Also in this issue:
DU Hosts the National Conference on the First Amendment
Plans for New UPMC Cooper Fieldhouse Unveiled

JUSTICE
Sonia Sotomayor
U.S. Supreme Court Justice Visits DU
PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

In my role as president, I’ve tried to emphasize the importance of listening to differing views carefully and respectfully. Open-mindedness is a trait that has always made our country strong, innovative and committed to justice. It’s also what’s recently made three major events hosted by Duquesne University so inspirational.

The National Conference on the First Amendment drew experts and attendees from all over the world last October for a spirited discussion about the legal and ethical lines that separate free expression from the abuse of that liberty.

Civility and, indeed, kindness were the themes on Nov. 7 when Duquesne celebrated the publication of *The Good Neighbor: The Life and Work of Fred Rogers*, a fabulous book by foundation leader Maxwell King. Fred Rogers’ wife, Joanne, and two actors from *Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood* participated in this moving program. They reminded us that, notwithstanding events such as the horrific shooting at Pittsburgh’s Tree of Life synagogue less than two weeks earlier, gentleness and compassion still make for lives well lived.

And on Dec. 7, we welcomed U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor for an intimate question-and-answer about her life, hopes, concerns and dreams for future generations. In our cover story, you’ll read about her humble origins, the phone call she made to her mother after former President Barack Obama nominated her to the highest court in the land, the “little chill that still goes down [her] back” whenever she walks into the Supreme Court chambers, and—apropos of civil discourse—the collegiality maintained among justices of different political backgrounds and philosophical perspectives, even as they disagree and debate about the most pressing issues of our time.

These recent events not only shone a positive spotlight on Duquesne as our university stood on the national stage, they also underscored how this special 140-year-old institution continues to shape lives for a new era. Those blessed to receive a Duquesne education or to work as teachers or scholars here are—more than ever before—building success on our campus, in our city and around the world.

This year, for instance, our Bayer School of Natural and Environmental Sciences celebrates its 25th anniversary. Inside, you’ll find out how its cutting-edge research programs and award-winning faculty have risen to national and international renown. Check out the story of a dynamic physics professor who teamed up with some extreme pogo enthusiasts (yes, you read that correctly) to turn an abandoned school in Pittsburgh’s Wilkinsburg neighborhood into a thriving community center. There are plenty more examples of Duquesne’s faculty and students blazing new paths that are chronicled within these pages.

I hope you enjoy this issue of *Duquesne University Magazine*. These stories are further reminders of how we, as members of the Duquesne family, lift up others to attain new levels of excellence—always in keeping with our Spiritan mission of serving God by serving our students, so that they, in turn, can serve others.

Sincerely,

Ken Gormley
Duquesne University President

Thoughts from the President

“...this special 140-year-old institution continues to shape lives for a new era.”
Below is a sampling of exciting events and activities President Ken Gormley has participated in during recent months.

Nearly 600 guests were in attendance at the 20th annual Veterans Day Breakfast at Duquesne, considered one of the largest gatherings of veterans in the state. The event was sponsored by the Veterans Breakfast Club. Here, President Gormley is shown with veterans Gerard Driscoll, left, and George Herwig.

The annual “Cops ‘n Chefs BBQ on the Bluff” was held on Academic Walk in October to benefit the campus United Way campaign.

In October, Duquesne University awarded an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters to Roosevelt Skerrit, prime minister of Dominica. Following the degree presentation, Skerrit delivered the Integrity of Creation Leadership Address, “Building Climate Resilient Countries.”

In September, Duquesne hosted Pennsylvania Department of Education Deputy Secretary of Postsecondary and Higher Education Noe Ortega for a tour of campus and to learn more about issues such as career readiness and accessibility. From left are Rev. Raymond French, C.S.Sp., vice president for mission and identity; Alexandra Kozak, government relations manager; William Generett, Jr., vice president for community engagement; Dr. David J. Dausey, provost and vice president for academic affairs; Ortega; and President Gormley.

In October, President Gormley visited the new Destination Moon exhibit. Here, he is shown standing in front of the Apollo Command Module “Columbia” with Dennis A. Watson, fellow Heinz History Center board member.

Duquesne Board Chair Jack McGinley was recently honored among a select group for 50 years of practice with the Allegheny County Bar Association (ACBA). Shown with McGinley are ACBA President Bryan S. Neft, left, and President Gormley.

In December, the Duquesne University SGA hosted its 22nd annual Night of Lights celebration. The event featured singing, carriage rides, crafts and raffle prizes. All donations and proceeds from the Night of Lights benefit Autism Speaks.

The School of Nursing’s ninth annual McGinley-Rice Symposium on Justice for Vulnerable Populations was held in October and examined human trafficking. The Sisters of Charity met with President Gormley before the start of one of the sessions.

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When the Duquesne University community comes together, we can move mountains! Thank you to all the loyal Dukes and friends from around the world who came together virtually on our Day of Giving 2019 to break records for the fourth year in a row and eclipse $300,000 in funds raised for the first time.

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

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By the Numbers

1,740 total gifts  
For the fourth year in a row, the Duquesne Day of Giving broke the record for number of total gifts in a single day.

$332,529 raised  
to support Duquesne students

200+ schools, organizations, athletics teams supported

$95,355 in Challenge Gifts unlocked

7,672 miles from Pittsburgh to Nairobi, Kenya, where our farthest donation came from

424+ #DUQDayofGiving posts on Instagram and Twitter

42 different states represented during the Day of Giving, including a donation from Alaska

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Save the Date for Duquesne Day of Giving 2020 2.20.20
DESIGNING ROBOTS, EXPLORING MARS AND EXTREME POGO

Duquesne Professor and Students Team with Sports Organization and Local Neighborhood Kids to Create Unique Community Center

By Christine Gipko, A’03, GA’06.
Why just reach for the stars when you can build a telescope and see them up close? This hands-on spirit is the driving force behind Pittsburgh Learning Commons (PLC) and Community Forge, sister organizations co-founded by Dr. Patrick Cooper, assistant professor of theoretical physics at Duquesne University.

At the heart of both organizations is creating educational opportunities for youth through community partnerships, including some out-of-this-world chances to explore the universe without ever leaving Pittsburgh. The soul of both organizations is a giant old school—the former Johnston Elementary school in Pittsburgh’s Wilkinsburg neighborhood—which is undergoing a rebirth through the hard work of Duquesne students and neighborhood kids. In an unexpected twist, extreme pogo enthusiasts are helping as well.

Finding a Home

Having a permanent community space was key for the work of PLC, but settling in the former school wasn’t a given, as the building’s size and outdoor space were at once intimidating and intriguing.

“It was a huge brick building, completely abandoned, and we thought, OK, this is a little bit more than we originally imagined—we had imagined a couple rooms—but maybe there is a really interesting project here,” Cooper says.

“Schools are an epicenter of social life in a lot of communities—they bring the parents together through the children coming together, they’re polling locations, they’re where people have practices—and there’s an element of a school closing down that is an entire community losing its beating heart. So we wondered, could we buy this school and maintain it as the community asset it once was?” Cooper says.

The short answer was yes, but they couldn’t do it alone. Fortunately, in 2016 PLC found a partner in Xpogo, an extreme pogo company whose...
founders also wanted to headquarter in Pittsburgh.

“Xpogo loved the 60-foot atrium and outdoor space but didn’t need the classrooms,” Cooper explains. “And PLC wanted to do civic and educational work, creating a kind of community center by renting out the classrooms to organizations that provided services to people in various ways.”

Together they formed Community Forge, LLC, to purchase and begin renovating the building. Within a year, nearly all of the rentable space was filled. One of the corner classrooms on the main floor is occupied by PLC, whose robust educational programming has included a grant-funded Mars space camp that immersed local 12-year-olds in the experience of building and using a Mars rover.

“We separated the kids into three teams: astrobiology, astrophysics and astroengineering. Engineering built the rover robot, biology did all the experiments the robot was going to use to find life, and the physics team designed all the physics systems for how the rover would do things like generate energy and launch in the air,” Cooper says, noting the teams had an added challenge of regularly communicating with each other to identify constraints, challenges and solutions. “Within a week, they were soldering solar panels together, making robots and programming.”

Dr. Patrick Cooper, assistant professor of theoretical physics, and Duquesne student Sean Vinsick led a team of local youth in reconstructing a 600-pound telescope on the roof of Community Forge in Wilkinsburg.

Organizations Receive Grant for STEAM-Inspired Play Space

In late 2018, the Kids Play Everywhere Grant Challenge awarded Community Forge and Pittsburgh Learning Commons (PLC) a $30,000 grant. Sponsored by Keurig, Dr Pepper and KaBOOM!, a national nonprofit that emphasizes the importance of active play in children’s lives, the design competition asked local organizations to submit new ideas for engaging, accessible play spaces.

Community Forge and PLC’s winning project, “Number Mountain,” is a math-themed playground that will promote STEAM learning and encourage unstructured play. Duquesne students Sean Vinsick and Liz Mannion were instrumental in designing and building the playground, which incorporated ideas from the PLC after-school program’s students.

Can see as far as four moons of Jupiter

Total height of telescope: 8 feet

Built by local youth construction team
At the same time, Cooper was mentoring a student construction team from the Wilkinsburg Youth Project, which connects teens looking for summer employment to local organizations that pay for the students’ assistance on various projects. Cooper assigned his team a task that might seem unusual anywhere else but made perfect sense at Community Forge: build an observatory—including a 600-pound telescope—on the roof.

How Do You Move a 600-Pound Telescope?

The giant Newtonian reflector telescope—the same type Isaac Newton used—was generously donated by a member of Pittsburgh’s Amateur Astronomers Association in the fall of 2016; and getting it to Community Forge was no small feat. The telescope’s size was an obvious challenge, and moving it involved lots of literal and figurative heavy lifting. From carefully disassembling the telescope and transporting it to Community Forge to reassembling and building housing for it, the project took several months and required a group effort by Cooper, the Wilkinsburg Youth Project team, and Duquesne student volunteers, family members and friends.

“A lot of people in the Pittsburgh community wanted this telescope, but when they realized it was eight feet long, 600 pounds and mounted into a cement casing, they changed their minds,” Cooper explains. “Fortunately, some of my students and their friends and family volunteered to help.”

The following summer, Cooper and his Wilkinsburg Youth Project team co-led by Duquesne students, reassembled and mounted the telescope, then built a removable 10-foot shed that pulls away when the telescope is in use.

Sean Vinsick, one of Cooper’s Physics 1 students, helped to renovate Community Forge and was a lead for the telescope project.

“Most of our challenges involved moving the heavy stuff,” Vinsick says. “Getting the telescope on the roof took every set of hands available to carry it up four flights of stairs and then across the roof.”

But for him, the hard work was well worth it.

“The most rewarding part of the whole experience was actually seeing the finished project and knowing that a group of kids with no previous experience in construction was able to accomplish it,” he says.

While the telescope is certainly the observatory’s largest piece of equipment, it’s not the only one. Additional equipment donations have included smaller refracting telescopes, tripod binoculars and a Dobson telescope. Cooper hopes to grow the observatory and already has the next telescope project in mind.

“The man who originally built and donated the large telescope was in the process of putting a motor on it. This is an equatorial reflecting telescope, so it’s not very difficult to provide a small torque on one of the axes of the mount that actually rotates with the rotation of the Earth. Without the motor, whatever faraway object you’re pointing at will come into frame and then go out of frame because the Earth is spinning,” Cooper says. “I’d love to find funding for the necessary equipment and, as a science project with some youth in Wilkinsburg, add a micro-controlled Arduino powering a little stepper motor to the telescope.”

The observatory project was partially funded by a grant from Duquesne’s Bayer School of Natural and Environmental Sciences; and several other Pittsburgh universities have been instrumental in supporting PLC and Community Forge.

Cooper is particularly moved by his students’ volunteer efforts, and he sees their willingness to help as an example of Duquesne’s mission at work.

“Community Forge is not too close to campus and sometimes the work we need to do is arduous, so I am especially impressed by their willingness to travel and give up weekends for that. They just want to help out, which is great,” Cooper says. “Duquesne’s mission clearly shows when so many of the students have that mindset.”

How You Can Get Involved

In addition to Pittsburgh Learning Commons’ (PLC) summer camps and educational programming, Community Forge houses a small business incubator, an artist residency program, musical and theatre performances, and more. As new and growing community organizations, they welcome support from institutions and individuals.

“We have places and projects to fit just about anyone who wants to help,” says Patrick Cooper, PLC and Community Forge co-founder and assistant professor of theoretical physics at Duquesne. “If you want to see more Wilkinsburg-native entrepreneurs starting businesses in Wilkinsburg, for example, you could contribute to the Community Forge Small Business Development Program. Or if you want to support STEM education, you could help to provide equipment for PLC’s summer programs. There are lots of ways to get involved.”

Learn more at www.forg.community and www.pghlearn.org.
Nov. 7, 2018, was seasonably cool in Pittsburgh. But in Duquesne’s Charles J. Dougherty Ballroom, the warmth was palpable. A crowd of more than 200 gathered to celebrate the life of Fred Rogers, the 50th anniversary of the beloved children’s television program Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood and the publication of The Good Neighbor: The Life and Work of Fred Rogers by author Maxwell King.

Rogers’ gentleness with words and incomparable way of relating to children were on the minds of those in the audience. Among those who spoke was Angela Stabryla, A’09, a data-quality analyst with the Veterans Leadership Program of Western Pennsylvania.

“As a child, his words brought me comfort. As an adult, I understand the wisdom behind them. I feel that if we in public television can only make it clear that feelings are mentionable and manageable, we will have done a great service for mental health.”
and the full impact they can have in my life,” said Stabryla, who incorporates episodes of Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood as she works to help veterans heal. “Some of our most comforting things are talking about his quotes. ‘Anything that is human is mentionable and manageable.’ That sentence has gotten us through so much.”

The first full-length biography of Rogers, King’s New York Times-bestselling book is a richly detailed portrait, incorporating original interviews, oral histories and archival documents to trace Rogers’ rise from a child growing up in Latrobe, Pa., to an American icon.

Duquesne University President Ken Gormley moderated a discussion with King, founding director of the Fred Rogers Center for Early Learning and Children’s Media at Saint Vincent College and current president and CEO of The Pittsburgh Foundation; Joanne Rogers, Rogers’ wife of 51 years; and two actors from Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood, David Newell, who played “Mr. McFeely,” and Joe Negri, who portrayed “Handyman Negri” and is an adjunct professor of jazz guitar at Duquesne. The panel reflected on Rogers’ works and the message of kindness and compassion he consistently conveyed.

Rogers’ enduring message resonated strongly with attendees that day, as the event occurred less than two weeks after the tragic shooting at the Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh’s Squirrel Hill neighborhood—the same neighborhood where Fred and Joanne Rogers raised their children and blocks away from the studio where Rogers filmed Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood.

King is not surprised that individuals continue to turn to Rogers for comfort.

“Duquesne University will confer two honorary degrees at its May 10, 2019, commencement ceremony. Joanne Rogers, wife of beloved children’s television personality Fred Rogers, and Maxwell King, president and CEO of The Pittsburgh Foundation and author of the acclaimed biography The Good Neighbor: The Life and Work of Fred Rogers, will receive the Doctor of Humane Letters. King also will deliver the commencement address, and Rogers also will share remarks.”

“...This is a man who woke up every morning at 5 a.m. and prayed that with each person he saw that day, he’d be as good a person as he could. Now that may sound a little hokey or trite...but could that be more important today in a world that’s so fast-paced, intense, sometimes harsh?” asked King.

For decades, Rogers led the way for educational television, emphasizing the critical importance of the social and emotional development of children.

On May 1, 1969, a year after Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood first aired, Rogers testified before the U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Communications to defend $20 million in federal funding proposed for the newly formed nonprofit Corporation for Public Broadcasting. Rogers’ quiet, powerful testimony won the support of then-subcommittee chairperson Sen. John Pastore and broke new ground for the future of public television.

“I give an expression of care every day to each child, to help him realize that he is unique…I feel that if we in public television can only make it clear that feelings are mentionable and manageable,”
we will have done a great service for mental health,” Rogers testified.

Rogers’ values align with Duquesne’s historic mission, noted King.

“The Spiritan tradition at Duquesne is such a strong tradition of the same kind of wonderful human and Christian values that Fred Rogers exemplified,” he said.

As the afternoon unfolded, panel members shared personal reflections, interspersed with video clips from the program. The event concluded with Negri playing familiar tunes from *Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood*, such as “It’s You I Like.” The audience joined him for “It’s Such a Good Feeling,” the closing song from the show.

King reflected on the feeling in the room that afternoon.

“This is a time when people need kindness,” he said. “A lot of young people today get advice that they have to run really fast and be really tough. That’s not Fred’s advice. Fred would have told them to slow down. And to be kind.”

1. President Ken Gormley served as moderator for the heartwarming discussion.
2. With his guitar nearby, Joe Negri fondly recalled his years as “Handyman Negri.”
3. David Newell autographed memorabilia for a guest.
4. Joe Negri performed songs from *Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood* as the audience sang along.
5. Max King discussed the process of writing *The Good Neighbor: The Life and Work of Fred Rogers*.
6. Audience members were happy and nostalgic as they viewed video clips.
7. Joanne Rogers listened proudly as panelists recounted their favorite memories of Fred Rogers.
University Offers New Programs Starting in 2019

By Kelley Maloney, GA’98

Across the University, schools are launching new undergraduate and graduate programs. Below is information about some of the new offerings. For more information, and a complete list of new programs, visit www.duq.edu/newprograms.

MCANULTY COLLEGE AND GRADUATE SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS

Major in Cybersecurity Studies

As cyber warfare continues to become a cost-effective and convenient weapon among terrorist groups, the need for cybersecurity professionals continues to increase. To meet that need, the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science and the Center for International Relations are offering a new major in cybersecurity studies. The major will focus on policy analysis at governmental and international levels, as well as communication methods among terrorists.

Duquesne’s cybersecurity studies major will be differentiated in that it focuses not only on the technological aspect, but on the importance of understanding policy. Students will learn skills in both coding and security policy, which will position them for careers in policy analysis, security planning, security operations, government and forensics, among others.

Master of Science in Computer Science

The Department of Mathematics and Computer Science is expanding its offerings with a new Master of Science in Computer Science. The 30-credit program will focus specifically on computing theory and programming. With core courses such as Networks, Artificial Intelligence and Data Management Operating Systems, students will be able to apply techniques of computer science to analyze, synthesize and evaluate solutions to practical, real-world problems.

Students will have the opportunity to complete an internship as well as a unique ethics component of the program that stresses professional ethics in the field of computer science. Students already working as computer science professionals will enjoy the convenient evening classes with online components.

This STEM-designated program also will be appealing to international students wishing to continue their education. The designation allows for additional time in the U.S. for optional practical training (OPT).

PALUMBO-DONAHUE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

Master of Science in Analytics and Information Management

The 30-credit Master of Science in Analytics and Information Management (MS-AIM) program was developed for professionals who want to learn to apply models, analytical methods, and visualization tools to data, producing insights that lead to better business decisions. Professionals from a wide variety of industries and roles, including accountants, financial analysts, marketing analysts, economists, attorneys, pharmacists, scientists and engineers, among many others, will benefit from this program.

The STEM-designated program is a combination of business and technical aspects and has three major themes: data stewardship, data analytics and actionable communication. Students will gain a foundation in data and database management, the use of analytical methods, the interpretation of analytical results, the use of visualization tools and the organizational context within which decisions are made. Classes will be hybrid campus-online and online formats.

BAYER SCHOOL OF NATURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Chemistry 4+1 BS to MS

The Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry has developed an opportunity for students to maximize their undergraduate degree by earning a master’s degree in chemistry with just one additional academic year of courses.

The Chemistry 4+1 program was developed to meet the increasing demand for chemists with master’s degrees for roles in areas such as scientific research and development, pharmaceutical and medicine manufacturing, and chemical manufacturing. The Bureau of Labor Statistics projects employment of “chemists and materials scientists” to grow seven percent between 2016 and 2026. The program also offers an advantage to students looking to continue their research with competitive Ph.D. programs.

Five major learning outcomes include: fundamental chemical knowledge, knowledge synthesis, research competency, understanding of chemical safety and the ability to apply scientific ethics. Students have the opportunity to begin research as early as their freshman year.
Lessons from the Past

DUQUESNE AND HOLOCAUST CENTER OF PITTSBURGH PARTNER FOR POLICE TRAINING

By Gina O’Malley

“Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.”

The words of philosopher George Santayana have been applied to many situations throughout history, perhaps most often in association with one of the world’s darkest periods—the Holocaust.

Survivors and World War II veterans depart the Earth in greater numbers each day, taking with them their stories, experiences and historical knowledge. As access to firsthand accounts dwindles, it becomes increasingly important to find new ways to pass down the lessons of this horrific time.

Duquesne Associate Professor of Sociology Dr. Norman Conti hopes to do just that through Duquesne’s innovative educational partnership with the Holocaust Center of Pittsburgh and the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police.

