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MESSENGER
VOLUME 24 | NUMBER 1

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becomes greater still





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COURTESY OF MU PI

UD's first African-American sorority, the Mu Pi Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta, celebrated its 40-year anniversary last fall, with a Homecoming reunion attended by more than 125 alumnae and current students. Read more on p. 54.

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An inside look at admissions and enrollment at UD and the factors at play when shaping the Class of 2020

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ON THE COVER



Learn more about how the admissions office crafts an incoming class on page 34.

Photo by Evan Krape



Visit <http://sites.udel.edu/nursing-alum> for a full event listing surrounding Nursing's 50-year anniversary.

WEB EXTRAS



Learn more about UD's entrepreneurial initiatives at www.udel.edu/udmessenger/entrepreneurs



Join thousands of Blue Hens returning to campus this summer. View the full schedule at www.udel.edu/alumniweekend/2016

FROM OUR ACTING PRESIDENT

A university education is an investment, one that requires a student's time, energy and resources. It's also an investment on our part. Every professor, every classroom or lab, every program that enriches the Blue Hen experience—they are all investments in our students.

The return we expect? Graduates who will change the world.

It starts when roughly 27,000 students apply to UD. Each year, our admissions staff builds a community of diverse students who will support and challenge each other as they live, learn and labor together. The admissions process is a blend of science and art, and in this issue of *Messenger*, you can peek behind the curtain with our story on assembling the Class of 2020.

Once students arrive on campus, our mission is to give them an excellent education that prepares them for the future. As you'll read in our feature story, students are learning to think like innovators and entrepreneurs. They're reassessing what it means to take risks, embrace opportunities and apply their academics and expertise to issues that matter to society.

We're always looking for ways to expand our



investments in students. To build on our long history of study abroad, we recently launched the World Scholars program, which lets select freshmen start their UD experience with a semester in Rome or Madrid. It's just the first step in giving them a unique global perspective on their path to becoming world citizens.

We also invest in the faculty who are the heart

and soul of UD. In the story on named professorships, you'll discover how attracting and retaining accomplished professors helps transform great students into great graduates.

Soon, Delaware Stadium will be filled with the graduating Class of 2016. Every one of them benefitted from the investments made by family, faculty, staff and the University.

This year's ceremony will be my last Commencement at UD. As I prepare to become provost at the University of New Hampshire, I believe our students will learn what I have—that wherever we go, this University will forever be a part of who we are and who we become.

What we put into UD comes back to us many times over. And that's the definition of a wise investment.

Nancy Targett

Acting President, University of Delaware



Follow me on Twitter @NancyMTargett

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Check out the *Messenger* online at www.udel.edu/UDMessenger.

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YOUR THOUGHTS

I am a UD alum and I enjoy reading your magazine. Thank you for keeping me connected to my alma mater.

I saw the article this past fall in the magazine about a woman who sang in the chorus when the pope came to visit Philadelphia. I was wondering if you knew that a UD music major alum was one of the cantors (soloists) that sang during the mass? I didn't see his name mentioned in an article, so I thought I would write in and tell you. His name is Jeff Chapman and he graduated in 2001 with a music degree. I graduated with him, however, we did not keep in touch after college. It was an honor for all who participated during the pope's visit, and since being a soloist for his mass is a once in a lifetime experience, I thought I'd share the info with you since UD was represented so well.

– Kelly Harding, AS01, 10M

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU.

Submit a letter, either by mail to UD Messenger, 83 East Main St., Newark, DE 19716, or by email to TheMessenger@udel.edu. Please include your full name, graduation year and contact information. Letters may be edited for length, clarity and style.



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OUR STUDENTS

Located on the lower level of Morris Library, the Student Multimedia Design Center is otherwise referred to as “the place with the blue lights.”

The 15,000-square-foot area is the largest multimedia-focused academic research library space for students in the nation, not just in size, but in equipment. Boasting 80 computers, six studios and two hands-on instruction rooms, the center also offers more than 240 multimedia kits for loan—from cameras, hard drives and lighting, to wireless mics, laptops and iPads. And at any given time, students can be seen in one of the studios, recording CDs and podcasts, editing self-made documentaries, creating digital, artistic masterpieces, or practicing a presentation for class (which they can record and later critique).

“Our goal is to serve the needs of students in this rapidly changing digital world in which they are creators and consumers,” says librarian Shelly McCoy, who oversees the center. “It’s astonishing to see the things our students come up with.”

Watch student-produced videos at library.udel.edu/multimedia/spotlight.

PHOTO BY EVAN KRAPE

Educating tomorrow's leaders today

Alexandra Davis, AS14, 15M, and Tshilidza Ratshitanga, AS20M, have led very different lives, but the American woman conducting research in South Africa and the South African man pursuing a doctorate at the University of Delaware share at least one thing—a passion for social justice.

It's a passion that led both to study public policy at UD. And it's what administrators recognized by naming them the first two fellows in the University's Littleton and Jane Mitchell Fellows Program for Civil Rights and Social Justice.

Alexandra Davis, AS14, 15M

Davis, the inaugural Mitchell Fellow, first came to UD from a New Jersey high school that focused on science, technology and engineering. She planned to major in biological sciences, but after joining the College of Arts and Sciences' NUCLEUS organization—which provides academic support, career development, networking and research opportunities to students—she began to narrow her academic focus.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ALEXANDRA DAVIS

Mitchell Fellow Alexandra Davis, AS14, 15M, volunteers for a youth club in Soweto. She's pictured here with a student mentee.



