Peirces' gift extends for a decade their long-running philanthropic support of reading clinics, where hundreds of children have strengthened their ability to read. The Peirce Family Scholarships at Duquesne enable teachers from elementary and secondary schools throughout the Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh to pursue master of science degrees in reading and literacy education, incurring no tuition expenses in the process. Three cohorts of the Peirce Scholars already have started or earned degrees under the program.

Read more at duq.edu/PeirceGift



DUQUESNE ANNOUNCES NEW STUDENT APARTMENT BUILDING

A new 11-story, 556-bed student apartment building will be constructed on Forbes Avenue as the result of a public-private partnership between Duquesne University, Harrison Street and Radnor Property group. The 216-unit project will feature amenity spaces, bicycle parking, a fitness area and outdoor courtyards accessible to residents, Duquesne students and the greater community. Construction on the project began with site work in early January 2023.

“We are excited to be able to offer an additional vibrant living and learning environment in which our upper-year and graduate students will continue to build a sense of community,” said Duquesne University President Ken Gormley. This project will also enable us to complete the enhancements and beautification of the Forbes Avenue corridor in 2024.”

The project is anticipating a LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Silver rating.

Read more at duq.edu/NewStudentApartments



PRESIDENT GORMLEY'S NEW BOOK ADDS OBJECTIVE, HISTORICAL VIEW OF TRUMP PRESIDENCY

One of the first books to examine the Trump presidency through a neutral historical lens after its conclusion was published by author, constitutional/presidential scholar and Duquesne president Ken Gormley.

Of the original *The Presidents and the Constitution* book, iconic journalist and award-winning author Bob Woodward wrote: “Ken Gormley has connected the Constitutional dots brilliantly, demonstrating the immense concentration of power in the chief executive and the different, often contradictory, ways it has been used or misused. The book is a class in Constitutional Law all by itself.”

Gormley's original volume (published in 2016) features contributions by some of the nation's leading historians and presidential scholars, and includes a chapter on every president from George Washington to Barack Obama. The new paperback, released in 2022, includes a chapter on the colorful yet controversial Trump presidency. Written by Gormley, attorney Joy McNally and political scientist Dr. Joseph DiSarro, the Trump chapter tackles the daunting task of placing the Trump presidency into a broader historical context.

Read more: duq.edu/GormleyBook

Recent Rankings

PALUMBO-DONAHUE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

#77 *Poets & Quants*, a leading online publication for undergraduate business and education news, ranked Duquesne No. 77 on its prestigious annual list.

TOP 40 Duquesne's One-Year MBA program is again the top American school and has climbed to No. 6 globally in Corporate Knights' 2022 top 40 Better World MBA Rankings.

THOMAS R. KLINE SCHOOL OF LAW OF DUQUESNE UNIVERSITY

The Princeton Review released its 2023 Law School ratings, with the Thomas R. Kline School of Law of Duquesne University once again performing exceptionally well.

The ratings are based on a scale from 60 to 99, with 99 being the highest possible score. The faculty at Duquesne Kline were recognized and highly regarded for both their accessibility and their teaching. A score of 96 was achieved for the “Professors Accessible” category and a score of 95 was achieved for the “Professors Teaching” category. A score of 92 was achieved for “Career,” which is a measure of “the confidence students have in their school's ability to lead them to fruitful employment opportunities, as well as the school's own record of having done so.”

#27 (out of 168) **for Career Rating**
#36 (out of 168) **for Professors**

SCHOOL OF NURSING

95.58% first-time pass rate on NCLEX-RN scores

US News & World Report Online Graduate Nursing Programs rose to

37th up from 46th in 2022

Several specialty areas

RANKED IN THE TOP 10:

Online Master's in Nursing Programs – Nursing Education #2

Online Master's in Nursing Programs – Family Nurse Practitioner #4

Online Master's in Nursing Programs – Nursing Administration #9

Online Master's in Nursing Programs for Veterans #9

Alumni Updates

1960s

Robert S. Barker, A’63, L’66, GA’74, consulted in the Inter-American Bar Association (IABA) investigation of the recent impeachment of several justices of the Supreme Court of Argentina; serving as a member of the governing Council of the IABA since 1995.

