Loyola students talk “green” in DC

On February 27, 2009, more than 30 Loyola students traveled to Washington DC to join 10,000 other young leaders from across the country for PowerShift ’09, an environmental summit focused on the passage of a bold climate and energy policy by the U.S. Congress and the president. The summit emphasized the importance of renewable energy, green job creation, and an aggressive cap on carbon emissions.

Loyola’s group was the largest from the Chicago area to attend the summit. To raise awareness of how vehicle emissions contribute to climate change, some students rode in style in the University’s new biodiesel van, which is part of the Solutions to Environmental Problems (STEP) program.

To raise money for the trip, the students held many fundraising events; penned letters to the heads of their departments asking for departmental sponsorship and extra credit opportunities for conference attendees; and sought the support of friends and families. Students received close to $1,000 in scholarships to offset their costs from the Center for Urban Environmental Research and Policy and the Environmental Studies/Sciences Program.

PowerShift ’09 was just the beginning of what will be an ongoing initiative for the students, and, after returning to Chicago, they are inspired and ready to lead. The students’ goal is to organize and develop a campaign infrastructure to build support for climate change legislation and local environmental policy in Illinois, and they are currently in contact with Illinois state legislators to plan a town hall meeting on climate change for sometime in April.

For more information, and to stay up-to-date on the group’s initiatives, visit their organizing page at http://groups.google.com/group/loyola-PS09.

Environmental Month at Loyola

Saturday, April 18
Loyola’s National Service Day
Multiple locations throughout Chicagoland. Visit LUC.edu/alumni for registration.

Tuesday, April 21
Lightbulb Exchange
(trade old bulbs for free CFLs)
11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
Centennial Forum Student Union

Thursday, April 23
STEP: Food Systems Public Forum
2:30–4:30 p.m.
Simpson Multipurpose Room

Saturday, April 25
North Lake Shore Earth Day Celebration
Quinlan Life Sciences Center
9 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

April 27–May 2
Think Green and Give 2009
Baumhart Hall, Simpson Hall, and Mertz Hall

Sponsored by CUERP, Residence Life, Facilities Management, and the Consumption Reduction and Recycling Advisory Committee, this initiative encourages students to donate items that they would normally throw out or leave behind, during spring move out, to non-profit organization America’s Disabled.
Double honors for community service

In recognition of its innovative community service programs, Loyola was recently awarded a spot on the 2008 President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll. Separately, the University also earned the designation of “Community Engagement” by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, including the highest classification of Curricular Engagement and Outreach & Partnerships.

“Both honors demonstrate Loyola’s commitment to learning in and with the community,” says Patrick Green, director of the Center for Experiential Learning. “Through service-learning courses and community-engagement programs, Loyola’s mission to expand knowledge in the service of humanity is brought to life. These awards are the work of many individuals, including the students who serve in the community, the faculty who teach community-engaged courses, and several academic departments.”

For more information on the President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll, visit ntopolivervalu.org.
To learn more about the Carnegie Foundation honor, visit cappme.org.

Choice. Control. Character. faculty and staff awareness

30% of students have missed class as a result of drinking or other drug use.*

“Choice. Control. Character. Making decisions about drinking” is Loyola’s initiative to tackle the problem of student alcohol abuse. The program includes mandatory prevention education for all first-year students, interventions for “at-risk” students, referral services that connect students with treatment and support groups, and media campaigns that focus on safer decisions about drinking. With these programs firmly in place, the program is now focusing on shaping the campus-community environment by engaging faculty, staff, parents, and community members in prevention efforts.

Often, faculty and staff are among the first to notice that a student is having personal problems. If a student is abusing alcohol to the point where it interferes with his or her studies or well-being, or the behavior affects someone about his or her studies or well-being, or the behavior affects someone

Feed your mind with Lunch at LUMA

On Wednesday, March 4, the Loyola University Museum of Art (LUMA) kicked off its “Take Your Mind to Lunch” series with a lecture from Michael Twitty, S.J., PhD, on “Sainted Laughter: Comic Motifs in the Gospel Narratives.” The four-part lecture series continues in April, May, and June, and will examine Christianity in contemporary culture. Individual tickets are $40, which includes a catered lunch by a prominent Chicago restaurant and floral arrangements by creative Chicago florists. All programs are held in the William G. and Marilyn M. Simpson Lecture Hall at LUMA, 820 N. Michigan Avenue.

