Building a new South Africa

Sibusiso Vil-Nkomo and Renosi Mokate maintain UD connection
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Cover photo by Evan Krape

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WEB EXTRAS

To see how technology helps ice skaters land their jumps, here’s a video of Prof. Jim Richards’ work, www.udel.edu/002117

To hear Prof. Richard Wool talk about his innovative and award-winning work in green chemistry, www.udel.edu/002118

To view a panel discussion on “Preparing Yourself Today for the Investment World of Tomorrow,” held at UD in January, www.udel.edu/002119

To connect with other UD alumni, www.udconnection.com
Winter Session wonder

*Frozen* wasn’t just a movie this year, as Delaware experienced one of its coldest and snowiest winters in memory. But it was also a season of scenic beauty on campus.

Photo by Evan Krape
It’s been a busy and invigorating few months, as I’ve been traveling around the country and sharing the good news of UD with alumni and friends. I’ve always said that Blue Hens are the most interesting people I know, and you continue to prove me right. In the photo above, I’m talking with Renee and Steven Pfefer, the parents of Sara Pfefer, AS15. We were at a terrific event in New York City, hosted by the NYC Alumni Club and the Friends of Art History. Held at the International Center of Photography, the reception was a wonderful celebration of art, art history and the humanities at UD.

I hope to be traveling a lot more in the coming months and years, connecting with Blue Hens who have an abiding affection for UD—alumni who consider the University not merely a part of their past, but also a vital and enriching part of their present and their future.

I’ll see you soon.

Sincerely,

Patrick T. Harker
President, University of Delaware
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Nineteen-month-old Matthew is playing to a crowd in the Pediatric Mobility Lab and Design Studio at the University’s STAR Campus.

More than a dozen people—including pediatric physical therapist Michele Lobo, several engineering students, apparel designer Martha Hall and the little boy’s mother—are watching as he reaches to knock a bright-orange ball from the top of a box to the floor.

It’s an easy task for most children this age, but Matthew has arthrogryposis, a congenital condition characterized by stiff joints and abnormally developed muscles. He has limited ability to raise his arms and reach for toys, so he’s wearing an upper-extremity exoskeleton to help him play and thereby learn about his world.

The device was developed by an interdisciplinary team of people that includes Matthew’s mother, who provides valuable feedback about what is and isn’t working with the ever-evolving exoskeleton.

The project is just one example of the work ongoing in the Pediatric Mobility Lab, and the lab itself is just one example of the research and learning ongoing at the new College of Health Sciences facility at the STAR (Science, Technology and Advanced Research) Campus, the transformed former site of Chrysler’s Newark Assembly Plant.

The building houses research labs as well as two clinics, the Delaware Physical Therapy Clinic and the Nurse Managed Health Center, both of which are open to UD employees and the larger community. But the clinics provide more than health care—they’re an integral part of the clinical and research training that health sciences students receive at the new facility.

Doctoral students in physical therapy (DPT) develop treatment regimens for patients under the supervision of clinical instructors, and the results of the nationally ranked department’s research are immediately incorporated into new treatment plans. When they’re not in the spacious new clinic, the students are completing their coursework in state-of-the-art classrooms on the second floor.

“I chose Delaware because of the clinical experience,” says DPT student Amanda Anderson. “No other school offers anything like this, so UD students are typically ahead of the game when they graduate because of that experience. A facility like this was the one thing UD lacked before, and now we have it. Who wouldn’t want to come here?”
In the Nurse Managed Health Center down the hall, nurse practitioners deliver patient care and mentor registered nurses who are pursuing graduate degrees, while undergraduates observe in an actual medical setting. In addition, graduate students in applied physiology administer exercise stress tests, and students in the health promotion master’s degree program work with patients on wellness-focused behavioral changes.

“The nurses here are focused on taking every opportunity and turning it into a learning experience for the students,” says junior nursing major Karly Biggs. “Throughout the day, I’m involved in flu vaccinations, EKG testing, the discussion of blood test results and various other tests. This is a great atmosphere to ask questions and to gain confidence in communicating with patients in a medical setting.”

The new health center has six exam rooms, a comfortable waiting room, convenient access and parking and a broad array of testing and treatment capabilities. Like other urgent-care clinics, it offers treatment of episodic injuries and illnesses, as well as routine tests and immunizations. Patients can also choose the center as their primary care provider.

Back in the Pediatric Mobility Lab, Hall pulls out a fabric tape to take some measurements on Matthew for the next-generation exoskeleton. An adjunct professor in the Department of Fashion and Apparel Studies, she is working with the engineers and physical therapists to design so-called “expressive rehabilitation devices,” which reflect the personal style of the individual wearing them.

In Matthew’s case, the focus is on embedding the technology in garments made from the kind of soft, playful fabrics used in kids’ clothing, so that the child is comfortable and blends in with his peers. “As soon as I heard about this project, I knew I wanted to be involved in it,” Hall says.

That’s exactly what College of Health Sciences Dean Kathleen Matt wants to see happen on the STAR Campus.

“The labs here are all designed to encourage groups of researchers from a variety of disciplines to collaborate,” she says. “We want to see undergraduate and graduate students, faculty and clinicians all working together with patients to foster healthcare innovation.

“Our goal is to bring healthcare challenges directly to the academic environment, where our interdisciplinary and interprofessional teams design solutions. The STAR Campus is about discovering new solutions, delivering new applications and giving back to the community. It’s about impact.”

—Diane Kukich, AS73, 84M

New campus continues to grow

The first building on the Health Sciences Complex at the STAR Campus houses a number of clinics and organizations, including the Delaware Rehabilitation Institute and the Delaware Health Sciences Alliance, as well as the Nurse Managed Health Center and the Delaware Physical Therapy Clinic, both of which are open to the public.

In addition, the facility includes high-tech meeting spaces and state-of-the-art core labs such as muscle performance, gait analysis, anatomy, pediatric mobility, cardiovascular disease and orthopedic rehabilitation.

Tenant space will be available at an annex opening this spring for companies whose areas of business complement the mission of UD’s College of Health Sciences.

For information, contact building coordinator Debbie Martini at (302) 831-1060.
The University has received a leadership commitment from UD Trustee Carol Ammon and her partner, Dr. Marie E. Pinizzotto, BE08M. The gift—which the couple will make through their philanthropic foundation, the Carol A. Ammon Foundation—will generously support the new College of Health Sciences Complex, part of the University’s Science, Technology and Advanced Research (STAR) Campus on a 272-acre parcel of land on South College Avenue.

“Ultimately, we all want better health at a lower cost,” says Kathleen Matt, dean of the College of Health Sciences. “By offering an integrated approach that centers on patient wellness and prevention, we believe the College of Health Sciences Complex is one step closer to meeting that goal.

“We are honored that Carol Ammon and Marie Pinizzotto chose to support our initiative with this generous gift from the Carol A. Ammon Foundation. In doing so, they have made a significant investment in the future of health care in our community.”

Replacing the former Chrysler assembly plant’s administration building at the heart of the STAR Campus is the College of Health Sciences Complex, which opened in January. Occupants include the University’s Nurse Managed Health Center, Physical Therapy Clinics and several core research labs. The move to a larger facility will enable the health center and clinics to expand.

Not surprisingly, Ammon and Pinizzotto both have history deeply rooted in health science and philanthropy. Ammon is the founder and retired chief executive officer and chairman of Endo Pharmaceuticals Inc., a specialty pharmaceutical company based in Chadds Ford, Pa. She started the company in 1997 after she and two colleagues acquired several products and their related rights in a management buyout from DuPont Merck.

Before founding Endo, Ammon served as president of DuPont Merck’s U.S. Pharmaceutical Division. Since her 2007 retirement, she has devoted more time to philanthropic pursuits, including those of the foundation that bears her name.

In addition to her current service as a member of the UD Board of Trustees, Ammon previously served as a trustee and chairman of the board of Christiana Care, a member of the board of trustees at the Hagley Museum and Library and a member of Harvard’s Healthcare Advisory Board. She was inducted into the Delaware Business Leaders Hall of Fame in September 2010.

Pinizzotto earned her medical degree from Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia and specialized in obstetrics and gynecology before ultimately transitioning to a successful career in the pharmaceutical industry. She was the head of global safety for Wyeth’s Women’s Health Care Division and subsequently started her own consulting firm in drug safety and risk management.

In 2008, Pinizzotto earned her master’s degree in business administration from UD’s Alfred Lerner College of Business and Economics. She is a board member at Eisenhower Medical Center in Rancho Mirage, Calif., and The Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation. She is also a trustee at Christiana Care, where the Endowed Chair of Obstetrics and Gynecology is named in her honor.

Pinizzotto is currently the president and chief executive officer of the Carol A. Ammon Foundation, which focuses on health care and education initiatives.

“We are happy to be able to support UD’s College of Health Sciences as it begins a new era of education, research and service to our community,” Pinizzotto says. Ammon says she believes that a gift to the campaign for the College of Health Sciences Complex is an investment in the future of Delaware.

“Our business community is no longer comprised of a small number of companies that dominate employment growth,” Ammon says. “We must continue to innovate and create entrepreneurial opportunities for new companies to develop and create job growth. Investing in health sciences will allow us to do this.”

—Shannon H. Pote
Blue Hens are talking... join the conversation!

Across the globe, University of Delaware students, alumni, faculty, staff and families are connecting on #UDel social media platforms.

Follow @UDelaware and visit our social media portal at www.udel.edu/socialmedia/ for a list of all the accounts and platforms available for #BlueHens looking to stay on top of the #buzz.
When it’s time to plan and prepare our gardens each spring, there is a tendency to plant what looks prettiest without taking into account how those choices affect our ecosystems, says Doug Tallamy.

The professor of entomology and wildlife ecology has long championed the cause of native plants—those that are natural to a given area and therefore help support that area’s ecosystem—and offers some suggestions on what to plant and what not to plant this spring. He also stresses the importance of planting in all the different layers of a landscape, from the canopy down to the ground covers.

“Right now, most landscapes just have two layers: trees and grass, with almost nothing in between,” says Tallamy, the author of *Bringing Nature Home: How You Can Sustain Wildlife with Native Plants.* “Real plant communities are not like that here. There are animals that live in each one of these vertical strata, so we’re losing ecosystem services by not getting the plants that we could into our landscape.”

Last year, Tallamy’s expertise and the importance of his message were recognized by the Garden Club of America, which awarded him its Margaret Douglas Medal for notable service to the cause of conservation education. In discussing the award, he thanked the organization for helping him spread the word about native plants, saying:

“You can make a beautiful garden that also supports local food webs, sequesters carbon, improves your watershed and helps pollinator populations all by yourself if you choose productive plants. And your contribution to local ecosystem function plays an important role in sustaining this planet.”

Here, he offers some advice about plants, most of which belong in the mid-Atlantic area, with some ranging as far as the Mississippi. The native plants he has highlighted provide many ecosystem services, while the nonnative species provide few, if any, such services, and several can also invade surrounding habitat, degrading our natural areas.

### Canopy Trees

**Plant:** White oak, black cherry, white pine, sycamore  
**Benefits:** White oak is the very best at sequestering carbon, holding water on the landscape for watershed management and producing many vital ecosystem services such as supporting 557 species of caterpillars (bird food) and producing acorns that help support food webs. These trees also serve as habitat and nesting sites for a lot of mammals and birds.  
**Don’t plant:** Gingko, dawn redwood, blue Atlas cedar, Norway maple, Norway spruce  
**Problems:** In contrast to white oak, dawn redwood supports no caterpillar species and does not produce food for anything.

### Understory Trees

**Plant:** Ironwood, river birch, American plum, red cedar  
**Benefits:** Red cedar provides great cover in which birds can nest and spend the night and makes juniper berries that birds eat during the wintertime. The other plants listed also rank highly in terms of supporting food webs through their ability to support caterpillars.  
**Don’t plant:** Callery pear, goldenraintree, zelkova, crape myrtle  
**Problems:** Callery pear and zelkova are invasive species, while goldenrain tree is becoming invasive. Crape myrtle, while nice to look at, supports only three species of bird food.

### Shrubs

**Plant:** Any of the native viburnums such as arrowwood, hydrangea arborescens, highbush blueberry, sweet pepper bush  
**Benefits:** Arrowwood supports 103 species of caterpillars. Hydrangea arborescens flowers even in the shade, while sweet pepper bush blooms in midsummer and is very valuable for pollinators.  
**Don’t plant:** Burning bush, bush honeysuckle, privet, forsythia, butterfly bush  
**Problems:** Burning bush, bush honeysuckle, butterfly bush and privet are all highly invasive. Butterfly bush is confusing to some people because it is a good nectar plant and butterflies use it, but it is not a larval host plant for butterflies, so it doesn’t produce any new butterflies.

### Ground Covers

**Plant:** Wild ginger, green and gold, woodland phlox, violets  
**Benefits:** We have several species of native violets, and it is important to get them back into our landscapes; otherwise, we could lose our fritillary butterflies. Violets are the only plants on which true fritillaries develop.  
**Don’t plant:** Pachysandra, English ivy, vinca or periwinkle  
**Problems:** Vinca and English ivy are highly invasive, and while pachysandra is not, it does not support anything.
White oak  Ironwood  Arrowwood  Wild ginger
Black cherry  River birch  Hydrangea aborescens  Green and gold
White pine  American plum  Highbush blueberry  Woodland phlox
Sycamore  Red cedar  Sweet pepper bush  Violets
If you watched the figure skating events from Sochi in February, you weren’t alone. According to a recent poll, almost a fourth of Americans say figure skating is their favorite Olympic sport.

While most of us sit back and enjoy the show in all its grace, beauty and athleticism, UD’s Jim Richards zeroes in on the skaters’ "air position." And long before the Games began, many of the top U.S. skaters visited the University to seek his help.

From his decades of skating research, Richards, the Distinguished Professor of Kinesiology and Applied Physiology, knows that proper air position is critical to successful jumps. A computer simulation developed by his team at UD, in collaboration with Maryland-based C-Motion Inc., enables skaters and their coaches to observe an athlete’s actual movements on a computer screen and then see how those movements can be manipulated to improve jumping technique.

"The best part is that within just a few minutes, we can show them how making a small but specific change can effect a big change in terms of their ability to land their jumps and avoid repeated falls," Richards says.

Over the past several years, some 80 elite figure skaters have turned to the simulation for valuable feedback on how they can turn doubles into triples and triples into quadruples. This group includes four of the five U.S. Olympic singles skaters who competed in Sochi—Jeremy Abbott, Jason Brown, Gracie Gold and Ashley Wagner. More than a dozen of the skaters who have used the system have already won medals at national competitions, including Gold, who won the U.S. Figure Skating national title in January.

Richards’ system looks almost ridiculously simple on the computer screen: two little mannequins, one representing the actual skater and the other a mathematical model of that individual.

"After years of fine-tuning the motion capture system, collecting data and writing software, the end result was almost anticlimactic," Richards says. "All that work went into producing those two little figures."

He learned the hard way that simplicity was what the figure skating world needed. "Initially, we used a lot of tables and graphs and charts to describe recommended performance changes, but these ended up having little value to the skaters or their coaches," he says. "We couldn’t translate numbers and graphs into useful information for them—we needed something that was more visual."

While physics may pave the path to better skating, Richards quickly discovered that the simulation alone wasn’t enough. While the program’s advice was physiologically sound, it wasn’t psychologically realistic in having the skaters increase their spinning speed.

"Their bodies were telling them it wasn’t safe, so we realized we needed to strategize with them about how to accomplish more rapid spinning," he says. "It wasn’t enough to just tell them what to do; we also had to tell them how to do it."

Richards reluctantly accepts his few weeks of fame every four years when the skaters who have visited his lab at UD vault into the limelight. In the past year, such news outlets as CNN, the Philadelphia Inquirer, New York Times and Live Science have visited campus to report on the research, which also has applications in the medical field.

"Two aspects of this system are unique," Richards says. "The first is that we’re taking a mechanical analysis of human motion and immediately using it to impact performance. The second is that the simulation confers the ability to mimic an activity and see what will happen if you make a change."
THE WORLD AS A CLASSROOM

The University, which launched America’s first study abroad program 90 years ago, continues to make its mark as a leader in international education. According to the 2013 edition of Open Doors, published by the Institute of International Education, UD ranks fourth nationally among public, doctorate-granting institutions in the percentage of students who study abroad. During the 2011-12 academic year, 1,366 UD undergraduate students, or 36.3 percent of the graduating population, studied abroad for academic credit, primarily in short-term programs lasting less than a semester. UD stands at 16th in the U.S. among all doctoral institutions in the number of students participating in those short-term programs—1,198 in the 2011-12 academic year. UD’s undergraduate student participation in study abroad outranked that of Carnegie Mellon, the University of Virginia and several other institutions. The only public, doctoral institutions with higher participation rates were the College of William and Mary (45.7 percent), Georgia Institute of Technology (38.3 percent) and Miami University (37.9 percent).

“UD has a distinguished history in international education, from our pioneering program to France in 1923 that initiated study abroad in America, to about 70 programs worldwide that now involve over a thousand UD students each year,” says Nancy Guerra, associate provost for international programs. “Experiencing other cultures firsthand deepens students’ understanding of the world and their role as global citizens and problem solvers.”

Open Doors also reaffirmed that when international students decide to study abroad, they predominantly head to the United States—to institutions like the University of Delaware. According to the report, international student enrollments in U.S. higher education institutions rose to the highest levels ever during the 2012-13 academic year, with 819,644 international students studying here. The state of Delaware ranked 38th in the U.S. in numbers of foreign students at 4,337, of whom 3,696 came to UD. Their leading countries of origin included China, Saudi Arabia, India, Turkey and South Korea. The students’ expenditures in the state were estimated at $121.5 million.

—Tracey Bryant

Student awarded international scholarship

When UD senior Simone Austin heard she had been selected to receive a prestigious Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship to study abroad, she just couldn’t contain her excitement.

“If I let out a squeal, which alerted my co-worker,” says Austin, who works at the Delaware Field House, “I received the news a day before my birthday, so this is probably one of the top-10 best birthday presents!”

The award, which provides scholarship funds up to $5,000, is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. Austin, who is from Claymont, Del., is majoring in political science and international relations and Black American studies, with a minor in African studies.

During Winter Session 2014, she studied in Brazil through UD’s programs in anthropology, foreign languages and literatures, and Latin American and Iberian studies. Austin is one of more than 700 Gilman Scholarship recipients this year. The students, all undergraduates, represent 341 colleges and universities across the U.S.

“I feel really honored to receive this award to fulfill a lifelong dream to study abroad,” Austin said when first told of her selection. “Not only will I be able to study abroad with this award, but upon my return I have the opportunity to share my experiences and act as an ambassador for the Benjamin A. Gilman Scholarship.”

—Tracey Bryant
ON THE GREEN

SCHOOLS FAIL TO REFLECT NATION’S DIVERSITY

Just as the U.S. population is growing increasingly diverse, the nation’s K-12 schools are becoming more segregated—a situation that poses a threat to the quality of higher education for all groups and to the success of American democracy.

That was the message delivered by Beverly Daniel Tatum, president of Spelman College and a writer and psychologist whose specialty is race relations, to an audience on campus last fall. Her talk, “Diversity, Democracy and Leadership: Education for the 21st Century,” was UD’s 2013 Distinguished Lecture on Diversity in Higher Education.

“The decision makers of the future are the college students of today,” Tatum said, calling higher education “a location where crucial connections can be forged” among diverse groups.