KATHY F. ATKINSON

Mitchell Fellow Tshilidza Ratshitanga, AS20M, (pictured here with Prof. Leland Ware, left) is working with UD alumni in South Africa to improve and enhance public policy in the country.

“My thirst for knowledge about the world and my desire to work with underserved communities led me to UD,” Davis says.

With the support of a Plastino Scholars enrichment grant (which funds student “passion projects”), Davis traveled to South Africa to study economic development in Soweto. After graduating in May 2014, she enrolled in the School of Public Policy and Administration's (SPPA) master's degree program in urban affairs and public policy and was awarded the first Mitchell Fellowship, which she calls “critical” to her graduate studies.

“Without the financial support, I surely would not have been able to stay on for the master's degree,” Davis says. “Therefore, I am eternally grateful to SPPA and to Prof. Leland Ware for the opportunity.”

She worked with Ware, the Louis L. Redding Professor of Law and Public

Policy and interim director of SPPA, on research projects involving civil rights and social justice, specifically an examination of racial disparities in student discipline. Now in her second year of graduate studies, Davis is back in South Africa as a Fulbright Scholar researching issues of economic development.

She says it's a continuation of the same focus she had as a Mitchell Fellow: “Soweto [is] the oldest and largest township in South Africa, which was critical to the struggle against apartheid and continues to be plagued with high levels of poverty and unemployment,” she says.

Tshilidza Ratshitanga, AS20M

This year's Mitchell Fellow, Ratshitanga followed a different path to his current position. After earning a bachelor's degree in South Africa, he worked in government there for several years, then joined UD alumnus Sibusiso

Vil-Nkomo, AS83M, 85PhD, and other colleagues in founding a respected think tank focused on social and economic prosperity for their homeland.

Vil-Nkomo, who helped write South Africa's new constitution in the early 1990s, encouraged Ratshitanga to pursue doctoral studies in public policy, and he spoke highly of the SPPA program at UD. With the financial assistance of the Mitchell Fellowship, Ratshitanga took the leap, temporarily leaving his wife

and children and arriving in Delaware this fall.

"My main interest is looking at how South Africa's urbanization is impacting economic development," he says. "The focus here at UD on urban affairs is very important to me. I feel that I'm able to make linkages between what's been studied here in the U.S. and apply it to South Africa."

His goal is to earn a doctorate, delving into urban challenges that

America has faced, and to explore ways in which developing countries might avoid some of those problems. And, he says, he's learned a lot about Littleton and Jane Mitchell and greatly admires them.

"The whole reason I came here to study is to empower myself to advocate for transformation in South Africa," Ratshitanga says. "I feel honored to be associated with the Mitchells, who were such great advocates of equality and social justice." ■

—Ann Manser, AS73

Civil rights leaders

When members of the Delaware legal and civil rights communities looked for a way to honor Littleton P. and Jane E. Mitchell for their decades of tireless advocacy and pioneering leadership, they naturally thought about how the couple's legacy would be carried forward.

Littleton Mitchell, president of the Delaware NAACP during the height of the Civil Rights Movement, worked to end segregation in public institutions and to ensure equal treatment of African Americans in the criminal justice system. Jane Mitchell, AS63, was the first African American nurse at Delaware State Hospital to treat both black and white patients. She later became the first African American nursing director in the state and was elected president of the State Board of Nursing. She was inducted into the Hall of Fame of Delaware Women in 1988, among numerous other honors.

"This is all about developing leaders in social justice," UD's Leland Ware says about the fellowship program named for the Mitchells. "The Mitchells were such important leaders, and we are looking for people to continue their legacy."

The Littleton and Jane Mitchell Fellows Program for Civil Rights and Social Justice, created through



generous community support, is housed in the University's School of Public Policy and Administration. Ware, who is the Louis L. Redding Chair in Law and Public Policy and interim

director of the school, also oversees the Mitchell Fellows program.

The program supports graduate students—selected for academic excellence, leadership potential and a commitment to social justice—and serves as a resource to engage the larger community through public events such as speakers and public service projects.

Littleton Mitchell served as one of the famed Tuskegee Airmen during World War II and was the first African American teacher to instruct white students in Delaware. A graduate of West Chester (Pa.) University, he spent his entire career as a counselor for the Governor Bacon Health Center, a Delaware-based mental health facility for children with physical and emotional disabilities. Jane Mitchell, a 1963 graduate of UD, served on the University's Board of Trustees and was named to the Alumni Wall of Fame in 1998.

Mrs. Mitchell died in 2004 and Mr. Mitchell in 2009. Their papers are housed in Special Collections at UD's Morris Library, where they are available to the public for review. ■

THE URBAN RAINDROP

Imagine a raindrop falling from the clouds and onto a treetop, flowing first across a leaf, then trickling along a branch, and finally dripping down the trunk all the way to the ground.

That one drop, multiplied many times, rainstorm after rainstorm, city across city, has the power to do great good—as well as quite a bit of harm. Depending on the type of tree it travels down and the shape of the “forest” it found, a raindrop might be carrying pollution away from the trees... or aggravating urban flooding problems. It might be fostering healthier plants by distributing crucial nutrients... or simply inundating sewer systems. It might be guided by the tree in such a way that groundwater supplies are recharged... or simply dumped onto a parking lot to puddle and stagnate.

Asia Dowtin, EOE12M, 17PhD, wants to tell the untold stories and unimagined journeys of that humble raindrop. With funding from the National Science Foundation, American Water Resources Association and UD’s geography department, the Roosevelt, New York-native and doctoral candidate is focusing her research on the esoteric and largely unseen dynamics of “stemflow”—the intricate interactions between raindrops and trees.

