Provost shines light on excellence in teaching

This year, under the leadership of Provost Christine Wiseman and in conjunction with the University’s new strategic plan, Loyola has launched an important project to celebrate and enhance its teaching methods. The project, entitled Collaboration in Learning, will run throughout the academic year and highlight examples of excellent teaching by Loyola faculty; encourage refinements in teaching approaches, strategies, and activities; and provide resources and assistance to faculty seeking to increase teaching excellence.

The project, coordinated by the Center for Faculty Professional Development and the Office of Learning Technology and Assessment, will sponsor a number of events throughout the school year. It also includes two weekly features: Teaching Tips and Stories of Transformation.

Published each week in Inside Loyola Weekly (ILW), Teaching Tips features useful suggestions from Loyola faculty members to improve the teaching experience. Stories of Transformation, which also appear weekly in ILW, are videos that feature various Loyola faculty members recounting experiences that have influenced and changed them as educators.

“'This year-long program of celebration and collaboration is a strategic initiative intended to bind us together as an academic community of teachers/learners who will share their successes and their expertise with each other,' says Wiseman. "It harnesses the strength of Loyola’s faculty and builds on that strength as we move forward to meet the larger aspirational goals of Loyola’s strategic plan for 2009-2015.'

» LUC.edu/collaborationinlearning

» View Stories of Transformation on ignation.LUC.edu.

STUDENT ENROLLMENT

On the rise

Despite a sagging economy and a gloomy national outlook on college enrollments, Loyola’s undergraduate admission (UA) and graduate & professional enrollment management offices managed to assemble a fall class that, on the undergraduate side met University forecasts, and on the graduate side, far exceeded expectations. “This was, without question, a very challenging and unpredictable enrollment cycle,” says Paul Roberts, associate provost for enrollment management. “With so many people out of work due to the economy, we expected some increases in our graduate enrollments, but the undergraduate enrollments were really the x-factor.”

Often during challenging economic times, people turn to universities for education or to help facilitate a career change. This trend certainly paid dividends for Loyola this year, as the University saw a 14 percent spike in new graduate students. On the undergraduate side, the University welcomed 2,076 new freshmen to campus and 590 transfer students. On top of that, the UA office managed to attract a freshman class with a higher average ACT score than the year before, 3 percent more minority students, 2 percent more male students, and 67 presidential scholars.

“I am extremely proud of the undergraduate admission staff for their efforts and commitment to working with students and parents closely during a college selection process that, at times, was very difficult given the impact of the economy,” says Lori Greene, director of undergraduate admission. “Ultimately, we are very pleased to see the results in the talented Loyola Class of 2013.”

» LUC.edu/ir

First-year students look on as the First-Year Student Convocation Ceremonies take place.
Basketball tips off this month

This year, the men’s basketball team will feature 10 freshmen and sophomore players. The team also looks forward to the return of senior forward Andy Polka, who was sidelined for 21 games last season due to injury. “Andy is a big part of our program and it is good to have him back healthy,” says head coach Jim Whitesell. Polka will receive plenty of support from fellow seniors Marcus Thomas and Ari Van Weelden and sophomores Walt Gibler and Jordan Hicks. The fellow seniors Marcus Thomas and Aric Van Weelden will receive plenty of support from good to have him back healthy,” says head coach Jim Whitesell. Polka will receive plenty of support from fellow seniors Marcus Thomas and Ari Van Weelden and sophomores Walt Gibler and Jordan Hicks. The team also looks forward to the return of senior forward Andy Polka, who was sidelined for 21 games last season due to injury.

Scavenger hunt connects Loyola community

From October 9–16, Loyola students participated in the week-long EVOKE Ramble, a University-wide scavenger hunt where student teams “ramble” all over the city competing for prizes. Students took nighttime tours of the pipe organ in Madonna della Grazia led by director of liturgical music, Steve Betancourt, enjoyed milk and cookies with dean of students Jane Neufeld, and went on environmental tours of campus with faculty member Nancy Tuchman and ministry Patrick Ecles, experts in ecology and birdwatching, respectively. During the scavenger hunt, students were tasked with finding the original St. Ignatius and with touring the Jesuit legacy in Chicago. “It’s a great opportunity to connect to the people and places that make the University so welcoming and an incredible place to be,” says EVOKE associate director Joe Earley. “It’s a great opportunity to connect to the people and places that make the University so welcoming and an incredible place to be.”