Research finds that young people who interact with those from different racial, ethnic, religious and socioeconomic groups while in college tend to continue that habit, living in more diverse neighborhoods and having a more diverse group of friends as they get older, she said.

And because this generation will live and work in a highly diverse society, becoming comfortable with people different from oneself is a necessary skill, she said, not just for individual success but also for America’s civic and societal success.

But, Tatum said, school desegregation efforts that became common in the 1980s have more recently been replaced by the concept of neighborhood schools, leading to resegregation in many K-12 classrooms.

“This is a threat to higher education because both white students and students of color will come to college less prepared for higher education,” she said. Students of color will enter college from schools that offered them fewer academic opportunities, and white students will come to campus less socially prepared to interact with a diverse population.

FLIGHTS OF IMAGINATION INSPIRE NOVELIST

Peruvian writer Mario Vargas Llosa, the 2010 Nobel Laureate in Literature, told a UD audience last fall that when he sits down to write a novel, the process “is fascinating and mysterious, but it is not fun.”

As a writer, he said, “One is willing to take advantage of the best and worst of himself and the people around him,” all to find the kinds of real, personal experiences with which his works of fiction begin. But after outlining a story based on those actual experiences, fantasy and imagination come into play to create the final work, he said, calling the initial real-world event or person “only the starting point, not the point of arrival.”

Vargas Llosa spoke on the theme “A Writer and His Demons” as part of the Transnational Encounters visiting authors series made possible through a grant from UD’s Interdisciplinary Humanities Research Center.

The day after the lecture, he read from his work at two additional events—one in English and one in Spanish—and signed copies of his books.

He is the author of more than 60 works, including novels, essays, short story collections and dramatic works. Some of his many works that have been translated into English are his earlier novels The Time of the Hero, The Green House, Conversation in the Cathedral and Captain Pantoja and the Special Service.

Overall, fiction allows both writers and readers to “go beyond the limits” of reality, Vargas Llosa said. “Novels may not make us happy, but they make us…more complete,” he said.
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Graduating members of the Class of 2013 were honored and applauded for their achievements during Winter Commencement ceremonies in January. University President Patrick Harker joined faculty, administrators and members of the UD Board of Trustees in welcoming some 3,500 guests, including 350 graduates receiving associate, undergraduate and graduate degrees. Alumna Liz Ann Sonders delivered the Winter Commencement address (see article on next page).

“Congratulations to all of our new graduates, and to everyone here who’s had a hand in this day—the faculty who taught you, the advisers who counseled you, the family and friends who have loved you and cheered you on through it all,” Harker said. “Everyone here deserves a round of applause.”

Earlier in the day, the University conferred academia’s highest degree on 131 students from 17 countries at a doctoral hooding ceremony. In front of proud family and friends, the graduating doctors of philosophy and of education were invested in the velvet-lined hoods marking their entrée into education’s elite. Only about 1 percent of the U.S. population has earned a doctoral degree.

The previous day, the new doctors of physical therapy received their hoods in a separate ceremony.

But UD’s doctoral graduates won’t be resting on their laurels. Society is counting on their leadership, Harker said. After congratulating the group at the hooding ceremony, he offered the conferees three suggestions for the future: to be open to new opportunities, to put their knowledge to use for the global community, and to be grateful for the lineage of scholars they now join.

“You kept asking questions until the experts ran out of answers,” Harker said, reminding the graduates how they got to this point. “Whatever you pursue, we’ll be richer for it.”

The freshly minted graduates will put their knowledge to work at the U.S. Army Research Lab, Alexion Pharmaceuticals, Air Products and Chemicals, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, MathWorks, Siemens, Sussex Academy, Wilmington PharmaTech, Texas A&M University, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and Virginia Commonwealth University, among many other locations.

Delawarean Joseph Brobst will now pursue his postdoctoral degree at Western Washington University, focusing on science education research and evaluation.

“I’m going from one side of the country to the other,” he said. The former high school science teacher previously earned his bachelor’s degree in biology at UD in 2003.

Kyle Winfree, the recipient of a doctorate in biomechanics and movement science, is staying on at UD to pursue postdoctoral research.

“I came to UD because I wanted to do research with impact, and that’s what I’ve been able to do,” said Winfree, an Arizonan who now lives in Philadelphia.

He’s already the co-author of three different patents, for the ALEX robotic exoskeleton that can help stroke survivors regain leg function and for the PDShoe and SEnsole. These latter two devices are designed to help people with Parkinson’s disease walk more smoothly and steadily.

Fan Yang, who received her doctorate in materials science and engineering, will return to Taiwan to work at KLA-Tencor, a semiconductor tool company.

She said her aunt, who lives in California, encouraged her to pursue her doctorate in the United States because of the unmatched quality of a U.S. education. Her aunt traveled to UD to celebrate Yang’s achievement, as did friends from New York.

“The University of Delaware’s reputation in engineering is truly impressive,” Yang said. “UD also has been a great place to experience the American culture.”
EXPERT ADVICE: GET RICH (BUT NOT QUICK)

Liz Ann Sonders, AS86, who earned her bachelor’s degree from UD in international relations and has gone on to a notable career on Wall Street, returned to campus in January to deliver the 2014 Winter Commencement address and to take part in a panel discussion focused on investing.

The panel discussion, “Preparing Yourself Today for the Investment World of Tomorrow,” was held the Friday before the Winter Commencement ceremony. Sponsored by the College of Arts and Sciences and the Alfred Lerner College of Business and Economics, it also featured Donald Puglisi, professor emeritus of finance, and Paul Brewer, professor of communication and associate director for research at UD’s Center for Political Communication.

Before the panel discussion began, Sonders met and spoke with several students and faculty members.

In her Winter Commencement address, she shared some of the Wall Street savvy that has earned her respect and honors as senior vice president and chief investment strategist for Charles Schwab and Co. She cautioned future investors from the Class of 2013 not to be lured by the “greed is good” approach of Gordon Gekko in the Wall Street movies but to instead follow the advice of Warren Buffett, who recommends a “long-term greed” investment philosophy.

“Your career path is likely to take many turns throughout your life, and investing is indeed a marathon, not a sprint,” Sonders said. “Be long-term greedy, because there are very, very few credible, if any, get-rich-quick schemes.”

To complement the brain-over-emotion approach to investing and planning a financial future, Sonders also emphasized the need to develop an instinct-based alarm system.

“Be attuned to that inner feeling in your gut, or the sound in your head—call it the twang or the clang,” she said. “It’s when you know something is not quite right, or way off kilter, or out of tune. Hone and trust those instincts.”

Sonders also warned the graduates against falling for the lure of short-term greed at the early stages of their careers.

“When you’re young, you should take chances and choose a job that can become a cherished career,” she said. “Choose a place to live that excites you and allows for as stimulating an after-work life as it does a during-work life, and choose a career that unleashes your creativity and your passions, but one that is also fun.”

Graduation should mark the beginning of a lifelong education fueled by intellectual curiosity about things that interest, challenge and possibly contradict personal beliefs, Sonders said.

“I take considerable comfort seeing young men and women like yourselves—and even my children, who are here, too—perhaps for the first time, learn valuable lessons that only accompany the skinned knees of experience,” she said.

Sonders is senior vice president and chief investment strategist for Schwab, where she chairs the Investment Strategy Council and has a range of investment strategy responsibilities. At Winter Commencement, she was awarded an honorary doctor of business degree.

She is a regular contributor to all of Schwab’s client newsletters, is a frequent keynote speaker at both company events and outside conferences, is a regular guest on many television news programs and is widely quoted in major financial publications. She has been named one of the most influential people on Wall Street by SmartMoney and the best strategist of 2009 by Kiplinger’s. Last year, she was inducted into UD’s Alumni Wall of Fame.
Lives blessed by learning

by Artika Casini, AS05
In 1950, Krishan Khanna found himself in Delhi, paying a 10-rupee late fee to take the high school exam that would qualify him for college.

Three years before, on Aug. 14, 1947, he had crossed the Pakistan-India border, one of millions of immigrants during Partition, the bloody relinquishment of British India that divided the country along religious and political lines and left hundreds of thousands of Hindus and Muslims dead.

Khanna, 16 at the time, left the Pakistani village that had been his family’s home since 1790 and headed for the new Indian border with his parents, brothers and fellow Hindus. They were attacked less than two miles down the road, his father shot and killed, his mother captured, his family reunited only months later, in Delhi.

There, he began working nine-hour days, six days a week, winding armature wire for ceiling fans at a factory outside the city. In 1950, after scrounging the 10 rupees to take the college entrance exam, Khanna began night classes at a camp for Pakistani refugees. He had no money to put toward his education.

“Sit in the back of the class,” his economics professor told him. “Don’t worry about paying the fee.”

“But what about the other professors?” Khanna asked. “I’ll talk to them.”

Four and a half years later, he graduated—debt free—and began working at the Ministry of Education for 125 rupees a month, nearly three times his salary at the factory.

In 1958 he married the girl next door, a lady with a similar name and a similar love for education. Krishna Khanna’s father was a schoolteacher in a time when girls weren’t educated or pushed to study. “But,” she says, “he knew the potential and encouraged me.”

After her marriage, she continued her education with her husband’s support, attending college 300 miles away to earn her Bachelor of Teaching degree. Their life in India was pleasant, they say, but they faced limited opportunity and little room for professional and educational growth.

In September 1960, Krishan Khanna sailed to London. He lived alone for more than a year working as a typist for the Auto Association until his wife joined him. There, she earned a graduate degree in education from the University of London and taught for six and a half years at an elementary school in Birmingham.

“But then I heard they needed teachers in the U.S.,” she remembers. And so she applied for a job in Delaware and was hired on the spot.

To expedite her visa, the superintendent of the then-Wilmington Public School District wrote to the British Embassy, referring to the processing delay as “depriving our students of the best teaching.”

Her visa was soon granted, and the Khannas arrived in the United States on Nov. 14, 1969. Krishna started teaching that very afternoon. For the next 26-plus years, she would teach second grade, first at Charles B. Lore and later at Heritage elementary schools.

Today, they continue to live in the house they bought three years after coming to America. Krishna Khanna wears saris daily. An avid couponer, she dials the 800-number on the back of products and beams when talking about saving $3 off a pack of multivitamins.

At 83, Krishan Khanna is a handyman who has never called an electrician or plumber and recently installed a third bathroom in his home. He loves Sudoku puzzles, Lean Cuisine frozen meals and the stock market channel, which is on his television 24 hours a day.

In America, he worked for decades in investments, then as a CPA and, finally, as an accountant for a local school district, all the while investing money in stocks—the dividends of which the Khannas have invested yet again.

The two never attended UD, nor do they have any personal or professional ties to the institution, but in 2011, they established the Krishan and Krishna Khanna Scholarship. In 2012, they gave $1 million to the new Interdisciplinary Science and Engineering Laboratory (ISE Lab). They’ve bequeathed their entire estate, valued at $2 million, to the University.

“Everything we have, everything we’ve done, everything we’ve been blessed with is because of education,” Krishan Khanna says, and when he reads the plaque on the ISE Lab wall, he choke up.

In gratitude for the Khanna’s commitment to education and problem-based learning, the instructional laboratory suites on all four floors are named in their honor.

“I would have made a great engineer, but we didn’t have the means,” Krishan Khanna says. “When I read the plaque, when I see those words, I know we have done something good.”

In gratitude for Krishan and Krishna Khanna’s commitment to education and problem-based learning, the instructional laboratory suites on all four floors are named in their honor.
The second I heard my name boom across the crackle of the microphone, the feeling of sheer elation washed over me, as I was overcome with emotion for the first time in my life.

The Intel International Science and Engineering Fair is the largest precollege science fair in the world, attracting over 1,600 young scientists from 70 different countries every year. Being the first from my school to ever compete in a science fair, the honor of taking home “Best in Category” and “First Place in Cellular and Molecular Biology” was something beyond my wildest dreams. When my name was called again for a Grand Award of attendance at the 2013 Nobel Prize Ceremony in Stockholm, Sweden, I knew the adventure had just begun.

About 20 students from across the globe, each representing various organizations and competitions, congregated in a small hostel in Stockholm for the trip of a lifetime. During the beginning of the week, we presented our own research to Swedish students and networked with companies abroad. Later that week, the Laureates presented their work to the press, and we were able to sit in and ask questions. During the United States Ambassador Reception and Nobel Reception, we talked to the Laureates one on one and discussed the future of their research.

A definite highlight of the week was getting to talk to a Nobel Laureate in Medicine, Dr. James Rothman. I asked him about his research in vesicle transportation and its future in cancer treatment. Instead of answering my question directly, he asked me what I thought about it. We were able to discuss my research briefly, while I shared my opinion, and he told me his predictions for the future of cancer research.

The most exciting day of the trip was filled with the Nobel ceremony, the Nobel banquet and the Nobel Nightcap after-party. The Nobel ceremony was the
most majestic display of intellect and prestige that I have ever experienced, as I was able to watch each Laureate receive the medal from the king of Sweden and bow to the audience. The banquet took place in Stockholm City Hall, and was filled with opera performances between each course and dinner served on golden plates. After the banquet, the night had just begun, as the Nobel Nightcap went from 11 p.m. to 5 a.m. the next morning. The Nobel Nightcap is known as “The Grandest Party” of the year, and after attending, I agree with this sentiment wholeheartedly.

Overall, my experience at the 2013 Nobel Prize ceremony was more than I could have ever dreamed of. Seeing a fiery passion to change the world, to pioneer a path unseen, to touch the lives of others on a global scale, was something I saw in the Nobel Laureates and scientific peers alike. After this experience, I knew research was a mindset that I began to call home.

An exhibition of work by African American painters is on view through June 28 at UD’s Mechanical Hall Gallery.

Titled “FreshPAINT: African American Art at UD,” the exhibit showcases works from the University’s Paul R. Jones Collection of African American Art alongside recent acquisitions. Using the words “fresh” and “paint” playfully and reflexively, the selection calls attention to methods and materials as well as content and style.

The most recent bequests on view are two streetscapes by renowned Delaware artist Edward L. Loper Sr., who died in 2011.

Many of the works on view date to the mid- to late-20th century, reflecting the collecting history, habits and aesthetics of the Atlanta collector Paul R. Jones (1928-2010). Since its donation to UD in 2001 the Jones gift has served as a point of departure for a growing collection of art by artists from America and the African diaspora.

*Autumn in Georgia* (c. 1931) by Hale Aspacio Woodruff and *Snowbanks* (1959) by Felrath Hines are among the earliest works on view and, with the two Loper paintings, set an important tone for the exhibition as a whole.

Committed to abstraction from the late 1950s onward, Woodruff and Hines joined fellow artists in the collective known as Spiral in 1963. Discussions among the artists centered on aesthetic, social and cultural concerns, including debates over the social responsibility of the artist and artistic content.

These conversations continue today, and “FreshPAINT” bears witness to the many ways in which artists have responded.

“FreshPAINT” was co-curated by Robert Straight, professor of painting, and Julie L. McGee, University Museums curator of African American art.
Museum gets its ducks in a row

Frigid January weather and a lack of building heat were no match for a group of graduate students in the Museum Studies Program who spent two weeks of Winter Session providing skilled help to a museum dedicated to the outdoors.

PHOTOS BY AMBRE ALEXANDER PAYNE

Tracy Jentzsch (front) and Della Keyser watch as Rachael Beyer documents part of the museum collection.
During their stint at the Upper Bay Museum in North East, Md., the students set out to clean, label and catalog items related to hunting and fishing in the traditional way of life of the Chesapeake Bay area. Occupying a former fish house, the museum holds an extensive collection of artifacts dating back to the 1800s.

With hundreds of items and little existing historical identification for many pieces, Upper Bay called on the UD program for help.

Using non-invasive cleaning techniques with lightweight hand brushes and variable-speed vacuums, the students removed years of accumulated dust from many items. After pieces were labeled, numbered, photographed and cataloged, the information was transferred and stored in a computer database that provides the museum with proper documentation for its collections.

This year marked the fifth time the UD service project has assisted a museum in the region. Dubbed SWAT and funded by an Institute for Museum and Library Services' Sustaining Places grant, the program brings intensive help to small historical facilities while, at the same time, giving students on-site and hands-on opportunities.

The Sustaining Places grant was created after a national study found that 80 percent of small museums lack systematic records of their collections, which are in danger of falling into disrepair.

“It would have been extremely difficult for us to pay for this work,” says Lori Bouchelle, a regular volunteer at Upper Bay. “Because this service [by UD] is provided at no cost to the museum, we can instead pursue funding to improve our displays, increase our educational efforts and continue to preserve and update the museum building itself.”

As for the students, the experience is invaluable, say Katherine C. Grier, director of the Museum Studies Program and professor of history, and staff assistant Tracy H. Jentzsch, who both accompanied the students to Upper Bay. This year’s students represented a variety of areas of study, including history, fashion and apparel studies, and historic architecture and design.

“The benefits of participating in the SWAT program are the students’ ability to take their content knowledge and skills acquired through traditional classroom experiences and apply them to real-world experiences,” Jentzsch says.

Upper Bay houses an extensive collection of duck decoys, complete with a period room Duck Decoy Shop. Though the installation is a replica, the makeshift sander belts, benches and carving tools provide a snapshot into duck decoy culture.

Also on display in the museum is a boat known as a double sink box, the only one known to be still in existence. The sink box rig would submerge, surrounded by hundreds of duck decoys. The two hunters who could fit in the boat were able to kill 400-500 ducks a day, shipping them to restaurants and hotels in the region. The sink box was eventually outlawed in 1935 to protect declining duck populations.

“This is such a fantastic collection because of the great quality of the pieces and the strong community base,” Grier says of Upper Bay. “Once upon a time, the community was making its money this way. It was a way of life.”

—Nicole Sullivan, AS15
Charles G. Riordan and Harold (Hal) B. White III have been elected fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the world’s largest general scientific society, which selects fellows based on their scientifically or socially distinguished efforts to advance science or its applications. Riordan, vice provost for research and professor of chemistry and biochemistry, was recognized for his “contributions to bioinorganic chemistry, particularly to the mechanistic chemistry of nickel-containing enzymes, and for dedicated service to UD.” White, professor of chemistry and biochemistry, was elected for his work on “the development of problem-based learning in undergraduate science instruction and dissemination of active-learning pedagogy through workshops, publications and advocacy in professional organizations.”

Annette Giesecke, professor of ancient Greek and Roman studies, who has conducted extensive research on the meaning of gardens and the cultural clues buried in the remains of ancient gardens, has been named the Archaeological Institute of America’s Jashemski Lecturer for 2013-14, presenting lectures at a variety of universities.

Terry Papoutsakis, Eugene du Pont Professor of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering who is affiliated with the Delaware Biotechnology Institute, has been selected to receive the Daniel I.C. Wang Award for excellence in biochemical engineering from the American Institute of Chemical Engineers Society for Biological Engineering, which cited his work in pioneering the genetic exploration of clostridia, anaerobic bacteria that are ubiquitous in soil and can cause infections in wounds.

Thomas H. Epps, III, the Gutshall Chair of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, was one of 30 early-career engineers nationwide invited to join 30 from Europe in discussing their leading-edge research at the 2013 European Union-United States Frontiers of Engineering Symposium held in Chantilly, France, in November.