And she’s doing it one drop at a time. With rainwater collectors at different locations within such “urban forests” as Wilmington, Delaware’s



PHOTOS BY LEAH DODD

Asia Dowtin and undergraduate student Tianjiao Hao, EG15, install equipment used to measure the rainwater that flows down a tree at a UD research site in Fair Hill, Maryland.

Rockford Park and Alapocas Run State Park, she and faculty adviser Delphis Levia, professor and chair of geography, will gauge the water-management capabilities of different types of trees in different locations—some out on the edges, others tucked closer to the center.



By measuring “stemflow,” UD researchers gain insight into how trees modify the impacts of rainfall on the environment.

Armed with the data she will collect over the next year, Dowtin will ask: What kinds of nutrients—and which pollutants—are being carried down from the treetops along with the rain? What is the sheer volume of water being delivered to the ground over time by different types of trees

and different densities of forests? Is there a difference in volume and quality from the edge to the center?

“In urban areas, stemflow is of particular importance, because we have all this stuff settling onto the forest canopy,” she says. “We have atmospheric pollutants from cars, we have industrial emissions, we have highways that cut through cities. Then, when it rains, this stuff is washed off the surfaces of the trees. Stemflow is really important in urban areas because it concentrates all that water into a small area at the base of the forest.”

Why that occurs is what she’ll soon uncover. ■

Not your average spring break

Spring break rarely conjures up images of students with hammers, rebuilding homes damaged by national disasters, or standing before a classroom, leading activities for homeless pre-school children.

And yet, for the fifth year now, more than 1,000 undergraduates have participated in the University of Delaware's Alternative Breaks (UDaB), a student-led program in which they spend their spring break (and/or Winter Session) giving back to places in need—not for class, not for credit, but for others.

Take, for instance, Tommy Margiasso, EG16, who spent a

week last spring constructing raised-bed gardens for residents in Philadelphia with community partner, Urban Tree Connection.

“You don’t really understand the types of social issues that are out there until you’re put into an environment that struggles with one every day,” he says. “One week of service allowed me to learn not just about how we can help areas in need through teamwork and motivation, but also a lot about myself and how much I enjoy getting involved at a community level.”

Since its launch in 2011, UDaB has grown from 92 to



EVAN KRAPE

more than 300 students this year, with 13 sites across the country and beyond, including a recent partnership with a community development organization in Nicaragua.

This spring, students will work with early literacy programs in Washington, D.C.,

domestic violence shelters in Lexington, Kentucky, and nonprofits supporting homeless populations in coastal Maine—to name just a few.

To learn more about UDaB and how you can support the program, visit www.udel.edu/002949. ■

LIFE-CHANGING INTERNSHIP

Inspired by *Half the Sky*, Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn’s impassioned book on the oppression of women and girls in the developing world, Olivia Blythe, EHD17, AS17, had one goal for her internship abroad: to help others.

That’s just what she did as an intern for New Light, a nonprofit grassroots organization that provides job opportunities and health and social services to sex workers in India.

For one month last summer, Blythe, a double major in human services and women and gender studies, applied her educational background to hands-on work with children of those working in the red light districts of Kolkata, India.



PHOTO COURTESY OF OLIVIA BLYTHE

She led them in yoga and meditation and had gender roles conversations with the young boys. “We deconstructed the social norms of being a woman or a man in India and discussed

how social expectations limit who we can be and how we express ourselves.”

Blythe and the children created a poster about how people should be treated. “I had a wonderful time doing

this exercise,” she says. “Afterward, they described women as kind, educated and strong, and men as gentle, smart and family oriented.”

Although Blythe is now home from her adventure, she is still in contact with New Light, continuing to help them build awareness and encouraging others to get involved.

The organization, which promotes gender equality through education and life-skill training to reduce harm caused by violence and abuse to women and young children, has made a profound difference in Blythe’s own worldview.

“I hope to do service work for the rest of my life.” ■

PITCH : 90

Quick! You have the next 90 seconds inside an elevator to tell the person standing next to you about your research. What do you say? Why does your research matter?

While few “elevator pitches” actually take place in elevators, there are numerous situations in which the ability to explain your research clearly, concisely and passionately will be important to your success.

That’s what the Pitch:90 competition aims to do. Sponsored by UD’s Delaware Environmental Institute and designed as an entertaining, fast-paced event, it provides students a chance to develop their communication and presentation skills while showcasing their research. Here, in their own words, the top-three winners of the most recent annual event share their pitches.



HADI AL-KHATEEB

**THE BRIDGE DOCTOR:
HADI AL-KHATEEB, EG19M, 1ST PLACE**



“Do you get scared when you drive across a big bridge? Do you wonder if this bridge is going to collapse? Wouldn’t you feel better if you knew that the bridge was hooked up to a health monitoring system? Yes, a health monitoring

system. According to the American Society of Civil Engineers, one out of nine bridges in the United States is in urgent need of repair. [The] Federal Highway Administration estimates that it would cost \$9 billion per year more than what we are currently spending to fix the problem. Sad situations like the collapse of the I-35 bridge in Minnesota in 2007 that killed 13 innocent people, and the traffic jam caused by the temporary closure of the I-495 bridge last year in Delaware, and many other incidents, have called into question our current bridge inspection methods. With a rapidly aging infrastructure, is it sufficient to rely on visual bridge inspections that are conducted once every two years? In my research, we combine new information technologies and advanced systems with bridge engineering to come up with ‘smart bridges.’ Utilizing the monitored data, the health of these bridges can be continuously monitored and inspected. By doing this, bridge owners and federal highway administrators can make sure that the bridges we drive on are not going to collapse, and also they can spend their limited funds on the most urgent problems. If my research is successfully implemented, I promise you, as a bridge doctor, that bridges will be safer, healthier and smarter. And you will not have to pay the extra \$9 billion of taxes. Thank you.” ■