While many assume the Holocaust was the result of military actions, there also was a large law enforcement component. Police officers were first enlisted by the Nazis to maintain order, but they ultimately committed some of the regime’s most violent and heinous acts—including murder.

Together, Duquesne and the Holocaust Center of Pittsburgh deliver police training that examines the process by which those law enforcement officers—once ordinary citizens—turned into executioners. Though it’s difficult to understand how this could occur, it’s essential to understand these terrible mistakes from history.

“You see World War II documentaries, and it seems like another world and another time,” explains Conti. “We are attempting to demonstrate the connections between systemic and individual evil and what we can do in response.”

Conti developed the police training after a chance encounter with Holocaust Center of Pittsburgh Director Lauren Bairnsfather. After hearing Conti’s vision for the program, Bairnsfather thought the partnership seemed like a natural fit.

“I left our conversation very excited,” she says. “Norm is already
“Duquesne has enriched the efforts of the Holocaust Center. There is a message in Holocaust education that people need to hear. And it matters right now.”

on the cutting edge of police training.”

Program development came organically for Conti, who has more than a decade of experience leading Inside-Out, a program that brings incarcerated individuals together with non-incarcerated students, police officers and police recruits for dialogue and learning.

“Both programs operate in the University’s Spiritan tradition of trying to make good happen for everyone,” he explains. “The Holocaust training is a perfect ancillary to what we’re doing in the prison system.”

It was through Inside-Out that Conti met Sgt. Colleen Bristow of the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police training academy. Bristow was instrumental in adding the Holocaust program to the police academy curriculum in an effort to address ethical questions that still come up in police work. The training complements the academy’s already robust diversity training initiatives, and it examines a complicated story that carries relevance today.

The world received a grim reminder that anti-Semitism is very much alive when a gunman stormed the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh’s Squirrel Hill neighborhood on Oct. 27, 2018, killing 11 and wounding six others, including four police officers.

In the days following the shooting, Bairnsfather spoke with The Associated Press and said, “I was shocked. But I also thought, ‘Why not here? It’s happening everywhere.

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The Mary Pappert School of Music donated all ticket sale proceeds from its Nov. 2 concert, The Music of Billy Strayhorn, to the Tree of Life Synagogue. The late Strayhorn, a fellow Pittsburgher, is remembered dually for his musical legacy and his commitment to civil rights and condemnation of hate. The concert, which raised more than $1,000, provided an evening of togetherness.

The Jewish Law Students Association and Duquesne Hillel held an on-campus candlelight vigil on Nov. 7 to honor the shooting victims. Following the vigil, participants shared a meal and conversation.

On Nov. 9, a candlelight vigil on Academic Walk marked the 80th anniversary of Kristallnacht and honored the shooting victims. During Kristallnacht, also referred to as the Night of Broken Glass, Nazis vandalized thousands of Jewish homes, schools, businesses and synagogues and killed more than 100 Jews. The Nazis also arrested 30,000 Jewish men and sent them to concentration camps. The candlelight vigil was planned by the Jewish Studies Forum, in partnership with the University’s Counseling and Wellbeing Center, the McAnulty College of Liberal Arts, Student Government Association and the Office of Diversity and Inclusion.

As Pittsburgh and the rest of the world continue to grieve this tragedy, the Duquesne University community offers continued thoughts and prayers to the victims, their families, and the Squirrel Hill and Jewish faith communities.

Remembrance, Unity and Healing
Duquesne Pays Respects Following Tree of Life Synagogue Shooting

By Gina O’Malley

Through togetherness, prayer and the universal language of music, the Duquesne community embraced neighbors, remembered lives that were cut short and raised funds to support the Jewish community in the aftermath of the Tree of Life Synagogue shooting.

On Oct. 30, 2018, more than 800 students, faculty, staff and members of the Pittsburgh community gathered in the Duquesne Union Ballroom for an interfaith prayer service. The Chapel Choir performed; and members of the campus and Jewish faith communities gave remarks, sang, prayed and read the names of the victims. Attendees placed pebbles next to 11 lighted candles to honor the lives that were lost, a Jewish tradition that commemorates the deceased’s life and memory.

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School Psychology Program’s Crisis Intervention Helps Local Students in Wake of Tree of Life Tragedy

By Diane Zupi, A’10

“Will you be here Tuesday?”

That was the question a concerned parent asked Duquesne University psychology Professor Dr. Kara McGoey two days following the shooting at the Tree of Life Synagogue. That Monday McGoey and her team provided crisis intervention support at the Jewish Community Day School in Pittsburgh’s Squirrel Hill neighborhood.

Duquesne’s Ph.D. School Psychology and Psy.D. School Psychology programs have partnered with the Community Day School for eight years, providing an adapted developmental socio-emotional curriculum tailored to support the Jewish culture.

Following the tragedy, the team of faculty and doctoral students used different skills, such as crisis intervention and response training from the National Association of School Psychologists, to help students, teachers and parents.

Before school, the team advised teachers how to talk to students about the incident. At the start of the school day, parents and students were able to process their feelings in a safe space before the school routine began. McGoey emphasized the importance for kids during times of crisis to both validate feelings and also to return to a familiar routine.

Her team remained on-site and on call in the week following the shootings and continues to be available to help.

Why wouldn’t it happen here?”

“It’s not just Jewish history,” her AP interview continued. “It’s human history.”

The Tree of Life tragedy was a stark example of why Holocaust education is so important.

The Holocaust Center of Pittsburgh’s mission is to provide this education. At its site in the Greenfield neighborhood of Pittsburgh, police recruits and active-duty officers meet with staff, view artifacts—including Nazi weaponry that is usually off-limits to the public—and discuss ethical decision-making, working in diverse communities and balancing authority. They also view the film The Path to Nazi Genocide and hear from local Holocaust survivors.

“Officers and recruits really connect to the survivors. There is shock and alarm at what they hear and see. But most of all, there is total respect,” Bairnsfather says.

Bristow agrees. “It’s so important to pass this information on while we still have survivors.”

Conti credits Duquesne faculty for providing outstanding programmatic support and expertise, particularly Dr. Matthew Schneirov from the sociology program and Dr. Daniel Burston from the psychology program.

“Duquesne is a university for Pittsburgh that’s been open to everyone since our founding,” Conti says. “And our experience with community engagement and police training is unmatched.”

To date, about 100 recruits and active-duty officers have participated in the training sessions. Some participants come into the program with a greater understanding of the Holocaust, while others have more limited knowledge.

Conversations with active-duty officers, including Officer David Shifren, a community resources officer and one of the few Jewish officers on the force, help recruits apply what they’ve learned during the training to everyday situations they may encounter in future police work.

Bristow ensures that these conversations are ongoing.

“Our recruits feel comfortable coming to us and asking questions,” she says. “In law enforcement, sometimes people start with good intentions. You can get caught in a whirlwind. We need to have the moral aptitude to stand up for what is right, not blindly follow leaders.”

While this is the first program of its kind in Pittsburgh, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C., has been training police officers for more than two decades. Holocaust museums in Houston and Los Angeles also offer similar trainings.

Duquesne and the Holocaust Center of Pittsburgh hope to expand the training to police departments in municipalities throughout the Pittsburgh area, and they’re already taking steps to replicate the program in northwestern Pennsylvania and Ohio.

“Duquesne has enriched the efforts of the Holocaust Center. There is a message in Holocaust education that people need to hear,” Bairnsfather says. “And it matters right now.”

School Psychology Program’s Crisis Intervention Helps Local Students in Wake of Tree of Life Tragedy

By Diane Zupi, A’10

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That was the question a concerned parent asked Duquesne University psychology Professor Dr. Kara McGoey two days following the shooting at the Tree of Life Synagogue. That Monday McGoey and her team provided crisis intervention support at the Jewish Community Day School in Pittsburgh’s Squirrel Hill neighborhood.

Duquesne’s Ph.D. School Psychology and Psy.D. School Psychology programs have partnered with the Community Day School for eight years, providing an adapted developmental socio-emotional curriculum tailored to support the Jewish culture.

Following the tragedy, the team of faculty and doctoral students used different skills, such as crisis intervention and response training from the National Association of School Psychologists, to help students, teachers and parents.

Before school, the team advised teachers how to talk to students about the incident. At the start of the school day, parents and students were able to process their feelings in a safe space before the school routine began. McGoey emphasized the importance for kids during times of crisis to both validate feelings and also to return to a familiar routine.

Her team remained on-site and on call in the week following the shootings and continues to be available to help.

Why wouldn’t it happen here?”

“It’s not just Jewish history,” her AP interview continued. “It’s human history.”

The Tree of Life tragedy was a stark example of why Holocaust education is so important.

The Holocaust Center of Pittsburgh’s mission is to provide this education. At its site in the Greenfield neighborhood of Pittsburgh, police recruits and active-duty officers meet with staff, view artifacts—including Nazi weaponry that is usually off-limits to the public—and discuss ethical decision-making, working in diverse communities and balancing authority. They also view the film The Path to Nazi Genocide and hear from local Holocaust survivors.

“Officers and recruits really connect to the survivors. There is shock and alarm at what they hear and see. But most of all, there is total respect,” Bairnsfather says.

Bristow agrees. “It’s so important to pass this information on while we still have survivors.”

Conti credits Duquesne faculty for providing outstanding programmatic support and expertise, particularly Dr. Matthew Schneirov from the sociology program and Dr. Daniel Burston from the psychology program.

“Duquesne is a university for Pittsburgh that’s been open to everyone since our founding,” Conti says. “And our experience with community engagement and police training is unmatched.”

To date, about 100 recruits and active-duty officers have participated in the training sessions. Some participants come into the program with a greater understanding of the Holocaust, while others have more limited knowledge.

Conversations with active-duty officers, including Officer David Shifren, a community resources officer and one of the few Jewish officers on the force, help recruits apply what they’ve learned during the training to everyday situations they may encounter in future police work.

Bristow ensures that these conversations are ongoing.

“Our recruits feel comfortable coming to us and asking questions,” she says. “In law enforcement, sometimes people start with good intentions. You can get caught in a whirlwind. We need to have the moral aptitude to stand up for what is right, not blindly follow leaders.”

While this is the first program of its kind in Pittsburgh, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C., has been training police officers for more than two decades. Holocaust museums in Houston and Los Angeles also offer similar trainings.

Duquesne and the Holocaust Center of Pittsburgh hope to expand the training to police departments in municipalities throughout the Pittsburgh area, and they’re already taking steps to replicate the program in northwestern Pennsylvania and Ohio.

“Duquesne has enriched the efforts of the Holocaust Center. There is a message in Holocaust education that people need to hear,” Bairnsfather says. “And it matters right now.”

School Psychology Program’s Crisis Intervention Helps Local Students in Wake of Tree of Life Tragedy

By Diane Zupi, A’10

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Did You Know?

350+ students graduated during the University’s annual winter Commencement ceremony in December.

In October, the campus community marked Duquesne’s 140th Birthday, kicked off Homecoming weekend and celebrated Duquesne’s heritage as a Catholic Spiritan university during Heritage Week 2018. Events included a University birthday party, a luncheon and Food, Faith and Culture Night.

In January and February, Duquesne’s 12th annual Human Rights Film Series presented a lineup of five films selected to inspire dialogues about some of today’s most critical human rights issues. It was presented by the Department of Classical and Modern Languages and Cultures.

A group of graduate chemistry students recently hosted a symposium at the American Chemical Society National Meeting and Expo in Boston to honor their late Duquesne professor, Dr. Jeffry Madura. Eleven students organized the symposium, invited speakers and raised nearly $32,000 to support the event. Madura died in 2017 at age 59.
Duquesne University is one of just three Pennsylvania universities selected by the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation for its new initiative to ensure strong teachers are leading STEM classrooms in high-need schools across the state.

The Woodrow Wilson Pennsylvania Teaching Fellowship will focus on preparing top-quality educators for many of the state’s most underserved public schools. Each fellow receives $32,000 to complete a specially designed, cutting-edge master’s degree program based on a yearlong classroom experience. In return, fellows commit to teach for three years in urban and rural Pennsylvania schools that most need strong STEM teachers. During their three-year commitment, fellows receive ongoing support and mentoring.

The Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation selected Duquesne, the University of Pennsylvania and West Chester University as initial university partners, following an in-depth, statewide review.

“It’s a tremendous honor for Duquesne University to be selected by the prestigious Woodrow Wilson Foundation for its cutting-edge Pennsylvania Teaching Fellows program,” says President Ken Gormley. “Our School of Education has a rich history of preparing outstanding leaders in the classroom for nearly 90 years. Duquesne’s mission is deeply rooted in helping others and serving our local communities. This fellowship program will further our success in fostering distinguished teachers in the STEM fields.”

These institutions will tailor their teacher preparation programs to meet the WW PA Teaching Fellowship’s standards for intensive clinical work and rigorous related coursework.

“As a tier-one research university, Duquesne is dedicated to advancing math, science and engineering,” says Provost Dr. David Dausey. “We are excited to be part of the Woodrow Wilson Teaching Fellows program because it provides Duquesne the ability to continue to build its legacy in STEM education by training the teachers of tomorrow. Our School of Education, offering a full range of bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees, is an ideal place for these leaders to be trained as educators.”

Duquesne will receive a $400,000 grant to develop teacher preparation programs based on standards set by the foundation. The University will be able to enroll 12 fellows annually during the program’s three-year period. The first class of fellows in Pennsylvania is expected to begin in the summer of 2019.

“Expanding businesses need people with STEM skills, and that starts with great teachers,” says Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf. “I commend the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation for making Pennsylvania the sixth state with this fellowship and for its dedication to delivering a quality STEM education to our students. This fellowship is the perfect match with my PAsmart initiative that has made Pennsylvania a national leader in STEM and computer science education.”

Georgia, Indiana, Michigan, New Jersey and Ohio have already introduced the Woodrow Wilson Teaching Fellowship to its colleges and universities.

“All Pennsylvania students both need and deserve strong STEM teachers,” says Arthur Levine, president of the foundation. “Through the Pennsylvania Teaching Fellowship Program, we will now help the state construct new pipelines of aspiring educators with strong backgrounds in science, technology, engineering and math, all committed to teaching in Pennsylvania’s high-need communities. Through this effort, Pennsylvania will continue to strengthen its schools, its communities and its future.”

The foundation will create and administer the program, anchored by a $5 million matching grant from the William Penn Foundation, and generously supported by Highmark, AT&T, the Pennsylvania State Employees Credit Union, M&T Bank, the Weiss Family Foundation, Pennsylvania’s State System of Higher Education Foundation and several other major individual donors.
Student Cellist Spends Eight Weeks in Europe Through Special Program

By Rose Ravasio, A’90

Cellist Abner Jairo Ortiz Garcia, a graduate student in the Mary Pappert School of Music, recently spent eight weeks in Europe, playing cello recitals and attending workshops as part of the City Music Foundation (CMF) Summer Program.

Ortiz Garcia was selected in a national contest last year as the CMF Mexican International Scholar (in partnership with Anglo Arts, a member of the Anglo Mexican Foundation), winning a scholarship that resulted in his trip to Europe.

“It was a life-changing experience to shape outlooks in regards to art, life and more things that make the music path beautiful and also meaningful,” says Ortiz Garcia. “Endless gratitude to City Music Foundation and Anglo Arts, as well as Duquesne University for its support.”

His trip included: giving five public recitals in London, including at the Victoria and Albert Museum in connection with the Frida Kahlo exhibition there; a professional video recording with music by Bach and Britten for cello solo; performing two recitals in Warsaw, Poland; attending an orchestral workshop in Paris; and playing a concert at the Hector Berlioz Festival with period-instrument ensemble Les Siècles in Lyon, France.

In addition, Ortiz Garcia participated in professional development workshops, met with artistic and business mentors, received lessons from renowned cellist Mats Lidström at the Royal Academy of Music and attended various concerts at the BBC Proms.

Ortiz Garcia received funding from the Duquesne Musical Associates program to support his travel expenses.

Championship Rings

Five alumni who work for the Washington Capitals recently received their Stanley Cup rings for the Caps’ 2018 championship. Shown are: Zach Gezo, B’13, regional sales manager; Mary (Somma) Clamp, B’15, staff accountant; Tony Pimpinella, A’11, assistant director, membership services; Allie Smith, B’16, manager, membership services; and Marc Bezbatchesko, B’16, regional sales manager.
Duquesne University’s new Office of Community Engagement (OCE), headed by Vice President of Community Engagement Bill Generett, connects the University and community resources across five areas of impact: growth and innovation; health and wellness; education; individual empowerment; and volunteerism.

OCE focuses on the Duquesne tradition of service that has been central to the University’s mission since its founding in 1878 and is still alive today.

To help create a vibrant, productive community that recognizes the value and importance of all individuals who collectively contribute to the rich tapestry of life in this region and beyond, the University is involved in pivotal city partnerships, neighborhood development groups, corporate and government collaborations, community health care services, local education initiatives and so much more.

Following are some recent examples of how service remains a core part of the Duquesne identity.

1-3. Last year, the Duquesne University Office of Community Engagement kicked off a series of half-day listening sessions and tours of the communities outlined in the University’s Strategic Plan. These sessions, held for Duquesne faculty and staff interested in expanding their community engagement initiatives into these neighborhoods, are geared towards learning about the opportunities and the needs of the communities. The first listening session was held in the McKeesport neighborhood. The tour was hosted by Representative Austin Davis with assistance from the Steel Valley Authority.

4. Vice President of Community Engagement Bill Generett participated in the Office of Diversity and Inclusion and Faculty Senate’s first Diversity Speaker Series. Special guests from St. Louis University (SLU) were Fr. Christopher Collins, S.J., assistant to the president for Mission and Identity, and Dr. Jonathan Smith, vice president for Diversity and Community Engagement, who spoke about diversity and inclusion commitments at SLU.

5. Duquesne’s Director of Tennis Vanessa Steiner and the Duquesne men’s and women’s tennis teams joined the South Side Chamber of Commerce to clean up selected areas of the South Side neighborhood. The cleanup was part of the 2018 International Coastal Cleanup sponsored by the Ocean Conservancy in partnership with Keep America Beautiful, Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful and Anheuser-Busch Brewing Company.

6. Vice President of Community Engagement Bill Generett and Government Relations Manager Alex Kozak hosted a variety of meetings with local officials on campus, including a luncheon with President Gormley and members of our state legislature to discuss the University’s community engagement work and its role in the region.

7. At the beginning of the fall semester, new students participated in the Duquesne Orientation volunteer project, co-sponsored by the Center for Student Involvement’s DUV program and the South Side Community Council. Students helped clean and green parts of the South Side neighborhood of Pittsburgh and made important new community connections.
For the Love of the Game
ALUMNUS TURNS LOVE OF BASEBALL INTO CAREER AS CLEVELAND INDIANS SCOUT

By Megan Tressler

When most people go to a baseball game, they enjoy a night out watching the players and purchasing souvenirs and stadium food. For Dan Budreika, B’12, that’s nothing unusual—the ballpark is his office.

He spends his days and nights sitting in ballparks across the country, laser-focused on evaluating professional athletes and taking extensive notes about players’ skills and development.

Budreika turned his lifelong love of baseball into a career, starting as a ballpark operations intern for the Washington Nationals while still in high school and now working as a professional scout for the Cleveland Indians.

Unlike many college-bound students who need time to consider their future career, Budreika knew his path from an early age. He played baseball while growing up and through his high school years in Haymarket, Va. He also spent countless hours playing Front Page Sports Baseball Pro ’98, a statistics-heavy video game that simulated professional baseball games. But when his playing career ended in high school, he was determined to find a way to stay tied to the game he loved.

“I’ve been passionate about the game since I was a child and always followed the game really closely. It has always been a big part of my life,” says Budreika.

He decided to pursue a business degree at Duquesne University after several internships during high school and college exposed him to the off-the-field workings of baseball.

“I figured a business degree would be the best degree for me because it was well-rounded,” says Budreika. “A business degree was vital to me in that it helped me to see the big picture as to how businesses work on a day-to-day basis and how that can be applied to any industry.”

Unlike his career path, Budreika says he “lucked into” attending Duquesne.

“I wanted to go to school in a city not too far from home. I found Duquesne online. I visited and thought, ‘I really like this place.’ I got so lucky. I got a great education in a unique city,” says Budreika, who still keeps in touch with several professors, including Associate Professor of Sports Marketing Dr. Ron Dick. “They were great professors. They helped emphasize real life, tangible work environments and work scenarios, and gave really good advice on how to get into the sports industry.”

“I got a great education in a unique city...”

Working as a scout is usually the result of a long career in baseball, most often as a player or coach. Budreika, who double-majored in marketing and sports marketing, says his entry into scouting was different.

During college, he interned for two summers with the Milwaukee Brewers in the team’s minor league video and amateur scouting departments. After graduating from Duquesne, he started working in minor league video for the Philadelphia Phillies and Miami Marlins. It was in that role that he honed his skills by repeatedly watching videos of players, noting intricacies in the way they played and the way they developed.

“It exposed me to the whole player-development operation, trying to get players to the next level. It was important to me that I saw how a team operated on a day-to-day basis, how coaches and players interacted,” he says. “You see how players change over time, you start to pick up on idiosyncrasies.”