Joel Rosenthal, assistant professor of chemistry and biochemistry whose work in renewable energy focuses on the use of solar energy to convert carbon dioxide into synthetic liquid fuels, has received a Dreyfus Postdoctoral Award in Environmental Chemistry.

Amanda Jansen, associate professor of education, received the 2014 Early Career Award from the Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators, the largest professional organization devoted to the improvement of mathematics teacher education in grades K-12, in recognition of her distinguished contributions and exceptional potential for leadership in mathematics teacher education.

Dan Leathers, professor of geography and the Delaware state climatologist, has been elected president of the American Association of State Climatologists, a national organization with more than 100 members, including 47 state climatologists.

Norman Wagner, Alvin B. and Julia O. Stiles Professor of Chemical Engineering and a renowned expert in the area of colloidal suspension rheology, received the annual Thomas Baron Award from the American Institute of Chemical Engineers.

Jennifer Biddle, assistant professor of marine biosciences, is traveling throughout the United States discussing deep-ocean drilling science and her work on microorganisms living deep within marine sediment, as a 2013-14 Distinguished Lecturer with the National Science Foundation’s U.S. Science Support Program.

Kenneth van Golen, associate professor of biological sciences and a senior research scientist at the Helen F. Graham Cancer Center at Christiana Hospital, delivered the 2013 Susan E. Donelan Hope for the Future Lecture at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, focusing on his research specialty of inflammatory breast cancer.

David Pong, professor emeritus of history and Asian studies, has been named Distinguished Asianist 2012 by the Mid-Atlantic Region of the Association for Asian Studies in recognition of excellence in scholarship and contributions to the profession.

Adrienne Lucas, assistant professor of economics whose research focuses on development economics, primarily on education and disease in sub-Saharan Africa, has achieved the 27th position among the top 100 young economists globally active since 2009, according to RePEc (Research Papers in Economics), an international index that ranks young economists through an analysis of research productivity.

Tsui-Wei Chou, the Pierre S. du Pont Chair of Engineering who has previously been honored as a World Fellow of composites and one of the top 100 materials scientists of the decade, has received the 2013 Nadai Medal from ASME.
Save the date.

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ON THE GREEN

Tour de France: 23 days, 23 posters

The 2013 year-in-review edition of Sports Illustrated included some surprise recognition for an accomplishment with UD connections—not on the playing field but in a design studio.

The magazine’s Dec. 16 edition featured a project by the Lead Graffiti printmaking collective as part of the “Year in Sports Media” section. Lead Graffiti, a Newark, Del., design studio, is operated by Ray Nichols, retired professor of art and former coordinator of the visual communications program at UD, and Jill Cypher, a former graphic designer for the University.

Sports Illustrated highlighted the studio’s annual “Tour de Lead Graffiti,” in which designers attend the 23-day Tour de France cycling race and create a poster at the end of each stage highlighting the day’s action. Designers for the 2013 endeavor included Mark Deshon, AS78; Jeannie Marcotte Wagner, AS88; Jessica Koman, AS88; Hendrik-Jan Francke, AS93; Ann Lemon, AS84; Lindsay Schmittle, AS13; Ben Gallegos, AS14; and Rebecca Johnson Melvin, of the UD Library.

The magazine illustrated the item with a poster (below) created by Nichols, Cypher and Deshon. For more about the project, and to see all 23 posters, visit http://leadgraffiti.com/.

NATIONAL MCNAIR SCHOLARS PRESENT RESEARCH AT UD

Joseph V. Kerridge really likes chemistry. It’s wired into him, just like his career goal to become a university professor.

Last fall, Kerridge, a junior McNair Scholar majoring in chemical engineering at UD, had the opportunity to do what many university professors do. He presented a scientific poster highlighting his research, on bacteria that degrade asphalt.

The venue was the National McNair Scholars Research Competition and Graduate Fair, an event that UD’s McNair Scholars Program—one of 158 such programs nationwide—has hosted for the past 11 years.

More than 80 percent of the University’s McNair Scholars enroll in graduate school immediately after bachelor’s degree attainment, continuing their studies all the way through the doctoral degree. The participants are either first-generation college students with financial need or members of a group that traditionally has been underrepresented in graduate education; all have demonstrated strong academic potential.

“Our goal is to transform talented students into scholars of excellence by involving them in research and other scholarly activities in preparation for doctoral degree attainment,” says Kim Saunders, director of UD’s McNair Scholars Program. “We provide this event annually as a community service for our scholars and other college students, as well as area residents interested in graduate school.”

More than 350 people attended the 2013 event, which included seminars on graduate admissions and a graduate school fair featuring 83 graduate programs at universities from California to Delaware to the United Kingdom.

But the highlight for Kerridge and his co-presenters was the research poster competition. He collected bacterial samples from roads around Newark, Del., and then analyzed them to determine what microorganisms were present and to monitor their growth under various conditions.

“The ultimate goal is to figure out how to modify the bacteria to have them fix the asphalt instead of degrade it,” Kerridge says.
Three cheers for winners of spirit team competitions

Blue Hen spirit teams finished among the best in the 2014 Universal Cheerleading Association and Universal Dance Association National Championships held in January at Walt Disney World in Florida, with the cheerleading squad winning a national championship.

The UD cheerleaders finished first in the Division I large coed competition, ending rival Morehead (Ky.) State University’s 12-year winning streak. Fan favorite mascot YoUDee placed second in the open mascot division, and the dance team finished fifth in Division I hip hop and jazz competitions.

“Our team was, and still is, ecstatic,” cheerleading coach Ben Schreiber says. “Morehead State is a great program with so much tradition. It feels special to be on top for 2014.”

In the mascot competition, YoUDee had won three straight national titles and was going for a fourth. “Even though we placed second this year to Tennessee Tech by one point, it’s a great feeling to me that our team is able to show off their creative talents at the national level,” says Sharon Harris, director of the mascot program.

Dance team head coach Nicole Zehnder lauded the UD dancers for being true fighters and competitors, finishing 0.5 points from third place in jazz and 1.5 points from first place in hip hop. “I would not have changed a thing or asked any more from them,” she says.

Two-year degree program earns praise

The Associate in Arts Program, UD’s two-year degree program in which most students move on to a bachelor’s degree, has won accolades as one of the most innovative initiatives in the Philadelphia area.

Talent Greater Philly recognized the program in its 2013 Regional Challenge, awarding UD the higher education honor. The challenge highlights institutions working to improve college access and degree completion. It noted that the Associate in Arts Program’s substantially reduced tuition makes it possible for many students to begin their journey toward a bachelor’s degree with a lesser financial burden.

Courses in the program are taught by UD faculty on the campuses of Delaware Technical Community College in Wilmington, Dover and Georgetown.

Students who complete the required coursework earn an associate degree. Courses taken are recorded on the student’s University transcript and count toward completion of a UD bachelor’s degree. The program’s success is notable, far exceeding national degree completion rates. Sixty-four percent of AAP enrollees graduate.

“It’s a two-year liberal arts degree meant to be a gateway to a four-year degree,” says George Watson, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

STUDENTS ROLL UP SLEEVES TO HELP COMMUNITY

For the third straight year—and for the seventh time in the 12-year history of the competition—UD has captured the Colonial Athletic Association Blood Challenge, with 1,173 donors giving to the Blood Bank of Delmarva at a one-day campus event.

The event, which is held each fall on the campuses of CAA member schools, was a big success once again in 2013 as 2,903 productive units of blood were collected from 2,776 donors on nine campuses. Over its 12 years, the Challenge has yielded 39,622 productive units of blood.

“The University of Delaware Department of Athletics and Recreation Services is thrilled to win our third consecutive CAA Blood Challenge championship,” says Jerry Oravitz, UD’s director of football operations and Blood Challenge site coordinator. “This string of success is another great example of the Blood Bank of Delmarva, the University and our community working together as one team to provide a necessary and critical service for the people in Blue Hen country.”

UD used the theme “Dare to Donate” and enlisted the support of the businesses in the city of Newark as well as the campus community to spread the word of the blood drive. Student groups, faculty, staff and alumni were all encouraged to participate.
This fall, two Delawareans were granted high honors in the world of teaching.

Lea Wainwright, AS85, a French teacher at Appoquinimink High School in Middletown, was named the state’s K-12 teacher of the year by the Delaware Department of Education. Hal White, professor of chemistry and biochemistry at UD, was granted the rare honor of being named Delaware’s professor of the year by the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) and the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

Yet, when it comes to teaching, White and Wainwright share the same passion. Recently, the UD Messenger brought them together to talk about the work of educating young people. And as it turns out, their languages really aren’t so different after all.

**White:** “It’s like a foreign language, a lot of science. Some say there is more vocabulary in a science class than a language class.”

**Wainwright:** “I teach French, but it’s more than just learning a verb. They need to be able to do something with this, solve problems with this.” She says she was inspired by the book *The World Is Flat*, by Thomas Friedman.

White: “I think it was the same book I came across, where instead of [emphasizing] the intelligence quotient, it’s the curiosity quotient. Unless you have a curiosity about things, you can know lots of things, but you’re not going to do anything with it.”

As a symbol of his teaching philosophy and instructional methods, White shows a plastic model of hemoglobin, the molecule that allows red blood cells to deliver life-sustaining oxygen throughout the body. He teaches an entire biochemistry course just by having his students trace the history of research on this molecule.

Wainwright brings a copy of *Le Petit Prince*, which her students read and then analyze in French. The short, narrative fable teaches readers that the most important things in life are invisible—"kind of like your molecule there," she tells White.

Neither educator began with a career in the classroom, but both somehow knew they would end up there. Wainwright majored in French with a minor in business while at UD and thought she would pursue accounting. It was 20 years ago, while she was on maternity leave—having worked a series of
jobs in other industries—when her journey back to education began.

**Wainwright:** “I started tutoring a student who was either going to have to repeat a year of French or take it over the summer. It was about the third week in and it dawned on me that this is what I wanted to do, looking at this child and realizing how much they’re into what I’m talking about and they’re so pleased with themselves and feeling so confident with what they learned.”

She returned to UD and enrolled in education classes the very next week.

**White** embarked on the traditional path of an academic scientist, collecting the valuable currency of publications based on his laboratory research and pulling in grant funding. He taught courses when he came to the University, as many faculty members are expected to do, but his real focus was on the investigations in his lab.

He eventually became involved in regular discussions on campus about teaching and learned that the challenges in education were the same, regardless of the field. When his research funding waned 20 years into his scientific career, he applied for instructional grants and he has been devoted to teaching ever since.

**White:** “You’re not trained to teach [as an academic], but I was always interested in teaching.” As a young man, he had taught students participating in an Upward Bound program in Boston, which left an impression. He also came from a family of teachers.

For both educators, the lessons they try to impart to their students are bigger than the subjects they teach. It’s about helping their students see the world as a larger, more connected place, they say, and giving them the skills to think critically and solve problems.

**White:** “A teacher’s goal is to have students change, to change their world. That’s sort of subversive in the sense that if they haven’t changed, then you haven’t accomplished that.”

**Wainwright,** who first saw the impact she made on the student she tutored, now sees that in the students she takes for study abroad at their sister school in France every other year: “Even my one- or two-week-trip kids come back and see things a little differently. It really opens their eyes.”

**White:** “If you’re a teacher that students identify with in some way—I’m sure you can relate to this too—you can get them to do amazing things. They do more than they ever would have expected they could.”

**Wainwright:** “Our content is different, but I guess it’s maybe all good teaching.”

—Kelly Tyrrell
Tiny neutrinos travel through space to South Pole telescope

A huge telescope built deep into the crystal-clear ice of Antarctica has led to a discovery that received the *Physics World* “Breakthrough of the Year” award for 2013 and that scientists say ushers in a new age of astronomy.
The IceCube telescope was constructed over seven years in the harshest conditions on Earth by an international collaboration, with the support of the National Science Foundation, in which UD astronomers played a key role. Researchers using observations from the mile-deep instrument have now found for the first time some high-energy neutrinos of extraterrestrial origin—tiny particles that have no electric charge and are sometimes called “messengers of the universe.”

Neutrinos can zip right through your body, the walls of your house and entire planets, even emerging from near the surface of fascinating and frightening black holes.

“One of the interesting things about neutrinos is that they pass right through the Earth, and they’re neutral, so you don’t see them,” says Tom Gaisser, the Martin A. Pomerantz Chair of Physics and Astronomy at UD, who has worked with IceCube since its construction began in 2003. Because neutrinos are detected only in the infrequent cases where they interact with matter, “They’re rare and hard to study,” he says.

Gaisser leads a team of UD researchers who have been instrumental in building and maintaining the IceCube South Pole Neutrino Observatory’s surface array of detectors, known as “IceTop,” during the past decade. These detectors help scientists to rule out the interference caused by
neutrinos produced locally in our atmosphere and to focus instead on more energetic particles produced light years away from Earth. It’s possible that those particles might even have been produced in the radiation field left over from the Big Bang, which most astronomers believe formed the universe.

Using the observatory, the IceCube collaboration recently observed 28 very high-energy particle events and determined that about a dozen of them likely came from outside our solar system. These observations constitute the first solid evidence of neutrinos coming from “cosmic accelerators”—potentially such sources as exploding stars or accreting black holes. The research was the cover story of the Nov. 22 edition of the journal Science and a few weeks later was cited as the year’s “top breakthrough.”

Gaisser says he was surprised by the designation, but only because he didn’t know that the British magazine Physics World gave such an annual award. He wasn’t surprised, however, that other scientists recognized the significance of IceCube’s observations.

“This is the first indication of very high-energy neutrinos coming from outside our solar system,” says Francis Halzen, principal investigator of IceCube from the University of Wisconsin–Madison. “This is the dawn of a new age of astronomy.”

In explaining its selection for the 2013 award, Physics World wrote: “IceCube can determine the direction from which a neutrino came, making it an incredibly useful telescope. Indeed, it could solve an important astrophysical mystery by revealing the origins of cosmic rays.”

According to Gaisser, the answer will depend on the number of neutrino events captured by IceCube, from which geometric calculations can be made to trace the high-energy neutrinos to specific astronomical sources.

Billions of neutrinos pass through every square inch of Earth every second, with the vast majority of these subatomic particles originating either in the sun or in Earth’s atmosphere. Far rarer are neutrinos from the outer reaches of our galaxy or beyond, which have long been theorized to provide insights into the powerful cosmic objects from which they originate: supernovae, black holes, pulsars, active galactic nuclei and other extreme extragalactic phenomena.

When neutrinos interact with matter—either in the rock or ice below IceCube or within the ice of the detector itself—the event creates a charged particle, which is detected as a flash of light and can then be analyzed.

“The first task of IceCube is to find the neutrinos from among the large number of cosmic ray events and then, having done that, to find the very few, very high-energy neutrinos [that come] from outside the solar system,” Gaisser says.

The analysis presented in Science reveals the first high-energy neutrino flux ever observed, a highly statistically significant signal that meets expectations for neutrinos originating in cosmic accelerators. The 28 high-energy events were found in data collected by IceCube from May 2010 to May 2012.

“This is a very exciting time for IceCube,” Gaisser says. “Having discovered some neutrinos from astrophysical sources, our job now is to discover what those sources are and where they’re coming from.”
**IceCube: One extreme to the other**

An enormous telescope buried under a mile of ice at the bottom of the globe may not seem the most obvious way to study the far reaches of the universe.

But scientists who investigate neutrinos know that the tiny, space-traveling particles are extremely hard to detect and that the most effective way to study them is to have them pass through a large amount of clear material, such as pristine water or ice. In that way, the ice—which is unusually clear and dense at the South Pole—can filter out other events and also allow neutrinos to react with hydrogen or oxygen in the water molecules to form charged subatomic particles that are easier to observe and analyze.

That’s what researchers were thinking about when they came up with the idea for IceCube, the collaborative project that took some 250 specialists from about 40 institutions seven years to build, with financial and logistical support from the National Science Foundation. In 2013, the project garnered widespread attention for making the first-ever observation of high-energy cosmic neutrinos.

“The ability to detect cosmic neutrinos is a remarkable achievement that gives astronomers a completely new way of studying the cosmos,” says Hamish Johnston, editor of physicsworld.com, which called the discovery the top breakthrough of the year. “The judges of the 2013 award were also impressed with the IceCube collaboration’s ability to build and operate a huge and extremely sensitive detector in the most remote and inhospitable place on Earth.”

IceCube is composed of 5,160 sensors called digital optical modules suspended like beads on a necklace along 86 cables embedded in a cubic kilometer of ice beneath the South Pole. The cables were installed in holes drilled into the ice using high-pressure, heated water. During the construction from 2003 to 2010, work could be done only during the Antarctic summer, from late October to early February.

Now, the detectors collect data year-round, with a large on-site computer farm that filters out irrelevant events and sends selected information by satellite to researchers working around the world.

—Tracey Bryant and Ann Manser, with additional information from the IceCube Collaboration, University of Wisconsin

**Polar pioneer**

The University of Delaware has a long history of research in Antarctica. The late Martin A. Pomerantz, former director of the University’s Bartol Research Institute, pioneered the use of the South Pole as a laboratory for studying astronomy and astrophysics.

Today, astrophysical studies continue in Martin A. Pomerantz Observatory (affectionately known as MAPO, pronounced “maypo”), which the National Science Foundation dedicated at the South Pole in 1995.

Pomerantz, who was president emeritus of Bartol when he died in 2008, joined the institute in 1938. Under his direction, Bartol moved from Swarthmore College to the UD campus and later merged as a research center within the Department of Physics and Astronomy. In the 1940s and 1950s, Pomerantz was one of the first to carry out balloon-borne cosmic ray research, but he is best known for his pioneering use of the South Pole. Because of its location and climate, Antarctica provides unique opportunities for the study of extraterrestrial physics, and Pomerantz initiated cosmic ray and solar oscillation studies there and began his experiments there in 1964.

In 1999, his successor as president at Bartol, Norman Ness, wrote that Pomerantz “showed tremendous courage, working in Antarctica when it was still a very hazardous proposition.” The Martin A. Pomerantz Chair of Physics and Astronomy is now held by Thomas Gaisser, who has led a team of UD researchers who have been instrumental in building and maintaining the IceCube South Pole Neutrino Observatory’s “IceTop” surface array of detectors.
For women around the world, negotiating the work-life balance is an immense challenge, says Bahira Sherif Trask.

In Western cultures, as women’s responsibilities in the workplace have increased, men have expanded their role in home and family responsibilities. But in many developing countries, women who enter the workforce—by choice or necessity—often find themselves exploited by dismal working conditions or unsympathetic (and, in some cases, resentful) patriarchal figures at home.

In Trask’s latest book, *Women, Work and Globalization*, the professor of human development and family studies explores the changing role of women as their participation in the global labor market increases, and she advocates for policies that help them balance work and family responsibilities while decreasing their vulnerabilities.

The implications of women joining the workforce, both in the U.S. and around the world, are complex, Trask says.

“Employment can provide women with financial security, political power and greater autonomy and even improve their health and emotional well-being,” she says. “However, in developing countries, many women from rural communities move to urban areas, where they may become more educated and less sheltered. They may reject customary social arrangements, which can lead to conflict within families and even an increase in domestic violence.”

Not only that, she says, but societal needs as a whole can be affected as women, who have traditionally cared for young children and aging parents or participated in volunteer work, become unavailable for those tasks.

In February, Trask gave a presentation, “Perspectives on Work-Family Balance and Global Transformations,” as part of a United Nations panel discussion. The event was part of a yearlong UN series focusing on family policy issues.