PRESERVING THE CORAL REEF:

MOLLY ASHUR, EOE19M, 2ND PLACE



"Close your eyes and picture a coral reef. I imagine you're thinking of fish and turtles and sharks. But it is the corals themselves that are the true architects of the reef. Every summer, on the full moon of the hottest month of the year, most reef-building corals release their eggs and sperm into the water column in a spectacular mass spawning event. The fertilized eggs drift to the open ocean before returning to the reef to settle on the bottom. These larvae are only about the size of a freckle—no eyes, ears, nose or fins—yet miraculously many of them are able to successfully return to the reef. However, the oceans are changing drastically. You've all heard about climate change. Well, excess CO₂ in the atmosphere can be incorporated into the ocean, changing the chemistry and altering the neural development of marine animals. For example, juvenile reef larvae—juvenile reef fish—after exposure to high CO₂, can no longer tell the difference between the smell of the ocean and the smell of the reef. However, we know very little about the impacts on the sensory systems of corals. Therefore my research analyzes the sensory preferences, or "smelling ability," of coral larvae after exposure to high CO₂. If the larvae can no longer find their way back to the reef, the very foundation of the reef ecosystem begins to fail. So close your eyes again and picture a future reef. Not as pretty of a picture, right? Understanding the behavior of coral larvae after exposure to high CO₂, and incorporating this into management practices, can help us to ensure the future of coral reefs." ■

MOLLY ASHUR



MEGAN CIMINO



PENGUIN CHICKS AND CLIMATE CHANGE: MEGAN CIMINO, EOE16M, 3RD PLACE



"Have you guys heard of the latest celebrity weight-loss trend, where you stand in a freezer and shiver to burn off calories? I'm not kidding. People actually do this. And ironically, penguin chicks can lose weight in a really similar way. My research tries to understand the impacts of climate change on penguins, and Adélie penguins live in one of the most rapidly warming regions in the world. With warming air temperatures, there's more moisture in the air and more snow and rain. Last year when I was down in Antarctica, I saw penguin chicks huddled together, shivering, on a rainy day. Penguin chicks are stuck on land, where they have no protection from the weather. They don't have waterproof feathers, so if it rains or snow melts around their nest, their feathers can get wet. We found that wet and windy weather caused chicks to weigh less. So it's like they're standing in a freezer, while they're wet, forcing them to burn off more calories to keep warm. A chick that doesn't survive weighs only 4 percent less than a chick that does, which is about the weight of your iPhone—not very much. But to completely understand the effects of climate change on penguins, we have to study their whole life cycle. Some of my other research uses satellites and underwater robots to look at penguin breeding habitats and dive behaviors. The one thing we do know is that if wet conditions become more common, penguin chicks will continue to lose weight like celebrities." ■

PHOTOS BY KATHY E. ATKINSON AND KEVIN QUINLAN



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OUR FACULTY

When Liying Mu, assistant professor of operations management, heard that thousands of children in China had fallen ill in 2008 after drinking tainted milk, she was inspired to act.

By closely studying the supply chain in China, she discovered that dairy farmers were trying to maximize their profits by diluting their product—sometimes with water, other times with detergent. Mu's solution was this: When tests of mixed milk from many farms show that quality is suspect, a second test of the individual farms should automatically be triggered. "Those farmers who are detected to supply low-quality or adulterated milk will share the testing cost," Mu says. "So they have an economic threat."

Such models of socially responsible operations management are gradually gaining a foothold in business, says fellow operations management professor Adam Fleischhacker. "Firms that fail to engrain social responsibility into their corporate DNA are at risk of suffering costly lapses in judgment," he said, pointing to recent high-profile scandals at Volkswagen, Tesco and Nestle as examples of "systemic ethical blunders that endanger the public good."

PHOTO BY KATHY F. ATKINSON

Professor Sparks *a* legacy

An Academic Family Tree



“If I have seen a little further, it is by standing on the shoulders of giants,” Isaac Newton wrote in 1676.

This kind of legacy of knowledge was on the minds of the former students who gathered last spring to pay tribute to Donald L. Sparks—the Unidel S. Hallock du Pont Chair of Soil and Environmental Chemistry—as he received the Geochemistry Division Medal at the American Chemical Society’s (ACS) annual meeting in Denver, Colorado. A globally recognized leader in soil and environmental chemistry, Sparks joined UD’s Department of Plant and Soil Sciences in 1979, and has since mentored dozens of doctoral students, who have gone on to mentor dozens of their own.

He represents an excellence in mentorship that can be found across the University, having created an exponential wave of education and research that continues to extend across the

world. In 2002, he became the first recipient of the University’s Outstanding Doctoral Graduate Student Advising and Mentoring Award.

During the two-and-a-half day symposium in his honor at the ACS meeting, many of his former students presented talks, as did current students and colleagues who have worked with Sparks over the years.

“The highlight of my career has been the advisement and mentoring of a remarkable group of students who have come to UD from all parts of the world,” says Sparks. “It has been highly satisfying to follow their successful careers and the impact they are having in addressing some of the global environmental challenges we face.” ■

—Beth Chajes

37

Doctoral students who have received degrees under Sparks’ mentorship.