Peer Mentors Program helps new students adjust to college

Starting your first year of college is often overwhelming, and sometimes scary. But Loyola is out to change that. In 2007, five students, led by Karnell Black (BA ’08), created the Peer Mentors Program within the Office of First Year Experience to help new students adapt to their new surroundings and ultimately feel welcome. Each year, the Peer Mentors reach out to all the first-year and transfer students at Loyola, in an attempt to meet one-on-one with the students. In these meetings, they listen to concerns and help guide the students through their first year. Each mentor is assigned an ASI, or an Area of Student Interest. These areas include sports, wellness, mental and physical, ministry, academics, student life, Water Tower Campus, community relations, and underground Chicago. Within each of these ASIs, the peer mentors plan related programming, taking students to theatre productions, ethnic restaurants, etc. They also conduct peer-to-peer workshops, coordinate first-year weekend, and organize the annual Maritk Gaus maquette to benefit the Good Shepard Nativity School in New Orleans.
SBA eyes new building

In this sputtering economy, many workers are turning to education to boost their careers. Fuelled by this increasing demand for advanced degrees, the part-time MBA program in Loyola’s Graduate School of Business has recently experienced tremendous growth. Loyola is harnessing the growth of such programs and is planning a new state-of-the-art facility for the School of Business Administration on the Water Tower Campus.

“The present building at Maguire Hall is totally inadequate and outdated,” says Abol Jalilvand, dean of the School of Business Administration. “The new building will accommodate the school’s continuing growth in enrollments, faculty size, and new program initiatives. It is also consistent with the University’s plans to build new facilities recently constructed by our local and national competitors.”

Jalilvand also says that the building will be funded by leadership gifts and capital fundraising. Construction is slated to begin in January 2011 with a completion date in 2013.

LUC.edu/SBA

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

Libraries receive massive collection

In spring 2001, the University Libraries received its largest single acquisition of library materials ever, which included six full-text databases containing nearly 300,000 books (12 million pages) and more than 600 newspapers and periodicals. The Gale Collection Series covers nearly 500 years of English-language publications, full-text, which are all searchable and viewable online.

The collection, which also contains many rare items, was supported by an interdisciplinary group of faculty in the Center for Textual Studies and Digital Humanities, and was supported financially by Peasann Gareau, Provost Christine Wiseman, Dean Frank Fennell, all of the College of Arts and Sciences, and the University Libraries.

RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT

HOUSING FIRST MODEL FIDELITY

Owen Van Ryn, researcher in the Center for Urban Research and Learning (CURL), received grant funding from the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) to formulate a measurement system for the fidelity of Housing First programming, a model for placing homeless individuals with substance abuse and mental illness problems in permanent supportive housing rather than temporary shelters. The team’s objectives are to develop and test a fidelity tool for Housing First programming and assess the degree to which fidelity predicts improved substance-abuse treatment access for clients of Housing First. Research funding is renewable for a second year and will be concluded in August 2011.

INFORMATION SHOPPERS

Marketing professor Linda Tuncay Zayer was recently granted a two-year appointment with the Chicago Interactive Marketing Association (CIMA). The appointment granted Zayer funding ($10,000 for two years) to assist in the development of marketing research for CIMA and the academic community. The project will study “information shoppers,” or consumers who conduct extensive research before they purchase a product. An information shopper not only researches before purchasing luxury products, but also researches everyday goods, from household cleaning products to shampoo. The term “new info shopper” was first perceived by Wall Street Journal writer Mark Penn. The research findings will be presented to CIMA members and academics in order to better inform the marketing community of new habits of the ever evolving consumer. Research will be concluded in June 2010.

The new Power Rogers & Smith Ceremonial Courtroom

Courtroom named in honor of $2 million gift

Ways of the country’s top trial attorneys, Joseph A. Power Jr. (JD ’77) and Todd A. Smith (JD ’76), recently honored Loyola’s School of Law, with a $2 million gift. In recognition of this act of generosity the law school will name its new state-of-the-art classroom and courtroom the “Power Rogers & Smith Ceremonial Courtroom,” after the donors’ law firm.

“Joe Power and Todd Smith are two of the most skilled and talented trial attorneys in the country,” says David Yellen, dean of the School of Law. “We could not be more pleased and honored to name our wonderful new courtroom after these two dedicated alumni and their outstanding law firm.”