Here, she offers her assessment of the big challenges to balancing work and family, as well as some suggestions for ways to make society more work- and family-friendly.

—Alison Burris, BE85
Why is it so hard for Americans to balance work and family?

- The belief that work-family issues are important only to women
- The supposition that the interests of employees and employers are in opposition to each other with respect to work-family issues
- The assumption that work-family issues need to be worked out between employers and families without government assistance
- The fact that the U.S. is the only country in the industrialized world that does not provide paid maternity leave—unlike 188 other countries that do
- The lack of a comprehensive, national, high-quality child-care program in the U.S.
- The myth that men continue to be the economic providers and women the caretakers, when the contemporary reality is that 40 percent of American women are the primary or only breadwinner in their households
- The fallacy that caretaking responsibilities have decreased as families have fewer children, when in fact, the opposite is true: As the baby boomers age, many more individuals are engaged in caretaking responsibilities
- The increased prevalence of nonstandard work schedules, job insecurity and earnings inequality, even in the middle class, making it more difficult to give equal attention to work and family responsibilities
- The complex situation that work-family issues are individualized and so do not lend themselves easily to a one-size-fits-all solution

What would help?

- Flextime arrangements that allow parents to coordinate their work schedules with their children’s school schedules; research indicates that workplace flexibility benefits both employers and employees and that workers use flextime and family leave conservatively
- Policies that allow employees to take short leaves for both planned or unplanned incidents
- Paid leave for new mothers and fathers (all industrialized countries except the U.S. and Switzerland now offer leave for new fathers)
- Increased access to early childhood education and high-quality child care
- Modifications to school schedules that take into account that most contemporary parents are working outside the home
- Greater coordination between community resources such as schools and health care systems to facilitate more efficient interactions with families
- Learning from other places in the world that have already developed functioning work-family policies
- Providing a “menu” of choices for employees, allowing them to figure out individual solutions to their particular family situations

—Bahira Sherif Trask
Here’s another reason to eat your veggies

Most people know that high cholesterol levels increase their risk for cardiovascular disease, but attention has recently turned to another chemical in the body, C-reactive protein, that may be an even better predictor of heart attack and stroke risk.

Produced in the liver and measured through a blood test, C-reactive protein, or CRP, is a marker for inflammation in the body. Chronic inflammation has been linked with cardiovascular disease and diabetes.

Now, the results of a study led by Marie Kuczmarski, professor of behavioral health and nutrition, indicate that what people eat can directly affect their levels of CRP. The research used data from the National Institute on Aging’s HANDLS (Healthy Aging in Neighborhoods of Diversity across the Lifespan) study, which examines how race, gender and socioeconomic status influence age-related health disparities.

“We found an inverse relationship between diet quality and CRP levels in low-income adults,” Kuczmarski says. “The lower the quality of the diet, the higher the levels of CRP.”

Experts can advise people to eat more fruits, vegetables and whole grains, “but it’s important to develop interventions that are easy to implement and that take into account the current diet of the specific population,” she says.

“Tweaks to the diet may go a long way toward reducing the high risk of obesity and disease that are associated with lower socioeconomic status.”

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DISCOVERY HOLDS PROMISE IN ATTACKING BRAIN CANCER

A groundbreaking discovery has promising implications for treatment of a lethal type of brain tumor that is considered one of the deadliest human cancers.

Emily Day, assistant professor of biomedical engineering, is part of a team of researchers that has developed a nanotherapeutic that is capable of penetrating the blood-brain barrier, a process previously believed impossible. In addition to implications for treatment of Glioblastoma multiforme, a lethal form of malignant brain tumors, the therapy may also benefit research in Parkinson’s and other neurodegenerative diseases, traumatic brain injury and various forms of cancer.

Led by researchers at Northwestern University, where Day conducted postdoctoral research, the team discovered that spherical nucleic acids (SNAs), tiny spherical gold nanoparticles densely coated with nucleic acids, have unique properties that allow them to pass through the blood-brain barrier and attack brain cancer.

When administered systemically in cell and rodent models, the SNAs delivered nucleic acids to tumors and effectively reduced tumor burden. The research team’s findings were published as a cover article in Science Translational Medicine, a publication of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

“Generally speaking, we saw about a 20 percent increase in animal survival rates with this treatment, and a five-fold reduction in tumor growth without adverse side effects,” Day says.
Babies learn while on the go

Watch a very young infant for a few minutes and you’ll see a lot of what looks like random arm flapping.

It turns out that these movements aren’t random at all—they’re a precursor to reaching, mouthing, batting and banging, all of which teach babies valuable lessons about cause-and-effect relationships and the properties of objects.

But what happens to children who are born with neurological or muscular deficiencies that prevent or limit this early movement and exploration?

“They’re at risk for future learning disabilities as well as difficulty with basic tasks like feeding and dressing themselves,” says Michele Lobo, research scientist and member of UD’s GoBabyGo team focused on infant mobility research.

With a grant from the National Institutes of Health, she and an interdisciplinary team are testing a novel device to help these infants. They will follow the progress of 20 babies born with brain injuries as they use an enhanced pediatric version of the commercially available Wilmington Robotic Exoskeleton (WREX). The device is worn like a vest and can selectively assist or resist antigravity arm movements based on the needs of an individual child.

“The research has two primary goals, one focused on the device as an assistive tool and the other evaluating its use for rehabilitation,” Lobo says.  

Turbines need their space

Research into the best ways to arrange wind turbines has produced staggering results—quite literally.

Cristina Archer and her Atmosphere and Energy Research Group at UD have found that spacing out turbines in an offshore wind farm can improve performance by as much as 33 percent.

“Staggering every other row was amazingly efficient,” says Archer, associate professor of physical ocean science and engineering and of geography, whose findings were published in Geophysical Research Letters.

The researchers used an offshore wind farm near Sweden as the basis for their study, using computer simulations to compare the existing tightly packed, grid-like layout with six alternative configurations.

ECO-FRIENDLY PLASTIC? FANTASTIC!

Richard Wool, who has used such natural materials as plant oil and chicken feathers to create new, eco-friendly composites, has received the Presidential Green Chemistry Challenge Award from the federal Environmental Protection Agency.

The professor of chemical and biomolecular engineering and director of UD’s Affordable Composites from Renewable Resources (ACRES) program is a world leader in developing safer chemical substances from renewable resources.

He uses processes that require less water and energy, and produce less hazardous waste, than petroleum-based processes.

The products can be used as adhesives, composites and foams—and even in circuit boards, leather substitutes and hurricane-resistant, energy-efficient roofs.

“Finding low-toxicity replacements for commodity plastics ... must be a priority if we are to benefit the environment and human health,” Wool says.

He became passionate about sustainability in the early 1990s and began to incorporate green chemistry and green engineering solutions into his research. He created several high-performance materials using bio-based feedstocks, including vegetable oils, lignin, chicken feathers and flax. In 2012, Dixie Chemical began producing Wool’s bio-based composite resins for a worldwide market.

His discoveries have led to the development of soy-based composites used in boats, tractor panels and wind turbine parts. One of Wool’s more recent inventions is a breathable, bio-based eco-leather that avoids the traditional leather tanning process.

“Ten years ago, green chemistry and engineering was a novel concept, but today, we are reaching a critical mass of individuals focused on sustainability and the environment,” Wool says.  

A healthy baby tests the device.
Four former football standouts, five NCAA tournament competitors, conference champions in wrestling, swimming and track and field, a lacrosse pioneer and a longtime supporter of Blue Hen athletics highlight the new class of UD’s Athletics Hall of Fame.

The Class of 2013 features six male and four female student-athletes representing every decade since the 1950s and the sports of men’s and women’s swimming and diving, football, baseball, women’s basketball, wrestling, women’s lacrosse, women’s cross country and track and field, and men’s track and field.
Following are the new inductees:

Mary Carr (now Kyllo), HS85, a key member of the outstanding Blue Hen women’s swimming and diving teams in the early 1980s, was a four-year standout who specialized in the butterfly and individual medley events.

Carr held five school records at one point and captured five East Coast Conference titles. She earned All-American honors in four events at the 1981 Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women championships and was a member of the Blue Hens’ national championship 200 freestyle relay team that same year.

Sarah Cowles (Jerotz), HS97, was one of the top women distance runners in University history, capturing five conference titles and named the team’s Most Valuable Player four times.

She earned 10 letters in her career, including four in outdoor track and three each in indoor track and cross country, and is the only women’s cross country runner in school history to win the conference meet twice, capturing the America East individual title in both 1996 and 1997. Cowles held four school records upon graduation.

Tom DiMuzio, AS71, was one of the all-time great quarterbacks in Delaware football history.

DiMuzio earned second team All-American honors and All-East laurels in 1969 when he threw for a school record 2,179 yards and 24 touchdowns in leading the Blue Hens to the Middle Atlantic Conference title. As a three-year starter in 1967-69, he led the team to a combined record of 19-12, threw for a school-record 3,756 yards and 36 touchdowns and led the team to two MAC titles and two Lambert Cup trophies.

Fred Freibott, HS59, a four-year varsity letter winner in swimming, enjoyed a record-breaking career. He died in 2011, and his award was accepted by his wife, Marcy. He set nine school freshman records in 1953 and then led the Blue Hens to the Middle Atlantic Conference team title in 1954, setting seven more school records. After serving two years with the Army in Korea, he returned to UD and competed for three more seasons, winning the 50 and 100 freestyle competitions at the Eastern Collegiate Swimming Championship regionals in 1957.

Gregg Larson, AG81, a two-sport standout, played three years for the Delaware football team and also was a conference champion in wrestling.

He earned five letters at UD, was a member of teams that posted a combined record of 49-14 and competed in NCAA tournament action in both sports. Competing in the 190-pound class in wrestling, Larson had a perfect 25-0 regular season record. Playing defensive end in football, he led the Hens to a three-year record of 31-7 and helped the team capture the NCAA Division II national title in 1979.

Sam Miller, AS76, a dominating defensive lineman in football, was a fixture as an All-American defensive end for the Blue Hens in the mid-1970s and led the squad to two NCAA tournament appearances.

Miller earned All-American notice four times, All-East honors three straight years and remains the only down lineman in UD history to lead the squad in tackles for an entire season. He graduated as Delaware’s leading career tackler with 285 and still ranks No. 2 all-time among players who spent their entire careers as linemen.

Elaine Pomian (Knobloch), EG82, who earned four letters in lacrosse and two in field hockey, played a key role for the Blue Hen lacrosse team during its runs to national titles in 1981 and 1982.

A four-year standout in lacrosse, Pomian was a high-scoring attack who set school records for assists and still ranks among Delaware’s all-time leaders in career goals (118) and points (195). As a field hockey goaliekeeper in 1980-81, she logged a school record 213 saves in two seasons.

Fred Rullo, AS63, has been an integral part of Blue Hen athletics as a student-athlete, fan and contributor since he first arrived on the UD campus.

Rullo earned four letters as a two-sport performer in football and baseball. A backup quarterback and punter for Blue Hen football teams in 1961-62, he helped the 1962 squad post a 7-2 record, capture the Middle Atlantic Conference and earn the Lambert Cup Trophy as the top team in the East. On the baseball diamond, he was a catcher on two Blue Hen teams that posted a combined record of 32-17 in 1962-63.

Since his graduation, Rullo has played a pivotal role in numerous athletics development campaigns. Rullo Stadium, the home of the UD field hockey squad since 1998, is named in his honor.

Tyresa Smith, HS07, was a phenomenal athlete who worked tirelessly to become a complete all-around basketball player during her four years with the Delaware women’s squad in 2003-07.

Smith was an outstanding defender and a consistently high scorer who used her slashing moves and deadly medium-range jump shot to pile up 1,635 points, finishing her career ranked No. 2 on the all-time UD list. She was a first-team All-CAA selection twice and became the first Delaware player to be selected in the WNBA draft.

Dave Yates, BE71, HS76M, a three-year starter at second base, was one of the stars of the 1970 Blue Hen baseball squad that went 22-6, captured the Middle Atlantic Conference title, won the NCAA District II championship and became the only UD squad to compete at the College World Series.

Yates led the Blue Hens to a three-year mark of 52-23 and graduated holding 12 school records. He led the team with a .444 average in 1969.
Field hockey wins conference championship

The field hockey team won the CAA championship last season, moving on to the NCAA tournament and hosting the tournament play-in game Nov. 13 at Rullo Stadium.

Delaware topped Liberty University 1-0 in that opening round of the NCAA Division I championship tournament. With the win, the Hens reached a 17-4 record on the season, setting a new single-season win record. Liberty, champions of the NorPac Field Hockey Conference, finished their season 17-5.

The victory advanced the No. 14 Hens to face the No. 3-seeded University of North Carolina Chapel Hill in a game there. Delaware at first held its own in that game, but a two-minute span deflated the Blue Hens in a 6-2 loss to bring their successful season to a close.

UD’s trip to the NCAA tournament was its first since 2009. In winning the CAA championship, Delaware tied the single-season win record with 16 victories, a mark that had not been reached since the 1988 season.

Delaware also boasted the CAA Co-Coach of the Year in Rolf van de Kerkhof and Player and Rookie of the Year in Esmee Peet.

“I’d like to congratulate Delaware field hockey on a great season, and it is the first of many to come,” van de Kerkhof said. “With that, we have to continue to build our foundation for a brighter future for our program. I am excited for the returning players to continue to build from our learning and a joyful 2013 season.”

Each year, nearly 3,000 Delaware alumni and fans across the nation support Blue Hens coaches and student-athletes by joining the UD AF, the annual fund for UD Athletics. A gift to the UD AF helps provide our teams with the resources needed to compete for championships and allows UD student-athletes to earn their college degree.
Another Hen tackles the Super Bowl

Former Blue Hen football player Mike “Pops” Adams, EH04, made his first Super Bowl appearance this year after the 10-year National Football League veteran safety helped lead the Denver Broncos to the AFC championship.

Although Super Bowl XLVIII didn’t go the Broncos’ way, as they lost to the Seattle Seahawks in a 43-8 rout, Adams recorded six tackles on the day. Earlier, he had attracted media and fan attention by promising that if Denver won the game, he would walk the 10 miles home from the game at MetLife Stadium to his native Paterson, N.J.

Adams has enjoyed a solid NFL career since signing as a free agent with the San Francisco 49ers in 2004. He played for the 49ers for three seasons (2004-06) and with the Cleveland Browns for five seasons (2007-11) before joining the Broncos prior to the 2012 season. He also led the Broncos to a berth in the AFC semifinals in 2012.

During the 2013 regular season, Adams appeared in all 16 games with seven starts and ranked fifth on the squad with 64 tackles.

While at Delaware, he was a four-year letter winner and three-year starter who served as co-captain of the 2003 Delaware team that went 15-1 and captured the NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision national title his senior year.

Adams was the sixth former Blue Hen to appear in a Super Bowl, joining defensive back Ivory Sully (playing for the Los Angeles Rams in 1980), quarterback Rich Gannon (Oakland Raiders, 2003), tight end Ben Patrick (Arizona Cardinals, 2009) and last year’s Baltimore Ravens’ pair of quarterback Joe Flacco and center Gino Gradkowski.

In addition, former Blue Hens wide receiver Jamin Elliott was a member of the practice squad for New England and earned a championship ring when the Patriots won Super Bowl XXXVIII over the Carolina Panthers in 2004.

Men’s soccer hosts tournament game

For the first time in over 40 years, the men’s soccer program hosted an NCAA tournament game last season.

The Blue Hens took on St. John’s in a first-round match Nov. 21 on the UD campus. Despite having fallen in the Colonial Athletic Association semifinals on penalty kicks to eventual champion Drexel the previous week, UD received an at-large bid to the 48-team bracket thanks to a program- and league-best 14 overall wins.

“I am delighted for our athletic department, for our school, but most of all for our players,” head coach Ian Hennessy said when the announcement was made. “We saw the players’ excitement and reaction when they found out they will be the first team [since 1970] to host an NCAA game.”

In that first round of the tournament, Delaware (14-5-1) compiled a great comeback effort against St. John’s (11-6-2) as the Blue Hens tied the game in the last two minutes of regulation, but UD eventually lost 2-1 in overtime.

The last time Delaware received a bid to the national tournament was in 2011, when the Hens beat the University of Virginia 1-0 in double overtime in the first round before falling to top-seeded UCLA.
Building a new nation

Couple uses UD education and partnerships to continue Mandela’s legacy
They met Nelson Mandela on his second official U.S. tour. It was 1991, nearly 15 years since they had fled South Africa, and the anti-apartheid revolutionary surprised them with his memory.

He asked about their fathers, Nat Mokate (always called Smally) and S. Vil-Nkomo (called Vil). He offered condolences upon learning of their passing.

Then, over breakfast in his Pittsburgh hotel suite, the conversation shifted.

“The time has come for you to return,” Mandela told them. “I want you to be part of the democratization of South Africa. Your knowledge and skills are invaluable and must be used for a free nation.”

For nearly a decade and a half, Sibusiso Vil-Nkomo, AS83M, 85PhD, and Renosi Mokate, AS83M, 86PhD, had lived an ocean away from their native country, first in Pennsylvania and later in Delaware, where they married, had children and attended graduate school, choosing majors that would most benefit their homeland.

“We tailored our studies so that if the day came and we could go back, we could use our knowledge appropriately,” says Vil-Nkomo, who, along with his wife, earned master’s and doctoral degrees from the School of Public Policy and Administration.

At UD, they were trained in the theory, practice and development of public policy.

“And that’s exactly what we had to do,” says Mokate. Not long after meeting Mandela, the couple returned to South Africa and began remarkable careers of public service.

As the chief executive officer of South Africa’s first Independent Electoral Commission, Mokate structured the first democratic election in a country where 90 percent of the people had been denied the right to vote—a historic election that would make Nelson Mandela the first black president in South Africa’s history.

Today, she has an impressive résumé of public service and administration, with posts ranging from her current role as adviser to the National Treasury of South Africa, to former executive director at the World Bank, where she was responsible for Angola, Nigeria and South Africa.

In January 2014, she was appointed executive director and chief executive officer of the University of South Africa’s Graduate School of Business Leadership, which offers doctoral, master’s and postgraduate business education and is regarded as one of the top three business schools in the country.

Vil-Nkomo, meanwhile, hammered out civil service provisions in the interim constitution of the new government in 1993, creating and administering a new, integrated civil service in a country where people of color previously were denied significant roles in the national government administration.

He was appointed public service commissioner by President Mandela in 1994, and later joined the faculty of the University of Pretoria, where he went on to become the first black dean in that university’s history. He was also the first black dean of the Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences.

Today, Vil-Nkomo chairs the board of governors of the Mapungubwe Institute for Strategic Reflection (MISTRA), which was recently ranked as one of the world’s 10 best new think tanks by the University of Pennsylvania’s 2013 Global Go To Think Tank Index.

MISTRA’s focus is on charting the path for South Africa’s social and economic prosperity and the achievement

“I want you to be part of the democratization of South Africa. Your knowledge and skills are invaluable and must be used for a free nation.”

—Nelson Mandela to Sibusiso Vil-Nkomo and Renosi Mokate in 1991
of national goals for equality and democratic engagement of all populations—what has been called the second South African revolution.

Its tagline is apt: “An idea whose time has come.” With 2014 marking the 20-year anniversary of the existence of freedom in the country, “Our work over the past two decades has been about actualizing the constitution,” Mokate says.