After working in the minor league and major league video departments for the Miami Marlins for four years, he joined the Cleveland Indians as a professional scout after the 2016 season. In his current role, he’s based in Mesa, Ariz., a hotbed for baseball almost year round.

In the spring and fall, he spends a lot of time in Arizona, following spring training and fall league play. In the winter, he may go see players in the Dominican Republic or Panama. During baseball season, he travels around the country scouting professional players.

“We’re gathering information about players so we have information for any potential acquire. We’re trying to educate ourselves as much as we can about the players—what we think they are right now and what we think they project to become in the future, looking for potential fits,” says Budreika. “You’re always analyzing what’s going on in the industry—player moves, transactions, trends, injuries. It never stops.”

His days usually start and end with paperwork—keeping up with league and player news and making detailed reports about players he may be following—with a baseball game in between. Watching a game live is his favorite part of the job.

“You have to watch hundreds to thousands of games and figure out what typically works and what doesn’t work,” he says. “The beautiful thing about scouting is no one has it all figured out. We all make mistakes and it’s important to remain open-minded and critically self-evaluate over time.”

His ultimate goal? A World Series Championship.

“At the end of the day, what this boils down to is that you’re trying to help find championship-caliber players for your organization. The ultimate goal is helping the team win a championship one day,” says Budreika. “It’s a dream job to be involved in baseball and make a career out of it.”

Editor’s Note: Just before this issue went to press, Dan informed Duquesne University Magazine about his recent promotion to coordinator of professional scouting. We congratulate Dan on his success!
Four Alumni Named to Lead Educational Institutions

Sr. M. Christine Pinto, O.S.B., Ed.D.’17, was recently installed as the 20th president of St. Scholastica’s College in the Philippines. Ironically, she started her education there as a kindergartner (the institution offers an elementary and high school, as well as collegiate, education). She previously served at St. Scholastica’s as a faculty member and vice president for administrative affairs. She has extensive experience in religious and civic involvement. She is a member of the Congregation of the Missionary Benedictine Sisters of Tutzing, Manila Priory.

In October, Dr. Michael P. Mihalyo, Jr., M’91, GM’93, was installed as the 12th president of Wheeling Jesuit University. He has more than two decades of experience in higher education and most recently served as provost and vice president of academic affairs at Rockford University in Rockford, Ill. He is an accomplished musician and has performed around the world. Mihalyo holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from West Virginia University, and master’s and bachelor’s degrees from Duquesne University, each in piano performance.

Dr. David Johns, GA’99, is the new president of Ferrum College. He previously served as vice president for academic affairs and dean of the college at Union College in Kentucky, and served many years teaching religious studies at the Earlham School of Religion and Wilmington College. He has also worked as a campus chaplain and academic librarian. Over the past several years, he has led cross-cultural study groups to Mexico and Honduras, lectured at Universidad Iberoamericana and Instituto Bíblico Jorge Fox, and was scholar-in-residence at the Centro de Estudios Ecuémonicos in Mexico City.

Dr. Miles K. Davis, A’81, A’91, has been named president of Linfield College in Oregon. He is the college’s 20th president and the first African-American president in the institution’s 160-year history. Davis is an authority on entrepreneurship whose most recent work focuses on integrity, values and principles in the business world. Davis worked as a managing consultant and principal for EDS Corp. and has served on the boards of numerous non-profit organizations and publicly traded companies. Davis was formerly dean of Shenandoah University’s Harry F. Byrd, Jr. School of Business.

DU Student Named Sailor of the Year by Rolex

Pavlos Kontides, a graduate student at Duquesne and Olympic silver medalist, was named the 2018 Rolex World Sailor of the Year.

Considered the highest award one can receive in recognition of his/her outstanding achievements in sailing, the World Sailor of the Year awards are presented to one male and one female winner. The awards, which were established in 1994, are presented during the World Sailing Annual Conference, where the winners also receive a Rolex timepiece.

In 2012, Kontides became the first athlete from Cyprus to win an Olympic medal for his country...

In 2012, Kontides became the first athlete from Cyprus to win an Olympic medal for his country when he took the silver medal for men’s Laser sailing. During the 2017 Sailing World Cup, he won silver in Miami, Fla., and gold in Hyères, France, before winning silver in Gamagori, Japan, during round one of the 2018 cup series. Kontides also won gold at the 2017 Laser World Championships and again in 2018 at the Hempel Sailing World Championships.

Kontides is currently pursuing his Master of Science in Sports Business online from Duquesne’s Palumbo-Donahue School of Business.
Helping Others, Wherever They Are

ALUMNI CHAPTERS EXTEND DUQUESNE'S SPIRIT OF SERVICE

On a Saturday in September along Ohio’s north coast, a group of Duquesne alumni and their families arrived at the door of a home for the terminally ill. That same morning, 350 miles to the west, another contingent of alumni and their families assembled to volunteer at a Chicago-area food charity.

These are just two examples of how Duquesne’s growing regional alumni chapters are extending the University’s Spiritan ethic of service long after graduation and far beyond the Bluff.

“As alumni, it is important to us to continue helping others,” explains Tracy Carlsson-Begley, A’89, GA’90, a member of the Cleveland chapter. “It allows us to give back to the community in which we live, work and love.”

A news reporter and anchor with WEWS-TV, Carlsson-Begley found such an opportunity while working on a story for the station about Malachi House, founded in 1988 to provide free services to the terminally ill without regard to gender, race, religion or national origin. Malachi House does not receive any government funding.

“The inspiration for the house came from Fr. Paul Hritz and St. Malachi Church parishioners who often encountered homeless people dying under bridges, in cars and in deserted buildings,” says Carlsson-Begley.

She gathered fellow alumni and family members to weed and clean up a rose garden that provided a place of beauty and serenity for residents, but which had fallen into disrepair.

“We rely heavily on volunteer service in a variety of areas, like the outdoor project done by the Duquesne University Cleveland Chapter alumni,” says Liz Bowen, volunteer coordinator at Malachi House.

“We all felt a sense of accomplishment when we were finished,” recalls Carlsson-Begley. “Our hearts were filled with happiness knowing we made a difference.”

Meanwhile, in Aurora, Ill., Duquesne alumni Beverly, S’81, GS’82, and Dr. Richard Johnson, GS’78, GS’82, joined a group of Chicago-area graduates and families to pack meals for Feed My Starving Children (FMSC), a Christian non-profit focused on fighting hunger around the world.

“When the Duquesne University alumni volunteered at our Aurora site on Saturday, Sept. 15, they helped to pack 42,552 meals,” reports Jessica Schalk, assistant site manager for FMSC. “Those meals have the potential to feed 117 children every day for an entire year. The food that Duquesne alumni packed has gone on to change lives in Honduras, Jamaica and Haiti.”

Like Malachi House, FMSC receives no government aid and depends entirely on volunteers who donate money and food and pack meal kits.

“Volunteers enable us to do what we do, every day. We couldn’t do this work without them,” says Schalk. “When a group like Duquesne University alumni chooses to partner with FMSC, it demonstrates their generosity, compassion, kindness and a desire to do something greater than themselves to make a difference in the world.”

Other Chicago-area alumni volunteered on the same day at FMSC locations in Schaumburg and Libertyville.

“Volunteering at Feed My Starving Children continues to touch my heart as a mother and grandmother every time I see the stories of children whose lives have dramatically changed because they have received the meals we have packed,” says Beverly Johnson. “It reminds me what a difference nutritious food makes in the everyday life of people, especially children, in developing countries.”

Duquesne also has established alumni chapters in Charlotte, Dallas/Fort Worth, New York City, Northeast Florida (Jacksonville), Philadelphia and Washington, D.C. In addition to service projects, each group organizes social and networking events throughout the year. To learn more about chapters and other ways to stay connected in your area, visit www.MyDuquesne.duq.edu/chapters.
Right Place, Right Time
ALUMNI EVENT ATTENDANCE UNLEASHES THE POWER OF CONNECTIONS

Abigail Marotta, A’18, worked as an intern in Duquesne’s Office of Alumni Engagement from 2015 until receiving her bachelor’s degree in integrated marketing communications last May.

Still, she was apprehensive about attending a presidential alumni and parents reception while visiting her grandparents in Phoenix during spring break last year. “I was nervous to attend this event, as I would be the only student, and nearly decided to not go,” she says.

Finally, she went, not realizing that the evening of her 22nd birthday would be life-changing. Duquesne University President Ken Gormley introduced Marotta during his talk, and she was immediately showered with attention.

“I met so many incredible, generous alumni who offered their advice and congratulations on graduating and shared great stories of their times on the Bluff,” she recalls.

One attendee did even more. Deborah Streeter, parent of Duquesne student Julia Streeter, asked Marotta for her resume. Several weeks of phone calls and interviews later, Marotta accepted her first professional job—a position with Streeter’s employer, Hill & Usher Insurance and Surety.

While finishing classes and exams, Marotta faced the task of searching for an apartment in a new city. Once again, the Duquesne network came through with Heather Zilles, E’91, a member of the Alumni Board of Governors and vice president with Wells Fargo in Phoenix, helping out.

“Heather was so kind as to offer to look at a few of my top apartments that I found online, and call me after visiting each one,” explains Marotta. “Ultimately, I ended up at the perfect apartment in a fun, upcoming area of Phoenix, only eight minutes away from my office!”

Marotta has kept in touch with Zilles. “She’s a perfect example of the generosity that exists in the Duquesne community,” says Marotta. “She understood what it was like to move to a completely new area at a young age, and always made sure that I was safe and had a smooth transition.”

Now settled in her job and home, Marotta plans to remain an active member of the Duquesne family. She returned to campus for Homecoming last October and looks forward to being involved in the Young Alumni Council and perhaps even helping to host a future event in Phoenix.

Might history repeat itself?
Thinking about that possibility, Marotta offers this advice for students and fellow young alumni: “Push your limits, network, step outside your comfort zone and get to know as many people as you can. You never know where opportunity is hiding!”
Duquesne Student Works to Unravel Mysteries Behind Bags of Bones

By Ken Walters
McKenna Lohr plans to graduate from Duquesne University this spring with an eye toward a doctoral degree, but she may also want to consider joining a detective agency.

For the past three years, the Duquesne graduate student has been studying human bones recovered from two ancient graves in Rhodes, Greece. The five bags of bones were brought to Duquesne by Dr. Philip Reeder, dean of the Bayer School of Natural and Environmental Sciences, who was working on the island in the Aegean Sea with international researchers. Those colleagues offered the bones—with only scant details about them—to the University for study.

To try to determine the identities of the people behind the bones, Lohr started to conduct research on what was happening in Rhodes between 323 BC and 650 AD—the dates of objects found with the remains.

Her initial research only generated more questions. “What I found that was exciting was that Rhodes had a tumultuous time during that period,” says Lohr, who earned a bachelor’s degree in biology in 2018 and will earn her master’s degree in forensic science and law in May 2019. “There were people who were natives, Greeks who fought the Persians, and Romans who would vacation there, or have their children go to school there. There was a lot happening at that time, so the remains could be anybody.”

The area also had been occupied by Sasanian Empire Persians as well as those of Arab descent, adding further to the number of groups in the area. (See chart for timeline.)

To begin the identification process, Lohr and Dr. Anne Burrows, professor in the Rangos School of Health Sciences, conducted an osteology analysis, looking at the bones and bone fragments to see if they fit together. They also studied the bones for fusion lines, as bones with no lines indicate an adult, while bones with some fusion lines indicate the person was younger, perhaps a child or teenager.

“Based on the analysis, we estimated that there were 15 bone fragments with some bones articulating together to form 12 bones total,” Lohr says. “From the layout of bone fragments across the two separate graves and other factors, we estimated that there were at least four individuals present in the remains we had been given.”

The next step in her research required Lohr to learn a new and complicated skill.

To verify the estimates, Lohr would need to conduct DNA analysis on the bones. Working with Duquesne faculty, she spent hours in the lab learning the intricate procedures needed to sequence DNA accurately.

“At each step of the process, we look at the results and see if there are any signs of contamination,” she explains. “If there are, we have to go back in the process to before the contamination began. And if we can’t tell when it began, we have to go back to the beginning. So it’s an involved process, to say the least.”

After extracting DNA from the bones, Lohr conducted a process to sequence the DNA to examine variations. Lohr compared the DNA sequences of her samples to a well-known DNA sequence used by scientists to differentiate between individuals and possibly determine maternal ancestry.
From this information and some objects found with the remains, Lohr says it’s possible that the graves may have been part of a Christian cemetery. It was also determined that two of the bodies were adults, a male and female.

“It’s impossible for us to know if there were any familial relationships from the DNA,” Lohr says. “We can only tell if they have a similar maternal ancestry, thus indicating they are more likely to be closely related. At this point, we still need to do more sequencing to determine that.”

Reeder notes that the applications for this forensic work extend beyond ancient remains and that such research projects provide students with a broad range of skills and expertise.

“The techniques and methodology of the research can be applied to degraded or damaged skeletal remains found at crime scenes and archeological digs,” he says. “The research work also allows students to use expertise from other disciplines, such as chemistry, toxicology and pathology, to create a more comprehensive profile of an unknown person.”

For Lohr, this bag of bones helped expand her interest in anthropology and archeology and increased her skills in biology and forensics.

“This project has meant so much to me,” she says. “It’s very fulfilling work in that you are giving a forgotten person their sense of identity back by further understanding the specifics of how they lived and died.”

Lohr is applying to graduate schools to further her anthropology studies and hopes to be a professor one day. While she won’t see the final results from her investigation—there is still much DNA testing to be done—she’s excited by the future possibilities.

“It’s a great challenge—what can you do with a bag of bones? The possibilities are truly endless,” she says, noting that further technological advancements may help lead to more discoveries. “I look forward to students taking on this project in the future and helping us learn more about the bones and the lives of these people.”

A history of Rhodes, highlighting the various people and cultures who occupied the island.

CONTACT WITH MINOAN CRETANS
Rhodes is involved in trade with Crete.

1600 BCE

CAPTURED BY PERSIANS
Rhodes occupied by the Persian Empire.

1400 BCE

INCORPORATED INTO ROMAN EMPIRE
Rhodes sacked by Cassius.

43 BCE

BEGINNING OF CHRISTIANITY
St. Paul brings Christianity to Rhodes.

30 CE

CAPTURED BY PERSIAN SASANIAN EMPIRE
Rhodes occupied by Persian forces.

620 CE

CONTACT WITH MYCENAEANS
Rhodes occupied by Mycenaeans.

1400 BCE

BEGINNING OF HELLENISTIC ERA

490 BCE

END OF HELLENISTIC ERA
Death and defeat of Cleopatra VII. Rhodes is a popular vacation spot for Romans.

30 CE

INCORPORATED INTO EASTERN EMPIRE
Rhodes a part of Eastern Byzantine control after collapse of western Roman Empire.

314 CE

SACKED BY ARABS
Occupied by Arab forces. Colossus of Rhodes carried off.

653 CE

Glasgow Plays Key Role in Ireland’s New Nursing, Midwifery Quality-Care Standards

By Rose Ravasio, A’90

School of Nursing Dean Dr. Mary Ellen Glasgow played an important role in the development of a new standard set of quality-care metrics recently introduced in Ireland for nurses and midwives.

The Nursing and Midwifery Quality-Care Metrics were developed by Health Service Executive Ireland. Launched last year, they were established to assist Irish health care organizations assess the extent to which nursing and midwifery interventions have an impact on patient safety, quality and professional work environments. In addition, the quality-care metrics will help nurses and midwives gauge their contributions to care that is safe, beneficial, patient-centered and efficient.

As part of the National Nursing and Midwifery Quality-Care Metrics Project Team, Glasgow reviewed and contributed to the set of quality metrics and, in 2016, was asked to be the international external reviewer of the project.

“How do you measure whether what you’re doing is of great quality if there aren’t standards or if you don’t know the key metrics that can be improved,” says Glasgow.

“We began by looking at every specialty in the country and did research studies with nurses to determine the most important items from each specialty that should be measured.”

Glasgow, whose work as a Robert Wood Johnson fellow included quality and safety metrics, also provided feedback. Among the numerous metrics determined to be measured are nursing documentation, style of nurse management, work environment and mental health assessments.

“Without standards, there can be no improvement,” says Glasgow. “You need to have a culture that is open to improving quality and not one of blame if there is an error. A ‘just culture’ is one in which people are encouraged to report errors for the patient’s sake, one where people are comfortable enough to say ‘we need to do this better’ or ‘we had a near mistake because there’s distraction in this area.’”

Glasgow gave a presentation on the importance of having standards, metrics and a “just culture” in Cork, Ireland, at the launch of the new quality-care metrics.

In the School of Nursing, students participate in simulations that emphasize the importance of safety in patient care.

“The simulation is kind of a dress rehearsal,” says Glasgow. “They can actually watch a video of their simulation, see what they have done and debrief with faculty. They can then integrate what they have learned into their own clinical experience.”

New VP for Marketing and Communications Named

By Rose Ravasio, A’90

Gabriel Welsch has been selected to serve as vice president for marketing and communications, a newly created position at the University. Welsch begins his role in March.

“This new, key vice-presidential position was created in response to the dynamic growth taking place at Duquesne and the importance of marketing and communications in all forms in ensuring the continued growth of the University,” says Duquesne University President Ken Gormley.

Welsch is vice president of strategic communication and marketing at Juniata College. He previously served there as interim vice president of enrollment management and vice president of advancement and marketing. Prior to that, Welsch held various marketing and communication posts and taught English at Penn State University.

“I have long known Duquesne to be well-respected in Pennsylvania and beyond, and appreciate very much the chance to help build the University’s reputation in this new role,” says Welsch. “The University’s focus on service to others is particularly resonant. I look forward to working with a wide array of constituents to amplify the good work done on the Bluff and around the world by Duquesne’s faculty, staff, alumni and students.”

A member of Juniata’s senior leadership team, Welsch oversees marketing, branding and communications, digital and emerging media, and public relations. He also is responsible for writing and developing Juniata’s presidential communications. Welsch led the school’s comprehensive brand study and tools development; co-chaired the inauguration team and chaired the transition team for the school’s current president; and managed the team that revamped the editorial and design of Juniata Magazine.

A member of various professional organizations, Welsch is president of the board of directors of College and University Public Relations and Associated Professionals (CUPRAP) and is a Communications Advisory Committee member for the Association of Independent Colleges & Universities of Pennsylvania. He regularly presents at conferences on marketing and fundraising, and is the author of four books and more than 250 published stories, poems, essays and articles.

Welsch received a bachelor’s degree in English in 1993 and a Master of Fine Arts in English in 1998 from Penn State University. He also received a certificate in 2011 from the Institute for Educational Management at Harvard University’s Graduate School of Education.
Upcoming Gumberg Library Events Include Art Exhibits

Gumberg Library is excited to announce the creation of an exhibit space in the library to provide ongoing opportunities for Duquesne students, faculty and staff to display their art and creative works.

From April 1-17, Gumberg Library will present DUQ Creates: Ted Bergfelt, Random Intersections, featuring acrylic paintings by Gumberg Library’s humanities librarian. A reception for the exhibit will take place from 4:30-6 p.m. on April 10 as part of Duquesne’s National Library Week celebration.

There also will be an interactive display of unfinished pieces. Visitors will complete these pieces by adding colors to bring them to life. The exhibit and reception are free and open to the public.

On April 22, the exhibit will move to the Berger Gallery in College Hall, where it will be on display through May 10.

For more information, visit duq.edu/gumberg.

Upcoming Mary Pappert School of Music Events

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, March 27</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Brass Ensembles (James Nova, brass area coordinator)</td>
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<td>PNC Recital Hall</td>
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<td>Free Admission</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, April 6</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Opera Workshop (Kelley Krepin DeFade, director)</td>
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<td>Bayer Rotunda</td>
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<td>Monday, April 8</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Uptown Jazz Series (Mike Tomaro, artistic director)</td>
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<td>Genesius Theater</td>
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<td>For tickets and more information, visit duq.edu/UptownJazz.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, April 9</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Percussion Ensemble (Dennis Hoffmann, director)</td>
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<td>Dr. Thomas D. Pappert Center for Performance and Innovation</td>
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<td>Free Admission</td>
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<td>Wednesday, April 10</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Jazz Guitar Ensemble (Eric Susoeff, director)</td>
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<td>Free Admission</td>
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<td>Sunday, April 14</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Wind Ensembles (Dr. Robert C. Cameron, conductor)</td>
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<td>Carnegie Music Hall, Oakland</td>
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<td>Tuesday, April 16</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Duquesne Symphony Orchestra (Daniel Meyer, director of orchestral activities)</td>
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<td>Carnegie Music Hall, Oakland</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, April 23</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Jazz Chamber Groups (Jeff Bush, coach)</td>
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<td>Dr. Thomas D. Pappert Center for Performance and Innovation</td>
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<td>Free Admission</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, April 24</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Electronic Ensemble (Lynn Emberg Purse, director)</td>
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<td>Free Admission</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, April 27</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Voices of Spirit, Pappert Women’s Chorale, University Singers</td>
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<td>(Caron Daley, director of choral activities)</td>
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<td>Duquesne University Chapel of the Holy Spirit</td>
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<td>Tuesday, April 30</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Jazz Ensembles (Mike Tomaro and Jeff Bush, directors)</td>
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<td>Charles J. Dougherty Ballroom, Power Center</td>
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All events are $10 general admission unless otherwise noted.