Carol (Mamula) Morgan, A’63, had her terra cotta bas relief *Trolley People* accepted to the August show at the Alexandria (Va.) Art League Gallery.

Richard Schuler, B’69, GB’73, and his wife Nancy celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Nov. 11, 2022. They were married in Duquesne’s chapel by Rev. Joseph A. Healy, C.S.Sp.

1970s

Diane Kanaskie Wuycheck, A’73, received a Humanitarian Award from the Western Pennsylvania Diaper Bank for her long-time dedication to the organization.

Frank J. Capuzzi, GE’76, retired after serving as principal in the Duquesne City, New Kensington-Arnold and West Mifflin school districts. His wife, Donna, retired from the Bethel Park school district after 35 years of teaching.

1980s

Andrea (Griffith) Geraghty, L’83; June F. Swanson, L’84; and W. Grant Scott, III, L’87, of the Pittsburgh firm Meyer, Unkovic and Scott, were recognized by the 2023 edition of “Best Lawyers in America.”

1990s

Laura (Bloom) Snell, E’90, and fellow Duquesne alumna **Olivia Solomon, E’22**, are teaching math at the same high school in Mount Pleasant, S.C.

J. Robert Hanlon, Jr., A’94, and **Christopher P. Smith, Jr., A’96**, of the Pittsburgh firm Meyer, Unkovic and Scott, were recognized by the 2023 edition of “Best Lawyers in America.”

Gianni Floro, A’94, GS’96, L’00, was elected to membership of the Academy of Trial Lawyers of Allegheny County, one of the highest honors for a civil litigator who demonstrates profound excellence and professionalism in their practice.

Dr. Lisa (Freda) Kugler, M’94, joined Shatterproof, a national nonprofit focused on transforming addiction treatment, ending stigma and supporting communities. She

is the new senior vice president of ATLAS (Addiction Treatment Locator, Assessment and Standards) platform.

Janet Puppo, GE’96, GA’07, published two theology books: *Suffering Makes You Beautiful* and *Who Do You Say That I AM?: Intimations in the Divine Names*.

Jeannine Christie, HS’99, GHS’00, has been named regional director of Therapy Services for Aveanna Health care in the Florida region. Christie is a graduate of the speech-language pathology program and currently resides in St. Petersburg.

2000s

Daniel J. Capuzzi, B’00, GP’07, is staff pharmacist for Rite Aid in Rochester Hills, Mich.

Frank Kosir, Jr., L’01, of the Pittsburgh firm Meyer, Unkovic and Scott, was recently recognized by the 2023 edition of “Best Lawyers in America.”

Milana A. (Capuzzi) Popovic , E’06, is a school librarian in the Bethel Park School District.

Steven M. Capuzzi, GP’06, is an associate director of Access and Reimbursement for Boehringer Ingelheim.

2010s

David N. Curry, GA’10, retired after more than 37 years of combined active duty and civilian service with the Department of Defense. Curry was the Chief of Counterintelligence Operations with the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, where he served from 2006-2022. He previously retired from the United States Air Force, with service throughout the world from 1985-2006.

Sasa Miskovic, N’14, is a product manager for Scrum Master and director of goalkeeping for Century Soccer.

Sonja A. (Capuzzi) Miskovic, E’14, GE’16, is a teacher in the West Mifflin Area School District.

Chelsea Zahn, B’14, received a promotion as a corporate partnership sales manager with the Pittsburgh Steelers.

Erica Kahl, HS’16, was recognized as a 2022 Forty Under 40 honoree by the Central Penn Business Journal based on her professional accomplishments, community service and commitment to inspiring change.

Anthony Priore , A’16, GA’18, accepted a new position as digital marketing specialist with accessibility software company TPGi, where he leads the firm’s paid advertising, SEO, social media and digital content strategies. He is a member of Duquesne’s Young Alumni Network, serving on the Communications team.