Upcoming speakers at LUMA

Richard Kieckhefer, PhD
April 8, 11:30 am
From Modernism to Modern: Churches Architecture for Reformulated Liturgy in the Twentieth Century

Eileen Daly, PhD
May 6, 11:30 am
Vision of Jesus in the 21st Century: Reading the Bible in a Visual Age

Bron Ortega Murphy, PhD
June 17, 11:30 am
Screen Sferences: The Curious Image of Nuns on Big and Little Screens

For more information, visit luc.edu/lumacentre.

*Statistic from the LUC Spring Drug Survey 2008*

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*Statistic from the LUC Spring Drug Survey 2008*
In the Media

Eve Geroulis
Clinical Professor, School of Business Administration

“AmeriCorps love the rehabilitation of fallen heroes. You know, we just love that.”

Chicago Tribune | February 5, 2009

Allen Shoenberger
Professor, School of Law

“They are always hard cases to make...”

Chicago Tribune | February 2, 2009

Mary Walker
Dean, School of Law

“...and changes made to its terms of service agreement.”

In the Media

SCHOOL OF CONTINUING AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

Alum Anita Alvarez to keynote Women’s Leadership Conference

On May 22, 2009, the School of Continuing and Professional Studies (SCPS) will host its second annual Women’s Leadership Conference. This year, the school is delighted to welcome a Loyola alumnus back to campus. Luncheon keynote speaker Anita Alvarez, Cook County State’s Attorney, will share her success story and discuss risk-taking in our changing world. Join Ms. Alvarez and an array of dynamic women as they present on the topics that affect us most and challenge our leadership in this turbulent economy. Come and expand your professional network and meet faculty, mentors, and prospective students, as we bring together Chicago’s brightest female leaders.

The SCPS will also host a graduation ceremony at the 2009 Women’s Leadership Conference for the 2008-2009 Certificate in Women’s Leadership graduate students. These accomplished women will have undergone five intensive three-day seminars. Completion of the Certificate in Women’s Leadership provides a valuable credential in management techniques for women who desire to grow as leaders in their workplace.

To learn more about this conference and to register, visit LUC.edu/continuum. To learn how to obtain a certificate in Women’s Leadership or sponsor a worthy candidate, visit LUC.edu/womensleadership.

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Loyola program increases math and science teachers in Chicago

Loyola’s School of Education, in partnership with the University’s Center for Math and Science Education and Chicago Public Schools (CPS), is working to address a shortage of qualified math and science teachers in the City of Chicago. To do so, Loyola offers a master’s degree in science education for CPS teachers. Currently, there is a cohort of CPS teachers taking classes at Loyola who are specializing in high school chemistry and another cohort specializing in middle school mathematics. The school also offers a master’s in science education, with an emphasis on middle school mathematics.

The teacher shortage issue is especially timely given that President Obama has recently signed into law a broad economic stimulus package, which will in part increase funding to Teacher Quality Enhancement grants designed to alleviate teacher shortages.

“The future of our country as a leader and competitor on the global landscape depends on the quality of the education of our children,” says Janet Pierce-Ritter, associate dean of the School of Education. “Mathematics and science play a significant role in accomplishing that.”

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SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

Non-profit Latino organizations focus on fair share

In late January, the School of Social Work (SWW), with the help of Ivan Medina, director of the Nonprofit Management and Philanthropy Sector Program in the SWW, hosted a symposium for non-profit Latino organizations to discuss a newly published study. The symposium focused on the fair share approach to Latino NGOs, which contends that 16% of Chicago Public Schools’ teachers are science-endorsed.

WHAT’S NEW IN LOYOLA’S BIOLOGY DEPARTMENT?

We have new research grants in a number of areas, including bioinformatics, infectious diseases, aquatic ecology, developmental biology, and neurology and biology. The department is also contributing to new academic programs, including bioinformatics and clinical laboratory sciences.

Tell us a little bit about your research interests.

I study the structure and function of the regions of the human genome (heterochromatin) that were not included in the Human Genome Project because they are technically very difficult to do. These regions are vital for maintaining chromosome structure and the organization of cell nuclei.

How do you enjoy most about your job?

Working with students in the classroom and in the research laboratory. Their enthusiasm for science is contagious, and I always learn more as I teach.

What’s new in Loyola’s biology department?

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What do you think of your new administration in the White House will mean for the advancement of science?

It is likely that increased federal research funding will be concentrated in the health sciences, environmental sciences, and energy sustainability.

You’re awarded a $5M grant to put toward any project of your choosing. What’s the project?