Joseph A. Power Jr. and Todd A. Smith are founding partners of Power Rogers & Smith, one of the top personal injury law firms in the United States. The firm, which specializes in medical malpractice, product liability, and wrongful death cases, was voted the number one law firm in Chicago by Chicago magazine and the number one plaintiffs’ law firm by Chicago Lawyer.

“The honor of having been given the opportunity by Loyola to attend its law school. My father was also a proud alumnus,” says Joseph A. Power Jr. “This donation is a small token of my appreciation for all Loyola has done for me, as well as my family.”

LUMA

Nativity gift brings a holiday tradition to LUMA

This December, LUMA kicks off a new Chicago holiday tradition with the exhibition, The Art and Faith of the Crocket. On display from December 1, 2009 to January 15, 2010, the exhibition will become a holiday staple at LUMA, appearing each year for six weeks during the holiday season. The Art and Faith of the Crocket is made possible by a major gift from the James and Emilia Good Crocket Collection, which consists of more than 500 nativity scenes from around the world. Assembled over a 30-year period, the collection includes crittches from more than 100 countries and cultures, and includes Buddhist, Christian, Jewish, Muslim and Taoist artists.

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

Mexican student outreach program continues

The United States receives more immigrants and refugees than any other nation. Our country is currently home to more than 31.5 million foreign-born individuals and Loyola’s School of Social Work (SSW) is committed to continuing to help these individuals in a way that addresses their unique needs, while preparing SSW students for work after graduation.

Since 2007, the SSW has collaborated with Jesuit Migrant Services of Mexico and Jesuit Benemeriana Universities of Puebla, and Mexico City in an exchange program tied to Loyola’s Migration Studies Social Work program. Each summer, SSW students relocate to rural Mexican villages to work with local residents and their communities. These experiences provide students with the opportunity to connect theories and values learned in class to real life international, national and local settings. The students also collaborate with fragile communities and family members affected by migration, along with providing much-needed social services.

In addition, the SSW has extended international field placements for Benemeriana University students. These students work with Catholic Charities of the Chicago Archdiocese in programs that address the needs of the Mexican migrant community in the Chicago area. Since the exchange program began, 20 Loyola students and 14 Benemeriana students have participated in the program.

LUC.edu/SSW

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Grant awarded to Center for Textual Studies and Digital Humanities

In August 2009 the new Center for Textual Studies and Digital Humanities (CTSH) received a $500,000 digital startup grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. The funding will go toward new programming for its Humanities Research Infrastructure and Tools (HRIT) project, which is led by Peter Shillingsburg, Martin J. Svaglic, Professor of Textual Studies, English professor Steven Jones, and computer science associate professor George K. Thrivikrishna.

The HRIT project, which began on September 1 and aims to develop a collaborative and easy-to-use online editing environment for producing electronic scholarly editions of test archives, the project correlates with the center’s focus as it combines the relationship between computer science and the study of textual materials. “We hope that scholars preparing online literary projects will use these tools to build better online resources for literary study. In the new system, students will be able to find images and transcriptions of original texts such as Hamlet or The Great Gatsby online and will be able to attach their own comments and enhancements to it,” says Shillingsburg.
Family Weekend

Students, faculty, alumnae, employees, and friends from all departments, schools, and programs across the University came together for Family Weekend 2009. Running from Thursday, September 24 through Sunday, September 27, Family Weekend kicked off with the Rogers Edge Dinner Crawl, which explored entertainment and concerts, basketball for children, and neighborhood restaurants in Rogers Park and Edgewater. The rest of the weekend was full of events and activities, including a reception with VP of Student Affairs, Robert Kelly; campus tours; live baseball clinics; a trip to the Jonamac Apple Orchard; a Loyola women’s soccer game; and a Family Weekend breakfast.

SHOW & TELL

Robert Kelly, campus tours: live entertainment and concerts, basketball for children, and volleyball clinics; a trip to the Jonamac Apple Orchard; a Loyola women’s soccer game; and a Family Weekend breakfast.

Dave Treering, GIS Specialist, Center for Urban Environmental Research and Policy (CUERP)

Can you give us a brief explanation of what GIS is, for those who are unfamiliar with the concept?

GIS stands for Geographic Information Systems, and is a computer-based system for capturing, storing, analyzing, and displaying data about features on Earth in their correct locations. Basically, a GIS is a digital map linked with a database behind it—Google Earth for example.

What exactly is your role as GIS specialist for Loyola and the CUERP program?