Rev. Christopher Pujol, A’16, was ordained to the priesthood on June 4, 2022 and has been assigned as Episcopal Master of Ceremonies for the Diocese of Greensburg, Pa. as well as Parochial Vicar of Blessed Sacrament Cathedral.

2020s

Hannah Nash, A’21, was promoted to assistant account executive with Powers Brand Communications.

Marriages

Lisa Skedzielewski, GP’12, married Robert Drummond on May 28, 2022 in Wilmington, Del.

Births

Andrea (Komanecy) Mayer, S’09, GHS’11, and her husband Ryan welcomed son Shane Charles Mayer on June 27, 2022, in Cleveland, Ohio.

Briana Simko-Williams, A’11, and **Michael Williams A’11, GA’14**,

welcomed their first child, a son named Nathan Donald, on June 15, 2022.

Tara Zurcher, B’12x, GA’14, and her husband Kristopher welcomed their daughter Raya Rose on Oct. 3, 2022.

Sonja A. (Capuzzi) Miskovic, E’14, GE’16, and her husband **Sasa Miskovic, N’14**, welcomed the birth of son Sava Miskovic on Aug. 14, 2022.

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 July 18, 2022 and Jan. 23, 2023. 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 alumnonline@duq.edu.

Deceased Alumni from July 18, 2022-Jan. 23, 2023

Concetta L. Morano, N’46
Rosemary D’Ascenzo, A’47
Gloria S. Meisner, P’50
Rita E. Coultas, N’51
A. Joseph Creston, B’51
Francis J. Fearon, P’51
James E. Sandala, P’51
William M. Murphy, Esq., A’52
Anthony V. Paesano, E’52
John T. Prezioso, B’52
Stanley J. Szott, A’52
Robert C. Bildstein, B’53
Helen Alyce D’Alfonso, M’53
Samuel S. Free, A’53
Kostas J. Mastros, B’53
E. Richard Kolesar, B’54
Peter Zdinak, A’54
Anthony M. DiVittorio, A’55
Martin C. Mihm, Jr., M.D., A’55
Sr. Mary Weatherly, CDP, E’55
James Oliver Gibson, A’56
Lois A. Kaercher, A’56

Paulette J. Rote, E’56, GE’59
Michael Vavrek, M’56
M. Louise Willebrand, E’56
Frank J. Zappala, Jr., Esq., L’56
Barbara J. Baughman, M’57
Mervin A. Kendall, P’57
Daniel A. Torisky, A’57
Mary L. Ventresca, E’57
James J. Bauman, B’58
Luca J. Bianco, CPA, B’58
Edward S. Graham, B’58
Dr. Carl C. Hug, Jr., E’58
Sr. Pauline H. Kadilak, OSF, E’58, GE’63
James J. Kennedy, B’58
Alphonse J. Madia, M’58, GM’70
John F. Soboslay, E’58, GE’62
Michael E. Yukich, A’58
Ronald G. Amodeo, S’59
Gertrude A. Chleboski, E’59
Albert W. Dudreck, B’59
Paul L. Ebright, A’59
Hugh F. Farabaugh, A’59
Sonja DeGray, P’59
Robert A. Gerlach, Esq., L’59
Bob Horn, B’59, GB’68
John T. McVay, B’59
Leonard J. Mlejnek, M’59
Philip R. Spinelli, A’59
John Barron, GE’60
George J. Brown, E’60
Dr. Edward G. Coll, Jr., A’60
Clinton S. Janes, Esq., L’60
Anthony J. Malpede, B’60
Rita C. Polansky, E’60, GE’77
Thomas M. Pushkar, B’60
John J. Valenti, P’60
Gilbert J. Zilner, P’60
David A. Aleva, A’61
Sr. Mary Ann Dujanovic, E’61, GE’68
Mary K. Gainty, GM’61
Robert L. Hurley, Esq., B’61, L’64
Juliet A. Krizan, E’61
Frank A. Loebig, B’61
Richard D. Lund, B’61