Donald L. Sparks

Unidel S. Hallock du Pont Chair of Soil and Environmental Chemistry

16

Mentees who have gone on to academic careers at universities around the world.

102

Most recent count of Sparks’ mentees’ mentees to graduate with advanced degrees.

21

PhD graduates to emerge from Sparks’ lab and pursue careers outside of academe—**10** in industry, **nine** in government and **two** in postdoctoral programs.

40

Mentees’ mentees with PhDs.

Reflections from former students

Derek
Peak

ANR02PhD

Peak has mentored **one PhD student**, **six master's students** and currently supervises **seven graduate students** at the University of Saskatchewan, where he serves as professor in the Department of Soil Science.

"Don's ability to nurture and facilitate the research of his graduate students is a rare talent. He created a work environment where his students could not just succeed but be truly exceptional. He was always incredibly free with his time when it came to his students. Working in the Sparks lab group meant that you were not only getting an advanced degree, but also had found a new family."

Yuji
Arai

ANR02PhD

Arai has mentored **one PhD student** and **four master's students** and currently supervises **two graduate students** at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, where he serves as assistant professor in the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences.

"The two biggest lessons I learned from Dr. Sparks are working hard and being humble. Hard work will build a respected character and will lead to accomplishments that are admired by others, and it will bring new opportunities that allow us to expand a professional network. A humble person is always liked by many and is effective in engaging with people because he or she respects and accepts others for who they are. These lessons prepared me for the real world and made me into a college professor. His advice and suggestions continue to help me develop my educational and research program in academia."

Scott
Fendorf

ANR92PhD

Fendorf has mentored **14 PhD students**, **15 master's students** and currently supervises **six graduate students** at Stanford University, where he serves as Huffington Professor of Earth Sciences, chair of the Department of Earth System Science and senior fellow in the Woods Institute for the Environment.

"From the time I first met Don, I have marveled at his ability to run what is a premier soil chemistry program, chair a department or institute, take on professional society roles, and still maintain an open door policy for his students. Don views his students as his children, and he is truly an amazing academic father to all of us—not only during our time as his students but throughout our careers. Don isn't just my PhD adviser but a lifelong friend and mentor. Don's first graduate student, the late Dr. Phil Jardine, provided the best summary when he said, 'Dr. Sparks is a selfless individual dedicated to the advancement of science and, in particular, his students.'"

Daniel
Strawn

ANR98PhD

Strawn has mentored **one PhD student** and **12 master's students** and currently supervises **three graduate students** at the University of Idaho, where he serves as professor in the Department of Plant, Soil and Entomological Sciences.

"Working with Don, I learned that success in research takes creativity, hard work and calculated risks. He taught me the importance of being an expert in soil chemistry and also of being able to work across disciplines. Don continues to provide me encouragement and support in my career."

Saengdao
Khaokaew

ANR10PhD

Khaokaew has mentored **three master's students** and is currently supervising **four graduate students**, including a Fulbright scholar from Washington State University. She is an associate professor in the Department of Soil Science at Kasetsart University (KU) in Bangkok, Thailand.

"One striking aspect of Dr. Sparks' personality is that he always treats everyone with the same amount of respect and consideration. Coming from Thailand, I am used to a more hierarchical, almost patriarchal, relationship between a mentor and his or her student. Now that I am myself an adviser to many students at KU in Bangkok, this is one of the most important lessons that I learned from Dr. Sparks: Paying close attention to someone's standpoints, expectations and interests can give a student the feeling of worthiness and motivation to complete his or her degree and become a confident professional later on."

Evert
Elzinga

ANR00PhD

Elzinga has mentored **one PhD student** and is currently supervising **three graduate students** at Rutgers University, where he serves as associate professor in the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences.

"During my time in Delaware working in Don's lab, I not only learned the technical skills and knowledge required for a scientific career but was also provided an inspiring example of student mentorship and guidance that strongly influences the way I advise my own students. Don gives his students a great deal of freedom in defining their own research projects and encourages exploration of new techniques and approaches. This is not always easy for the students, but in the end they benefit greatly from the independence this approach engenders."



EVAN KRAPE

A surrealist's fowl encounter

At UD, he taught graphic design to hundreds of students and launched many careers in art. Over the years, his surrealist paintings have hung in highbrow galleries around the world. For six-plus decades, Prof. Emeritus Charles Rowe has been keenly focused on the abstract expression of metaphysical concepts, spiritual talismans and mythic ideals.

So it might seem odd that one of the works Rowe seems destined to be remembered for is not the paintings of a mustachioed nose poking through a doorway, or rockets zooming past a bison skull—but his bucolic, peaceful and decidedly non-abstract portrait of two dignified ducks flying past a full moon.

In Rowe's broad-minded approach to art, it wasn't really that much of a leap. By winning the 1981 Delaware Waterfowl Stamp Contest, he believes he succeeded nicely in showing the wildlife-and-waterfowl purists that a duck can be a bit

more than just a duck—that even a hunting stamp can embrace subtle cues from Japanese art, Egyptian aesthetics, ancient Chinese techniques.

“Most duck stamp paintings, the birds are floating in the water, a couple of

reeds thrown in. The judges said they'd never seen anything like that before,” Rowe says of the competition, held annually to select the artwork that will grace the upcoming hunting season's “Migratory Waterfowl Stamps.” The stamps serve as a hunting permit in Delaware and other states. Typically, the proceeds of duck stamps are used to fund habitat protection and other conservation measures—and the stamps themselves often become collectibles.