At CUERP I work with interdisciplinary teams of faculty on research projects that address important environmental issues, like air and water quality. I also support the University Sustainability Initiative/Initiative with mapping and data analysis. (provide outreach in the form of mapping and data analysis to many university departments and to community-based organizations, and offer custom seminars and course modules on GIS that many faculty members have used in their courses.

Tell us briefly about some of the projects you’ve worked on in the Chicagoland area.

Currently, I am working on CUERP’s Chicago Clean Air Clean Water project where we are collecting environmental monitoring information that will ultimately be presented on a web map. This information will enable the public to ask questions about the air and water quality where they live, and give researchers access to an up-to-date, comprehensive data archive. Another project at CUERP is a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) funded research project, which is looking at invasive plant species in the Great Lakes’ coastal wetlands.

Technology develops at an amazing rate. What new technological advancements have allowed you to work more effectively?

It’s true, and advances in computation, graphics, processing, and data storage have made my job and the field of GIS possible. My new tool is an enterprise GIS server to create and publish Web-mapping services. My dream is to create an integrated campus-wide management system for Loyola based on this mapping technology.

You were hired by Loyola as a faculty member this fall. What are you most excited about as you begin your new role at the University?

I’m most excited about increasing the number of capable GIS users on campus. It’s hard to think of a department that would not benefit from GIS technology in some way. Also, I have a great group of enthusiastic, engaged students, some of whom have been asking for a GIS course for years. There is excellent support for so many aspects of the teaching experience here if you look for it.

We heard that you and your wife changed your last name to Treering when you were married. Can you tell us more about that?

We wanted to create something unique as we began our life together. We tossed all the letters from both our last names onto a Scrabble board and madeagrams until we found Treering. We both love being outdoors and going hiking, camping, biking, and rock climbing, and that’s where both of us are most at peace, in the forest. The ring has its own obvious symbolism of an unbroken, timeless commitment, but also the rings of trees show the years of life, recording every anniversary. The name fits who we are, together.

$135,000

At the beginning of the 20th century, Loyola administrators wrote a letter to all Chicago-area Catholics asking for the largest fundraising amount in the school’s history—$135,000. None, 100 years later, Loyola’s current capital campaign is well on its way to raising $150 million.

“I see Loyola students as eager to investigate the world and make their mark. It’s a challenge to keep pace with their creative energy, and they are yearning for the best we have to offer.”

Treering about his new experience as a teacher.

In 1991, former Loyola President Raymond C. Baumhart, S.J., presented Eunice Kennedy Shriver with the Sword of Loyola, the University’s highest honor.

LOYOLAN PROFILE
**SAVING THE DATE**

**WATER TOWER**

**NOV. 19**

**BEST PRACTICES IN THE CLASSROOM**

2-3:30 p.m. • Terry Student Center, room 303-304

Join fellow faculty and colleagues for a faculty panel discussion providing ideas for effective in-class teaching strategies. Panelists include Nenad Jukic of the School of Business Administration, Lisa Burkhart of the School of Nursing, and Andrew Radde-Gallwitz of the Department of Theology. • Timothy O’Connell at toconnell@luc.edu for more information

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**LAKE SHORE**

**NOV. 20**

**SISTER CORTIA: THE JOYOUS REVOLUTION RECEPTION**

5:30–7:30 p.m. • Crown Center Gallery

Join the Department of Fine and Performing Arts to celebrate the opening of the exhibition, *Sister Cortia: The Joyous Revolution*. A Catholic nun for over 30 years, Sister Corita’s exhibition displays her politically-charged serigraphs (silkscreen prints) from the 1950s to the 1980s. • gallery@luc.edu for more information

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**MAYWOOD**

**NOV. 21**

**JOURNEY TOWARD HEALING: COPING WITH THE HOLIDAYS WORKSHOP**

10 a.m.–12:30 p.m. • St. John School of Medicine, Room 160

Join keynote speaker Nancy Kiel, LUHS bereavement coordinator, and hospice chaplain Suzanne DeLongis, as they discuss how to help those coping with the loss of a loved one during the holidays.

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Yes number 3, Sister Mary Cortia Kent

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Inside Loyola is published by Loyola University Chicago, Division of University Marketing and Communication, 820 N. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL 60611.

Inside Loyola is published the first week of the fall semester and the first Tuesday of each month from September through May, and is posted on its Loyola Web site by 5 p.m. the Friday after the day of publication.