In MEMORIAM

Rhodora J. Donahue passed away Dec. 12, 2022, in Naples, Fla. at age 97. A Pittsburgh native, daughter of a Duquesne alumnus (William Jacob, L’1919) and 1947 graduate of Mount Mercy College (now Carlow University), Rhodora married West Point graduate and Air Force veteran John F. “Jack” Donahue that same year, forging a bond that endured for 70 years until Jack’s passing in 2017. Jack built one of the world’s preeminent financial companies, Federated Investors, and together they raised 13 children. In 2020, Rhodora was one of the first three benefactors to make seven-figure gift commitments to Duquesne’s College of Osteopathic Medicine (COM). Her interest in fertility awareness, a personal passion rooted in her Catholic faith, inspired an academic center that will be housed in the COM.

Martin C. Mihm, Jr., M.D., A’55, died on July 19, 2022, in Boston, Mass, at age 88. After earning his degree in political science at Duquesne, Mihm completed medical studies at the University of Pittsburgh and later earned a master’s degree in education at Harvard. An internationally recognized expert on malignant melanoma, Mihm was director of the Melanoma Program at Brigham and Women’s Hospital and associate director of the Dana-Farber/Brigham and Women’s Center for Melanoma Oncology. He also held adjunct faculty positions at Albany Medical College, Harvard Medical School, Massachusetts General Hospital, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Vanderbilt University and the University of Puerto Rico. Mihm was inducted into the Century Club of Distinguished Duquesne Alumni in 1985

E. Thomas Pappert, B’61, of Bloomfield Hills, Mich., passed away on Aug. 28, 2022, at age 82. Pappert joined Chrysler Corporation in 1962 as a sales trainee and retired as the company’s vice president for U.S. automotive sales in 1998. His 18-year tenure as vice president spanned Chrysler’s resurgence under CEO Lee Iacocca, including the introduction of the minivan and the acquisition of the iconic Jeep brand. Pappert is credited with spurring cultural change among Chrysler’s dealer networks, focusing on customer satisfaction. He established the Pappert/Chrysler Minority Dealers’ Scholarship at Duquesne and the Dr. Thomas D. Pappert Center for Innovation in the Music School. Pappert was inducted into the Century Club of Distinguished Duquesne Alumni in 1997 and the Automotive Hall of Fame in 1999.

Robert L. Wintermyer, Ph.D., GA’69, passed away on Jan. 11, 2023, in Akron, Ohio. After receiving his doctorate in chemistry, Wintermyer served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War. Upon leaving the service, he taught high school biology and chemistry before joining Dow Chemical, first as a research chemist involved with developing household products including Saran Wrap and Styrofoam; later as a global intellectual assets manager. Retiring from Dow at age 67, he went back to school and began a new career as a practicing physician assistant and a full faculty member at Central Michigan University. Wintermyer made annual financial contributions to Duquesne for nearly 50 years and endowed a scholarship for science students. He was inducted into the Century Club of Distinguished Alumni in 2019.

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

In MEMORIAM

Gilbert J. Zilner, P'60, passed away on Sept. 10, 2022, in Indiana, Pa., at age 84. As a teenager, Zilner worked at a local pharmacy in his hometown of Arnold, Pa., and was moved to pursue his bachelor's degree in the field at Duquesne, where he met his future wife Joan (Raimondo) Zilner, P'60. After working as a manager for the Thrift Drug chain, he and Joan purchased Diamond Drug in Indiana in 1970. They soon acquired other stores in Pennsylvania and Ohio, and pioneered a new specialty, filling prescriptions in bulk for nursing homes and correctional facilities across the country. Under their leadership, Diamond became the nation's largest family-owned pharmacy. Gilbert and Joan were inducted into the Century Club of Distinguished Duquesne University Alumni together in 2015.