Visit www.duq.edu/musicevents for complete details and future performances.
Alumni and friends returned to campus for Homecoming on Oct. 5-7, 2018. Students participated in events all week leading up to the weekend and played a large role in welcoming visitors to campus. Some of this year’s most popular events included the Class of 1968 50th reunion, Greek reunions, Autumnfest, the Homecoming football game and “Dueling Pianos” in the Power Center.

Mark your calendars now for Homecoming 2019: Oct. 25-27!
Duquesne University plans a comprehensive renovation of the A.J. Palumbo Center. Set to break ground this spring, the modernized and re-imagined facility will be named UPMC Cooper Fieldhouse in honor of men’s basketball legend and NBA trailblazer Chuck Cooper, who captained Duquesne’s men’s basketball team before going on to become the first African-American to be drafted into the NBA in 1950.

“To see my father’s alma mater name this premier athletic facility in recognition of his legacy is an incredible honor,” said Chuck Cooper III, president of the Chuck Cooper Foundation. “Our partnership with Duquesne stems all the way back to my father’s time when he played for the Dukes in 1947. At a time when barriers were still left to be broken, my father’s team and the athletic department of Duquesne University showed overwhelming support, teamwork and leadership in progressing the inclusion of black athletes. In the face of resistance and adversity to this, Duquesne stood by my father. Duquesne has always had an unwavering commitment to excellence and progress, and I am so honored that my father’s legacy will be a part of this advancement which will so greatly benefit the future students and athletes of this school.”

The project will create a consolidated performance center and provide a new game-day layout. Additionally, the renovation will add significant square footage to the building site and positively affect every aspect of the student-athlete experience. Beyond Duquesne Athletics, the facility will serve as a center for community and campus engagement, events and activities.

“UPMC is thrilled to be a leading partner with Duquesne University on this exciting renovation to this important space to be enjoyed not only by the students, staff and faculty here, but also by our Uptown neighbors,” said Leslie C. Davis, senior vice president, UPMC, and executive vice president and chief operating officer, UPMC Health Services Division. “UPMC remains firmly committed to Uptown—as a health care provider and as a community partner. We applaud Duquesne University’s leadership team for its vision of excellence and desire to provide nothing less than world-class facilities and services for this local community and beyond.”

The long-term strategic partnership between UPMC and Duquesne will develop and support mutually beneficial sports performance, sports medicine, employee health and productivity, fitness and nutrition, health and wellness, as well as related education and community engagement programs and services to
sustain and advance the missions of both organizations. The partnership will focus on establishing an integrated platform of services and capabilities that will benefit Duquesne students, student-athletes, employees and dependents.

“The UPMC Cooper Fieldhouse is a spectacular symbol of UPMC’s ongoing passionate commitment to providing long-lasting health and wellness benefits to the university community, as well as the people and businesses and visitors to this entire region,” said Diane P. Holder, executive vice president, UPMC, president, UPMC Insurance Services Division, and president and CEO, UPMC Health Plan. “We can only do this type of extensive collaboration with organizations who truly share our vision of excellence, like Duquesne does, and so we are honored that they chose us.”

“A newly revitalized facility will be not only at the heart of our campus, but at the heart of this entire community,” Duquesne President Ken Gormley said. “This exciting renovation is an important next step in furthering one of Duquesne’s key strategic initiatives. Just as Duquesne helped to build Pittsburgh at the turn of the 20th century, Duquesne now plays a central role in the development and sustainability of the city’s Uptown EcoInnovation District and the entire region around us. This all would not be possible without the generous support of our leading partner, so I extend our sincerest gratitude to UPMC and everyone who has made a commitment to make this project a reality.”

In addition to private and corporate support, the University has been awarded a grant from the Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP). The RACP is a commonwealth grant program administered by the Pennsylvania Office of the Budget that was developed for the acquisition and construction of regional economic, cultural, civic and historical improvement projects.

ABOUT CHARLES “CHUCK” COOPER
Chuck Cooper, a Pittsburgh native who earned his bachelor’s in education at Duquesne and a master’s in social work at the University of Minnesota, became the first African-American to be drafted by an NBA team when he was selected by the Boston Celtics in the second round in 1950. During his six-year NBA career, he also played for the Milwaukee Hawks and Fort Wayne Pistons, helping to lead his team to the playoffs five times. After Cooper’s basketball career, he went on to become Pittsburgh’s first African-American department head when he was named to lead the Parks & Recreation Department in 1970. Later, he enjoyed a successful career as a community development officer for PNC’s predecessor, Pittsburgh National Bank. Throughout his career, Cooper continued to volunteer his talents and support to various boards and civic organizations. He was inducted into the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame in 1974 and in 1983, Duquesne established a Chuck Cooper Award to honor talented basketball underclassmen.
Duquesne Tackles Student Asthma Problems at Several Pittsburgh-Area Schools

By Ken Walters

Asthma is one of the top reasons children miss school, but Duquesne University Professors Dr. Jennifer Elliott and Dr. Deborah Gentile are working to reverse this trend.

Last fall, Duquesne screened more than 1,000 students for asthma in several Pittsburgh-area school districts, the first time such school-wide asthma screenings were conducted for students.

The Clairton, Northgate, South Allegheny and Woodland Hills school districts and Propel-Hazelwood charter school implemented the screenings as part of their back-to-school process. Parents completed a four-question survey to identify if their child has asthma and, if so, whether it is controlled by medication.

Elliott and Gentile are spearheading the effort. They previously conducted asthma screens on more than 1,000 children in the region as part of a research project to determine asthma prevalence and control, and how environmental factors contribute to these outcomes. With continued funding from the Heinz Endowments and the Jefferson Regional Foundation, the screening program is being offered as a public service to interested schools.

“Asthma is one of the top causes of missed school days, which can have a negative impact on a child’s ability to learn, be active and develop healthy peer relationships,” she says.

In the AHN study, higher levels of outdoor air pollution corresponded to 1.6 times increased odds of asthma and 4.7 times increased odds of uncontrolled asthma.

The screenings mark the beginning of a larger push to make asthma screenings available for all schools in the Pittsburgh region and eventually Pennsylvania, says Elliott, associate pharmacy professor.

“School-aged children in the Pittsburgh region have a much higher occurrence of asthma than children in other areas of the country,” says Gentile, adjunct pharmacy professor and asthma specialist. “The screenings allow us to identify if a child has asthma, if it is controlled, and treat it appropriately.”

The previous study conducted in 2017 was based at Allegheny Health Network (AHN). It found that of more than 1,200 western Pennsylvania school children, 24 percent suffered from asthma as compared to the national average of 8.3 percent, according to the National Center for Health Statistics.

Studies have shown that air pollution, among other triggers, can worsen asthma symptoms; and both Pittsburgh and Pennsylvania scored poorly on the American Lung Association’s 2018 State of the Air report. Pittsburgh, Lancaster, Philadelphia and Johnstown-Somerset were all Pennsylvania regions listed in the report’s top 25 for most-polluted areas by “year-round particulate pollution.”

Of more than 1,200 western Pennsylvania school children, 24 percent suffer from asthma compared to the national average of 8.3 percent, according to the National Center for Health Statistics.
Approximately 15 percent of parents may not even know that their children have asthma.

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“Working with community members, we will assess the area’s needs and develop a plan that will work to improve health care in the neighborhood.”

Dr. Jennifer Elliott

Duquesne is a perfect fit to work on such a plan, given the University’s expertise in pharmacy, nursing, health sciences, psychology and other health-related programs, says Bill Generett, the University’s vice president for community engagement.

“As Hazelwood looks to grow in the future, it will be essential that the community has an infrastructure that addresses health care,” he says. “With Duquesne’s expertise in so many areas, we look forward to helping Hazelwood develop a health program that meets the needs of all of its citizens.”

In the AHN study, higher levels of outdoor air pollution correspond to 1.6 times increased odds of asthma and 4.7 times increased odds of uncontrolled asthma.

Approximately 15 percent of parents may not even know that their children have asthma.
Each year since 2012, Duquesne student pharmacists travel to Washington, D.C. to advocate on behalf of their future profession and those they will serve. Duquesne has the only school of pharmacy in the country that requires all students to participate in a professional development and advocacy course, including a class trip to Capitol Hill, as a requirement for graduation. The intent of the program is to expose students to legislative processes that can have a major effect on their careers and the lives of their patients.

“I had a lengthy conversation with a legislative staff member about what exactly a pharmacist does. It really opened my eyes to the fact that many people do not know what we are training to do,” says Elizabeth Eckhoff, Pharm.D. candidate class of 2021 and class president, who believes many in leadership positions don’t realize pharmacists do more than hand out medication—they are a vital part of a patient’s overall health.

This past October, a group of second- and third-year student pharmacists traveled with Duquesne law students to visit the United States Pharmacopeia (USP) in Rockville, Md., and various legislators on Capitol Hill. Students spent time at the USP headquarters to gain exposure to alternate pharmacy career paths and visited members of Congress to discuss issues affecting health care.

Dr. Janet Astle, School of Pharmacy assistant dean for student services, believes students’ ability to advocate on behalf of patients and their profession will result in “positive health outcomes for patients and their communities.”

She explains the School of Pharmacy has seen an increase in student advocacy efforts as a result of the trip, and “an uptick in the number of students who voluntarily participate in other advocacy efforts, such as the annual Pennsylvania Pharmacists Association Legislative Day event in Harrisburg.” The school has also noticed an increase in the number of legislators who have signed on as co-sponsors in support of various health care-related bills.

Student Pharmacists and Law Students Partner for Advocacy

Health policy is an integral part of the professional development and advocacy trip. Since 2015, Duquesne law students have accompanied student pharmacists on the trip and helped to prepare pharmacy students for discussions with legislators.
School of Law Professor Rhonda Gay Hartman, who teaches health policy law courses, believes the partnership between the two schools enables productive advocacy. “The law students learn from the student pharmacists and gain a deep appreciation about pharmacists’ concerns, roles and tasks,” she says. “In turn, the law students guide the student pharmacists in developing persuasive arguments to effectively influence legislators about health policy issues. Collaborating in this way enables effective advocacy with both groups lobbying for legislative change.”

The two groups collaborated on their arguments in support of a major piece of legislation—the Pharmacy and Medically Underserved Areas Enhancement Act—that would grant pharmacists provider status in underserved areas and allow pharmacists to be reimbursed for their services beyond dispensing medication.

“The trip would not have been as successful without the use of teamwork,” says third-year law student Brandon Schall. “Pharmacy students took control of the issue providing the necessary personal touch highlighting the importance of this particular piece of legislation, while law students aided in the effectiveness of the arguments as they pertained to politics and the law.”

Not only did the students benefit from working together, but they also learned the importance of being active participants in their future professions.

“It’s easy to think that one person can’t have an input on the future, but that’s far from the truth,” says Miranda Burgman, Pharm.D. candidate class of 2020. “If you’re passionate about something, let your voice be heard and never stop advocating for it. It feels good knowing that your voice matters and that Duquesne allows students to participate in this incredible experience.”

The Evolution of Pharmacy

Not that long ago, a pharmacist was once seen as someone who dispensed medication and ensured patient safety. Today, pharmacists have taken on additional responsibilities and more expansive roles, including educator, medical counselor and health care advocate. Burgman, who was part of the October trip, explains the importance of the role today’s pharmacists play in the overall health and wellness of patients.

“The world of health care is constantly evolving and the role of a pharmacist is becoming increasingly more important,” she says. “Pharmacists of today are now accessible health care professionals who assist patients in having the best quality of care.”

Pharmacists do more than give patients their medicine. They conduct comprehensive patient medication reviews, take patient blood pressure and monitor blood sugar levels, administer immunizations and work closely with physicians to optimize patient drug regimens.

“I left Washington, D.C. with the realization that it’s up to those of us within the profession to advocate for the future of pharmacy—even if that means simply educating people on what it means to be a pharmacist,” says Eckhoff. ♦
U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sotomayor Visits DU

EVENT SPARKS INTIMATE CONVERSATION ABOUT LESSONS LEARNED FROM A CAREER ON THE BENCH

By Tara Bradley-Steck

Most lawyers will never see the U.S. Supreme Court, let alone argue a case before it or get to converse with its justices about a point of law.

Third-year law student Ashley Puchalski, along with seven other Duquesne University students, went one step better. They were able to lob a few questions to Associate Justice Sonia Sotomayor—and they weren’t softballs.

The fairly lengthy question-and-answer session with students and Sotomayor followed a half-hour Q&A conducted by President Ken Gormley and U.S. Court of Appeals Judge Marjorie Rendell before 2,000 students, faculty, staff and members of the public who packed the A.J. Palumbo Center Dec. 7.

Seated between Gormley and Rendell, Sotomayor answered their queries thoroughly, earnestly and sedately. But when the time came to answer questions from students, Sotomayor carefully rose from her chair—apologizing to the audience for her slow movements due to a flare-up of her sciatica and to her team of federal marshals tasked with protecting her—and ventured down the stage stairs into the crowd, shaking hands, getting pictures taken with her student interviewers and clearly relishing the opportunity to go “off script.”

She headed first to Puchalski, who wanted to know how Sotomayor—a poor Puerto Rican child who was raised in a housing project in the Bronx—overcame her well-publicized fear of asking questions, especially when she was amid those who were more experienced.

“When I’ve had those moments and I haven’t asked the question I should, I always find someone else I trust to go ask. I do that all the time.”
What is wrong is not to find the answer, to walk away without teaching yourself what that new thing needs to be,” Sotomayor said after asking a photographer—“You have a camera? Will you take our picture?”—and then posing with the student.

To a question from Olivia Donia, a sophomore in the Honors College, about Sotomayor’s response to critics who claim she was named to the bench because of affirmative action, Sotomayor replied: “It doesn’t matter how I got in. What matters is what I do when I’m here.”

To another question, this time from Honors College senior Kailey Love, about the possible effect the bitter confirmation hearings for Justice Brett Kavanaugh may have had on the court, she said: “To the extent that people believe that the nomination process is so partisan and so rancorous, it does and can have a tendency to diminish the sense of integrity that people have in the court. I and maybe some of my colleagues worry about that.”

Although there have been times when the justices haven’t gotten along, she said current justices treat each other like family and share a breadth of collegiality that defies politics—which she said Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg attributed to the appointment of women to the bench. “When Sandra Day O’Connor joined the court (in 1981), she was insistent on collegiality,” Sotomayor said of the first woman to serve on the court. “The chief justice (John Roberts) told me that when he came aboard, that was her first comment to him: ‘It is your responsibility to maintain our collegiality.’ And he’s taken that charge very seriously.”

And to a question from Adriana Ryan, a freshman from Puerto Rico, who asked if enough has been done for those in the island nation devastated by Hurricane Maria, she answered: “The island is still in deep trouble … I would wish that there would be more help. We, the island, need it. We have given much to America. We are American citizens. And we depend on continuing to share in the bounty of this great nation. … Just as we help the other victims of storms and natural disasters, I would deeply hope that we would continue to help the island.”

So, no, no softball questions. And definitely no platitudes or scripted replies.

Weeks following the event, Puchalski was still pinching herself. “It was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for sure,” she said. “It was so personal and so intimate. To be able to look into her eyes and ask the question and to be able to have her answer the question directly to me was amazing.”

The first Hispanic Supreme Court justice, Sotomayor was nominated by President Barack Obama in May 2009 and ascended to the nation’s highest court in August of that year. Previously, she served as a judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit from 1998-2009. Before that, in 1991, President George H.W. Bush nominated her to the U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York, where she served for six years.

She explained her decision to accept that district court nomination—which she had first decided to refuse—in an answer to a question posed by third-year law student Taylor Wantz about her career trajectory. “A colleague reminded me that the problem with federal judgeships is that when you’re ready, a president may not be ready. He said if you think you ever want to be a circuit court judge, you have to do it when asked,” Sotomayor said.

“Sometimes opportunities come your way when you have to throw out the playbook. ... You have to be open enough that when an opportunity presents itself, you say, ‘Yes.’”

Sotomayor earned a B.A. in 1976 from Princeton University, graduating summa cum laude and receiving the university’s highest academic honor. In 1979, she earned a J.D. from Yale Law School. She served as the assistant district attorney in the New York County District Attorney’s Office and as an international commercial litigator for Pavia & Harcourt.

Sotomayor spoke fondly of her mother, Celina Sotomayor, who overcame stark deprivation in Puerto Rico during childhood, joined the military, was widowed at an early age and scrimped to support her two children through school on a nurse’s salary. In a call to her mother to discuss her nomination to the Supreme Court, Sotomayor expressed concern that she wouldn’t be around as much. “I said, ‘Mom, if I take this job I’m going to have a lot less time to see you. This is a very
demanding position. I may not be there a day you get sick. I don’t think I should do this, do you?” And there was a pause on the other end of the phone, and she said, ‘Every sacrifice I made in my life was for this moment for you. Don’t take it away from me.’”

Almost a decade after she ascended the highest court in the land, Sotomayor said she’s still in awe of the job.

“Even today, when I walk out into the courtroom, I look around and there’s a little chill that goes down my back,” she said. “The reality is, I hope it never gets old for me. I hope I never take it for granted.”

Following the Q&A, Duquesne and the Federal Bar Association of the Western District of Pennsylvania presented Sotomayor with the Carol Los Mansmann Award for Distinguished Public Service (please see sidebar) in honor of her commitment to equal access to justice for all citizens.

“Puerto Ricans are very proud of her,” Gabriel Droz Ortiz, a Duquesne sophomore from Puerto Rico, said of Sotomayor.

That was echoed by special guest Roberto Clemente Jr., who presented Sotomayor with a Pittsburgh Pirates jersey with her name and the number “21,” the number worn by his Hall-of-Fame father who died in 1972 on a mission trip to Nicaragua.

Clemente Jr., who serves as global ambassador for international relief organization Food for the Hungry, told the crowd he had to cut short a mission trip to the Dominican Republic in order to attend the Duquesne event.

“I don’t like to name-drop,” he said with a chuckle, “but when I told some young girls in Dominican Republic that I was going to meet you in Pittsburgh, they were wide-eyed and sent you a message thanking you for your inspiration.”

He recalled a story about the first time he met Obama. He said the president told him: “Young man, you should be very proud because your name moves mountains.”

Clemente then turned to Sotomayor, saying: “I’m here to tell you the same words … because your name moves mountains. We’re very proud to have you as a Supreme Court justice.”

MANSMANN AWARD HONORS PUBLIC SERVICE

The Carol Los Mansmann Award for Distinguished Public Service honors the memory of Judge Mansmann, who attended Duquesne University as an undergraduate, excelled in the School of Law and was a member of its law faculty.

Mansmann served with distinction on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit until her death in 2002. She battled breast cancer for 12 years and underwent a bone marrow transplant while continuing to work full-time on the Court of Appeals and engaging in a variety of public service.

The first Mansmann Award was bestowed upon U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O’Connor in 2001. Since then, the award has been presented only on several occasions in recognition of individuals who have demonstrated a lifetime commitment to public service and the betterment of society on a wide scale.

Recipients have included U.S. Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito in 2007; the late U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia in 2011; Donetta W. Ambrose, A’67, L’70, chief judge of the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania, in 2011; and former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania Ronald D. Castille in 2014.
1. President Ken Gormley and the Honorable Marjorie O. Rendell, senior judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, engage U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor in a lively discussion about her career.

2. Justice Sotomayor leaves the stage to walk among students and guests to answer questions.

3. Justice Sotomayor listens to a question about authoring children’s books posed by Jacqueline Robel, a third-year Duquesne law school student and executive student article editor of the Law Review.

4. Justice Sotomayor poses with Franklin Elementary School student Harlie Donnelly, 8, who wore her “Sonia Sotomayor” Halloween costume to the event.

5. Eva Danielle Santillan, 11, daughter of Ed Santillan, L’90, poses for a photo with Justice Sotomayor.

6. Justice Sotomayor, President Gormley and Roberto Clemente Jr. pose with a Pittsburgh Pirates jersey that Clemente presented in honor of his late father, a Puerto Rican native and Hall-of-Fame outfielder who wore No. 21 when he played for the Pirates.

7. Raymond Arke, editor of The Duquesne Duke newspaper, who graduated from the Honors College in December 2018, asks Justice Sotomayor about the college experience she thought was most influential in guiding her career.
A group of high school students taking a “banned books” class came, as did a retired executive from Alcoa. A journalist flew in from Moscow specifically for the two-day event and flew home again with nary a twinge of jet lag. An alumna and her husband drove west across Pennsylvania, while another couple drove east from Iowa.

This diverse assortment of folks came to Duquesne University in October for one purpose—to discuss, honor and show their appreciation for the First Amendment and to learn of the challenges it might be facing.

“I went because I want to learn more,” Marilyn Painter, 81, of Pittsburgh said simply. “I just loved the agenda, and the quality of the presenters was amazing.”