“One of the jurors said, ‘There was your painting, and none of the others even existed.’ That was a nice compliment,” remembers Rowe, now 82, who has had his award-winning painting tucked away for some three decades—and is now ready to see it go.

This April, the painting and a handful of other Rowe originals were put up for sale at the Delaware Foundation for the Visual Arts' Spring Art Show, where Rowe was celebrated as Honored Artist for his years of contributions to the local art scene. “People locally haven't seen a lot of my work, because mostly I've exhibited in national shows,” he says. “So this was a good chance to give a Delaware audience access to a Delaware artist's work.”

Ultimately, Rowe hopes that the painting—titled “Black & White”—doesn't remain hidden for another 34 years. “I'd like to see it go into a collection where the public can see it,” he says. ■





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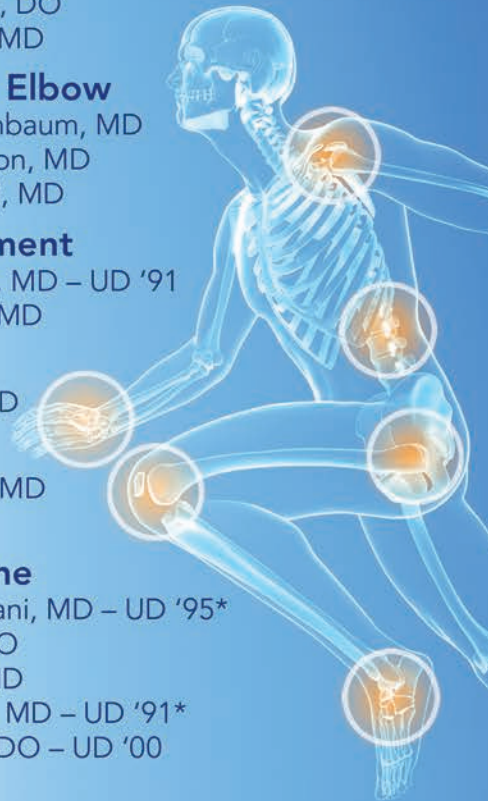
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Delaware Athletic Department.



DELAWARE ORTHOPAEDIC SPECIALISTS

ANALYZING THE FORCE

As the influence of Star Wars continues to reverberate across the galaxy, experts from various UD dimensions examine one of the greatest science fiction epics of our time.

Astronomy

John Gizis, professor of physics and astronomy, notes that many astronomers



were influenced by science fiction films in their decision to study space. "Certainly this is true for me," said Gizis, who now studies stars that are much smaller than the sun and also "brown dwarfs," a type of failed star that has similarities to both stars and planets.

Q: What science did the films get surprisingly right?

A: The makers of the *Star Wars* films imagined exotic worlds like Tatooine, a desert planet with two suns; the Fourth Moon of Yavin, a moon covered in jungle; the Forest Moon of Endor; and the ice planet Hoth. Since the original trilogy, astronomers have found evidence of many planets unlike those in our solar system, including planets with two suns and gas giants whose moons might be inhabitable, and geologists have found evidence that Earth

may have once been completely covered in ice. Although we don't actually yet know of any worlds other than the Earth that are livable, the idea of extraordinarily diverse worlds seems to be right.

Q: What did they get wrong?

A: Obviously, large parts of films are impossible by scientific standards. It's not really possible to travel faster than light, sound can't travel in space, the X-Wing fighters wouldn't bank as if they were planes, giant monsters surely can't live in asteroids, and asteroids aren't actually so close together that they would be hard to dodge. It's not meant to be realistic, so none of that bothers me.

Q: What got you hooked on space science?

A: I loved the adventure most of all, but the idea of seeing other stars, planets, moons and asteroids really did stick with me. Using a NASA telescope (the K2 Kepler) in space to look at distant stars is not quite as exciting as in the Millennium Falcon, but it is still amazing.

Q: What new space adventures await the world in the next year or two?

A: I'm hoping to discover some new planets but they'd probably be too cold for people to live on. It's very possible that in the next year NASA will announce the most Earth-like planet yet, a world warm enough to have liquid water, but I think it'd still be many years until we know if anyone or anything actually lives on it.

Film studies

Thomas Leitch, professor of English specializing in film studies,



turned down a chance to see the original *Star Wars* when it was released in 1977, telling a friend, "You must be kidding. I can't believe grownups will want to see this." He saw it years later when his young son insisted and includes it today when teaching about special effects.

Q: How has the film influenced the culture?

A: I often think about how people from my generation ask each other, "Where were you when you learned that JFK was killed?" And then, almost 40 years later, we had the Sept. 11 attacks, and this generation asks where someone was when that happened. But in between, I think the most bonding event might be: When did you first see *Star Wars*?

Q: What was the impact of the original *Star Wars* on filmmaking and the culture?

A: I think that *Star Wars*, more than any other film, put paid to the American Western, which used to be extremely popular. The story it told, of adventure and good vs. evil, is the kind of story that once would have been told in the Western genre. But after *Star Wars*, those stories were told in outer space. Its popularity really has very little to do with science fiction. It could have been set anywhere; it just happened to be set in outer space. ■

—Ann Manser, AS73

UD's droid restorer

Not many people can say they've seen a real *Star Wars* character in person. Mary Coughlin, AS05M, can say she's seen one from the inside out.