Determine the structure of the all the heterochromatic regions in the human genome, identify the complete map of their location in different cell types, and determine how the changes in their location in malignant cells contribute to cancer.
ITS named 2008 ‘Most Effective IT Team’

In recognition of years of hard work and innovation, the Association of Information Technology Professionals (AITP) recently named Loyola’s Information Technology Services’ (ITS) leadership team the “Most Effective IT Team” of 2008. Winning in the “Medium Business Category,” members of Loyola’s ITS team were honored at a luncheon in the Sears Tower on February 9, 2009.

AITP is a national organization and network of Information Technology professionals, educators, and students from a spectrum of industries. This award is determined by a peer review panel, which judges teams based on their performance in six different categories. “It’s quite an honor to have our efforts acknowledged by peers,” says Susan Malisch, CIO and vice president of Information Technology. “It also recognizes the collective work of Loyola’s entire ITS organization and what we can accomplish with strong partnerships across the University.”

Recently, ITS has made substantial investments in infrastructure and facilities, such as the Dumbach Data Center and the Klarchek Information Commons. ITS, which also worked to improve project management, customer service, and the student information system, has no plans to rest on its laurels. “There are still substantial opportunities for ITS to make a difference at Loyola,” says Malisch, “and we’re very excited about that.”

Clinical psychology program ranked in top 25

In 2008, Psychological Reports, with co-authors Donald J. Templar, Kathy Stroup, Leah J. Manucci, and Kimberly Tangen, conducted a study to compare the performance of graduates from professional schools of psychology to the performance of graduates from traditional psychology programs (i.e. Loyola’s clinical psychology program) on the Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology from 1997-2005.

Results of that study showed that Loyola’s clinical psychology program scored very well, ranking 23rd out of the 207 doctoral programs in clinical psychology in the U.S. and Canada on mean scores achieved on this exam. Loyola’s program also ranked first among schools with 50 or more aspirant psychologists sitting for the examination.

“This ranking is indicative of our psychology department’s outstanding preparation of its students for their professional licensure,” said Art Lurigio, associate dean, College of Arts and Sciences. “The performance of our students is an extraordinary accomplishment that speaks to their dedication, as well as the pedagogical talent and commitment of the department faculty.”

Nursing professors receive fellowships

School of Nursing (SON) professors Dr. Marijo Letizia and Dr. Fran Vlasses were both recently awarded with honorable Illinois Board of Higher Education faculty fellowships to assist them with their proposed research projects. The recipients each receive $16,000 from the fellowships toward the development of their research. Dr. Vlasses will use the fellowship funds to study “Best Practices in Interprofessional Education.” She will invite a small group of students from the SON, Stritch School of Medicine, dietetics, and Health System Management programs to work with and publish the study. Dr. Letizia will use the fellowship to further validate her expertise in end-of-life care, which will lead to updating the SON’s current graduate-level palliative care course she teaches each year.

This Month Another Year

April 1970 Loyola’s $10 million School of Dentistry building was dedicated on April 11, 1970, in Maywood. In 1993, the school eventually closed after 110 years in operation (23 of which were in Maywood).

Left: Ribbon-cutting ceremony at the new School of Dentistry building in Maywood

Fun Facts

LOYOLA MEDICINE

We also treat the human spirit.

Of the four Jesuit Catholic medical schools in the United States, Loyola is the only one that owns its own hospital.
Find a bargain on Iggy’s List

Move over Craigslist. This month, the Loyola Web team is launching Iggy’s List, where students, faculty, and staff can search or post free online classified ads for apartments, ride shares, sale items, lost and found items, and more.

For example, a student group can post an announcement for their next meeting. A faculty member can post a help-wanted ad for a babysitter. A student can post an ad for a roommate for an off-campus apartment. A film student can post a casting call for a movie they’re producing.

Those who post will have the option of making their ad completely public, or they can choose to make it only visible to those in the Loyola community who login through their Loyola ID and password. All ads are active for 14 days, and users have the option of deleting or reposting their ad at any time.

Iggy’s List is also “green,” as it will help cut down on the amount of waste the University produces. The “Office Supplies” category, in particular, enables a person in one department to snag another department’s unwanted goods. “Typically, when someone might clean out his or her desk and find a lot of unwanted binder clips, more often than not those would end up in the garbage,” said Gina Lettiere, who co-chairs the Consumption Reduction and Recycling Advisory Committee. “Meanwhile, across campus there might be someone placing an order for more binder clips. Iggy’s List will enable us to connect a resource with a person who needs it.”

Visit LUC.edu/iggyslist.

Stop by and post or browse around today.

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