The National Conference on the First Amendment: Bedrock of American Freedoms, held Oct. 21 and 22 at Duquesne, couldn’t have come at a more opportune moment.

In the age of lightning-fast information and hair-trigger responses, of mal-information, disininformation and misinformation, of presidential jabs at the press and radical groups’ assaults on freedom of speech, of barely suppressed tolerance for non-mainstream and mainstream religions, the conference served as both an homage to the First Amendment’s might and exploration of the forces threatening it in the digital age.

Duquesne and The Pittsburgh Foundation, in collaboration with the National Constitution Center, presented the conference as a catalyst to reawaken appreciation for First Amendment freedoms and as continuation of a University-sponsored series on civil discourse.

“The First Amendment comes up constantly—online, in our lives, in court, on campus. It’s really interwoven into our lives in a way few other laws are,” said panelist Lata Nott, executive director of the First Amendment Center at the Freedom Forum Institute in Washington, D.C.

That is why the First Amendment is so critical. Indeed, that is why the First Amendment is first, said Maxwell King, president and CEO of The
Pittsburgh Foundation and former editor of *The Philadelphia Inquirer*.

“All other freedoms under our Constitution are imperiled if fundamental First Amendment freedoms are undermined,” he said. “The shared mission of The Pittsburgh Foundation and Duquesne is recognizing that an aware and involved citizenry is the ultimate safeguard of American democracy.”

Duquesne President Ken Gormley echoed those sentiments.

“There’s endless talk in the news these days about being divided as a nation, based upon differing political views and strongly-held beliefs fueled by nasty partisanship. That’s all true. Yet … we’re at our best, firing on all cylinders, not when we’re at each other’s throats but when we’re rallying around principles that unite us,” he told the crowd packed into the ballroom of Duquesne’s Power Center.

And what better freedoms to rally around than those that come first in the Bill of Rights, expressed in a succinct, 45-word promise?

“This little amendment—more than any other words in our Constitution—reflects the values that unite us as Americans,” Gormley said.

**WHO’S WHO**

The event featured a Who’s Who of 48 nationally prominent journalists, college presidents, legal scholars and public figures across the political spectrum and hailing from around the world—all of whom shared a passion for the freedoms guaranteed by the First Amendment.

Dignitaries included retired four-star general and Duquesne alumnus Michael Hayden, who headed the CIA and National Security Agency; Tom Ridge, the former governor of Pennsylvania and first secretary of the Department of Homeland Security; U.S. Solicitor General Noel Francisco; Ohio Governor John Kasich interviewed in advance by Gormley; and U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, whose videotaped speech reminded the audience that the First Amendment “is not a license to ride
Left: Floyd Abrams, attorney and leading legal authority on the First Amendment, gave a talk on “the soul of the First Amendment.” Maxwell King, president and CEO of The Pittsburgh Foundation and former editor of The Philadelphia Inquirer, moderated the panel on the importance of a free press.

Middle, left: Joy McNally, interim director of the Thomas R. Kline Center for Judicial Education at Duquesne University School of Law, was emcee of the event.

Middle, right: Lana Ulrich, in-house counsel at the National Constitution Center; Lata Nott, executive director of the Freedom Forum Institute’s First Amendment Center; and Katy Glenn Bass, research director at the Knight First Amendment Institute at Columbia University, told the audience about organizations that educate the public about the First Amendment.

Bottom, left: Juan Williams, a political analyst for Fox News, participated in a panel discussion on the First Amendment in the 21st century as viewed from the “trenches.”

Bottom, right: Author, musician, activist and self-proclaimed “troublemaker” Simon Tam spoke about his eight-year battle to call his Asian-American rock band “The Slants.”

Left: Dean P. Baquet, executive editor of The New York Times, Martin Baron, executive editor of The Washington Post, and David Shribman, executive editor of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, took part in a panel on the importance of a free press.
Also attending were editors from *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, *TIME* magazine and Google; conservative and progressive print columnists and radio/television commentators, including Hugh Hewitt, Tony Norman, James O’Keefe, Jason Willick and Juan Williams; and journalists from Russia and South Korea. Former American Civil Liberties Union president Nadine Strossen, lawyer/First Amendment expert Floyd Abrams and outspoken Harvard law professor-turned-commentator Alan Dershowitz provided additional perspective. There even was an Asian-American dance rock band, whose eight-year battle to call itself “The Slants” ended up before the U.S. Supreme Court and resulted in a victory.

Panel discussions probed speech on college campuses, assaults to free press, political correctness, artistic expression, new technology and social media (moderated by alum Jim Crutchfield), and national security. History lessons in the form of the Founding Fathers’ intentions in crafting the First Amendment and memorable U.S. Supreme Court decisions involving certain aspects of the First Amendment kept the more than 600 spectators who attended the event grounded in facts.

Or, at least, facts all could agree on.

**FACT VS. FICTION AND THE PROTECTION OF LIES**

In the age of President Donald Trump, who popularized the term “fake news,” heretofore agreed-upon facts are not assumed, said the panelists. American consumers, confused and jaded by onslaughts on the press and democratic institutions such as the FBI and the courts, have forced journalists to increase their efforts to be more transparent in explaining their process, their sources and their methods.

“It’s hard to have a democracy without strong institutions or when people don’t agree on a baseline set of facts,” said Martin Baron, executive editor of *The Washington Post*. “But ultimately you have to agree on what happened yesterday, and that’s concerning when you don’t have that.”

Surprisingly, the First Amendment protects falsehoods, and “fake news is protected by the First Amendment because lies are protected by the First Amendment,” Nott said.

In such an atmosphere of distrust, a free press is more relevant and necessary than ever, said the panelists.

“To the extent we and that public officials declare that the press is an enemy of the people or that the press are mean and horrible people … we begin to undermine the very trust that historically people have placed in the press,” Ridge said. “And, I don’t believe democracies can exist without a free press.”
Ridge acknowledged that being in the public eye, scrutinized by media from all sides, may be uncomfortable; but that goes with the territory of being an American, and he would have it no other way.

“The First Amendment freedom was not designed to make elected officials happy,” he said.

Ironically, the editors said recent attacks on the mainstream media have led to renewed support for freedom of the press.

“All newspapers have had their backs against the wall, and we lost a bit of confidence in ourselves,” said Dean Baquet, executive editor of The New York Times. “And now we’re in the middle of one of the great stories of our generation. People see us as vital more than ever before.”

“Now they don’t take us for granted,” Baron said.

“They are subscribing to us in record numbers.”

Yet, how does one become a more educated consumer of news? What is the result of getting one’s news, not from The Washington Post with its 850 reporters and fact checkers but, rather, from a Twitter feed or blog that is nothing more than an echo chamber for narrow, uninformed views?

SOCIAL MEDIA: THE FIRST AMENDMENT’S GREATEST THREAT?
The basis behind the First Amendment is that once all information is on the table, the truth will be revealed.

But the panelists weren’t sure that adage still applies in the age of social media.

“What’s fact? What’s fiction?” Ridge asked. “The advent of the internet and social media have dramatically changed how information is conveyed. They’re unrestrained. There are no standards. There’s no geographic boundary. It complicates the world in a very significant way. It can be weaponized to undermine the values we hold dear and want to protect.”

Richard Gingras, vice president of news for Google, said the internet has created a world of unfettered free expression, which has forever changed the nature of public discourse and political engagement.

“Yes, the internet can elevate noble speech. But the internet also enables heinous speech where anger, outrage or self-righteousness can be turned into a hatred of others,” he said. “As society’s access to media becomes more open, the media space becomes intrinsically, mathematically more divisive. If you want to unify a society, then the one-voice media model of (North Korean leader) Kim Jong-un will do the trick.”

Williams said part of the problem with social media is “anonymous actors, and even some actors that are intending to mislead you.”

Left: Panelists included Hugh Hewitt, American radio talk show host, lawyer, academic and author. Right: Jeffrey Rosen, president and CEO of the National Constitution Center, moderated a panel discussion on speech on college campuses.

DRAWING ON EXPERIENCE
Conference speaker Liza Donnelly, a cartoonist and writer with The New Yorker and resident cartoonist at CBS News, participated in a panel discussion and also drew images during the conference on her iPad. Donnelly is the creator of digital live drawing, a new form of journalism in which she draws on a tablet and then shares her impressions of events and news instantly on social media.

Follow Liza on Twitter at @lizadonnelly or visit her website at lizadonnelly.com.
“You as the consumer really have to rely on your own discernment and you have to make decisions about what it is you are reading, watching or listening to. This is a tremendous burden in terms of citizenship, but I think it is required at this time,” he said.

Hayden agreed.

“Social media knows you at least as well as you know yourself. The business model—the return on investment—is time on the platform, the number of clicks, so it wants you to stay,” he said. “And the longer you stay on it, the core algorithm will drive you to more extreme expressions of your starting point. Rather than driving you to some sort of global comments for dialogue, it actually bends you away from the center and into the darkest corners of your self-identified ghetto.”

Therein lies the brave new world. A democracy in the digital age requires people to be more skeptical of information and seek out other points of view, which, after all, was one of the founders’ goals in drafting the First Amendment.

Said Ridge: “I like to think that technology can help us get through the abuse of this extraordinary capability that’s global in nature … so that maybe down the road at least 330 million Americans could be a little more demanding of facts and truth and be a little bit more open-minded to another point of view, which helps us get to a better place.”

FOREIGN JOURNALISTS FROM LANDS WITHOUT THE FIRST AMENDMENT

Foreign journalists reminded the audience that freedom of the press, speech, religion, assembly and petition are not inalienable rights in many countries. Just recently, family members of six Chinese journalists reporting in Washington for Voice of America were arrested and sent to concentration camps in China “because of the work they’re doing here,” said Amanda Bennett, director of Voice of America.

“This is one of the things I find so touching, so moving, is the people that come to work for us face down these dangers because they see the value of free, neutral, independent information,” she said. “What happened with (executed Saudi Arabian journalist) Jamal Khashoggi is not trivial for us.”

Suki Kim, a Korean-American journalist who went undercover in North Korea for six months, claimed it’s impossible to have an educated citizenry in a country in which all information is controlled by the government and citizens “have been educated on nothing but the great leader.”

“What the North Korean government has done is to erase the media within the country. There’s only one working paper, and it’s six pages long, and every article is about the great leader. It is not an informed audience,” she said. “In 70 years, the history of Korea has been successfully erased.”

The ramifications of a country without First Amendment protections could be disastrous, she said.

“The fear of what we’re talking about, of somehow losing this First Amendment—North Korea is what happens,” Kim said.

THOSE WHO CAME
Those who attended the conference, which was open to the public, ranged from Duquesne students and faculty to Pittsburgh-area residents, distant alumni, interested journalists, legal aficionados and concerned citizens.

Maryann Spellman Young and her husband, Gordon, drove more than 300 miles from their home in Union Dale, Pa., to hear speakers such as Elizaveta Osetinskaya, who flew almost 5,000 miles from Moscow, talk about the challenges covering a country that doesn’t have First
Amendment protections and whose leader does not permit any aggressive reporting about his family. The couple couldn’t arrive in time to make the opening day’s session, so they streamed the panel discussions during the five-hour drive. They called the event “riveting.”

“I thought it was such a profoundly timely event,” said Young, A’77. “There was no stone unturned in representing both extremes of politics and judicial discourse. It seemed so well thought out in terms of who should be there. I’d be hard-pressed to know who they could top for those panelists.”

Young said she sat next to a woman who brought her three pre-teen and teenage children, “and she was making them pay attention and take notes.” She also met a few couples from Iowa at the conference.

“We saw them later in the hotel and they asked us, ‘What did we think, wasn’t it great?’ They seemed to have gotten a lot out of it as well,” she said.

A group of high school students from Winchester Thurston, a private school in Pittsburgh, attended the conference as part of a class on “banned books.”

“They are talking about things that are really relevant and sharing a lot of opinions that haven’t been brought to the forefront of discussion,” senior Gabriel Batista, 17, said. “It makes people think about themselves within an organization or community.”

Halyna Kowal, A’97, GA’99, of Pittsburgh said she was impressed that the panelists spoke so eloquently and pragmatically.

“Everybody was so well-informed,” she said. “The discussion had different viewpoints; they were not afraid to voice their opinions.”

Broadcast journalist Bill Flanagan, who also serves as chief corporate relations officer for the Allegheny Conference on Community Development, said he was “blown away by the quality of the panelists and the discussions.”

“It’s refreshing to see people have a civilized conversation about the First Amendment,” he said.

**NEED FOR ENGAGEMENT**

Not everything at the conference was neatly tied in a bow. Questions were raised—especially those involving the “policing” of speech on the internet—for which there was little consensus. Panelists differed markedly over issues such as anonymity and privacy. But disagreements were expressed with grace and courtesy. Even conservative political activist O’Keefe, whose invitation to speak prompted *The Duquesne Duke* to pen a scathing editorial, was respectful in his passionate polemic against traditional journalism. And students who disagreed with his position and approach listened, with equal respect, in the audience.

To be sure, perhaps the most remarkable takeaway was that so many folks with so many points of view could come together and engage in true civil discourse. And that discourse made it clear that many acts of personal freedom depend on the First Amendment, which shines brightest under the watchful protection of an informed and educated citizenry.

“I think the beauty of a free society is the ability of different parties to be able to communicate and create a symbiosis that can lead to clarity. What happens is, you rub up against one another, and the truth prevails,” Kasich said. “And it’s also the responsibility of all of us as citizens to not just sit back and not have our say. Your opinion matters. Your actions matter. So, it’s important for all of us to be engaged.”
Three Centuries of PA Legal History Focus of Special Program

By Jennifer Rignani, A’94

Long before the U.S. Constitution was drafted, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court was issuing opinions that would influence the formation of the federal government and the U.S. Supreme Court decades later.

The history of the court, which began in 1684 as the Provincial Court and became the Pennsylvania Supreme Court in 1722, was the focus of a program hosted by the Duquesne University School of Law in October. Says The Honorable Maureen Lally-Green, dean of the law school: “Many jurisprudential principles that our Supreme Court had recognized, such as the separation of powers, we believe, fundamentally informed the United States Supreme Court.”

The program, The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania: Life and Law in the Commonwealth, 1684-2017, was named for a new book edited by John Hare, L’93, and celebrated the 50th anniversary of the 1968 amendments to Pennsylvania’s Constitution that expanded the Court’s rights.

“The program, The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania: Life and Law in the Commonwealth, 1684-2017, was named for a new book edited by John Hare, L’93, and celebrated the 50th anniversary of the 1968 amendments to Pennsylvania’s Constitution that expanded the Court’s rights.”

Lally-Green moderated a panel comprising all seven state Supreme Court justices.

“I was most privileged to play a part in this program and am so grateful for the willingness of each participant to share their observations,” Lally-Green says.

Gormley shared with the audience an overview of the Court’s landmark achievements, which include major issues such as judicial review, discrimination and malpractice.

“It was an honor to write the introduction for the book and to participate in this first-rate tribute to the oldest sitting court in North America,” Gormley says.

The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania: Life and Law in the Commonwealth, 1684-2017 was peer-reviewed by Lally-Green and includes an introduction by Duquesne President Ken Gormley. Among contributions from more than 40 writers are several alumni, including The Honorable Joseph Del Sole, L’65; John Gedid, L’67; Tom Kline, L’78; and Bill Stickman, L’05. Dr. Joel Fishman, former associate director for lawyer services for Duquesne’s Center for Legal Information, also is a contributor.

“John Hare is a very well-respected appellate advocate and the author of several books. We are so proud of him and that he was willing to come share his latest book with us,” Lally-Green says.

“It was an honor to write the introduction for the book and to participate in this first-rate tribute to the oldest sitting court in North America.”

From left: John Hare; Dean Maureen Lally-Green; Justices Max Baer, Debra Todd, Christine Donohue, Thomas Saylor, Kevin Dougherty, David Wecht and Sallie Updyke Mundy; President Ken Gormley.
DUQUESNE UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE  •  Spring ’19

Recent Rankings and Honors for DU Programs and Schools

DU AGAIN RANKED AMONG THE BEST COLLEGES

For the 11th consecutive year, Duquesne is ranked among U.S. News & World Report’s top-tier national schools, climbing one spot to No. 119 in the 2019 Best Colleges rankings. The University also tied for the 11th spot among national Catholic institutions.

In addition to its new ranking among the Best National Universities category, U.S. News recognized Duquesne at No. 40 in the Best Value Schools category, up two spots from last year.

The rankings are designed to help prospective students and their families compare institutions as they navigate the college selection process. U.S. News evaluates colleges and universities on 16 measures of academic quality, such as first-year student retention, graduation rates and faculty strength.

U.S. News ranks its Best Value Schools based on a school’s academic quality, as indicated by its 2019 Best Colleges ranking, and the 2017-2018 net cost of attendance for a student who received the average level of need-based financial aid.

Other Duquesne highlights from U.S. News & World Report’s 2019 Best Colleges rankings include:

• Ranked No. 80 in the Best Colleges for Veterans category
• Ranked No. 108 in the High School Counselor Rankings. To create this list, guidance counselors across the nation rate universities.
• Ranked No. 172 in the Best Undergraduate Business Programs category

DUQUESNE NAMED AMONG PRINCETON REVIEW’S BEST 384 COLLEGES

The University has again been recognized by The Princeton Review as one of the best institutions for undergraduate education in the United States.

The Princeton Review named Duquesne in its Best 384 Colleges edition for 2019. The University also is included in the Best Colleges: Region by Region list for the Northeast.

To develop its 2019 list, The Princeton Review surveyed 138,000 students (average 359 per campus) attending the 384 top colleges from the most previous lists and asked them to rate their schools on dozens of topics.

In the publication’s profile of Duquesne, students describe the University as “very focused on providing a friendly yet professional, scholarly Catholic education” and that it is “all about growth of the student through the mind, body and spirit—the whole person, you are not just a number.” Undergraduates also say they are “thoughtful, dedicated to success, morally and spiritually driven, and diverse.”

For the Best Colleges: Region by Region, The Princeton Review features 661 colleges in five geographic zones. The colleges are considered to be academically outstanding and worth consideration in one’s college search.

“We picked the 384 ‘best’ colleges primarily for their outstanding academics; we highly recommend each one,” says Robert Franek, editor-in-chief at The Princeton Review. “We created our 62 ranking lists to help narrow that search. They are based entirely on data we gather beyond academics that gives insight into what the schools’ enrolled students say about their professors, administrators, school services, campus culture and student life. In the end, it’s all about the fit.”
DUQUESNE CLIMBS 140 SPOTS ON MONEY’S BEST COLLEGES LIST

*Money Magazine* has ranked Duquesne No. 225 on its list of the Best Colleges for Your Money for 2018, a dramatic jump from No. 365 on the 2017 list.

$ BEST COLLEGES FOR YOUR MONEY

After meeting initial requirements, 727 schools nationwide were ranked based on 26 factors in three categories—quality of education, affordability and graduation outcomes.

Duquesne was lauded for its financial aid contributions, average price for low-income students, low average student debt and average salary within three years of graduation.

Rankings were based on data from the U.S. Department of Education, Peterson’s and PayScale.com.

PRINCETON REVIEW INCLUDES DU AMONG BEST BUSINESS SCHOOLS FOR 2019

The Palumbo-Donahue School of Business has been named to *The Princeton Review’s* Best Business Schools 2019 list. Known for its college rankings in dozens of categories based on students’ ratings of their colleges, *The Princeton Review* tallies its 19 categories of best business schools based largely on data from student surveys.

Surveyed were 18,400 students enrolled in on-campus MBA programs at 252 business schools and 5,100 students enrolled in online MBA programs at 75 business schools. Data from surveys of administrators at the schools also was used for some of the ranking list tallies.

“We salute these schools for the innovative and wide range of MBA programs they offer their students,” says Robert Franek, editor-in-chief of *The Princeton Review*. “Our purpose is not to rank hundreds of b-schools hierarchically or to crown any single MBA program or school as ‘best’ overall. We compile multiple categories of ranking lists and combine them with detailed profiles of the schools to help applicants identify and successfully apply to the best MBA program for them.”

DU AGAIN RECOGNIZED AMONG TOP GREEN COLLEGES

Duquesne is again one of the country’s most environmentally responsible colleges, according to *The Princeton Review’s* 2018 Guide to 399 Green Colleges. Of 648 schools receiving green ratings, Duquesne is among the 399 schools classified in the 80th percentile or higher.

The guide provides information about the colleges’ admission requirements, cost and financial aid, and student body facts and statistics. Detailed “Green Facts” write-ups report on everything from the schools’ use of renewable energy, recycling and conservation programs, to the availability of environmental studies and career guidance for green jobs.

Duquesne received an 82 out of a 99 total “green rating” from *The Princeton Review* for its commitment to sustainability.

DUQUESNE MBA NO. 5 IN THE U.S., NO. 13 GLOBALLY

Duquesne was recognized by Corporate Knights in its 2018 *Better World MBA Ranking*. Among the 40 schools listed, the University’s MBA Sustainable Business Practices program is ranked No. 5 nationally and No. 13 internationally.