“But,” her husband adds, “we’re a fledgling democracy that has to be nourished.”

During a visit to UD in January 2012, Vil-Nkomo proposed an expanded higher education collaboration involving the University, MISTRA and universities in South Africa.

In February 2013, a UD faculty contingent, including public policy experts Maria Aristigueta and Dan Rich and chemical engineer Doug Buttrey, traveled to South Africa to explore higher education partnerships as part of a state of Delaware mission. Later that year, MISTRA leaders came to Newark for a daylong conference to explore how to “go beyond the templates of an MoU [Memorandum of Understanding]” and “develop a different kind of focus in Africa.”

The partnership between UD and MISTRA, while still in its infancy, would aim to combine the research interests and expertise of University faculty with growing areas of importance and influence in South Africa. Another Delaware delegation that also included several UD faculty members visited the country again this February, hosted in part by MISTRA.

Possible collaborations with the University include art conservation and photography preservation in sub-Saharan Africa; fuel cell technology and off-grid energy storage for villages and townships; agricultural research in farming, avian biosciences and water resources; and public policy education, with the School of Public Policy and Administration (SPPA) as a model for South Africa.

In addition to his role with MISTRA, Vil-Nkomo chairs the council for the new National School of Government, a government-funded institution that will establish a new approach to education, training, development and professional development in public service and public administration management.

The National School was officially launched in October 2013, and its hands-on model of bridging theory with practice is based on Vil-Nkomo’s own experiences at SPPA.

“The education one acquired here is second to none,” he says. “The knowledge we used to develop the interim constitution for South Africa more than 20 years ago came out of the education here at UD, and [that education] remains just as relevant today as ever.”

—Sibusiso Vil-Nkomo

“The knowledge we used to develop the interim constitution for South Africa more than 20 years ago came out of the education here at UD, and [that education] remains just as relevant today as ever.”

—Artika Casini, AS05
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The 1970s brought major changes to the energy sector. Oil production peaked in many countries, market volatility sent prices soaring, and gasoline was at times in short supply. Instability in the Middle East particularly motivated global companies to research new approaches to oil and gas exploration.

Such was the industry environment when Jim Demarest, EO78M, 81PhD, studied geology at UD and was recruited on campus by Exxon. He has since spent more than three decades in the field, helping put pioneering prospecting research into practice and facilitating some of the largest natural gas discoveries in the world.

Today, he says, the industry remains dynamic with job opportunities for geology graduates and an eye to exploration that minimizes environmental impacts.

Demarest’s doctoral work focused on the stratigraphy, or rock layers, of ancient shorelines along the Delmarva Peninsula, inland of the modern coastline. He and other young geologists were influenced by the groundbreaking research of Exxon scientist Peter Vail, who showed that seismic data can reveal sea level changes in the geologic record.

The findings shook the geological community and ultimately changed the way oil and gas prospecting was done. “It was a very exciting time in geology,” Demarest says.

While at Exxon, he conducted basic research on global shifts in sea level that affected sediment deposition. The research took him to Saudi Arabia, Australia and western Europe, as well as the American oil patch.

“Ultimately what we were trying to do was predict how and where reservoirs would develop,” he says. “If you could predict the location and shape, then you could predict where deposits would be.”

Demarest went on to lead international oil and gas exploration at other companies. He traveled to China, Bolivia, Morocco, Peru and finally Indonesia, where he and his family lived for seven years.

Today, he is a Texas-based executive at Noble Energy and has played an integral role in major natural gas finds. Starting in 2009, the company uncovered very large quantities—to date nearly 40 trillion cubic feet—of gas offshore Israel and Cyprus, influencing the geopolitics there and enabling the two countries’ future energy independence.

“People who are graduating today will work in jobs at the end of their careers that don’t exist today. Yet it’s not about the job; it’s about the skills and the difference that they’re making.”
“These discoveries may have changed the world,” Demarest says, pointing out the multidimensional nature of his profession with political, economic, legal, environmental and social aspects. “It’s being part of something really big, bigger than just getting oil and gas out of the ground.”

Just as the scientific methods in the energy industry have changed over time, so has an emphasis in exploration from oil to natural gas. The latter is seen as more environmentally friendly by producing fewer greenhouse gas emissions.

With wind, solar and other energy sources on the horizon, the industry continues to evolve. Today researchers in UD’s College of Earth, Ocean, and Environment, in which the Department of Geological Sciences is now housed, are among those studying new energy possibilities, from offshore wind farms to electric vehicles that stabilize the power grid.

Still, Demarest sees oil and natural gas as a bridge to future options. The industry is very vibrant, he says, with many geology students joining efforts to tap oil and gas from shale. These computer-savvy, early-career geologists crunch huge amounts of geologic data that Demarest says his generation “couldn’t even dream of.”

“People who are graduating today will work in jobs at the end of their careers that don’t exist today,” he says. “Yet it’s not about the job; it’s about the skills and the difference that they’re making.”

—Teresa Messmore

MARYELLEN KEEFE, AS03PHD

When Vatican II closed in 1965 and enabled nuns to change out of their habits and move out of their traditional habitats, Sister Maryellen Keefe set out on an educator’s path.

Today, that path is still twisting and turning in delightful career directions, even as Keefe is an age when many have moved into retirement.

The journey that started in an elementary school, leading a class of 47 10-year-old boys, and included a stint teaching at Ursuline Academy in Wilmington, Del., has led all the way to earning a doctorate from UD in her 60s, an associate professorship in English at State University of New York (SUNY) Maritime and a book that will be published this summer. Sister Maryellen is now more often known as Dr. Keefe.

The book, which began as her dissertation at UD, will be published by SUNY Press under the title Casual Affairs: The Life and Fiction of Sally Benson. Benson was a writer for the New Yorker in the 1930s. Her stories about her family, published in the magazine as “5135 Kensington,” were made into the movie Meet Me In St. Louis, the 1944 musical starring Judy Garland and directed by Vincente Minnelli.

Early reviews of Keefe’s book call it “vivid” and “highly entertaining.” Susan Goodman, professor of English and H. Fletcher Brown Chair of Humanities at UD, was Keefe’s dissertation adviser. In a review of the Sally Benson book, Goodman wrote:

“Finally a biographer capable of bringing the brilliant and outrageous Sally Benson to life! ... Keefe’s vivid account, which draws on family papers as it traces Benson’s personal and professional ups and downs, is also the story of a generation of young women eager to balance work and family.”

Keefe says she was given extraordinary insight into her subject by Benson’s daughter and grandchildren. She was able to find them in Tucson, Ariz., and made several visits there to peruse the family’s archives. One of the most interesting discoveries, she says, was the uncovering of Benson’s file of “Bastards & Shysters,” men who had done her wrong in terms of contracts.

At SUNY Maritime, the oldest and largest maritime college in the country, Keefe is an associate professor in the Humanities Department, a member of the Faculty Senate and the adviser of the Newman Club, one of many Catholic ministry organizations on non-Catholic campuses throughout the world.

She spent several summers on National Endowment for the Humanities fellowships at Cornell University, Regents College in London, Colgate University, Hollins College and University College in Galway, Ireland.

—Beth Thomas
Electrical engineer Michael McLoughlin, EG83, 85M, began his latest research project five years ago in hopes of finding a better way to help soldiers who had lost an arm.

Today, with the support of the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), McLoughlin, who is principal investigator for the Revolutionizing Prosthetics Program, and his team at the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Lab have developed a revolutionary prototype, which is controlled by the user’s brain. With 17 motors controlling 26 joints, over 100 embedded sensors and a tiny computer built into the palm of the hand, the Modular Prosthetic Limb (MPL) device enables users to actually “feel” objects by stimulating the truncated arm’s remaining sensory nerves.
“The brain remembers where nerves were previously mapped even years after an amputation,” says McLoughlin. “By tapping into nerves that were originally connected to the arm, the user can move the arm and feel sensation in a very natural way.”

An estimated 2.5 million people in the United States have suffered amputation of an arm or leg due to injury or illness. About 100,000 of these are upper-extremity amputees. The technology required to provide unique prosthetics to this small population, however, can be fairly expensive. Until recently, many people with upper-extremity amputations chose to use a hook or not to use a prosthetic at all.

McLoughlin believes that merging prosthetics with robotic technologies that have a larger market can ultimately drive down costs and increase the technology’s commercial viability across multiple markets, from assistive aids for people with spinal cord injuries or for the elderly, to prosthetics, to human-like robots that can aid in emergency disaster response or defense.

“We think this technology has a lot of uses and believe that it will someday be as ubiquitous as your smart phone,” he says.

The research project began in 2006, through funding from DARPA. According to McLoughlin, who joined the project in 2009, the team leveraged “research that had gone on in the community for years,” by bringing together scientific and engineering experts from many technical disciplines and more than 30 different organizations including University of Pittsburgh, California Institute of Technology, Walter Reed National Military Medical Center and Rancho Los Amigos, one of the nation’s largest spinal cord injury centers.

“We realized that there was an opportunity to leverage the core technology developed in the DARPA program to assist a wide range of patients,” McLoughlin says. “We began to take classical robotics, which includes computer vision, machine learning and object recognition, and fuse that with rehabilitative devices such as prosthetics.”
Components in the MPL are also being used in military robots for defense applications. Advances made there flow back into the prosthetics technology, McLoughlin says. If the research team designs a better joint system for field use, those technology advancements are applied to the rehab design and vice versa. The same applies to motors and electronics.

The next hurdle, he says, is in transitioning the technology to everyday use.

“In communications they say that the last mile is the toughest—from the pole to the house is the challenge. Here, it’s the last inch. Many robotic platforms can get a manipulator to almost grasp an object; it’s actually grasping and manipulating the object that is difficult,” McLoughlin says. Conventional prosthetics also require intense concentration to do relatively simple tasks such as using a fork to eat.

To achieve the “final inch,” the team will focus on using computer vision and automation to make everyday tasks easier.

“Not all people may want invasive surgery to enable the technology to work. That’s why we focus on a spectrum of controls so that we can devise a high dexterity, noninvasive device,” McLoughlin says. He hopes to see the first of these devices released a few years from now.

And someday soon, the unique robotic arm might help safeguard bomb technicians or emergency rescue personnel in the battlefield.

“We started this program to develop a system that could replace a soldier’s arm,” McLoughlin says. “Wouldn’t it be great if the robot lost its arm instead, and we could prevent the injury from happening at all?”

The September 2013 edition of the UD Messenger featured a story about Anne Mekalian, a 1968 graduate and third-grade teacher who has lost her arms and legs to sepsis. The story chronicled her remarkable recovery, rehabilitation and positive attitude, as well as her students’ successful efforts to raise money for their beloved teacher to get a specially equipped car she could drive herself.

When the staff at the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab read the story, they contacted the Messenger to tell us that a fellow UD alumnus, Mike McLoughlin, was a key researcher behind the new prosthetic hand that Mekalian was helping the lab test out. We’re happy to bring you this news of yet another notable Blue Hen and his groundbreaking work.
In honor of

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK

APRIL 6–13

UD extends its deepest gratitude for the time, talent and treasure that each of our 1,500 volunteers contributes.

For more information on how to get involved at the University of Delaware, please visit www.UDconnection.com/Get-Involved.
Blue runs deep, Julie Regan likes to say. The 1989 UD graduate is referring not only to her feelings about her alma mater but also to her work in helping to protect the blue waters of one of the world’s deepest lakes.
Regan, AS89, and Kevin Prior, BE97, have each been working for nearly a decade at Lake Tahoe, a spectacular tourist attraction that—with a depth of 1,645 feet—is the second deepest lake in the U.S. (after Crater Lake) and 11th deepest in the world. Twelve miles across and 22 miles long, Tahoe holds 39 trillion gallons of water on average.

Nested high atop the mountains of the Sierra Nevada, the lake straddles the California-Nevada state line. Its bi-state geography is the root of the culture of the place—collaboration is the name of the game at Tahoe, Regan says, and she and Prior, working for two key public agencies, are part of the collective effort to restore the lake’s world-famous clarity. Tahoe is considered “ultra-oligotrophic,” which means it is transparent and has little biological activity, and is designated as “Outstanding National Resource Water” under the federal Clean Water Act.

Today the lake is so clear, you can see down 75 feet into its cerulean waters. But in the 1960s, you could see 100 feet down. Therein lies the restoration challenge, Regan says. “Lake Tahoe is truly one of the most spectacular places on the planet, and working to protect it is both a privilege and a challenge.” Since December 2003, Regan has worked for the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, the nation’s first bi-state environmental agency with land use authority. The California-Nevada organization, sanctioned by Congress, sets development limits for all private properties within the Tahoe watershed, which consists of two state and six local government jurisdictions.

Environmental initiatives to save the lake also involve the federal government, which is the largest landowner in the Tahoe Basin and, through the U.S. Forest Service, manages more than 75 percent of the land there. And in addition to the various levels of government, there are millions of visitors from around the world, 54,000 residents and active coalitions of environmentalists, property rights advocates and business owners with a stake in the issue.

“When I first started working at the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency [TRPA], I was stunned to see the level of interest in our environmental sustainability programs from around the globe,” Prior says.

Regan, who is chief of external affairs, has risen through the ranks of TRPA to its senior management team. She recalls when the agency hired Prior as controller and she realized he was a fellow Blue Hen: “There just aren’t that many of us out here, so I definitely took notice and was delighted to get to work with a fellow East Coaster,” she says.

After four years at TRPA, Prior moved on to work at another agency dedicated to restoring and preserving the lake, the California Tahoe Conservancy, where he currently serves as the chief administrative officer.

Juliet Dee, associate professor of communication, recalls Regan’s work as her teaching assistant in the late 1980s. “I’m not surprised to hear she’s putting her strategic communications skills to work to save a national treasure,” Dee says. “My students loved her because she was a natural leader; she brought so much originality and creativity to her work, which I think has propelled her to this important post at Tahoe.”

“Lake Tahoe is truly one of the most spectacular places on the planet, and working to protect it is both a privilege and a challenge.”
The first live sporting events that 5-year-old Chris McGowan attended weren’t the professional baseball, football or basketball games that most American kids experience.

That’s because McGowan, AS96, and his family were living in Stuttgart, Germany, where his career-Army father was stationed. They traveled throughout Europe on weekends back then, taking advantage of his father’s posting to see France, Austria, Italy and many other places.

And the dominant spectator sport there, of course, is soccer. McGowan’s exposure to 60,000 passionate soccer fans—to a 5-year-old, sometimes frighteningly passionate—ignited his own love of the game.

“When you get exposed to that stuff early, it has a big influence on you later in life,” he says.

Indeed, McGowan went on to play soccer for the Blue Hens in the 1990s and led the team as captain before graduating in 1996 with a bachelor’s degree in international relations.

He’s still pursuing his love of athletics and has combined that with a well-developed business acumen to become president and chief executive officer of the NBA’s Portland Trail Blazers. He took the job in 2012 after 16 years with AEG Sports, owner of the NHL’s Los Angeles Kings as well as several other teams and event venues around the world.

“I’m a big believer in following your passion,” McGowan says. “I was passionate about sports, but you don’t always need to be a professional athlete to develop a career in that.”

It’s a career path McGowan didn’t know existed while growing up as an Army brat. His family moved every two to three years, living in Kansas twice, Kentucky twice, Texas, Germany and finally Pennsylvania.

“It’s tough to do when you’re younger,” he says. “Every time I moved, I was moving away from my best friends and thought I’d never see them again.”

As his father’s Army career wound down, the family settled in Carlisle, Pa., and McGowan was able to attend the same high school for four years. He had his heart set on playing Division I soccer at Penn State University but had to settle for playing at a small Division III school that recruited him.

But then he changed his mind. Such a small college wasn’t much different from his high school, he thought, and it wasn’t the college experience he wanted. He decided to check out a few others, including UD.

“When I went to the campus, I fell in love with it,” McGowan says. “I was blown away by how beautiful it was.”

He started without a declared major, and then settled on international relations because he’d always enjoyed learning about different people, cultures and politics.
By Thanksgiving break of McGowan’s junior year, his father had retired and moved to Denver. During a visit, McGowan met several executives with the NBA’s Denver Nuggets, opening his eyes to the business side of professional sports. From then on, his career path was set.

Working in sports has all the challenges of high-stakes corporate life but “still feels like a team environment,” McGowan says.

When the Los Angeles Kings won the Stanley Cup in 2012—a few months before McGowan left—the entire organization celebrated with them. McGowan is part of the celebratory team picture shot moments after their victory against the New Jersey Devils.

“Yeah, we get to watch a game at the end of a workday, but we’re not just sitting in the stands eating popcorn and hotdogs,” he says.

“We’re making sure our food and beverage sales are going well. We’re making sure retail is going smoothly, and all our customers are happy. These are 16- or 17-hour days, and we’re working a lot of weekends.”

He chuckles at the common notion that a team’s off-season must be his quiet time. In fact, he says, that’s when sports organizations are busiest because they’re doing most of their budgeting and planning for the coming year.

A big part of his new job in Portland is running the Moda Center, where the Trail Blazers play, as well as the nearby Veterans Memorial Coliseum and Rose Quarter campus. The venues host all kinds of events—concerts, conventions and more.

The opportunity to oversee a professional sports team and run a major event venue is what drew McGowan from AEG Sports to the Trail Blazers. He has spent much of his first year restructuring the organization, including bringing in a new ticketing company and a new food-and-beverage company.

McGowan says the time-management skills he learned at UD—as a student-athlete with an active social life—are serving him well in his new job. And just as he found his way around Newark two decades ago, he’s learning the rhythms of his new home of Portland.

“When you choose a college, you dive in and make the best of it,” he says.

McGowan says he hopes to bring his family—he and his wife, Susan, have two sons, Ryan and Kyle—to UD for a visit soon.

And maybe an alumni soccer game with his old teammates.

—Mike Chalmers

Delaware’s new chief justice

LEO E. STRINE, AS85

A judge whom The Wall Street Journal calls “about the closest thing to a celebrity in the buttoned-up world of corporate law” has been named to the highest judicial post in Delaware.

Leo E. Strine Jr., who had led the state’s internationally influential business court, the Court of Chancery, since 2011, now serves as the chief justice of the Delaware Supreme Court. He was nominated to the post in early January by Gov. Jack Markell and was confirmed unanimously and without debate by the state Senate a few weeks later.

“Delaware’s judiciary is widely recognized as the finest in the nation,” Markell said. “With his superior intellect, incredible work ethic and substantial judicial experience, Leo Strine is well-positioned to build upon our courts’ deserved reputation for excellence.”

The state Supreme Court, whose five justices serve 12-year terms, settles many major corporate disputes because so many U.S. corporations—more than half—have their legal headquarters in Delaware. The chief justice position became open late last year with the retirement of Myron Steele.

Strine has been in public service for more than two decades and in 1998 became the youngest judge ever to sit on the Court of Chancery, which handles corporate litigation. Before joining the bench, he was legal counsel and policy coordinator for Gov. Thomas R. Carper, BE75M, who awarded him the Order of the First State.

At the time Strine was nominated as chief justice, he said that, if confirmed, he would “work cooperatively with my colleagues to preserve Delaware’s tradition of judicial excellence and address the new challenges and opportunities to our state resulting from a rapidly globalizing economy.”

During his years on Chancery Court, he was widely praised for his legal analyses and is well known for bringing humor and popular-culture references to courtroom proceedings and to his written opinions.