It happened when she was a third-year intern at the National Museum of American History, where the iconic C-3PO droid costume was sent in 1984 after its role in "*Star Wars: Episode VI—Return of the Jedi*." Conservators noticed ominous signs of wear, and soon Coughlin was part of restoration efforts that would end up taking months.

Part of the reason was sheer complexity. "It had come to us with the dressing instructions that were used by the actor, so we followed them in reverse to take it apart, but it was still harder than we anticipated," says Coughlin, who would go on to graduate from the Winterthur/University of Delaware Program in Art Conservation.

Another glitch came when the team realized that the shiny gold color had changed over the years. "We



JOHN COX

ended up talking with the archivist at Lucasfilm, and she invited us out to Skywalker Ranch, where I got to see other pieces that were made in similar ways to C-3PO. It's a process called vacuum metalizing, which is also used in making trophies, that puts very fragile, thin layers on an object."

It ended up being a highlight of her time at UD—and also gave her department at the museum a bit of

star luster itself. "People from other parts of the museum would come down to see him, which didn't happen with most other things we worked on," says Coughlin, now an assistant professor of conservation at George Washington University.

"UD was a place that gave me many opportunities," she adds. "But I never expected a droid would be one of them." ■

From UD to a galaxy long, long ago and far, far away...

There's a little bit of UD in FN-2199.

The alphanumerically named Stormtrooper character in the latest *Star Wars* blockbuster gets his muscle from a lightsaber-resistant Z6 riot



DAVID ACORD/LUCASFILMS

control baton, but his voice comes straight from UD graduate David Acord, AS94.

Acord actually voiced two characters and handled all sound editing in the latest episode of the iconic science fiction films, earning him and fellow editor Matthew Wood Oscar nominations for their work.

It's a stunning high-point of a 20-year career in sound editing for Acord, who got his start in movies while studying English, photography and film theory at UD. The 44-year-old gives English and film professor Thomas Leitch a lot of credit for his success—and for his well-grounded

view of the drive and passion needed to make it in Hollywood.

"What David had that set him apart was he really, really wanted this," says Leitch. "I told him, 'You really need a Plan B, but he didn't want a Plan B. It's a mark of who David is that he was not discouraged by the odds.'"

That unrelenting passion would ultimately lead Acord to Lucasfilm's Skywalker Sound division, where he has edited sound for two other *Star Wars* movies and related television programs. Over his career, he also has worked on such big feature films as *Twelve Monkeys* and *Star Trek into Darkness*. ■

HONORS & ACHIEVEMENTS of UD faculty and staff

Kenneth Barner, professor and chair of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, has been named an IEEE Fellow, a distinction reserved for select IEEE members, conferred on one-tenth of 1 percent of the total voting membership each year.

Chuck Crawford, head coach of men's crew, was named the 2015 Fan's Choice Collegiate Coach of the Year by USRowing.

Dominic Di Toro, the Edward C. Davis Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering, has received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Association for Environmental Health and Sciences Foundation.

Thomas H. Epps, III, the Thomas and Kipp Gutshall Associate Professor of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, has been awarded the American Physical Society's 2016 John H. Dillon Medal, which recognizes outstanding research by young polymer physicists who have demonstrated exceptional promise early in their careers.

Yan Jin, professor of plant and soil sciences with a joint appointment in civil and environmental engineering, has been awarded the 2015 Don and Betty Kirkham Soil Physics Award by the Soil Science Society of America.

Martha Narvaez, policy scientist with the University's Water Resources Agency in the School of Public Policy and Administration, was inaugurated as the 50th president of the American Water Resources Association.

Babatunde Ogunnaike, the William L. Friend Chair of Chemical Engineering and dean of the College of Engineering, has been named a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the world's largest general scientific society.

Michelle Rodgers, associate dean of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources and director of UD Cooperative Extension, was named chair of the Extension Committee on Organization and Policy and elected as a

Mangone Scholar

Tania L. Roth, assistant professor of psychological and brain sciences, has been selected by the University's Francis Alison Society to receive the 2015 Gerard J. Mangone Young Scholars Award.

The award recognizes promising and accomplished young faculty. The recipient is chosen by fellow faculty members who have received the Francis Alison Award, the University's highest competitive faculty honor.

Roth, a behavioral neuroscientist, studies what happens to the brain when stress occurs early in life, exploring how that experience can cause molecular changes to DNA. She works in the area of behavioral epigenetics, or the study of specific molecular modifications that change gene expression and produce short- and long-term effects on physiology and behavior.

Using a rodent model, Roth studies the mother-infant interaction and effects of maternal maltreatment, investigating the relationship between environmental experiences and lifelong patterns of gene expression and behavior.

She has investigated the neurobehavioral basis of infant attachment to an abusive caregiver and has been part of a national consortium of researchers seeking to better understand posttraumatic stress disorder.

In 2010, Roth was first author on important publications in the new field of behavioral epigenetics and found that adverse maternal care alters the expression of a gene that plays a key role in brain development.

trustee on the National 4-H Council.

Michael Shay, professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy, has been elected a fellow of the American Physical Society, an honor that places him among the top one-half of 1 percent of society members.

Donald L. Sparks, Unidel S. Hallock du Pont Chair in Soil and Environmental Chemistry and director of the Delaware Environmental Institute, has been named an honorary

professor of the Institute of Soil Science in Nanjing, China, becoming the first soil scientist to receive the title of honorary professor in the institute's 60-year history.

Michela Tauffer, the David L. and Beverly J.C. Mills Chair of Computer and Information Sciences, has been named a distinguished scientist by the Association for Computing Machinery, the world's leading association of computing professionals.