“To be consistently ranked by Corporate Knights among the top business schools is a testament to the quality and caliber of our MBA Sustainable Business Practices program, faculty, staff and students,” says Dr. Karen Donovan, associate dean of graduate programs and executive education in the Palumbo-Donahue School of Business.

“ar experimental curriculum enables students to integrate sustainability into solutions for organizational partners to drive innovation and bottom line results—an increasingly important and sought-after skill by corporations.”

For the ranking, Corporate Knights assessed 141 business schools across 25 countries, including the top 100 schools on the current *Financial Times* global MBA ranking. Duquesne was ranked in the top five U.S. schools behind Fordham University, MIT, Georgia Institute of Technology and the University of Vermont.

“This ranking shows which business schools are stepping up to the plate to unleash the power of business as a force for good in our world,” says Toby Heaps, chief executive officer of Corporate Knights, Inc.

DUQUESNE MBA RANKED #5 IN THE U.S.

Founded in 2002, Corporate Knights is a media and research company focused on clean capitalism—an economic system that incorporates social, economic and ecological factors.

NURSING, EDUCATION AND BUSINESS AMONG TOP 100 BEST ONLINE PROGRAMS

Three Duquesne programs climbed in *U.S. News & World Report’s* Best Online Program rankings. Speaking to a growing interest in online offerings, the 2019 rankings evaluated 1,545 programs.

The School of Nursing, a longtime pioneer in online graduate nursing education, moved up 10 spots to No. 35. The School of Education was ranked No. 100 compared to No. 173 last year, marking the most significant jump of Duquesne schools. The Palumbo-Donahue School of Business advanced 12 spots to No. 82.

Using data gathered from each institution, *U.S. News & World Report* is the only publication that evaluates online degrees at the program level rather than the school level. The methodologies are based on factors such as student engagement, faculty credentials, and student services and technology. Only degree-granting programs that are offered primarily online at regionally accredited institutions were considered.
Gabriela Riedel, a native of Buenos Aires, Argentina, came to America to fulfill her dream of owning her own business. After 17 years of working in local restaurants and making her famous empanadas for Latino fairs, Riedel sought help. Thanks to a special Duquesne University program and its grassroots community effort, she was able to find it.

For more than 20 years, Duquesne's Small Business Development Center (SBDC) has supported startup and existing businesses with the essential management skills to accomplish their goals. Ten years ago, the SBDC started a program called Pittsburgh Immigrants Entrepreneurs (PIE), an initiative to assist Pittsburgh-area immigrants in developing and expanding their businesses.

Through PIE, Riedel attended the SBDC business seminar, Abre Tu Negocio en Pittsburgh, to learn all the steps necessary to open a business. For years, Spanish-speaking immigrants have participated in PIE seminars, presented in their native language, to ensure they fully understand the various U.S. regulations required for businesses.

“I wanted to open a restaurant, but it just didn’t work out—not enough money and too big of a project,” Riedel explains.

After attending Abre Tu Negocio en Pittsburgh multiple times, Riedel reached out to the SBDC for further consultation.

“SBDC helped me to understand the practical side of business, money needed for the business, permits, regulations and the motivation side of a can-do attitude,” Riedel says.

Riedel is now a proud small business owner of the Tango Food Truck. Focusing on fresh-cooked Argentinean foods, she serves 30 to 150 customers daily around the city of Pittsburgh.

“I like being my own boss and choosing where to go and sell,” Riedel says. “I am a person who thinks to start small and then grow by making the business profitable. Just like life.”

Regardless of the situation, immigrant entrepreneurs often need assistance creating growth strategies and finding capital to undertake new projects and expand. The PIE initiative provides an array of outreach programs in cooperation with on-site organizations in Beaver, Butler and Lawrence counties, and in the SBDC's Pittsburgh office. These workshops provide an understanding of U.S. business regulations, legal systems, contract procedures and traditional management issues.

“There really was no business resource for Pittsburgh’s small Latino population,” explains Brent Rondon, global marketing manager for Duquesne’s SBDC and a native Peruvian engineer who came to Pennsylvania 22 years ago.

Rondon, who created PIE, also provides one-on-one consulting while guiding individuals through the process of starting and running a business. Alongside Rondon are other Spanish-speaking Pittsburgh professionals lending their expertise to entrepreneurs.

“It’s hard because we’re 25 years ahead of their native countries in terms of institutional frameworks,” Rondon says.

Not only are prospering businesses critical to immigrant communities, they also are important to local economic growth. A 2017 Brookings report indicated that although immigrants make up less than 14 percent of the U.S. population, they found nearly 25 percent of all new businesses, one-third of venture-backed companies and half of Silicon Valley startups. Also, 43 percent of firms in the 2017 Fortune 500 list were founded or co-founded by an immigrant or child of an immigrant. Among the top 35 Fortune 500 companies, 57 percent are in this category.

With lasting economic benefits from immigrant entrepreneurs, Duquesne’s SBDC looks to continue their success with the relatively young PIE program. Three of Duquesne’s SBDC immigrant client companies have won the Pittsburgh region’s U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) Exporter of the Year Award, and one client won the U.S. SBA National Exporter Award. Other successful PIE clients include those behind restaurants, jewelry companies, retail outlets, food manufacturing companies, language training companies and software, engineering, logistics, consulting, medical device and travel assistance firms.

PIE also offers a Global Business Program, which specializes in assisting businesses with international markets. Immigrant entrepreneurs often have an advantage trading with their native countries, either importing products to sell in the United States or selling U.S.-made products to their native countries. The Global Business Program helps these companies understand U.S. regulations and learn the basics of exporting and importing.

Duquesne’s SBDC continues to strengthen the PIE program. In 2014, the center was one of 50 winners nationwide to receive funding to help create and build small business ventures. The funds have aided recruitment, individualized consulting and networking and have allowed Hispanic and disadvantaged owners of startup and young businesses to grow.

“We believe that immigrants contribute greatly to our region; and by starting businesses, they help both themselves and the greater community,” Dr. Mary McKinney, SBDC director, says. “Small business is the engine that drives the U.S. economy. We know that the ingenuity, dedication, motivation and diligence of our immigrants will help Pittsburgh grow and become an even better place to live.”
Duquesne graduates have long been known for distinguishing themselves in elected and appointed positions at the local, state and federal levels. Among the most recent examples:

**Dana Baiocco, L’97**, was nominated by President Donald Trump and confirmed by the U.S. Senate to a seven-year term as a member of the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC). The five-member CPSC panel leads research into product-related illnesses and injuries, develops safety standards and coordinates corrective actions such as recalls. Baiocco was a recognized leader in product liability litigation and risk mitigation as a partner with the Boston office of global law firm Jones Day before being named to the CPSC. To learn more about Baiocco and her new role, read the latest issue of *The Duquesne Lawyer* at law.duq.edu/alumni.

**Guy Reschenthaler, L’07**, was elected to represent Pennsylvania’s 14th District in the U.S. House of Representatives. The newly-configured district encompasses all of Fayette, Greene and Washington counties and a large portion of Westmoreland County. Reschenthaler, a Republican, previously served for three years in the Pennsylvania State Senate, representing the 37th District, and was a magisterial district judge in Pittsburgh’s South Hills from 2013-2015. After graduating from Duquesne’s Law School—where he founded the Military Law Society—Reschenthaler was a member of the U.S. Navy Judge Advocate General’s Corps and was stationed in Baghdad, Iraq.

**Lindsey Williams, L’08**, won election to the Pennsylvania State Senate representing the 38th District, which includes suburbs north of Pittsburgh in Allegheny County. Williams, a Democrat, previously did campaign communications work for the Teamsters’ Union and joined the Pittsburgh Federation of Teachers as its communications director in 2014. She was named the 2016 Allegheny County Young Democrat of the Year and to *The Incline*’s 2017 “Who’s Next: Politics” class. Williams also graduated in the inaugural class of Emerge Pennsylvania—a six-month intensive cohort-based program that trains Democratic women to run for office.

**Brandon Markosek, A’15**, was elected to the Pennsylvania House of Representatives from the 25th District, encompassing eastern suburbs of Pittsburgh including East McKeesport, East Pittsburgh, Monroeville, North Versailles Township, Pitcairn, Plum, Wall and Wilmerding. Markosek earned a master’s degree in public administration from the University of Pittsburgh after studying political science and history at Duquesne. He previously held internships in the state capitol and worked as a community outreach representative for State Senator James Brewster. Markosek succeeded his father, Joseph F. Markosek, who held the 25th District seat for 35 years.
Duquesne Commits to Global Sustainability Challenge

By Michael Minnock, A’13

Duquesne University continues to shed light on issues related to global sustainability and search for solutions to preserve our planet.

In September, the University hosted the fourth annual Presidential Conference on the Integrity of Creation. This annual interdisciplinary conference invites participants from different disciplines to engage in civil discourse on a topic related to the general theme. The focus of the 2018 conference was the Global Sustainability Challenge.

The conference has three goals: to provide a scholarly opportunity to engage established and emerging research; to foster interdisciplinary discourse; and to enlighten public awareness and discussion of the conference topic.

“The conference presented breathtaking accounts of global challenges on sustainability in our planet’s ecosystem,” says Gerard Magill, Vernon F. Gallagher chair and chair of the conference committee. “Identifying global problems and suggesting applied solutions that are both effective and achievable highlights the crucial importance of this annual scholarly conference.”

The conference featured presenters and issues from across the globe:

- Paul Shrivastava, chief sustainability officer at Pennsylvania State University, explored global sustainability in the Anthropocene, which refers to the period in time in which human activity has been the dominant influence on the environment.

- Sarah Fredericks, assistant professor of environmental ethics at the University of Chicago Divinity School, explained how the sustainability movement has always been influenced by religious ethics and how the ethical principles that resonate within religious traditions can be used to evaluate sustainability policies.

- Mary Evelyn Tucker, senior lecturer and research scholar at Yale University in the Yale Forum on Religion and Ecology, offered perspective on Confucianism to discuss major environmental problems in China.

- Paul Bauman, technical director of the Near Surface Geophysics group at Advisian WorleyParsons, in Calgary, Canada, highlighted devastating environmental challenges facing refugees and internally displaced people around the world.

- Robert Sroufe, the Murrin Chair of Global Competitiveness in the Donahue Graduate School of Business at Duquesne, adopted a business approach to the global sustainability challenge, explaining that sustainability is at the top of the agenda for executives.

- The conference planners were honored to host a Spiritan bishop, Pierre Jubinville, C.S.Sp. Center for Healthcare Ethics Ph.D. students assisted at the conference. Paul Shrivastava, chief sustainability officer at Pennsylvania State University; and John Lynch, poster presenter, from Central Catholic High School.

In addition to the plenary presentations, for the first time at the conference there was a display of student posters from Pittsburgh’s Central Catholic High School. The students wrote essays on the conference topic that were then presented in poster format, providing a variety of interesting perspectives on the global sustainability challenge. This successful pilot program to introduce high school students as conference participants will be continued and expanded at next year’s event.
When Duquesne University President Dr. John Murray asked Dr. Heinz Machatzke, a successful research chemist at Bayer, to assess the University’s science education efforts in 1989, Machatzke was blunt. “Overall, it was in bad shape. The faculty was understaffed and completely overwhelmed by the teaching load,” Machatzke recalls. “There was little time to conduct research given the teaching demands. And while the labs were nice, much of the equipment was inoperable. We were even short on safety glasses.”

From such humble beginnings, the Bayer School of Natural and Environmental Sciences (BSNES) will celebrate its 25th anniversary this year. Since its founding in 1994, the school has grown to more than 600 students. Last year, it generated more than $2.3 million in research funding, including studies in forensic science, water resources, animal life and pain research. When Machatzke met Murray in 1989, the sciences accounted for only 113 students and one $214,000 research grant.

Today, the school’s education and research efforts generate national and international attention. Undergraduate students receive research opportunities that aren’t available at many universities, and BSNES faculty are receiving significant research grants and awards.

“We are leaders in creating and growing undergraduate research programs (URP) in the sciences.”

The school’s undergraduate research programs, held year-round, stand out as some of the best in the country, says Dr. David Seybert, chemistry and biochemistry professor who served as BSNES dean in the early 2000s. “We are leaders in creating and growing undergraduate research programs (URP) in the sciences,” he says. “Many science schools can’t offer research opportunities to undergraduates, but we have developed a large program in a relatively short period of time.”

The URPs enjoy great support from the University, faculty grants and the National Science Foundation’s (NSF) Research Experiences for Undergraduates program. “We’ve had particular success in receiving federal grants that allow us to purchase lab instruments,” Seybert notes.

From a Shortage of Safety Glasses to World-Class Faculty and Award-Winning Students: The Evolution of Science Education at Duquesne

BAYER SCHOOL OF NATURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES CELEBRATES 25TH ANNIVERSARY

By Ken Walters
“Most undergraduates don’t typically have access to this kind of lab equipment, and it really makes a difference in preparing them for future opportunities.”

Last year, the school’s selective 10-week summer URP hosted 100 students, the largest class in the program’s history. The summer URP provides students with seminars, community service programs and ethics training. Undergraduates also present their research at on-campus and national meetings and frequently appear as co-authors in professional journals.

The NSF support provides two benefits, in that it allows faculty to advance research while providing students with educational opportunities they might not receive elsewhere, Seybert says. Undergraduate students work side-by-side with their professors and graduate students as they participate in nationally funded research projects.

Such educational opportunities are leading to national recognition for BSNES students. In the past six years, seven BSNES students have received the Goldwater Scholarship, considered the most prestigious undergraduate scholarship in the natural sciences, mathematics and engineering in the United States.

So how does a school go from having a limited number of professors and resources to one that becomes a research and education powerhouse, capable of conducting intense research while delivering science education that competes with universities at the highest level?

**Taking the Initiative**

After meeting with faculty in 1989, Machatzke created an action plan that included increasing the number of science faculty and technical support staff, fundraising and purchasing essential new equipment.

A key part of the plan came to fruition in 1991 when Murray announced the “Duquesne Science Initiative,” a program to increase interest and support for the sciences. A year later, Duquesne saw a 47 percent increase in enrolling undergraduate science and math students and invested more than $1 million in new lab equipment.

Another key development was the growing interest in environmental science in the 1980s. To meet this need, Duquesne created a Master of Environmental Science and Management (ESM) program and received funding for a National Environmental Science Center with a focus on measuring ground substances at industrial and military sites. The ESM program was an instant success, attracting more than 100 applicants in its first year.

Building on this momentum, Duquesne announced the creation of the School of Natural and Environmental Sciences in 1994 with Machatzke serving as the founding dean. The new school started by offering degrees in chemistry, biology, physics and environmental sciences. A year later, the Bayer Foundation made a $2 million contribution to establish BSNES, the moniker that continues today.

The growth of the sciences also led to an increasing number of research grants. That’s when Machatzke took on one more assignment: to become the University’s first associate academic vice president for research.

“We were growing in research funding, but faculty were frustrated by paperwork and administrative roadblocks,” Machatzke recalls. “In the new Office of Research, we centralized all research functions to offer ‘one-stop shopping support’ to faculty. Today, it’s been very rewarding to see how Duquesne’s research capabilities and funding have grown.”

“As science continues to play a more integral role in our society, it becomes imperative that tomorrow’s scientists come from a variety of backgrounds and experiences.”
In the past five years, BSNES has received more than $10 million in research funding, including from national organizations such as the NSF, National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the U.S. Department of Education.

Bayer School professors have won competitive and significant research grants. Dr. Benedict Kolber, associate professor of biological sciences, and Dr. Rachael Neilan, associate professor of mathematics and computer science in the McAnulty College, received a five-year, $1.5 million NIH grant last year to study chronic bladder pain.

Previously, chemistry and biochemistry professors Dr. Tomislav Pintauer and Dr. Jennifer Aitken received five-year NSF Faculty Early Career Development Program Grants, which are typically awarded to less than 10 percent of all applicants.

In addition to grant awards, BSNES faculty are gaining national and international attention. Dr. John Pollock, biological science professor, was nationally recognized twice last year. He received the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring from the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy and the NSF and was named a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the world’s largest scientific society.

BSNES Dean Dr. Philip Reeder, along with a team of international researchers, discovered the burial site of Matilda Olkin, the “Anne Frank of Lithuania,” a young college student whose recently discovered writings captured the horrors of the Holocaust. Reeder and the team’s work was prominently featured in Smithsonian Magazine and international media outlets.

Closer to home, Bayer School faculty and students play an integral role in the Pittsburgh community. All students are required to take the course “Science and the Service to Society” and participate in community service projects, many of which use their research expertise to address neighborhood issues such as pollution and feral cats.

Duquesne faculty, students and alumni work with children at the Citizen Science Lab (CSL), the Pittsburgh region’s first community life sciences laboratory, to conduct experiments in biology, chemistry and physics. CSL works to educate children in science, technology, engineering and math, and offers programs for underrepresented populations in the sciences.

The Bayer School also has a long history of helping women and minority groups enter the science field. For example, the Bayer School Scholars Program offers incoming freshmen a full-tuition scholarship for four years of undergraduate study in one of the majors offered by BSNES, along with research experiences and paid summer internships.

“As science continues to play a more integral role in our society, it becomes imperative that tomorrow’s scientists come from a variety of backgrounds and experiences,” Reeder says. “Many of the critical issues we are facing—global warming, air and water pollution and others—will require an all-hands-on-deck approach. We look forward to the next 25 years, as we continue to grow and offer students cutting-edge education and research opportunities where they can truly have an impact in their field and, ultimately, the world.”

DU Administrator among CFO of the Year Awardees

Vice President for Finance and Business Matt Frist was named one of the 2018 CFO of the Year awardees by the Pittsburgh Business Times.

The CFO of the Year awards recognize financial professionals in western Pennsylvania for their outstanding performance as financial stewards.

“I was both surprised and honored when I discovered that my team had nominated me for this recognition and that the Pittsburgh Business Times selected me as a CFO of the Year recipient,” says Frist. “It’s the persistent efforts of my staff on behalf of Duquesne University and our students that make this acknowledgement even possible.”

Frist, who has been in his role as vice president since 2016, leads the Division of Finance and Business, the members of which work with students, faculty and staff as well as prospective employees, vendors, outside auditors and regulatory agencies. He also assists in staffing the audit and finance and investment committees for the University’s Board of Directors.

During Frist’s term as vice president, the University has been ranked by U.S. News & World Report among the top 25 national universities that operate the most efficiently. In addition, Duquesne’s net assets have grown by approximately 19 percent and investments have grown by approximately 32 percent. Frist also played a key role in the recently announced strategic partnership between the University, Radnor Property Group and Harrison Street Real Estate Capital regarding Brottier Hall.

“Matt is one of the engines who has powered this university forward,” said President Ken Gormley. “His commitment to the people and mission of Duquesne is unmatched.”

Frist joined Duquesne in 1998 as a budget analyst and has served in various roles regarding financial planning, budgeting and analytics. He also has been a member of numerous committees that address benefits, bond compliance, budget and retirement issues. ◆
As the first Duquesne University/August Wilson House Fellow, Natasha Trethewey sets a pretty high bar. A Pulitzer Prize recipient and former United States poet laureate, Trethewey clearly knows her way around the written and spoken word, just like the Pittsburgh-born playwright who inspired her and in whose honor the fellowship was named.

“August Wilson’s work has always been very important to me. Long ago it helped me to understand the necessity for writing about my native geography and history,” says Trethewey, who is the Board of Trustees Professor of English at Northwestern University. "I am honored to hold this fellowship named in memory of our best and most necessary American playwright.”

Trethewey will come to Duquesne University March 20-22 to launch the fellowship. She’ll visit classes, conduct a poetry reading at Duquesne, give a lecture and read her poetry at community events.

Trethewey created a PBS NewsHour poetry series, named “Where Poetry Lives,” during her second of two terms as the 19th poet laureate. She also has published Native Guard, the 2007 Pulitzer Prize winner, and another book called...
Monument: Poems New and Selected, which was longlisted for the 2018 National Book Award.

Not all subsequent fellows will be of Trethewey’s stature. Just the opposite.

“We wanted someone of national stature to kick it off, and Natasha Trethewey is the ideal inaugural recipient,” Duquesne President Ken Gormley says. “Going forward, future fellows will likely be earlier in their careers and can use this opportunity as a springboard to gain exposure for their work. We will make it possible for them to stay for longer periods of time interacting with the campus and the community so that they can build upon their work.”

Duquesne and the August Wilson House will pilot the fellowship program with two fellows per academic year for three years with the goal of sustaining the program thereafter. Gormley says the goal is to make the fellowship “one of the greatest honors attainable for artists of color in the United States.”

The fellowship will “alternate between national and local artists who can inspire the work of others and provide encouragement,” says Kathleen Glenister Roberts, director of the University Honors College and an August Wilson House board member. The Honors College has partnered with the Daisy Wilson Artist Community to restore Wilson’s childhood home in the Hill District neighborhood of Pittsburgh and turn it into a community arts center that could sponsor roundtables, classes, exhibits and plays.

Wilson’s nephew, Paul A. Ellis, Jr., executive director and general counsel of the August Wilson House, says the fellowship aims to identify and nurture emerging artists of color and of limited means who aspire to do the caliber of work his uncle demonstrated throughout his life.