Strine, who majored in political science at UD and then earned his law degree at the University of Pennsylvania, is a frequent lecturer and author on the subject of corporation law. He has been an adjunct professor or lecturer at law schools including Harvard, the University of Pennsylvania, Vanderbilt, Duke and UCLA.

—Mike Chalmers
BROCK JOBE, AS76M

Brock Jobe, professor of American decorative arts in UD’s Winterthur Program in American Material Culture, has received the 2014 Award of Merit from the Antiques Dealers’ Association of America. The award is given to honor the recipient’s outstanding contributions to the art and antiques field.

Association president Judith Livingston Loto, AS99M, one of Jobe’s many former students, praised his “wonderful enthusiasm and single-mindedness” in announcing the award.

“He is encouraging, inclusive and supportive of younger scholars. I doubt that he knows how many people he has inspired, but he is a leader.”

—Judith Livingston Loto

said. “I doubt that he knows how many people he has inspired, but he is a leader. If he is under a table inspecting its construction, a crowd gathers.”

Jobe earned his master’s degree from the Winterthur material culture program and went on to hold positions at Boston’s Museum of Fine Arts; Colonial Williamsburg, where he was curator of exhibition buildings; and Historic New England Inc., where he was chief curator. He then returned to Winterthur, where he was deputy director of collections, conservation and interpretation before assuming the position of professor of American decorative arts in 2000.

He is the co-author of New England Furniture: The Colonial Era and oversaw the major publications Portsmouth Furniture: Masterworks from the New Hampshire Seacoast and Harbor & Home: Furniture of Southeastern Massachusetts, 1710-1850. Working with three students, Jobe curated a 2012-13 exhibit at Winterthur Museum that highlighted its six decades of working with UD to educate graduate students in material culture and art conservation.
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More than 125 alumni, students and friends of UD joined President Patrick Harker at the International Center of Photography the evening of Dec. 4 for a private reception at the New York City museum.

The event was hosted by the New York City Alumni Club and the UD Friends of Art History. A group of about 25 current students arrived by bus in a partnership with the University’s Career Services Center.

Along with refreshments and the opportunity to stroll around the museum and view its exhibits, those attending the reception also were treated to classical violin music performed by graduate student Duo Shen, AS12, who is concertmaster of the UD Symphony Orchestra and winner of the UD concerto competition.

Harker spoke to the attendees, highlighting some of the University’s pioneering and renowned programs in art history, as well as art conservation. He also spoke about the value UD places on the humanities in general, including art history.

“Understanding our history, including our cultural history, is crucial to defining who we are and why,” Harker said. “The humanities give us a framework for considering the future against the backdrop of our past, our nature, our ideals and aspirations. And that’s why the humanities are fundamental—not ornamental—to higher education.”

Graduates in the humanities, and of UD’s “signature” art history program, develop the kinds of analytical and communication skills that are essential to success in today’s world, he said.

“With a marketplace as competitive as this one, these aren’t soft skills; they’re survival skills,” Harker said.

The museum’s chief curator, Brian Wallis, also spoke, giving an overview of the center’s mission and exhibits. Before the main reception, he provided a private tour to a select group of UD donors.

Included in this Messenger issue is a brochure highlighting all the events taking place during the sixth annual Alumni Weekend. I strongly encourage you to come back to campus for this great weekend of reminiscing and fun with other alumni, friends and faculty. Above, you see me at last year’s Alumni Weekend on the Blue Hen 5K course with Pat and Emily Harker.

If you have not been back to campus since the days when Springsteen played the Balloon, I’m sharing some information that might help you feel more at ease during your visit. You could hear someone refer to “the Ice Lab,” but this is not where Chem E’s study low-temp H2O. This new building on campus, the ISE Lab, is the Interdisciplinary Science and Engineering Laboratory—a facility that brings together students and faculty from various disciplines to teach, learn and conduct research.

You might also hear the term “the Star Campus.” STAR stands for Science, Technology and Advanced Research and is the name for the site we more mature alumni refer to as the old Chrysler plant. Activities and tenants here focus on science, technology, engineering and clinical practice in areas ranging from biomedicine to alternative energy.

Lastly, I was surprised to discover how many alumni were not familiar with the term “Double Del.” Double Dels are married and civil union couples where both partners are UD graduates. There are over 22,000 of us—about 15 percent of all Blue Hens! Hope you come back to campus and use your new knowledge soon.

Sincerely,

Kenneth C. Jones, BE80
President, UD Alumni Association
#BlueHensForever

George Watson, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, chat with doctoral student Katrina Greene.
The regional alumni clubs host events across the country throughout the year, some focused on professional networking and others on socializing or family fun. Below is a sampling of some coming events. For details of these and other events, and to register for any club events, please visit www.UDconnection.com/clubs.

**Baltimore Alumni Club**
- **August**, summer crab feast
- **Sept. 13**, New York Yankees v. Orioles

**Boston Alumni Club**
- **April 29**, all-alumni reception with President Harker
- **July 1**, Chicago Cubs v. Red Sox

**Chicago Alumni Club**
- **May 20**, New York Yankees v. Cubs
- **July 1**, Chicago Cubs v. Red Sox

**Dallas Blue Hen City**
- **July 12**, Los Angeles Angels v. Texas Rangers

**Denver Blue Hen City**
- **Aug. 17**, Cincinnati Reds v. Colorado Rockies

**Florida (South) Alumni Club**
- **May 3**, Los Angeles Dodgers v. Miami Marlins

**Houston Blue Hen City**
- **July 13**, Boston Red Sox v. Astros

**Kent & Sussex Counties Alumni Club**
- **August**, UD Dewey Day, Dewey Beach, Del.
- **Aug. 22**, Asheville Tourists v. Delmarva Shorebirds

**Lancaster Alumni Club**
- **May 8**, brewery tour at Lancaster Brewing Co.
- **June 21**, *Les Misérables* at the Fulton Theater with pre-show dinner
- **July 11**, Long Island Ducks v. Barnstormers

**Lehigh Valley Alumni Club**
- **June 21**, Columbus Clippers v. Iron Pigs

**Long Island Blue Hen City**
- **June 21**, Sugar Land Skeeters v. Ducks

**Los Angeles Blue Hen City**
- **June 6**, Dela-bration Nation Alumni Weekend event
- **Aug. 2**, Chicago Cubs v. Dodgers

**Men’s Crew Alumni Association**
- **May 10**, Dad Vail Regatta Alumni Tent

**New Castle County Alumni Club**
- **May 17**, family bowling
- **July 12**, Philadelphia Union soccer and tailgate
- **August**, New Student Send-Off

**New York City Alumni Club**
- **June 22**, Baltimore Orioles v. Yankees

**Philadelphia Alumni Club**
- **May 5**, Toronto Blue Jays v. Phillies
- **July 20**, Philadelphia Soul indoor football

**Phoenix Blue Hen City**
- **April 25**, Philadelphia Phillie v. Diamondbacks
- **June 6**, Dela-bration Nation Alumni Weekend event

**Pittsburgh Blue Hen City**
- **June 29**, New York Mets v. Pirates
- **July 17**, happy hour and interest meeting, Shadyside
- **Aug. 30**, UD v. Pitt, football game and tailgate

**Reading (Pa.) Alumni Club**
- **July 19**, New Britain Rock Cats v. Reading Phillies

**Richmond Alumni Club**
- **Aug. 7**, Binghamton Mets v. Flying Squirrels

**San Diego Blue Hen City**
- **June 6**, Dela-bration Nation Alumni Weekend event
- **Late summer**, day at Del Mar Race Track
- **Sept. 17**, Philadelphia Phillie v. Padres

**San Francisco Blue Hen City**
- **June 6**, Dela-bration Nation Alumni Weekend event
- **August**, Philadelphia Phillie v. Giants

**Seattle Blue Hen City**
- **June 6**, Dela-bration Nation Alumni Weekend event
- **July 27**, Baltimore Orioles v. Mariners

**Washington, D.C., Alumni Club**
- **May 17**, Chicago Cubs v. Nationals
- **July**, new student picnic

For more alumni events, details and registration, visit UDconnection.com.
1950s
William K. Brown Jr. 56AS, of Brooklyn, N.Y., has been elected a member of The Lambs Foundation, the charitable affiliate of The Lambs Inc., America’s first professional theatre club, established in 1874.

1960s
Robert A. Pribush 68AS, of Greenwood, Ind., a professor of chemistry at Butler University, has been selected to receive the 2014 Award for Volunteer Service to the American Chemical Society.
Reed Pyeritz 68AS, of Radnor, Pa., a medical doctor and translational research scientist who has focused his career on hereditary disorders affecting the cardiovascular system, has been named the inaugural William Smailow Professor of Medicine and Genetics at the University of Pennsylvania’s Perelman School of Medicine.
Daniel Vale 68HS, 72EH/M, of Elkridge, Md., has joined The Examiner online newspaper in Baltimore as a writer focusing on such topics as careers, personal safety and disaster preparation.

1970s
Alan Steinele 70EG, of Wilmington, Del., vice president of structural engineering at VanDemark and Lynch there, has received the James M. Delahay Award from the National Council of Structural Engineers Association in recognition of his “outstanding contributions toward the development of building codes and standards.”
Raymond Holcomb AS71, of Greenville, Del., who had a 23-year career with the FBI as an investigator for domestic and overseas terrorist attacks, has been named homeland security adviser for the Delaware Department of Safety and Homeland Security.

1980s
Michael Geltzeiler 80BE, of New York City, formerly the chief financial officer and group executive vice president at NYSE Euronext, has joined ADT Corp., a provider of electronic security, interactive home and business automation and monitoring services, as its chief financial officer.

Carolyn F. Sidor 69AS, 73BE/M, of Chapel Hill, N.C., a board-certified hematologist/medical oncologist with more than 30 years of clinical regulatory and drug development experience, has been appointed senior vice president and chief medical officer of Kolltan Pharmaceuticals.
William McGowan 73AG, 94EH/M, 04EdD, of Laurel, Del., who joined UD Cooperative Extension in 1989 and has focused his career on helping people work through complex public issues, has been named the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s rural development state director for Delaware and Maryland.

Beth McGarry 75HS, of Washington, D.C., recently accepted a presidential appointment as chief of staff/senior counsel at the U.S. Department of Justice’s Office of Justice Programs, which disseminates state-of-the-art knowledge and practices nationwide and provides grants for crime-fighting strategies.

Allison F. Dolan 76EG, of Malden, Mass., a privacy project specialist at Massachusetts General Hospital, has for the second consecutive year received a Partners Healthcare “Partners in Excellence” award, recognizing the development of a Partners-wide regulatory training program.

Ann M. Palmer 76EH, of Annapolis, Md., who has spent 30 years in leadership positions with voluntary health agencies, most recently as senior vice president of field management for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, has been appointed president and CEO of the national Arthritis Foundation.

Marianne Hardesty 77AG, of Newark, Del., who was involved with the Soil Conservation Service from 1976–2008 and is a certified nutrient management consultant who offers technical assistance to the New Castle County (Del.) Conservation District, received the 2013 Distinguished Service to Agriculture award from the New Castle County Farm Bureau.

Michael Geltzeiler 80BE, of New York City, formerly the chief financial officer and group executive vice president at NYSE Euronext, has joined ADT Corp., a provider of electronic security, interactive home and business automation and monitoring services, as its chief financial officer.

COLEGE LEGEND
AG—Agriculture and Natural Resources
AS—Arts and Sciences
BE—Lerner College of Business and Economics
EG—Engineering
EO—Earth, Ocean, and Environment
EH—Education and Human Development
HS—Health Sciences
AA—associate in arts or science degree
M—master’s degree
PhD/EdD/DPT—doctoral degrees
H—honorary degree
BETWEEN THE COVERS

New books by faculty and alumni

Nina Bennett, AS74, *Sound Effects* (chapbook No. 4 in The Key Poetry Series), Broadkill Press.
Lindsay Clendaniel, AS03, *Scoop Adventures: The Best Ice Cream of the 50 States (Make the Real Recipes from the Greatest Ice Cream Parlors in the Country)*, Page Street Publishing.
Lawrence G. Dugan, professor of history and research fellow of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, *Armsbearing and the Clergy in the History and Canon Law of Western Christianity*, Boydell and Brewer.
Nancy C. Jordan, professor and Nancy Dyson, researcher, *Number Sense Interventions, What Works Clearinghouse (Institute of Education Sciences).*
Kathryn Kneessi, BE91, writing as Kathryn Knight, *Gull Harbor, Wild Rose Press (Faery Rose line).*

For an extensive listing of books by UD faculty, staff and alumni, visit www.udel.edu/udauthors. Authors can also post information about their work on that website.

*Have you written a new book?* Send the information to TheMessenger@udel.edu, and we’ll include it in the magazine’s “Between the Covers” listing.
and the holder of black belts in two martial arts disciplines, has been named chairman of the Pennsylvania State Athletic Commission, which regulates professional boxing, kickboxing, wrestling and mixed martial arts in the state.

C. Taylor Pickett 84BE, of Monkton, Md., who is chief executive officer of Omega Healthcare Investors, has been elected to the board of trustees of Corporate Office Properties Trust.

Russell K. Snyder 84AS, of Laurel, Md., president and CEO of Volunteers of America Chesapeake, which serves more than 10,500 residents of the Washington, D.C., and Baltimore regions each year, has been appointed to the national board of directors of Volunteers of America.

Jodie Morgan 85EG, of Wilmington, Del., has been named to the new position of president and general manager of Pinova, a Brunswick, Ga., manufacturer of rosins and resins used in products ranging from food to construction.

Preston Thayer 85AS/M, of Fredericksburg, Va., who has 14 years’ experience leading museums across the U.S., including two at other universities, recently was named director of the Augusta College Teaching Museum of Art in Rock Island, Ill.

Victoria S. Tilley 85HS, of Hillsborough, N.C., a board-certified geriatric clinical specialist and president and founder of ElderFit Physical Therapy and Consulting there, received the 2013 Lucy Blair Service Award from the American Physical Therapy Association.

Janet Acker 86AS, of Enola, Pa., who has 30 years of experience in the financial services industry, most recently as president of Susquehanna Bank’s Capital Region, has joined F&M Trust as a senior vice president, commercial services market manager.

Ken Clark 87AS, of Middletown, Del., who has had a career of more than 25 years in the plumbing manufacturing industry, recently was promoted to international managing director/general manager of Zurn Industries.

Joe Compagni 87AS, of Highlands, N.J., is in his 19th year as director and head coach for women’s and men’s track and field and cross country at Monmouth University, where he has earned NCAA Division 1 Northeast Conference (NEC) Coach of the Year honors 27 times and where the men’s and women’s teams won their fifth consecutive NEC Outdoor Track and Field Championship last May.

Peter Kirlin 87EG/PhD, of Newtown, Conn., who was senior vice president, United States and Europe, for Photronics Inc., since 2008, has been appointed president of the photomask manufacturing company, responsible for global sales and global operations.

Carl Borick 88BE, of Charleston, S.C., has been named director of the Charleston Museum, founded in 1773 and known as America’s first museum, preserving and interpreting the cultural and natural history of the South Carolina Low Country.

Deborah Brenner 88AS, of Tappan, N.Y., founder and president of Women of the Vine, is a recipient of the 2013 WiC Awards, given by New York Women in Communications to honor “rising stars” in the field.

In-chul Kim 88AS/PhD, of Seoul, South Korea, in March began a four-year term as president of Hankuk University of Foreign Studies there.

Lesley Lichko 88AG, of Holden, Maine, has been named the major gifts professional at Unity College, a private college in rural Maine that emphasizes the environment and natural resources.

Warren Ruggiero 88HS, 92M, of Manhattan, Kan., formerly offensive coordinator for Bowling Green State University’s football program, has been named offensive coordinator at Wake Forest University.

Kevin J. DiMedio 89AS, of Haddonfield, N.J., has joined the law firm Reger Rizzo and Darnall as a partner, focusing his practice on business and commercial matters for companies and individuals.

Matt Eick 89AG/M, 95PhD, of Blacksburg, Va., professor of crop and soil environmental sciences in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, has received the Award for Excellence in Career Advising from Virginia Tech’s Career Services.

The Rev. Shonda R. Greene 89AS, of Dover, Del., is the founder and pastor of I Am the Vine Ministries and the host of the ministries’ weekly radio program, “The Empowering Moment,” broadcast in the Delaware area and in several other cities nationwide.

Janine Love 89AS, of Augusta, N.J., a veteran technical writer and communicator who has worked for the global media firm UBM Tech for the past two years, has been promoted to technical director of DesignCon, an educational...
conference and technology exhibition.

**1990s**

David MacEwen 90BE/M, of Los Altos, Calif., who has worked for American Century Investments since 1991, has been named chief investment officer for the $137 billion global investment firm headquartered in Kansas City, Mo.

Margaret Hofer 91AS/M, of Princeton, N.J., curator of decorative arts at the New York Historical Society, has curated numerous exhibitions on topics from Colonial carriages to Victorian board games and recently gave a guest lecture in Norwalk, Conn., on “Chromolithography and the Golden Age of Board Games.”


Geoffrey O’Brien 91AS, of La Jolla, Calif., who has served as a director or senior director at MediciNova since joining the biopharmaceutical company there in 2009, recently was named vice president of the firm.

John Pearce 91HS, of Cypress, Texas, who has more than 20 years of collegiate coaching experience, is the new head football coach at Sul Ross State University in Alpine, Texas.

John Sebastian 91AS, of Dover, Del., who has worked for the Delaware Division of Probation and Parole for 22 years, has been named director of the division, which supervises 15,000 offenders living in the state.

Kimberley (Jenkins) Daly 92AS, of Burke, Va., recently accepted a position as the M.Ed. Program coordinator at Marymount University, where she is responsible for advising students and coordinating the PK-6, secondary education and professional studies programs for the Reston campus.

Derek Miller 92AS, of San Francisco, Calif., who most recently worked in product development and commercialization at Genentech, has been named chief business officer for Celator Pharmaceuticals, which focuses on developing new therapies to treat cancer.

Brent Dobsch 93BE, of Winnetka, Ill., formerly chief financial officer of UL Environment, a subsidiary of Underwriters Laboratories, has joined Rasmussen College as its chief financial officer.

Anne Roby 93EG/PhD, of Mendham, N.J., formerly president of Praxair Asia, was named senior vice president of Praxair Inc., the largest industrial gases company in North and South America, effective Jan. 1, with responsibilities including research and development, sustainability, safety and global market development.

Michael Savett 93AS, of Cherry Hill, N.J., an attorney whose son has celiac disease, publishes the award-winning blog Gluten-Free Philly and has developed a mobile application to provide users with information about gluten-free restaurants, bakeries and markets in the greater Philadelphia area, including South Jersey and Delaware.

Steven Maniago 94AS, of Las Vegas, Nev., formerly the senior director for finance and business development for the Nevada Office of Economic Development, has been appointed senior vice president for corporate finance and analysis for the Las Vegas Global Economic Alliance.
HENS OF A FEATHER

News involving several alumni

Six UD alumni teaching in Delaware public schools were honored as their district’s Teacher of the Year for 2013, including Lea Wainwright 85AS, who was awarded the statewide Teacher of the Year honor (see article on page 28). Every year, each of the state’s 19 public school districts selects its top teacher to represent the district as a finalist in the Delaware Teacher of the Year program. In addition to Wainwright, who teaches in the Appoquinimink School District, the other honored alumni for 2013 are: Mary Petrucci Eanes 02EH, Capital School District; Judith A. Bruns 96AG, Milford; Jennifer Bradshaw 05AS, 09EH/M, Polytech; Lisa M. Uhey 04EH, Smyrna; and Edward W. Killheffer, who did graduate work at UD through the Alternative Routes to Certification program, Red Clay Consolidated.