John T. Prezioso, B'52, of Mt. Lebanon, Pa., died Oct. 27, 2022, at age 93. Prezioso and his brother Francis (B'59) co-founded West Penn Warehousing in 1969 and Pittsburgh-Fayette Express in 1978. A lifelong fan and supporter of Duquesne Athletics, especially the basketball programs, he was a member of the Dukes Court board of directors and contributed to locker room renovations in the former A.J. Palumbo Center. Prezioso also served on the board of directors of the Audia Caring Heritage Association

- Lucio Martin, GE'61

Thomas J. McCarthy, E'61

E. Thomas Pappert, B'61

David J. Reese, B'61, GE'65

Eugene Ritter, A'61

Charles F. Smith, B'61

Robert E. Trojanowski, A'61, GB'70

Robert H. Boynton, B'62

Sr. Dolores E. Brugo, OSF, E'62, GE'70

Ted R. Erkman, A'62

Richard T. Hanus, B'62

Sr. Miriam K. Kowal, E'62, GE'64

Joseph G. Larkin, B'62

Alan E. Rosenbloom, A'62, GA'66

Leo J. Fallon, P'63

Sr. Mary Kriley, CDP, E'63

Sr. M. Marietta Bankos, OSF, E'64

Thelma Ann Bast, N'64

Patrick D. Clark, Esq., L'64

Joseph P. Crytzer, B'64

Richard J. Dube, A'64

Susan J. Fitzpatrick, A'64
- Linda S. Karanovich, A'64

Mary Jo McGonagle, E'64

Mary G. Moore, GE'64

Anthony E. Moravec, GE'64

Rev. John G. Petro, A'64

Jennie A. Schilken, A'64

Charles R. David, B'65

Anthony J. Deutsch, USAF, B'65

George L. Hallal, Esq., L'65

Peter F. Julia, B'65

Rochelle C. Landis, A'65

John D. Lawry, Ph.D., GA'65

Thomas F. Mailey, GE'65

George J. Makar, GE'65

The Hon. Bernard Markovitz, L'65

Charles J. Mazur, Jr., A'65

Mary Ann Palmer, A'65

Peter F. Rauso, A'65

Janet C. Schafer, A'65

Rev. Edward M. Semko, A'65

William R. Harper, Esq., A'66, L'75

Rev. Rene McGraw, OSB, A'66

Ronald F. Naughton, Esq., L'66

- Donna Grace Sundstrom, E'66

Rosemarie Williams, A'66

C. David Dalcanton, GA'67

Rev. Lawrence L. Hoppe, GE'67

Harold A. O'Toole, II, A'67

Donna B. Spinazzola, GE'67

Raymond E. Suehr, A'67

Joseph T. Deyo, Esq., L'68

James D. Elder, Esq., L'68

Carol A. Maggio, E'68

Sr. Francesca Parana, OSF, GA'68

Dennis J. Powell, E'68

James P. Rooney, A'68, GE'73

- Thomas W. Sheridan, GA'68, GA'76, GA'77

John E. Solensky, A'68

Robert J. Albert, GB'69

Daniel P. Barry, CPA, B'69

Wayne H. Duerr, S'69, GS'72

Alice M. Kulikowski, E'69

Rebecca J. Kushner, E'69

James R. McDonald, L'69

- Sr. Phyllis M. McDonald, GE'69

Richard L. Newtz, B'69

Dennis A. Pallan, M.D., A'69

Andrea J. Beranek, Ph.D., GA'70, GA'04

John Bleyer, Ph.D., GE'70

Charles J. Dymer, A'70

William L. Garvin, Esq., L'70

Christine M. Wellins, E'70

Sr. Martha T. Baier, GE'71

The Hon. David R. Cashman, L'71

Stephen Marchetti, GS'71

Mark A. Singer, E'71

David E. Cimarolli, A'72

Sanford P. Gross, Esq., L'72

Anne Claire McCafferty, A'72

John S. McNally, GB'72

Robert P. Pflumm, CPA, B'72

William C. Rose, GB'72

Gloria Smith, GE'72

Patrick C. Burns, B'73

Thomas L. Huston, GA'73

Erica J. MacBeth, GE'73

- Ronald E. Morrison, B'73