“We’re trying to address a void—which is a lack of access to the arts, especially for the underserved,” says Ellis. “My uncle spent his entire career—in addition to the body of work he provided that contributed to American literature—single-handedly creating opportunities for hundreds of artists while inspiring thousands of others. So this program is right up his alley.”

Fellows will be invited to create work that can be showcased in the August Wilson House and the Hill District community. They will be given access to Duquesne’s resources for scholarly research and public programs while making classroom presentations and programs available on campus and off.

Thanks to the partnership with Duquesne, the pool of future candidates for the August Wilson Fellowship can be expanded to include literary, visual and performing artists, says Ellis.

“Our partnership facilitates broadening the type of artists we can work with and gives us greater options,” he says. “We would like someone with the capacity to advance their work in the spirit of August Wilson. That means a lot of things. It has to do with the standard of excellence that August Wilson aspired to. It has to do with his principled courage. It has to do with a work ethic.”

The fellowship is supported by a grant from the Nancy Jones Beard Foundation. Its namesake founder says she has long been an admirer of the playwright and is excited about supporting artists of color.

“I’m excited about this particular opportunity, and I think it’s a good thing for the city of Pittsburgh and Duquesne University. My long-held admiration for August Wilson and his literary works moved me to respond immediately to President Gormley’s request for support,” says Nancy Jones Beard. Her husband, Gene, who earned his undergraduate business and MBA degrees at Duquesne, was inducted as a charter member of the Century Club of Distinguished Duquesne University Alumni.

“The Beard family has a long and distinguished history of support for Duquesne that, among many significant gifts, includes the establishment of the Beard Center for Leadership in Ethics, the Beard Press Box at Rooney Field, the Beard Symposium on Emerging Issues in Ethics and Sustainability, and multiple term funds providing critical support of business school students and faculty. The Nancy Beard Foundation has an extensive commitment to the arts, libraries and health care organizations around the United States. ♦

Inaugural Fellow Announced at August Wilson House Ground Blessing

Natasha Trethewey was named the first Duquesne University/August Wilson House Fellow at a ground-blessing ceremony at the August Wilson House in Pittsburgh in September. The event celebrated the completion of the first phase of fundraising toward restoration of the childhood home of Wilson. Denzel Washington, who starred in the Broadway revival and movie version of Wilson’s “Fences,” is a lead fundraiser in the effort and attended the event.

Creating Knowledge

DUQUESNE RESEARCHERS ARE MAKING STRIDES. RECENT WORK HAS INCLUDED STUDIES ON BONE HEALTH AND ILLICIT DRUG USE, THE OPENING OF A NEW FORENSIC SCIENCE LABORATORY AND MORE.

DU PROFESSOR PART OF INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH TEAM DISCOVERS GRAVE OF THE “ANNE FRANK OF LITHUANIA”

The burial site of the “Anne Frank of Lithuania” and her family has been discovered by an international team of researchers, including Duquesne University professor Dr. Philip Reeder.

Matilda Olkin and her family were killed by a local militia affiliated with Nazi Germany in 1941 in Rokiskis, Lithuania. The finding is significant because Olkin’s recently discovered writings and poems capture the thoughts of a young college student caught in the horrors of the Holocaust in a manner similar to Anne Frank’s diary, which was penned during the German occupation of the Netherlands.

The dean of Duquesne’s Bayer School of Natural and Environmental Sciences, Reeder mapped the area, which was discovered using Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) with digital precision using GPS coordinates and a total station survey to locate the grave site.

Working with colleagues from the University of Hartford, the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, WorleyParsons, Inc., students, and local archeologists and specialists, Reeder says identifying the location of the burial without excavation was an important element of the team’s work.

“The Jewish religion generally prohibits excavations that involve human remains. And given the millions of Holocaust victims, we do not want to cause any more pain to the victims or their families,” says Reeder. “So we use non-invasive sub-surface mapping and investigation techniques, along with historical documents and testimonies, to help us locate the grave sites.”

The site will be appropriately marked by the local government to ensure its history is not forgotten.

The team’s research was sponsored by the U.S. Embassy in Vilnius, the U.S. Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad, the Targum Shlishi Foundation, the Rokiskis Mayor’s Office and Philip and Aldona Shapiro of Centerville, Va. The project was featured in Smithsonian Magazine in November.

NEW DIRECTOR, CENTER FOR HEALTHCARE ETHICS, NAMED

Dr. Joris Gielen has been named director of the Center for Healthcare Ethics in the McAnulty College and Graduate School of Liberal Arts.

“In collaboration with my colleagues, I would like to further develop the global dimension of our center by further expanding research, teaching and service that emphasizes the ethical aspects of healthcare as a global phenomenon connecting people and the environment across continents,” says Gielen, who has served as an associate professor of healthcare ethics in the center since 2014.

Prior to joining Duquesne, Gielen worked as a postdoctoral scholar at the University of Leuven in Belgium and completed a postdoctoral fellowship of the Research Foundation – Flanders, a Belgian public research council.

LEADING SCIENTISTS SPEAK AT UNIVERSITY METALS SYMPOSIUM

Some of the country’s leading experts on green chemistry and developing alternative energy spoke at Duquesne University as part of the Metals in Biological and Chemical Systems mini-symposium in September.

Hosted by the Bayer School of Natural and Environmental Sciences, the 14th annual event featured a series of presentations that addressed the complexities of metals in chemical and biological systems and their impact on the environment and society.

Dr. John Stolz, director of the Center for Environmental Research and Education, and Dr. Mike Van Stipdonk, associate professor of chemistry and biochemistry, organized the event.
DOCTORS SHOULD PAUSE BEFORE PRESCRIBING HIGH DOSAGES OF GABAPENTIN, DU STUDY FINDS

People who take high doses of gabapentin, more commonly known as Neurontin, are more likely to abuse illicit drugs than those taking lower doses, according to a Duquesne study.

The study discovered that patients taking 1,800 milligrams or more of gabapentin a day were twice as likely to use illegal opiates and have Hepatitis C than people taking lower doses. The findings were published in The Primary Care Companion for CNS Disorders, a publication of the American Psychiatric Association. It is the first study to create a predictive model of patients taking high doses of the drug.

“What our study found was that if a patient asks for a higher dose of gabapentin, they are twice as likely to be abusing illegal opiates and have Hepatitis C as those taking lower doses,” says Dr. Randy Tomko, associate professor of pharmacy at Duquesne who led the study. “This was found to be a correct predictor nearly 70 percent of the time.”

In the study, which was conducted at UPMC Mercy Hospital in Pittsburgh, 23 percent of patients admitted to inpatient psychiatric services indicated they were taking gabapentin. Of those 345 patients, 95 percent tested positive for an illicit drug of abuse, and 65 percent tested positive for multiple drug abuse.

“What before the study, we noticed that if we suggested reducing or eliminating gabapentin, many of these patients were very resistant to the idea,” says Tomko. “They were using gabapentin to enhance the effect of the illicit opioids they were taking.”

More state regulatory agencies may want to consider listing gabapentin as a controlled substance, which has occurred in some states. If it’s considered a controlled substance, Tomko says, doctors will be more cautious about prescribing it.

CAN HERBAL TEA SLOW BONE LOSS?

A new Duquesne University study is examining the effects of drinking herbal tea on bone health.

The clinical trial, called “OsTea,” will study the effects of three herbal teas on bone health in men and women with osteopenia, a condition characterized by weak or thinning bones. Trial participants will be asked to drink tea three times a day for three months.

More than 200 million women worldwide have osteoporosis, a bone disease that occurs when the body loses too much bone. It's especially prevalent in perimenopausal and postmenopausal women, as hormonal changes cause an imbalance that leads to low bone density and related fractures. Osteopenia is decreased bone density but not to the point of osteoporosis.

“We know that teas have been helpful in decreasing the incidence of cancer and cardiovascular disease,” says Dr. Paula Witt-Enderby, a pharmacology professor at Duquesne who is leading the study. “There has also been recent evidence demonstrating the positive effects of certain teas on bone health in rodent and cell culture models. Through this study, we will be researching how herbal teas may affect both men and women with decreasing bone density.”

Witt-Enderby’s research has continually focused on alternative strategies to prevent bone loss in susceptible populations. Previously, her research team was the first to discover the bone-protective actions of melatonin alone or in combination with strontium citrate, and vitamins D3 and K3.

The OsTea study is part of a larger effort by Witt-Enderby to determine how diet and lifestyle affect bone health. People interested in participating in the three-month OsTea study can call 412.396.4296 to determine eligibility.
Bluff in Brief

FROM NATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR A PROFESSOR TO RESEARCH PARTNERSHIPS AIMED AT IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS, THERE'S ALWAYS SOMETHING HAPPENING ON THE BLUFF.

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES PROFESSOR NAMED 2018 AAAS FELLOW

Duquesne Biological Sciences Professor Dr. John Pollock has been named a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) for his contributions to the field of developmental neurobiology and pain research and to STEM education outreach through television and digital media.

The AAAS, the world's largest scientific society, elects fellows each year to recognize their efforts to advance science or its applications. A lifetime honor, fellows are selected by their AAAS peers.

The honor recognizes Pollock's 29-year career in teaching university courses in neuroscience and biology, his research on chronic pain, and his work in developing educational and multimedia resources for school children, including Emmy Award-winning broadcast television and award-winning iOS/Android educational apps.

Pollock's work has been funded by the NSF, the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the NIH Science Education Partnership Award, the U.S. Department of Education, and corporate and foundation support, among other sources.

UNIVERSITY OFFERING 30 PERCENT TUITION SCHOLARSHIP ON GRADUATE DEGREES TO PITTSBURGH PROMISE ALUMNI

Duquesne has broadened its longstanding support of The Pittsburgh Promise by offering Promise alumni scholarships equal to a 30 percent tuition award for select graduate programs in business, education, liberal arts and natural and environmental sciences.

As a founding preferred college partner of The Pittsburgh Promise, Duquesne already provides housing awards to incoming Promise-eligible undergraduate students and offers targeted transition and academic support services to ensure student retention and success.

Approximately 250 Duquesne undergraduates currently receive Pittsburgh Promise scholarships.

Visit www.duq.edu/promise-alum for eligibility, program list and other details.

The Pittsburgh Promise promotes high educational aspirations among urban youth, funds scholarships for post-secondary access, and fuels a prepared and diverse regional workforce. To date, it has invested more than $120 million in scholarships to send more than 8,400 urban youth to a post-secondary institution. Nearly 3,000 Promise scholars have graduated, and many are now working, and giving back, in the Pittsburgh region. Pittsburgh has the largest Promise program in the United States.

CITY DECLARES “DR. SAMUEL JOHN HAZO DAY”

On Dec. 19, Pittsburgh Mayor William Peduto recognized a longtime member of the Duquesne University community by declaring Dr. Samuel John Hazo Day.

According to the mayor's office, the proclamation was issued because "... Hazo is the author of poetry, fiction, essays, various works of translation and four plays; Governor Robert Casey named him Pennsylvania's first State Poet in 1993; and ... Hazo has received 12 honorary doctorates, and in 1998 retired after 43 years of shaping the great minds at Duquesne University, becoming their McAnulty Distinguished Professor of English Emeritus; and ... as founder and director of the International Poetry Forum, Dr. Hazo brought over 800 poets and performers to Pittsburgh, including Nobel awardees, Pulitzer Prize winners, Academy Award recipients, playwrights, composers, as well as public figures who understand the relationship of poetry to public speech..."

"We are proud of Dr. Sam Hazo's world-class contributions," says President Ken Gormley. "He is one of Duquesne's eternal treasures."
Duquesne School of Law graduates finished third in the state on the July 2018 Pennsylvania bar examination.

Graduates taking the bar exam for the first time achieved an 86.7 percent pass rate, exceeding the statewide average of 79 percent. This marks the 13th time in the last 14 years that the pass rate for Duquesne’s first-time takers has exceeded the state average.

Duquesne’s overall pass rate, which includes graduates who had taken the Pennsylvania bar exam previously, was 80.9 percent. This also exceeds the statewide average for all takers of the July 2018 Pennsylvania bar exam, which was 71 percent.

Duquesne finished among the top three with the University of Pennsylvania Law School and Penn State Law School. These results contrast with the national trend: scores on the Multistate Bar Examination dropped to a 34-year low with law schools across the country reporting an overall decrease in bar pass rates.

A Fulbright scholarship will allow a professor from the School of Education to teach student-centered learning at Sumy State University in Ukraine, a former Soviet state undergoing strategic modernization and reform.

Dr. Joseph C. Kush, a professor in the Department of Instruction and Leadership in Education, will spend 10 months working with faculty and students in undergraduate and graduate classes that focus on evaluation, assessment, assessment and psychometrics.

The Ukrainian Ministry of Education has called for a modernization across all areas of its higher education curriculum. Kush will work to facilitate the transformation from a Soviet-era teacher-focused curriculum in which students were encouraged to memorize facts and ask few questions to an environment in which students are more actively engaged and involved in the responsibility for learning.

Research shows that student-centered methods improve depth of understanding of course material, acquisition of critical thinking or creative problem-solving skills, formation of positive attitudes toward the subject being taught, and level of confidence in knowledge or skills.

Upon his return, Kush will integrate what he’s learned from his experience in Ukraine into the courses he teaches in the School of Education.

Duquesne and the Allegheny County Department of Human Services (DHS) are partnering to improve publicly-funded services and quality of life for county residents.

Duquesne was chosen for the DHS University/Government Research Partnership based on mission alignment and the ability to provide complementary resources and research techniques.

Through the inaugural, three-year collaboration, faculty from schools across campus will have access to DHS resources to test, evaluate, create and improve services and programs. Potential exists for students, staff and administration to become involved.

“This partnership affords us the opportunity to highlight our authentic approach to community partnership and showcase our talented faculty and staff while collaboratively working to generate knowledge that is relevant to community concerns in a hyperlocal context,” says Dr. Jessica Mann, director of the Center for Community-Engaged Teaching and Research.

The partnership, which is renewable once the initial term ends, also will facilitate long-term relationships with county representatives and other stakeholders for future research and learning.

DHS is the largest department of Allegheny County government, providing services to more than 200,000 people annually. For more information, e-mail cetr@duq.edu.
City Rivalry Continues

It was a season to remember for Duquesne football, as the Dukes claimed their fifth Northeast Conference title, punching their ticket to the Football Championship Subdivision Playoffs where they captured the first FCS Playoff victory in program history.

DU showed unprecedented resilience after the untimely passing of teammate Marquis “Jaylen” Brown in early October.

After dropping its NEC opener, Duquesne—rededicated in the memory of their fallen teammate—pulled together to rattle off six-straight wins en route to the NEC crown and eventual second round of the FCS Playoffs.

The Dukes earned the title on one of the most memorable plays in school history in the regular season finale at CCSU. With the score tied 31-31 and the NEC’s automatic NCAA Playoff bid on the line, quarterback Daniel Parr found Nehari Crawford over the middle and watched as the senior receiver shed a would-be tackler and raced 56 yards for a touchdown with 24 seconds left. The play gave the Dukes their fifth NEC title in the past eight seasons.

Making their second FCS Playoff appearance, Duquesne scored 31 unanswered points in a 21-point victory at 16th-ranked Towson in the first round. The Dukes fell to perennial power South Dakota State in Brookings, S.D. in the second round, in finishing with nine wins for the first time since 2011.

A big part of the Dukes’ success was the play of running back A.J. Hines, who was named an All-American by the Associated Press, STATS FCS, the AFCA and HERO Sports. He also garnered NEC Offensive Player of the Year honors and was named a finalist for the Walter Payton Award, which is given to the top offensive player at the FCS level.

Head coach Jerry Schmitt was named the NEC Co-Coach of the Year and also was a finalist for the STATS FCS Eddie Robinson Award for the FCS Coach of the Year.

The Dukes have tallied 59 total victories and five NEC championships since 2011, with 10 more wins than any other team in the NEC.
Duquesne University President Ken Gormley was appointed to a three-year term on the NCAA Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee (MOIC) in August.

The MOIC was established in 1991 to enhance the NCAA commitment to foster racial equality and diversity in collegiate athletics. The committee is responsible for reviewing issues and promoting NCAA programs and policies related to student athletes, coaches and administrators who are ethnic minorities, LGBTQ or who have disabilities. The MOIC is designed to champion the causes of minorities by fostering an inclusive environment, thereby creating a culture that promotes fair and equitable access to opportunities and resources.

“I am honored to serve in this important role and grateful for the opportunity,” Gormley said. “I look forward to serving as an advocate for the NCAA’s commitment to inclusion and diversity in intercollegiate athletics.”

A-10 Commissioner Bernadette V. McGlade said Gormley has been committed to gender and ethnic diversity and equality initiatives throughout his professional career.

“He will represent the A-10, the NCAA membership and the values of this national committee extremely well,” she said.

The committee is made up of 18 members, including a current chancellor or president from each division in the NCAA. There are six members from Division I, six members from Division II and six members from Division III. One student athlete from each division also is included on the committee.

Duquesne athletic director Dave Harper said Gormley’s appointment is significant.

“We are honored President Gormley is serving on this committee,” he said. “It is vital that Duquesne be a vibrant and active member institution within the NCAA.”

City Rivalry Continues

The Dukes took on Pitt in the 87th version of the City Game on Nov. 30 at PPG Paints Arena. Michael Hughes posted his first career double-double with 20 points and 10 rebounds, but the Panthers came away with a 74-53 victory.
Dukes Visit I Promise School

Coach Keith Dambrot and the men’s basketball team were granted the opportunity to tour LeBron James’ I Promise School as part of their November trip to Akron to face Radford.

The school, funded by James, currently houses an inaugural class of third- and fourth-graders.

The unique public school was formed in collaboration between James’ philanthropic foundation and Akron Public Schools. Its out-of-the-box offerings include an eight-hour school day; a “support circle” for students after lunch; and GED courses and job placement for parents. All are driven by James’ mission to help kids overcome what he faced as a low-income student in Akron.

During their tour, the Dukes took part in a special Book Club circle highlighted by a session of reading some of the children’s favorite books.

The memorable afternoon ended with Coach Dambrot—who coached James as a freshman and sophomore at Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary High School—joining school administrators in a recitation of the I Promise pledge.

Visit duq.edu/magazine to watch a video of sights and sounds from the visit.

Traveling Teams

The Duquesne football team made the long trek to face the University of Hawaii in late September. The Dukes enjoyed the experience of a lifetime, visiting Pearl Harbor, hiking Diamond Head, participating in the Hawaiian culture and enjoying everything the Aloha State has to offer.

Playing in historic Aloha Stadium, Duquesne battled toe-to-toe with the FBS Rainbow Warriors, gaining an early 14-0 advantage in the first quarter. Hawaii would eventually come away with the 42-21 victory, but the Dukes held their own against the bowl-bound Rainbow Warriors.

Duquesne traveled to South Bend, Ind. to face Notre Dame in the feature game of the Gotham Classic. In the teams’ first meeting since 1995, the Fighting Irish pulled away late for a 67-56 win, but the Dukes still lead the all-time series between the teams 5-3.

DU Hosts Atlantic 10 Women’s Basketball Championship

The 2018-19 Atlantic 10 women’s basketball champion was crowned in Pittsburgh for the first time, as Duquesne played host to the A-10 Women’s Basketball Championship March 8-10 at the A.J. Palumbo Center.

The A-10’s top eight teams battled it out for the conference’s automatic NCAA Tournament bid over three days in the heart of the Steel City.

This was the second time in three years that an A-10 basketball champion was determined in Pittsburgh, as the men’s championship was held at PPG Paints Arena in 2016-17.
DU in Pictures

1. Student Hunter Weidlich poses with the “CLASS TREE” to help welcome new students to campus. Students and their families are invited to put thumbprints on the tree as a symbol of their longstanding place in our Duquesne community.

2. Family members of alumnus and former faculty member Mian Zhao, GS’50, traveled from BEIJING, CHINA, to visit Duquesne last year. The family wanted to see the site that “had meant so much” to their father. Brothers Mr. Leping Zhao and Weiping Zhao are pictured holding a photo of their father.

3. Sister Camille Panich, SCN, GE’01; Sister Michelle Grigarich, SCN, B’82, GA’08; and Sister Denise Hibel, SCN, GE’69, recently traveled to BANGALORE, INDIA for the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth Assembly. It is held every five years and alternates between the United States (Nazareth, Ky.) and India.

4. Father JOHN S. TRIMBUR, A’70, recently visited St. Peter & Paul Church in Oberammergau, Bavaria, Germany. He is a priest in the Diocese of Youngstown, Ohio.

5. Six SORORITY SISTERS recently traveled to France. Here, they are shown at Sacre-Coeur Basilica in Paris. First row: Barbara Lapiska Sicilia, E’71; Marilyn Rossa Kail, A’70; Eileen Kelly, A’72, GE’79; and Jeanne Kovacs Pruni, B’69. Second row: Kathy Buckley Strotmeyer, A’70, and Andrea Wuchina Bibaud, E’69.