Diamond State Financial Group, a Newark, Del., company that provides financial planning services to individuals, professionals and business owners, is marking its 25th year. The firm, which has a history of UD involvement that includes classroom presentations, student internships and employee recruitment at UD Career Services events, has numerous alumni on its staff. They include Ray Bree 78BE, president and managing partner; Chris Burgos 99BE, managing partner; Josh Shaver 07BE, field director; Shaun Jones 01BE, associate partner; associates Ketul Mody 06BE, Paul Jones 76AG, Bryan Radcliff 12BE and Nick Vali 11BE; and Carol York 70AA, client relations representative. In addition, five of the company’s financial advisers are participating in or have completed the University’s Certified Financial Planner certificate program.

Richard Kwiatkowski 96AS, of San Diego, Calif., has been named director of business development for the San Diego North Chamber of Commerce.

Brian Maddox 96AS/M, of Henderson, Nev., director of Nevada operations for the Clearinghouse Community Development Financial Institution, was selected from among 120 applicants nationwide to take part in the Citi Leadership Program for Opportunity Finance, a 10-month course focused on economic empowerment and financial inclusion.

Damian Borichevsky 97BE, of Austin, Texas, has been named vice president of client services at the content advertising company OneSpot, where he is responsible for all client services, including campaign planning and execution.

Cliff Hammond 97AS, of Livonia, Mich., an attorney with the Detroit-based employment law firm Nemeth Burwell, where he represents employers in labor and employment law matters, has been named a “Rising Star” in an annual survey by Michigan Super Lawyers.

Gary Holloway 97EH, of Vineland, N.J., has been named executive director of the Vineland Downtown Improvement District/Main Street Vineland, which works with merchants and residents to expand the downtown customer base.

Kathryn (Katie) Richardson 97HS, of Wayne, N.J., vice president and administrator of Bergen Regional Medical Center’s Long Term Care Division, received a 2013 “Forty Under 40” Award from the publication NJBIZ for her commitment to business growth, professional excellence and the community.

Marion Zuefel 97AG, 06M, of Delaware City, Del., has joined the New York State Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Program at Cornell University as a vegetable IPM educator, working with growers and researchers throughout the Northeast.

Stephanie Fitzgerald 98BE/M, of Montclair, N.J., recently a program executive director for New Leaders for New Schools, a nonprofit principal-training program, has been appointed executive director of Montclair Community Pre-K.

Melissa Buxbaum Darnell 99AS, of North Caldwell, N.J., is self-employed as a “Lexus Achiever” with the dermatology company Rodan and Fields.

Jennifer E. Nauman 99EH, of Milton, Del., the principal of Cape Henlopen’s Shields Elementary School in Lewes, Del., was one of seven principals in the U.S. to receive the 2013 Terrel H. Bell Award for Outstanding School Leadership from the National Blue Ribbon Schools program.

Erin (Joslyn) Palmer 99AS, of Philadelphia, Pa., in September began serving as the assistant vice provost in Temple University’s Office of Faculty Development and Faculty Affairs.

Lee Ann Walling 99BE/M, of Lincoln, Del., a certified planner who recently retired from the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, has been appointed executive director of Delaware Interfaith Power and Light, a nonprofit organization promoting energy conservation and efficiency.

Matthew J. White 99BE/M, of Newtown, Conn., formerly president of Praxair Canada, was named senior vice president and chief financial officer of Praxair Inc., the largest industrial gases company in North and South America, effective Jan. 1.

2000s

Kim McGlade Lomax 00AS, of Portland, Ore., who earned a master’s degree in public administration in 2012 and received the 2012–13 Award of Excellence from Portland State University’s Hatfield School of Government, is the co-owner of Jewel or Jalopy, an online service connecting car shoppers with enthusiasts who can perform a pre-purchase inspection.

Eric Morrison 00EG, of Abingdon, Md., was appointed service manager for United Sortation Solutions, an Owings Mills, Md., designer and manufacturer of custom automated material handling equipment.

Kathlyn Kiernan Newcomb 94BE, of Milton, Del., vice president of marketing and client services for Coldwell Banker Rehoboth Resort Realty, has been elected to the board of directors of Community Bank Delaware.

Scott L. Matthews 95AS, of New Castle, Del., recently joined the law firm Tarabicos Grosso there, practicing in the areas of corporate, commercial, alternative entity and commercial real estate law.

Lt. Col. Stephen V. Carocci 96AS, of Camp Hill, Pa., who has served in the Air Force in operations Southern Watch, Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom and Air Defense of the Arabian Gulf, recently presided over the deactivation of the 603rd Air Control Squadron in Aviano, Italy, where he took command in June 2012.

William Donovan 96AS, of Fairlawn, Ohio, associate professor and director of freshman chemistry at the University of Akron, returned to UD in October to deliver the second Mary Elizabeth Kramer Memorial Lecture, given in honor of Ms. Kramer, also a UD graduate, who taught chemistry to thousands of UD freshmen until her death in 2012.
A Comcast executive who is responsible for the national advertising development and strategy for the company’s cable services has been named a national “Advertising Working Mother of the Year.”

Eileen Diskin received the 2014 award from Working Mother magazine and the Advertising Women of New York organization, which honored the 20 recipients at a ceremony in February. The magazine selects its winners each year based on a recipient’s commitment to balancing work and life, her strength as a role model and mentor in the workplace and her positive influence in the community.

Diskin, who earned her degree in communication at UD, is vice president of marketing communications for Comcast, where she manages a team of more than 40 people and oversees campaigns representing a total media expenditure of some $150 million per year.

Before beginning her current position in 2008, she was vice president of marketing at PBS KIDS Sprout, where she developed and launched the new network’s marketing strategy and won several prestigious awards.

Under Diskin’s leadership, Comcast has won numerous advertising awards, including Cannes Lions and Clios. In 2007, she received the Promax Brand Builder award, recognizing executives who have developed some of television’s most important brands.

Diskin lives near Philadelphia and has two daughters. Her award was in the “Established Moms” category.

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**EILEEN DISKIN, AS90**

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**Jason Sandberg 00BE,** of Philadelphia, Pa., a certified public accountant who has taught continuing education classes on accounting for and auditing of financial instruments and other topics, has been admitted as a professional standards partner of Grant Thornton, where he is responsible for implementing and monitoring quality control procedures, in the firm’s Philadelphia office.

**Chad S.C. Stover 00EG,** of Hockessin, Del., has joined the Wilmington office of the law firm Barnes and Thornburg as a partner, where he focuses his practice on patent litigation, trademark and copyright litigation and unfair competition and trade secret litigation.

**Bart Wilson 00EO, 05M,** of Dover, Del., who is the science and technical coordinator for the Center for the Inland Bays, completed training in fighting wildfires and spent two weeks in August as a member of a 20-firefighter team battling blazes in Utah and Idaho.

**Elizabeth Blair 01BE,** of Wilmington, Del., has been appointed vice president of legal and dealer relations for Alarm Capital Alliance of Media, Pa., where she specializes in legal and compliance matters.

**Jason A. Maas 01AS,** of Philadelphia, Pa., is the founder of the nonprofit Artist Volunteer Center, based in Brooklyn, N.Y., which promotes humanitarian volunteerism by artists and supporting the creation of artwork inspired by volunteer action.

**Shari B. Veisblatt 01AS** of Voorhees, N.J., has been named a partner in the family law practice group of the Philadelphia law firm Obermayer Rebmann Maxwell and Hippel.

**Brad Nathanson 02BE,** of Philadelphia, Pa., a licensed real estate professional, has joined CBRE’s Conshohocken, Pa., office as executive vice president of retail capital markets for the real estate services and investment firm.

**Victor Udo 02AS/PhD,** of Nigeria, who has 25 years of experience in the power sector and earned his doctorate at UD in urban affairs and public policy, is the senior special assistant on power to the governor of the Nigerian state Akwa Ibom, where national privatization policies are being implemented.

**Cheryl Wilson 02AS/M, 05PhD,** of Baltimore, Md., associate professor in the Klein Family School of Communications Design at the University of Baltimore, has been...
What was I thinking?
That’s what was uppermost in Jeanne Vannoy Schramm’s mind when—48 years after the fact—she came across the diary she had kept while on an adventure in the year following her 1963 graduation from UD.

Setting off alone on a trans-Atlantic ocean liner with no itinerary in mind, the Chester County, Pa., farm girl would go on to spend nine months hitchhiking through 18 countries on three continents, meeting an assortment of new friends and traveling companions along the way. Last year, to mark the 50th anniversary of her journey, Schramm compiled the diary and snapshots from the trip into a self-published book titled A Hitchhiker’s Diary, 1963–64.

Amazon reviewers have called the book “a page-turner” and “a fun and interesting armchair journey,” and many expressed a wish that they had been brave enough for such an undertaking.

She added some present-day notes to the highly entertaining and readable diary, which, in a brief preface, she describes as “concerning the rather questionable judgment of a not-very-worldly-wise 22-year-old, whose most exotic traveling experience up until that point had been crossing the Delaware River on a ferry.”

Her nine months abroad included a foray through Checkpoint Charlie into East Berlin, being mistaken for a “lady of the night,” dining on chicken feet, spending a night in jail (offered to her and her companions as a courtesy when they could find no other accommodations), living on a kibbutz, climbing a pyramid and an encounter she summarizes as “15 Italian soldiers, a bag of chicken and a jug of wine.”

Schramm believes that it was only because her parents were so inexperienced in traveling themselves that they didn’t recognize the potential dangers of her plan and try to stop her. In fact, when her father drove her to New York Harbor to board the SS United States, it marked his first and only time in the city.

After returning home in May 1964, Schramm attended graduate school, moved to West Virginia, married and raised a family and worked as a teacher and then a librarian until retiring. Of her hitchhiking adventure, she writes:

“Had I known in advance about all the predicaments I would have gotten myself into, would I still have gone on this trip? Absolutely!”

Schramm and her family today. Top photo, hitchhiking in France.
What does it mean to be a True Blue Hen?

True Blue Hens are alumni donors who have made gifts to UD for 3+ CONSECUTIVE YEARS

TRUE BLUE HENS live in ALL 50 STATES

FIVE True Blue Hens have been giving for 34+ CONSECUTIVE YEARS

Only 4.9% of ALUMNI are True Blue Hens

TRUE BLUE HENS make it affordable for students to attend UD, discover their passions and make a difference in the world. To these 6,000+ loyal alumni, we thank you.

To show our gratitude to our most loyal donors, all True Blue Hens will enjoy special benefits at Alumni Weekend.

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continued from page 65

named special assistant to the president for student success, while continuing to serve as the Yale Gordon College of Arts and Sciences dean’s fellow and as director of the bachelor’s degree in English program.

Randal M. Brown 03AS, of Detroit, Mich., an attorney with Plunkett Cooney there, where he concentrates his practice in the areas of general litigation, municipal law, and trucking and transportation liability, has been named to the inaugural Lawyers of Color list of 100 top early- to mid-career minority lawyers under age 40 in the Midwest.

Beth Gaasbeck 03BE, 04M, of Rehoboth Beach, Del., a certified public accountant, has joined Gross, Mendelsohn and Associates as a supervisor.

Michael Hail 03AS/PhD, of Somerset, Ky., professor of government and assistant dean and director of the Master of Public Administration program at Morehead State University, has been named by the U.S. Senate to the board of trustees of the Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation, which assists college juniors interested in public service.

Thomas Roddy III 03BE, of Harrisburg, Pa., recently joined Murraysville Machinery Co. as a sales executive.

Laura Sherbin 03AS, of Brooklyn, N.Y., an economist specializing in workforce issues and international development and an adjunct professor at Columbia University’s School of International and Public Affairs, is executive vice president and director of research for the Center for Talent Innovation, where she recently coauthored a report finding that 78 percent of U.S. white collar employees work for companies that fail to realize their full innovative potential.

Mara Stimac 04AS, of New York City, has joined the integrated marketing agency Sage Island in Wilmington, N.C., as an account executive.

Rachel Delphia 05AS/M, of Columbus, Ohio, has been promoted to the position of Alan G. and Jane A. Lehman Curator of Decorative Arts and Design at the Carnegie Museum of Art, where she has worked since 2005.

Christina Kollias 05AS, of West Chester, Pa., who earned a doctorate in microbiology and immunology from Drexel University’s College of Medicine in May, now is a postdoctoral fellow and instructor of biology there.

Leo-Rey Gordon 06BE/M, 11PhD, of Newark, Del., an assistant professor of business at Wilmington University, was awarded a Fulbright teaching and research scholarship at the University of the West Indies in Barbados, where he is teaching a course in corporate finance and conducting economic research on offshore banking.

Bulent Ozbas 06EG/PhD, of Hillsborough, N.J., received the inaugural Distinguished Alumni Award from UD’s Department of Materials Science and Engineering for his significant achievements as a research engineer for Air Products and Chemicals in Allentown, Pa.

Thom Shumosic 06AS, of Wilmington, Del., the founder of MidAtlantic Retirement Planning Specialists and a former UD Alumni Association executive board member, was named a “Top 100” retirement plan adviser for 2013 by Plan Adviser magazine.
Roberto and Ruth Loveless, Class of ‘39

When Robert K. Loveless, EG39, recently sent an email to UD President Patrick Harker reminiscing about the years he and his wife, Ruth Kohlbecker Loveless, AS39, spent at the University, he raised an intriguing question:

“We got to wondering if we are your oldest surviving alumni, at [age] 96, Class of ’39,” he wrote. Some research by the Office of Alumni Relations came up with the answer: It appears that the Lovelesses, who live in Placerville, Calif., are not the oldest individual UD alumni but are the oldest “Double Del” couple.

In his note, Robert Loveless, who earned his degree in electrical engineering while his wife earned hers in chemistry, added that the campus “has certainly changed over the years!”

His memories of their undergraduate years include electrical engineering Prof. George Koerber “lumbering about” and Robert L. Spencer, dean of engineering from 1928 to 1945, “playing his bassoon in his office after hours.” The Lovelesses also recalled the evenings they met in the library, a space shared by the then-separate men’s and women’s colleges, and lingered there while the librarian tried “to shoo us outside.” The couple also enjoyed Saturday night dances in Old College, Robert Loveless said.

“We have fond memories” of the University, he wrote, adding that the campus “has certainly changed over the years since we graduated!”

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Commitments

Kathryn Onken 07AG, 10M to Andrew Carroll 12EH, April 28, 2012
Melissa Day 09EG to Peter Adelman 09AS, Aug. 24, 2013
Meredith Davies 09EG to Brad Wickersham 13BE/M, May 4, 2013

Joanna Groelinger 05AG to Brian Hersh 03BE, Sept. 7, 2013
Jennifer Lawley 12AS to Tony Battaglia 12EG, Aug. 23, 2013
Melissa Poggi 09EG to Patrick Erbe 09EG, April 13, 2013

Jennifer Huggler 05EH to Benjamin Cross 04EG, 07M, Aug. 10, 2013
Meredith Davies 09EG to Brad Wickersham 13BE/M, May 4, 2013
COMMITMENTS

Katherine Reiner 07HS to Neil Kremer 04AS, June 1, 2013
Kelly Quinn 06AS to Brett Townsend 06AS, July 20, 2013
Tracie Ervin 12EG to Derek Ahneman 12AS, June 1, 2013
Jessyca Goel 03AS to Adam Hamby 04BE, Oct. 26, 2013

Laura Levenson 09BE to Joseph Winning 09AS, Sept. 14, 2013
Peter Pizzolongo 72AS, 74M (right) to Carlos Prugue, Oct. 12, 2013
Mary Stech 06HS to Keith Van Leeuwen 06BE, June 1, 2013

Elizabeth Hanle 11EG to Joseph Blandeburgo 13BE, Oct. 5, 2013
Katie Spence 11AS to Derek Falcone 10EG, May 26, 2013
Kailly Vay 09EG to Thomas Mintel 09EG, June 29, 2013
Carolyn Campbell 10EH, 12M to John Morgera 10AS, June 22, 2013

Katherine Whytlaw 07HS to Juan Fernandez 07BE, Oct. 13, 2013
Julie-Anne Ghosn to John Corrado 99BE, June 4, 2013
Christina Eichelman 11HS to Lt. j.g. Shawn Gordon, March 16, 2013
Heather Brackin 06HS to Thomas Bronersky, Oct. 5, 2013
Attention, newlyweds

Wedding announcements and photos for the UD Messenger should be submitted to the Office of Alumni Relations, alumnet@udel.edu, within one year. Please include the date of the ceremony and the full names and graduation year(s) and college(s) of the bride and groom.

We can accept only digital photos in which the original image is a high-quality jpeg, at least 300 dpi and at least 2-by-2.5 inches, preferably in color.

The Messenger will publish as many photos of wedding couples as possible, but due to space limitations and reproduction-quality requirements, we are not able to publish every photo that is submitted. Even if we are not able to use a photo, we will announce the marriage. As part of the University’s ongoing sustainability efforts, we will publish only one group photo per issue; every member of the group must be an alumnus, identified by name, college and class year.

We invite you to continue to share such photos, and others, with your fellow alumni at our online community, www.UDconnection.com.
Julie Pearlmutter 09AS married Frank Bosi 09AS, Sept. 1, 2013. Among those attending were, from left, Adam Holstein 09AS, Katie Uehling 09AS, Ashley Burke 09BE, Justin Dickinson 09AS, Marc Harwood 09BE, Joe McGlynn 09BE, Erin Kent 11AS, Max Wise 09BE, Dan Nuzie 09BE, Kerri Bernstein 09AS, Jon Taber 09AS, Caitie Winters MacMillan 08BE, Mike MacMillan 09BE, 09EG, Jesse Peterson 09BE, Alex Doyle 09BE, Julie and Frank, Matthew Kremer 09AS, Kendal Johnson 09EH, Kristin Johnson 09EH, Mallory Reiss Lisa 09BE, Anastasia Tiftitsoglou 10EH, Brittany Attardi 11AS, Chris Fols 11BE, Taylor Thames 09AS, Beyhan Oguz 09AS, Christine Garcia 09HS, Elizabeth Trapani 09AS, Thomas Tobolski 09BE and James Lisa 09BE.
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Joseph J. Mesa M.D.
Sports medicine, knee and shoulder surgery

Douglas A. Palma M.D.
UD ’91
Sports medicine, knee and shoulder surgery

J. Douglas Patterson M.D.
Problems of the hand, wrist, forearm and elbow

Michael J. Principe D.O.
Orthopedic trauma and post-traumatic reconstruction

James J. Rubano M.D.
Total hip and total knee replacement

David K. Solacoff M.D.
General orthopaedic care

Peter F. Townsend M.D., F.A.C.S.
Problems of the hand, wrist, forearm and elbow

Matthew K. Voltz D.O., A.T.C.
UD ’00
Sports medicine, concussion management and ultrasound guided injections

Damian M. Andrisani M.D.
UD ’95
Sports medicine, knee and shoulder surgery

Bradley C. Bley D.O., CSCS
Sports medicine, concussion management and ultrasound guided injections

Steven M. Dellose M.D.
UD ’91
Total hip and total knee replacement

Matthew D. Eichenbaum M.D.
Problems of the hand, wrist, forearm and elbow

Brian J. Galinat M.D.
Surgery of the shoulder

Andrew J. Gelman D.O.
General orthopaedic care

Paul C. Kupcha M.D.
Surgery of the foot and ankle

Norah Isabelle, born Feb. 24, 2013, to Melissa Bohn Siegel 01EH and Philip Siegel, of Bayside, N.Y.