Patricia A. O'Connell, A'73

Richard A. Stoltz, Esq., L'73

Gordon P. Kempe, A'74

John A. Knorr, Esq., L'74

Gary W. McKeever, M'74, GM'86

Anthony Monico, Jr., E'74

Joseph Francis Smith, GA'74, GA'78

The Honorable Max Baer, L'75

Sr. Catherine Frost, GE'75

Thomas P. Lynch, B'75

Radiant N. Shipp, GE'75

Nancy L. Cantatore, M'76

- Frederick B. Elliott, Esq., L'76

Cynthia E. Kernick, Esq., GE'76, L'85

Carl J. Roscosky, GE'76

Jan C. Stampien, D.D.S., GS'76

Dr. Gianni DeVincent-Hayes, GE'77

Joan C. Dyer, GE'77

Thomas J. Friedman GS'77

William A. Krohmaly, A'77

Mary L. Gantz, GE'78

Barbara J. Kantor, P'78

- Charlotte J. McClelland, GE'78

David R. Pipher, GP'78

Patricia Redick Romano, GE'78

Pamela K. Bellas-Karrer, P'79

Gregory S. Canestro, E'79

Louis A. Chiodo, P'79

Eileen R. Chisari, N'79, GE'82

Luisa Tonzig Coraluppi, Ph.D., GA'79, GA'88

Daniel M. Dixon, A'79

Colonel Michael W. Pierce, GA'79

Larry L. Yohe, A'79

Helen D. Lenkiewicz, N'80

Jane G. Bress, GE'81

Charles F. McElwee, Esq., L'81

Steven M. Pacella, GE'81

Noreen C. Poploski, A'81

Joseph Marasco, Esq., L'83

Carole A. Thomas, GM'83

Rev. Vernon A. Holtz, OSB, GA'84

Alec C. Mahone, Jr., A'84

James W. Swinnich, GA'85

- Matthew A. Boice, GM'86

Sheila D. Hanna, GE'88

J. Kenneth Myers, Esq., L'88

Leigh A. Kopco, P'89

James E. Scioscia, A'89

Rita Defrances, GA'90

Leonard Anthony Grence, Esq., A'90, L'93

V. Paige Griffin, N'90

Michael F. Janoski, A'90

Joseph Kirk Kling, Esq., L'90

Heather Marie Lulves, A'90

Bruce H. Gelman, Esq., L'92

- Cathleen A. Wilson, E'94

Roberta S. Lowers, A'95

Patricia J. Kraus, HS'95, GHS'96

Frederick L. Demarest, GB'96, GB'98

Kelly J. Donkers, HS'96, GHS'97

Jean Olenak, A'96

David M. Coleman, GE'97

Rev. Anthony Gargotta, A'97

Lee A. Leech, GN'97

Sandra L. Schweers, GE'99

Joseph L. Tarkett, GA'99

Lynn M. Simko, Ph.D., GN'00

Barbara S. Kenney, A'01

- Frances M. Burke, A'02

Jennifer L. Leone, Esq., L'03

Leslie H. Squires, Esq. L'03

Franco A. DelSignore, A'18

Deceased Friends from July 18, 2022-Jan. 23, 2023

- Sr. Patricia Daly

Rhodora J. Donahue

Thomas E. Faley

Audrey Turlick Scholle Fusco

Robert L. Gibson

Cynthia R. Hammel

John R. Henne

- Dale E. Joseph

Bernadette P. Karpiniak

David F. Kelly, Ph.D.

Beverly Levine

Joseph Lugares

Maurice T. Murphy, Jr.

James Nesbit

Charelle Samuels, Ph.D.

Jeanne A. Sidoruk

Agnes Huszar Vardy, Ph.D.

Edward. J. Weismann

Derek Whordley, Ph.D.

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 to log into www.myduquesne.duq.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.





Check out www.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 for the latest details on what's happening at Duquesne, events and how to get involved and stay connected.



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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.

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