6. Incoming students and their families from the Philadelphia area were welcomed to the Duquesne community at the ANNUAL SEND-OFF EVENT hosted by Philadelphia Chapter Leader Bill Bell, P’92, and his wife, Maureen.

7. Ken Unico, E’75, and Sheila Unico, GHS’94, recently took the Duquesne University Magazine to ICELAND.
Over the fall and winter, President Ken Gormley, Vice President for University Advancement John Plante, and Associate Vice President, Senior Advisor to the President Jim Miller traveled around the country to meet with alumni, parents of Duquesne students and friends of the University. Here are just a few photos from some of the many locations they visited. To find out about upcoming events, please visit www.myduquesne.duq.edu/events.
Alumni Updates

1960s

Robert S. Barker, A'63, L'66, GA'74, had his latest book, El Constitucionalismo en los Estados Unidos, published in Buenos Aires by Ediciones Olejnik. Barker is a Duquesne University Distinguished Professor of Law Emeritus.

Carmen DiGiacomo, B'64, GE'75, was inducted into the North Catholic High School Hall of Fame. He was recognized for “service work in his community, support of veterans’ causes and his volunteer work at North Catholic.”


1970s

Daniel Barchanowicz, A’70, retired from the National Security Agency in 2006 and again in 2016. He recently moved to a horse farm in the Green Mountains in Vermont.

Jonathan Klemens, A’70, P’76, GLPA’07, is the author of the historical fiction baseball novelette, The Secret of the Red Box. It has been accepted for inclusion in the library of the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown.

Jerry Hutton, A’72, L’76, partner at the law firm of Edgar Snyder & Associates, has been selected to the 2019 Best Lawyers in America.

Spencer G. Markle, B’78, has been an “Advocate” level member of the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA) since 2006, and was recently elevated in rank to the level of “Diplomat,” which requires documented proof of at least 100 jury trials to verdict. Nationally, out of 6,800 members of ABOTA, approximately 250 are Diplomates. He is also the author of the Texas Liquor Liability Practice Manual (2018, ALM Media Properties, LLC).

Chaplain (Brigadier General) Robert Pleczkowski, A’79, was named deputy chief of chaplains-Army Reserve at the Pentagon and director, U.S. Army Chaplain Center and School, Fort Jackson, S.C.

1980s

Jacob Kaplan, B’81, retired in 2014 from the IRS as a tax compliance officer after working in the agency for 30 years.

Dr. Rene J. Muller, GA’81, is the author of The Four Domains of Mental Illness: An Alternative to the DSM-5 (published by Routledge). The author describes the book’s sub-subtitle as “A Guide to Diagnosing Pathological Alterations in Mental Life Based on Adolf Meyer’s Psychobiology, the Johns Hopkins Perspectives of Psychiatry and the Existentialists’ Avowal of the Self as Active Agent.”

Mark Pentland, A’81 and Elaine S. (Mihalov) Pentland, N’81, celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary on August 20th.

Donna Novisky Dawson, E’82, earned her M.Ed. in October 2016.

Lawrence Casey, L’83, shareholder at Boston-based Davis Malm & D’Agostine, was selected for inclusion in The Best Lawyers in America 2019 in litigation-labor and employment law.

Henry M. Sneath, L’83, chair of Houston Harbaugh’s intellectual property practice and co-chair of the firm’s litigation practice, was the lead presenter of Shhsh... How to Keep Secrets Secret—The Litigation and Defense of a Defend Trade Secrets Act (DTSA) Case to the Q. Todd Dickinson Intellectual Property American Inn of Court. He is an adjunct professor of law at Duquesne’s School of Law, where he teaches Trade Secret Law and the Law of Trademarks and Unfair Competition.

Dawn (Rodney) Tranchitella, A’87, has been named vice president for innovation and chief marketing officer of the National Wildlife Federation. She will be “responsible for developing additional revenue streams fueling the conservation and educational programs as well as advocacy work of the National Wildlife Federation.”

1990s

William Caye, A’90, L’93, started an ancillary legal practice area for public relations and government affairs and business development consulting.

Steven W. Zoffer, L’91, shareholder and secretary and treasurer of Dickie, McCamey & Chilcote PC, was among four attorneys in the firm named “Lawyer of the Year” in Best Lawyers in America 2019. He was named in the field of litigation-real estate. His practice “focuses on business litigation, including the areas of technology, intellectual property, contracts/collection, general corporate law, higher education law, insurance company law, and franchise and appellate practice with a particular emphasis in commercial litigation.”

Mary Chasko Tobin, A’92, GA’06, is an associate research professor & instructional consultant for the Schreyer Institute for Teaching Excellence at Pennsylvania State University.

Francis Feld, DNP, CRNA, LAT, NRP, N’93, was on a medical mission in Guatemala with Operation Walk Pittsburgh, which sent surgical teams to perform knee and hip replacement surgery on 40 patients. He was then deployed to North Carolina by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services as part of the National Disaster Medical System. He is a nurse anesthetist at UPMC Passavant Hospital.

Dr. Carl J. Sheperis, GE’94, was appointed interim president and CEO of the National Board for Certified Counselors and Affiliates. He has been named a fellow of the American Counseling Association, received the David K. Brooks Jr. Distinguished Mentor Award from the American Counseling Association and is the author of several textbooks.
Dr. Jennifer Unis Sullivan, L’94, was recently appointed to the Pennsylvania State Board of Dentistry by the governor. She is the first female dentist in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to earn a law degree and pass the Pennsylvania Bar. She founded Unis Dental Associates with her brother, and has practiced general and cosmetic dentistry for more than 30 years.

Juliette Schaefer, GA’96, published Thomas Hardy’s Short Stories: New Perspectives.


Amy Baez, HS’99, GHS’00, was a featured speaker and presented the topic Play@Work: 3 Ways to Make Staff and Customers Love You at Project NorthStar, a three-day tech conference in Philadelphia.

Dr. Natasha (Crvenkoska) Garrett, GA’99, recently published a collection of essays, Motherlands (https://natashaagarrett.pittsburgh412.com/). She is director of international student services at La Roche College.

Michael Grandinetti, B’99, illusionist, has been performing on the CW’s television series Masters of Illusion, including an update of a 2,000-year-old magic classic.

2000s

Alyssa (Pike) Kunselman, B’00, graduated from Leadership Pittsburgh XXXIV on June 14, 2018.

Laurel (Kellum) Williams, L’00, retired as a Major in the U.S. Army Reserve in 2012. He joined the Office of General Counsel at the Florida Department of Financial Services in Tallahassee in July 2018.

Mariah L. Passarelli, A’02, L’05, has joined the labor & employment department of Cozen O’Connor as a member. She handles “all phases of litigation, from administrative agencies to state and federal courts.”

James Donahoe, B’04, GB’12, was named as one of the top 100 agents for Coldwell Banker Pittsburgh.

Christina (McDowell) Marinchak, A’04, GA’05, GA’12, was named associate dean of the University of Alaska Anchorage’s College of Business and Public Policy.

Barron Whited, GE’04, school counselor at Agora Cyber Charter School, presented School Counseling Across Cyber Lines at the American School Counselor Association Conference in Los Angeles. He was one of four cyber school counselors in the country selected.

Robert Healy, A’05, GA’06, was promoted to the rank of instructor in Duquesne University’s Media Department.


Whitney Grespin, A’06, was elected to the Council on Foreign Relations’ Term Member Program. She is also a contracted peace operations analyst at the U.S. Army War College’s Peacekeeping and Stability Operations Institute and a Ph.D. candidate at King’s College in the Defence Studies Department.

Nicole (Vamos) Healy, B’06, was promoted to manager, IT risk advisory services, at Schneider Downs & Co., Inc.

Michael A. Semanchik, B’07, managing attorney, California Innocence Project at California Western School of Law, was recently the lead attorney on a case exonerating a man of murder after he spent 20 years in prison.

Joseph Welch, A’07, E’07, has been named the 2018 National History Teacher of the Year by the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History. He is an eighth grade social studies teacher at North Hills Middle School in Pittsburgh.

Monica Lamar, GE’09, is assistant superintendent for instructional leadership for the Pittsburgh Public Schools. In her role, she “will provide support and supervision to a group of city schools and set goals for student achievement and operational efficiency across the district.”

Donald Lewinski, L’09, recently took the position of senior counsel, compliance and operations, for ACV Auctions, Inc.

Joseph R. Williams, L’09, partner at Pollock Begg Komar Glasser & Vertz LLC, was included in the 2019 Best Lawyers in America.

2010s

Shana (Kilgore) Roudebush, S’11, GS’12, co-founder of Pixelab Studios, was named one of Pittsburgh’s 30 Under 30 by the Pittsburgh Business Times. The awards “honor leaders in Pittsburgh’s business and nonprofit communities who are under 30 years of age for their successful efforts to grow a business or nonprofit and for their contributions to the community and civic organizations.”

Tia Wanzo, GE’14, assistant superintendent in the McKeesport Area School District, received the 2018 University Council for Educational Administration Excellence in Educational Leadership Award. The award is “for practicing school administrators who have made significant contributions to the improvement of administrator preparation.”

Randa M. Lewis, GS’18, L’18, has joined Eckert Seamans as an associate. She concentrates her practice in environmental compliance and litigation.

Weddings

Heather Lynn Clark, GE’02, and Timothy Ruppert, A’91, GA’96, Ph.D.’08.

Maria Pisano, A’04, and Michael Thomas Snyder.

Briana Simko, A’11, and Michael Williams, A’11, GA’13.

Kaitlin Price, B’16, and Daniel Weller.

In MEMORIAM

Bernard J. Kobosky, E’53, GE’58, passed away Aug. 26, 2018 at age 86. He served in the Air Force and taught at Canonsburg and Mt. Lebanon high schools before joining Duquesne’s admissions office in 1961. Kobosky was Duquesne’s dean of admissions from 1965-1968, when he joined the University of Pittsburgh. He held a number of executive positions at Pitt, including vice chancellor for public affairs, and is credited with pivotal roles in the university’s growth. He later served as a senior consultant to the university’s health system from 1988-2003. Kobosky was an inaugural member of Duquesne’s Century Club of Distinguished Alumni in 1978.
New Arrivals

Levi Maxwell, son of Amy (Schier) Lindsey, M’01, and Joel Lindsey.

Jonathan Gerald, son of Aileen Metcalf, A’06, and Nathan Metcalf.

Samuel Ray, son of Jill Thompson Metz, GP’06, and Randy Metz.

Brady Benjamin, son of Colin Murphy, A’06, and Dawn Murphy.

Cole Robert, son of Katie Boswell, HS’07, and Jon Boswell, B’07, GB’09.

Bernadette Aileen, daughter of Erin (Henyshyn) Zagadailov, GP’10, and Pavel Zagadailov.

In Memoriam

It is with deep sadness that we list the following alumni and friends who recently passed away.

Katherine M. Ansell, GP’08
Evelyn C. Atchison, N’57
Rev. Donald E. Baier
Andrew H. Caliguri, GE’69
Donna L. Bruni, A’64
Robert J. Brim, P’60
Mary C. Wessel, E’80
Robert H. Warner, A’84
Mary C. Wessel, E’80
David B. Wirl, Esq., L’95
Mary C. Wessel, E’80
Robert H. Warner, A’84
Mary C. Wessel, E’80

Jerome J. Dantry, GE’72
Edward J. Darcy, E’71
Dolores Davis, A’78
Bonnie D. DeFilippi, GE’65
Sr. Catherine Edward Delany, RSM, GM’72
Michael A. DelleFemine, GE’98
Elisabet Rodriguez Dennehy
Raymond P. Doer, B’50
Mary K. Dopyrak, GE’01
Dorothy M. Drensen, GE’53
Edmund Dudginski, P’59
Bernadette M. Dugan, A’65
Edward R. Ehrhardt, Jr., Esq., L’80
John J. Fabac, A’58
Louis J. Fazio, E’67, E’60
Vera Fioravanti, A’55
Richard B. Fisher
Patricia E. Flaherty, A’69
Robert J. Frediani, A’82
Mary Eileen Friedrich, A’51
John J. Frisch, B’55
Marc R. Garber, Esq., L’81
Anthony T. Guzzo, B’58
Rev. A. R. Hartwick, GA’72
Melvin G. Henninger, GB’66
William J. Hollein, B’63
Charles Hamilton Houston, Jr., A’68
Nicholas Hudacek
Carlton E. Hughes, B’58
Thomas A. Johnson, B’71
Rosalind G. Kantrowitz, GE’65
Harry L. Kelly, E’75, GE’78
Bernard J. Kobosky, Ph.D., E’53, GE’58
Agne Krutules, A’00
Eric M. Kuczma, GE’05
Patricia A. Kupec, E’63, GE’66
Eugene Lancers, GE’71
Beth A. Larson, N’05
Mary Ellen Lewis
Sandra F. Lewis, GE’93
Walter W. Lindsey, GE’71
Carl G. Lindstrom, GE’65
Sr. Eleanor P. Loftus, Ph.D., GA’98
Joseph B. Mackin, B’47
Charles W. Manzini, GE’73
Sr. M. Natalie Marchetti, CDP, E’62
Adam Mariani, B’90
Edward G. Maris, B’61
Ronald S. Marmarelli, A’66
Richard M. Matovich, GE’62
Edward J. Mattern, B’50
Kenneth J. Mawrutz, A’71, GE’72
Kenneth D. McDonnell, P’51
Dorothy A. McDonough, E’73
June McIntyre, GE’81
Carol McKee, E’65
Florence McManus, GE’63
Gerald M. Meyer, GE’92
Margaret M. Mickey, GE’84
Stephen W. Milas, B’58
James F. Miller, GB’67
Raymond Moretti
Walter Morozovich, Ph.D., P’55
Gregory Moskal
Mary Ann Mule, E’65
Carole J. Murphy
Joseph A. Nickleach, L’66
Paul J. Niederberger, P’80
Sr. M. Anthony Novak, CSFN, E’71
Carlo A. Oliverio, N’75, GE’81
Patricia M. O’Neil, A’81
John Opie
M. Dolores Oravec, E’63
Edward J. Palecki, B’49
Michael J. Petley, GB’78
James M. Bobicki, A’66
Richard F. Powers, B’54
James M. Rarick, Esq., L’95
Ruth M. Reese, N’51
Sr. M. Ignatius Rooney, RSM, GE’64
Gary M. Rossmann, A’01
Lorraine V. Russ, N’56, GE’67
Judith Ann Russell, GA’62
Mary E. Ryan, A’70
Wilma M. Rybar, GM’54
Clarence J. Sands, M.D., S’53
Marilyn M. Schaub
Cecilia P. Schlosser, N’63
Constance B. Sciullo
Sr. Mary R. Sedlak, VSC, E’56, GE’70
Robert A. Seewald, Esq., A’66, L’69
Laura E. Seward, P’14
Jennifer L. Shanafelt, B’96
Sylvia K. Shiner, M’59, GM’61
Willis H. Simon, GB’66
Regina Smith, GE’65
William B. Stawiany, E’61
Murray Stein, B’47
Marilyn S. Steward, A’79, GA’87
Patricia J. Sullivan, A’88
Lawrence P. Summers, A’66
Daniel M. Taylor, A’61
Inge M. Thomas
Daniel G. Thomas, GB’63
Kenneth G. Tronsborg, Sr., E’63
David T. Tucci, A’76
Steven B. Vardy, Ph.D.
Sr. Dorothy R. Varga, SDR, GE’79
Thomas R. Verzella, M’72
David M. Wagner, E’71
John H. Walsh, Ph.D., A’52, GA’58
Robert H. Warner, A’84
Thomas F. Weis, A’69
Mary C. Wessel, E’80
David B. Wirl, Esq., L’95
Sr. Lois Ann Wuenstel, CDP, E’62
Sr. M. Elizabeth Zagar, OSF, E’59, GE’67

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Duq.edu/facebook duq.edu/instagram
duq.edu/twitter duq.edu/linkedin

Welcome back to the Bluff! Have a great semester!

DU staff and faculty volunteered for Spiritan Campus Ministry’s blanket-making service project for their upcoming Spring Break Cross-Cultural Mission Experience in West Virginia.

Good News: Duquesne graduates’ earning power was ranked #2 locally in the latest U.S. Department of Education College Scorecard.


Ahead of their game against GW this past weekend, @duqmbb visited the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial on the National Mall.

Did you see that fog this morning? There were some unique views from up on the Bluff! #LovePGH

#FlashbackFriday to a Business Administration class in November of 1956.
March 23, 2019
Monte Carlo Night
7 p.m.
Union Ballroom
Phi Kappa Theta’s event transforms the Union Ballroom into a luxurious casino. Enjoy blackjack, poker, roulette, slot machines and more. Pay the $10 entrance fee to receive $10,000 in “fake” money to gamble and trade in your winnings for a prize basket. All proceeds benefit the Children’s Miracle Network.
Contact: Nicolas Jozefczyk at jozefczykn@duq.edu

March 23, 2019
Alumni Lenten Retreat
Time: 11:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
Location: TBD
Spend an afternoon on campus with Spiritan Campus Ministry to reflect on the Lenten season. More details available soon at www.myduquesne.duq.edu.
Contact: 412.396.6209 or alumnionline@duq.edu

April 9, 2019
Alumni and Graduating Student Happy Hour
Time: 5-7 p.m.
Red Ring Bar & Grille
Enjoy light appetizers as alumni and graduating students have the opportunity to network and create connections.
Details: 412.396.6209 or alumnionline@duq.edu

April 13, 2019
Office of Diversity and Inclusion–Alumni Gala
5 p.m.
Student Union Ballroom, 4th Floor
Open to all alumni, the program will feature remarks from notable alumni, University administrators and students.
Cost: $25 (alumni ages 21-25) & $40 (alumni ages 26 and up)
Contact: Jeff Mallory at malloryj@duq.edu

April 14, 2019
Children’s Liturgy and Easter Brunch
Time: 11 a.m. Mass/Children’s Liturgy
Location: University Chapel
Easter Egg Hunt and Brunch in Union Ballroom immediately following Mass.
Enjoy kid-friendly fare, delight in children’s entertainment and hunt for Easter eggs!
Registration opens March 11 at noon.
Details: www.myduquesne.duq.edu

April 26, 2019
Wine School with Fr. Sawicki
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Student Union Ballroom, 4th Floor
Tickets are limited to 6 per purchaser. Registration will open March 20 at noon.
Details: 412.396.6209 or www.myduquesne.duq.edu

May 18, 2019
D.C. Chapter Event: “Nightly Spirits”
Time: 6-8:30 p.m.
Location: Chadwicks, 203 Strand Street, Alexandria, VA 22314
Shake off the winter blues with this walking tour of Alexandria. Part history lesson, part pub crawl, alumni, parents and friends will make stops in four local watering holes while connecting with other members of our Duquesne community!
$15 per person
$10 for recent graduates
Registration required.
Details: www.myduquesne.duq.edu

Summer 2019
CMC Summer Music Series
Mary Pappert School of Music
Hosted by City Music Center of Duquesne University, the program provides unique music-making opportunities for musicians young and old, from beginner to expert. Offerings in Jazz, Sound Recording & Technology, Opera & Vocal Programs, Instrument Boot Camps and Music Theory.
Contact: City Music Center of Duquesne University at cmc@duq.edu
Details: https://duq.edu/cmcsummermusic

Summer 2019
Alumni Ancestry Exploration
Join us on the Bluff to discover how you can explore your own ancestry. Limited space available.
More details available soon: 412.396.6209 or www.myduquesne.duq.edu

Summer 2019
Alumni Mixology Class
Raise a glass to summer! Join us on campus for a fun evening learning the art and science of mixing your own drinks. Limited space is available.
More details available soon: 412.396.6209 or www.myduquesne.duq.edu
Sept. 11-13, 2019

**Hunting the Hunters: An Interdisciplinary Investigation into Serial Killing**

Power Center Ballroom

The Wecht Institute’s 18th Annual Forensic Science and Law Symposium will convene an interdisciplinary faculty of experts to educate a wide spectrum of forensic scientific, legal and investigative professionals (along with the general public and students) about the minds and modi operandi of serial killers, as well as the methodologies used to investigate their crimes, apprehend and prosecute them.

Contact: Ben Wecht at wechtben@duq.edu

Sept. 26, 2019

**Duquesne Night at the Pirates**

6-7:30 p.m., Reception at The Rooftop (inside PNC Park)

7:05 p.m., Game Time

Join alumni, families and friends for Duquesne University Night at the Pittsburgh Pirates.

Tickets will go on sale in July at www.myduquesne.duq.edu.

Alumni Book Club

We’ve created a virtual book club for Duquesne alumni covering professional development and personal growth topics related to careers and leadership. The book club connects through a private forum where alumni can discuss the current book and network. Joining the book club is free for alumni—you just have to get a copy of the book. The group reads a book every two months, so you’ll have plenty of time for each book. To join, visit www.pbc.guru/duquesne.

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**SEASONS CHANGE, TRADITIONS REMAIN**

**HOMECOMING 2019**

**OCTOBER 25-27**

duq.edu/homecoming
Stay connected with your alma mater!

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- **Invitations** to participate in events in your area
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