Micah Rae, born July 15, 2013, to Donna Kellerman Poore 08AS and Rob Poore 05HS, of Bear, Del.

Evelyn Marie, born July 10, 2013, to Jennifer Ryan Knight 03AS, 05EH/M and James Knight 03AS, of Macungie, Pa.

Gabriel Lee, born Jan. 18, 2013, to Melissa Roe-Torres 09EH/M and Manuel Torres 06AS/M, 10PhD, of Hamilton, N.J.


Lydia Kathryn, born June 7, 2013, to Heather Hartline Grafton 99HS and Brian Grafton 00EG, of Annandale, Va., with big brother Jake.

Matthew David, born June 21, 2013, to Sarah Eggleston Levine 03AG and Joshua Levine 03BE, of Westford, Mass.


Landon Jacob, born March 12, 2013, to Kristin Santora Scott 06AG, 09HS and Charles Scott 07BE, of Newark, Del., with big sister Madilyn.
NEW ADDITIONS

Jacob Owen, born July 15, 2013, to Jennifer Kaizen Fisher 03BE and Michael Fisher 03BE, of Kennett Square, Pa., with big brother Caleb.

Milo Eli and Nola Simone, born May 25, 2013, to Lisa Duszak Novak 98AS and David Novak, of San Francisco.

Zachary Nathaniel, born March 8, 2013, to Averie Lukoff Hason 98AS and David Hason 97AS, of Pittstown, N.J., with big sister Sage.

Nolan William, born May 3, 2013, to Jen Storaska Bushey 00AS, 02HS/M and Bill Bushey 00BE, of Timonium, Md., with big sister Kyla.

Brady Joseph (front), born Jan. 28, 2013, to Jillian Stevens Savage 04AS and Jared Savage 05BE, of Wilmington, Del. With him are big sister Emery and seven cousins. From left: Paige and Mason (children of Amanda Savage Waters 05HS and Brian Waters 02BE); Emery; Avery and Mackenna (children of Katie Cucci Savage 05AS and Andrew Savage 05BE); and Reese, Chase and Shane (children of Cristina Johnson Savage 03EH and Patrick Savage 00BE).
Attention, parents

Birth announcements and photos for the UD Messenger should be submitted to the Office of Alumni Relations, alumnet@udel.edu, within one year. Please include the birth date and the parents’ graduation year(s) and college(s).

The Messenger will publish as many baby photos as possible, but due to space limitations and reproduction-quality requirements, we are not able to publish every photo that is submitted. To have your photo considered for publication, it must meet these minimum requirements:

- Photos must be in color.
- Photos must feature babies wearing UD or Blue Hen attire.
- We can accept only digital photos. The original image file must be a high-quality jpeg, at least 300 dpi and at least 2-by-2.5 inches. If a larger file is available, please send that and we will reduce it as necessary.

Even if we are unable to use a photo we receive, we will announce the new arrival in the “New Additions” section of Class Notes.

NEW ADDITIONS

Ryan, born March 4, 2013, to Melissa Becker and Chris Becker 96BE, of Flemington, N.J.

Joseph Eoin, born April 12, 2013, to Jennifer Joseph Bradshaw 05AS, 09EH/M and Trevor Bradshaw 06AS, 09EH/M and and Gary Woulard 99EG, of Newark, Del.


Nathaniel Jacob, born March 21, 2013, to Hillary Magee Harrison 04AG and Blake Harrison 00BE of Allentown, Pa.

Simone, born March 7, 2013, to Natalie Stevens Woulard 02AS and Gary Woulard 99EG, of Newark, Del.

Spencer Finn, born March 7, 2013, to Erin Noch Satran 03AS and Brian Satran, of New York, N.Y.


Joseph Eoin, born April 12, 2013, to Jennifer Joseph Bradshaw 05AS, 09EH/M and Trevor Bradshaw 06AS, 09EH/M and and Gary Woulard 99EG, of Newark, Del.

Nora Jane, born May 10, 2013, to Amanda Hudson Schulze 03AS and Charles Schulze, of Windsor, N.J.


Joseph Stephen, born Nov. 14, 2012, to Jillian Zielinski Durney 06AS and Joseph Durney Jr., of Wilmington, Del.

Jemma Rose, born June 5, 2013, to Jamie Beck Schmalenberger 06EH and Jake Schmalenberger 06EG, of Melbourne, Fla., with big brother Jude.


Finley Drew, born April 4, 2013, to Kate Detweiler Wilson 01AS, 07EH/M and Drew Wilson 01AS, 03M of Wilmington, Del., with big brother Chase.

Nora Jane, born May 10, 2013, to Amanda Hudson Schulze 03AS and Charles Schulze, of Windsor, N.J.


Joseph Stephen, born Nov. 14, 2012, to Jillian Zielinski Durney 06AS and Joseph Durney Jr., of Wilmington, Del.

Jemma Rose, born June 5, 2013, to Jamie Beck Schmalenberger 06EH and Jake Schmalenberger 06EG, of Melbourne, Fla., with big brother Jude.

In Memoriam

Dorothy Sunderland Anderson 36AS, of Savannah, Ga., Oct. 21, 2013
Margaret Waples McMullen 36AS, of Wilmington, Del., July 16, 2013
William J. Killough 37AG, of Lancaster, Pa., Oct. 24, 2013
Mary Clark Keyser 40AS, of Kennett Square, Pa., Nov. 20, 2013
Bernice Wilkinson Shorter 40AS, of Wilmington, Del., Nov. 29, 2013
Helen Wilson Warren 41EH, of Rehoboth Beach, Del., Sept. 3, 2013
Eleanor Herrman Berry 43EH, of Hanover, N.H., Sept. 24, 2013
Jean Wiley Beard 43EH, of Simi Valley, Calif., Dec. 10, 2013
Eleanor J. Bader 43HS, of Levittown, Pa., Dec. 31, 2013
James H. Houser Jr. 42AS, of Virginia Beach, Va., Dec. 7, 2013
Felton, Del., Nov. 14, 2013
Donald F. Grier 55AS, of Newark, Del., Nov. 16, 2013
Marian Mayne Porter 54EH, of Washington, D.C., Dec. 8, 2013
Richard G. Nye 54AG, of Wilmington, Del., Oct. 20, 2013
Robert L. Carey 53AG, of Wilmington, Del., Nov. 24, 2013
Robert L. Cary 53AG, of Sea ford, Del., Nov. 29, 2013
Cornelius V. Robbins Jr. 53AS, of Wilmington, Del., Sept. 18, 2013
William E. Bonnet 48EG/M, of Santee, Ga., Nov. 29, 2013
Dorothy Jones Dick 48AS, of Millville, Del., Nov. 14, 2013
Louis T. Liarakos 48EG, of Wilmington, Del., Aug. 30, 2013
Ruth McCabe Boyle 49EH, of Millville, Del., Sept. 26, 2013
Henry L. Maxwell 49AS, of Glen Mills, Pa., Dec. 23, 2013
Charles S. Rowe 49AS, of Williamsburg, Va., Dec. 18, 2013
Albert P. Croll 50AS, of Georgetown, Del., Dec. 9, 2013
Robert W. Johnson 50BE, of Glen Mills, Pa., Dec. 31, 2013
Alexander Sesonske 50EG/PhD, of Tumwater, Wash., Oct. 29, 2013
Robert A. Stevenson Jr. 50AG, of Wilmington, Del., Dec. 10, 2013
Mary Roser Higgins 51HS, of Wilmington, Del., Dec. 10, 2013
Libby Houston Jamieson 51EH, of Wilmington, Del., Nov. 29, 2013
James O. Porteus 51AS, of West Grove, Pa., Sept. 16, 2013
Libby Houston Jamieson 51EH, of Wilmington, Del., Nov. 29, 2013
Mary Roser Higgins 51HS, of Wilmington, Del., Nov. 29, 2013
Robert C. Faison 62EG, of Lewes, Del., Dec. 29, 2013
Mary Redmile Steele 61EH, of Delmar, N.Y., Dec. 3, 2013
J. Ronald Nowland 59AS, of Roanoke, Va., Nov. 4, 2013
J. Ronald Nowland 59AS, of Roanoke, Va., Nov. 4, 2013
George K. Hastings 60AG, of Laurel, Del., Oct. 26, 2013
Cynthia A. LaCourse 60EG, of West Chester, Pa., Oct. 16, 2013
J. Ronald Nowland 59AS, of Roanoke, Va., Nov. 4, 2013
J. Ronald Nowland 59AS, of Roanoke, Va., Nov. 4, 2013
Phyllis Anderson Phipps 59AS, of Levittown, Pa., Dec. 31, 2013
Margaret Gandy Dorsey 59AS, of Levittown, Pa., Dec. 31, 2013
Linda Heivy Gemelli 58EH, of Fairview, Ore., Nov. 16, 2013
Kenneth K. Zeiger 58EG, of Simi Valley, Calif., Dec. 10, 2013
Phyllis Berger Schweidel 64AS/M, of Wilmington, Del., Dec. 24, 2013
John E. Tucker 64AS/M, of Newark, Del., Oct. 12, 2013
Walter J. Gerzin 66EH/M, of Delray Beach, Fla., Sept. 30, 2013
John E. Gardner Jr. 67AS/PhD, of Lancaster, Pa., Dec. 19, 2013
Diane Wilson McDowell 67AS, of Newark, Del., Sept. 16, 2013
John B. Nye Jr. 67AS/M, of Mountain Home, Pa., April 27, 2013
Edward J. Sand 68AG, of San Diego, Calif., July 20, 2013
Peter N. Williams 68AS/M, 76PhD, of Newark, Del., Sept. 3, 2013
Mary M. Brierfield, Ala., Oct. 23, 2013
Jack Weaver 62EG/M, 65PhD, of Meadowbrook, Pa., Dec. 11, 2013
Claire Plunguian Gilbert 63AS/M, of Bethesda, Md., Nov. 6, 2013
Janet Chubb Hamilton 63EH, of West Grove, Pa., Sept. 16, 2013
Shirley Lawrence Muddian 64EH/M, of Wilmington, Del., Nov. 26, 2013
Phyllis Berger Schweidel 64AS/M, of Wilmington, Del., Dec. 24, 2013
John E. Tucker 64AS/M, of Newark, Del., Oct. 12, 2013
Walter J. Gerzin 66EH/M, of Delray Beach, Fla., Sept. 30, 2013
John E. Gardner Jr. 67AS/PhD, of Lancaster, Pa., Dec. 19, 2013
Diane Wilson McDowell 67AS, of Newark, Del., Sept. 16, 2013
John B. Nye Jr. 67AS/M, of Mountain Home, Pa., April 27, 2013
Edward J. Sand 68AG, of San Diego, Calif., July 20, 2013
Peter N. Williams 68AS/M, 76PhD, of Newark, Del., Sept. 3, 2013
Mary M. Chesser 69EH, of West Palm Beach, Fla., June 8, 2013

Faculty

John Peter Scholz, professor of physical therapy, who joined the faculty in 1988 and in 2011 was elected a Catherine Worthingham Fellow of the American Physical Therapy Association, which called him “a highly regarded movement scientist renowned for his ability to take complex theoretical concepts of motor control and apply them to the understanding and treatment of neurologic problems,” Oct. 19, 2013.

Ronald Wenger, associate professor emeritus of mathematical sciences, a faculty member for more than 40 years until his retirement in 2005, who served as associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences from 1971–94 and who, in 1980, created the Mathematical Sciences Teaching and Learning Center to help enhance the teaching and learning of mathematics through collaboration with teachers throughout the state of Delaware, Jan. 1, 2014. ▀
Richard P. Gallant 69EG, of Leonardtown, Md., Nov. 23, 2013
Raymond T. Jones 70AS/M, of Westminster, Md., Nov. 29, 2013
Stanley E. Radulski 70BE, of Newark, Del., Nov. 10, 2013
Aileen Webb Tobin 71AS, 75EH/M, 81PhD, of Baltimore, Md., Aug. 26, 2013
Clifton W. Cooke Jr. 72EG/M, of Lincoln, Maine, Dec. 21, 2013
David R. Harmon 72EG, of Newark, Del., Nov. 21, 2013
Dean J. Kilpatrick 72BE/M, of Apopka, Fla., Oct. 21, 2013
Donna Harrington Kirkpatrick 72AS, of Richmond, Va., Aug. 24, 2013
Beatrice Hignutt Sammons 72EH, of Seaford, Del., Sept. 30, 2013
Judith Rodgers Warrington 72EH/M, of Milford, Del., Oct. 9, 2013
Anne M. Sheridan 73EH/M, of Wilmington, Del., Sept. 7, 2013
Joanne Rowles West 73EH, of Wilmington, Del., Oct. 28, 2013
David T. Blackney 75HS, of Wilmington, Del., Oct. 11, 2013
William M. Mahoney 75AS, of Buckhannon, W.Va., Dec. 16, 2013
Bruce A. Shaver Sr. 75BE, of Rock Hall, Md., Sept. 12, 2013
Mary L. Galanes 76BE, of Wilmington, Del., Oct. 26, 2013
John J. Snyder Jr. 76AS/M, of Washington Boro, Pa., Dec. 28, 2013
Ronald J. Holoviak 77EH/M, of Wilmington, Del., Nov. 23, 2013
Theresa Corrigan Marshall 77AS, of Middletown, Del., Dec. 12, 2013
Francis E. McCann Jr. 77HS, of Buckeye, Ariz., Feb. 8, 2013
Olga Gunlnaugson Albone 78AS, of Williamsport, Md., Nov. 8, 2013
Jude-Anne Bierschenk Itin 78AS, 81BE, of Hockessin, Del., Sept. 10, 2013
Michael K. Brown 78AS/M, of Houston, Texas, Sept. 8, 2013
Robert J. Lawrence 78EG, of Kemblesville, Pa., May 29, 2013
Patrick R. McCarron 78AS, of Newark, Del., Aug. 31, 2013
Broderick Perkins 78AS, of San Jose, Calif., Sept. 29, 2013
Henrietta Maiori Cerf 79AS, of Newark, Del., Sept. 1, 2013
Dorothea Cheron Haac 79AS, of Salisbury, Md., Oct. 4, 2013
Vivian Kendall 79AS, of Olympia, Wash., Dec. 9, 2013
Marian Shawver Delp 80EH, of Wilmington, Del., Oct. 30, 2013
Carol Bank Geers 80EH, of Montville, N.J., Nov. 13, 2013
William D. Chrisco 82AS, of Newark, Del., Sept. 27, 2013
Barbara Pomerene James 82HS, of Richmond, Va., July 1, 2013
Joanne P. Cicone 83AS, of Lewes, Del., Dec. 12, 2013
Robert F. Cressman Jr. 84AS, 96AG/M, of Wilmington, Del., Nov. 30, 2013
Elizabeth Abel Fuhrmann 84AS, of Berthoud, Colo., Sept. 19, 2013
Jonathan W. Kamen 84AS, of Wilmington, Del., Dec. 20, 2013
Stephen M. Kobernick 84AS, of St. Petersburg, Fla., Nov. 23, 2013
Sandra Arington Cole 85HS, 92M, of Seaford, Del., Aug. 4, 2013
Edward J. Williamson 87BE, of Jacksonville, Fla., April 1, 2013
Nancy E. Packer 89AS/M, of Silver Spring, Md., Dec. 10, 2013
Brandon D. Webster 94AS, of Cazenovia, N.Y., Feb. 5, 2013
Joseph B. Davis 95AS/M, of Erie, Pa., Oct. 3, 2013
Michelle Scheib Chatellier 97AS, of Bear, Del., Oct. 6, 2013
Henry J. Harkins 97AS, of Wilmington, Del., Nov. 19, 2013
Joann M. Outen 97AS, of Wilmington, Del., Sept. 26, 2013
John C. Ferguson 99AS/PhD, of Austin, Texas, Nov. 15, 2013
Jo A. Tobin 09EO, of Chestertown, Md., Feb. 26, 2013
Stephen F. Rose 10AS, of Basking Ridge, N.J., Nov. 29, 2013
Peter A. Layton 12AG, of Ellendale, Del., Dec. 25, 2013

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When Louis Arena arrives in Italy, it seems as though the entire country takes notice, welcoming him warmly as family.

But Arena, associate professor emeritus of linguistics and cognitive science, rarely travels to Italy alone—most often, he’s leading a class of UD students.

“In every way, the best part of my entire trip was the insight and knowledge Professor Arena was able to provide,” wrote one student after participating in Arena’s study abroad program on linguistics and English held during Winter Session last year. “He was always challenging us to view what we were learning in terms of real world situations,” wrote another student. “We had to actually go out and interact with citizens from each of the cities we visited and then do a linguistic write-up on the results we found. Talking with natives of Italy really pushed us to immerse ourselves in the culture.”

These are just two of the student nominations that contributed to Arena’s selection as UD’s Study Abroad Faculty Director of the Year for 2013.

Expanding students’ cultural horizons has been a goal of Arena’s over the nearly 14 years he has been involved with study abroad. While Italy has been a preferred destination for this native speaker of an Italian dialect, he also has co-directed a program in Switzerland.

“In one word, ‘diversity’ is what attracts me to Italy, in every city, village, restaurant, church, tradition, local and national holiday, and even in the educational system throughout the country,” Arena says. “There is diversity in the native Italian population in terms of language, dialects, history, culture, food and beverage, among lots of others.”

He says the goal of all his study abroad programs is for UD students to return to the U.S. and to celebrate diversity in all of its many facets and to learn from individual and collective differences and respecting every human being.

All members of the campus community have the personal responsibility to promote an atmosphere of civility in which the free exchange of ideas and opinions can flourish. We do so by learning from individual and collective differences and respecting every human being.

The University of Delaware does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, age, veteran status, gender identity or expression, or sexual orientation in its programs and activities as required by Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and other applicable statutes and University policies. The University of Delaware prohibits sexual harassment, including sexual violence. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Rehabilitation Act, and related statutes and regulations: Avron Abraham, Interim Director, Office of Disabilities Support Services, 240 Academy Street, Alison Hall, Suite 130, University of Delaware, Newark, DE 19716, 302-831-4643. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies and to serve as the overall campus coordinator for purposes of Title IX compliance: Bindu Kolli, Director, Policy, Compliance & Equity, 413 Academy Street, University of Delaware, Newark, DE 19716, 302-831-2171. The following individuals have been designated as deputy Title IX coordinators: for Athletics, Samantha Huge, Deputy Athletic Director, 122 Hulihen Hall, University of Delaware, Newark, DE 19716, 302-831-3103; and for Student Life, Dawn Thompson, VP for Student Life, 101 Hulihen Hall, University of Delaware, Newark, DE 19716, 302-831-8939. Inquiries concerning the application of anti-discrimination laws may be referred to the Title IX coordinators or to the Office for Civil Rights, United States Department of Education. For further information on notice of nondiscrimination, visit http://wdcrobcolp01.ed.gov/CFAPPS/OCR/contactus.cfm for the address and phone number of the U.S. Department of Education office that serves your area, or call 1-800-421-3481.

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