FACULTY BOOKS

Carlos Asarta, associate professor of economics, *Principles of Economics*, McGraw-Hill. (Co-written with Roger Butters).

Karen Avino, assistant professor of nursing, *Holistic Nursing: A Handbook for Practice*, Jones & Bartlett Learning.

David Coker Jr., associate professor of education, and **Kristen Ritchey**, associate professor of education, *Teaching Beginning Writers*, Guilford Press.

Fred DeMicco, professor and ARAMARK Chair of Hotel, Restaurant and Institutional Management, *Restaurant Management: A Best Practices Approach*, Kendall Hunt.

Saul Hoffman, professor of economics, *Women and the Economy: Family, Work, and Pay*, Pearson Addison Wesley. (Co-written with Susan Averett).

Charles MacArthur, professor of special education and literacy, *Handbook of Writing Research*, Guilford Press.

Vimalin Rujivacharakul, associate professor of art history, *Architecturalized Asia: Mapping a Continent Through History*, University of Hawaii Press, in association with Hong Kong University Press.

David Teague, professor of English, *The Red Hat*, Disney-Hyperion.

Jeanne Murray Walker, professor of English, *Ambition*, Wipf and Stock Publishers. (Edited with Luci Shaw).

Office Hours *with* Peter Roe

A look inside the office of UD's Indiana Jones | Photos by Kathy F. Atkinson



He's felt the slither of an anaconda and bathed in the jungle river as a jaguar prowled the shore. The latter, "fortunately, was uninterested," and the 9-foot skin of the former now adorns his office ceiling.

"I could have retired a few years ago, but they pay me to teach my hobbies," says Peter Roe.

The 69-year-old anthropology professor has been at UD since 1976 and is internationally regarded for his expertise on the Indians of the Caribbean and South America, having spent years living and learning from the Wai Wai tribe of Guyana and Shipibo indigenous people of the Peruvian Amazon.

To the latter, he is simply Quenetsoma, "he who carries designs."

It is a fitting name for the illustrator who began his fieldwork in archeology and soon became more interested in the living than the dead.

"I study American Indians," says the artist-turned-anthropologist. "And for American Indians, art is everything."

Art has the power to embrace religion and science, life and philosophy. To live in this world, they believe, we must pay respects to all

of the living beings that own it. "Animism," Roe explains. "The belief that all the world has a soul."

To experience this view, one needs only to enter Roe's office. There, tucked away in Munroe Hall, beyond the steady traffic of Delaware Avenue, is the art of another world, of another people, of lands far removed and cultures long forgotten by Western consciousness.

Roe's collection ranges around the globe—from Tibet to New Guinea to Africa—but focuses most passionately on the Amazon tribes he so clearly adores. In most cases, he bartered his expedition supplies for the objects.

"Anthropologists like to joke that history is the history of the Western world and anthropology is the history of everyone else," says Roe. "But there's truth to it. There's another way of life, and the job of an anthropologist is to broadcast it."

On the next two pages, we take a look inside the office of UD anthropologist, Peter Roe.

—Artika Rangan Casini, AS05

Office Hours with Peter Roe



1

3

2

4

6

5

1. Balinese Dragon:

"It's not just South American art in here. I've got everybody. But the same reverence for nature found in American Indian art can be found in Eastern cultures. There's a very ancient connection."

2. Trophy mask of the Tapirapé people of Central Brazil

"Ah, yes. This represents the decapitated head of your enemy. It's worn in festivals and dry seasons to appropriate the enemy's power to bring on the rains—an agricultural fertility kind of thing."

3. American Indian headdress, or "maiti":

"It depicts the journey of the sun. As dawn approaches, the world turns inside out. Everything is connected. The order of the feathers is important, too, as colors have magical energy. The tail feather of the scarlet macaw represents the sun; the white heron feathers, the clouds; and the black curassow (a ground-dwelling, turkey-like bird), the Earth. The little yarn crosses are meant to be butterflies, companions of the sun."

4. Raccoon Skull:

"This is a spirit chaser from the Navajo Indians of the Southwest. They used to use wolves, but are down to raccoons now."

5. Rangda the Balinese witch:

"On Halloween I used to put this on and walk around Main Street."

6. Hanging twill-weave basket of the Wai Wai:

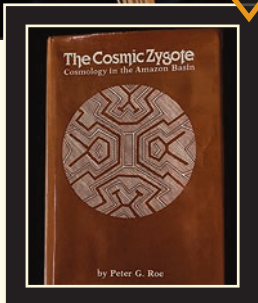
"Material objects are doors into knowledge that is not freely shared," says Roe, who speaks fluent Shipibo, Spanish and Japanese. "You learn their mythology through speaking with them and studying their objects."

The man's "vanity basket," pictured here, is where the shaman keeps his feathers and magical charms, such as a quartz crystal, thought to mirror the purity of the sun and hold healing properties.





7



7. The Cosmic Zygote: Roe's book was so named because "everything's alive in the Amazon." "There are two overpowering sensations of the jungle: First, there's life everywhere, all around you. But the second is the stench of death, which contributes to life. The jungle recycles everything. There's a cycle of energy that exists there unlike anything else in the world."

8



8. "Hueshati" Hard-pressed to pick a "favorite" item, Roe selects this Shipibo scalping knife, used by men during large tribal feasts to ritualistically attack rivals suspected of sleeping with their wives. "Old men in the tribe are very proud of the scars going across the tops of their heads," he says, "because it indicates they are Casanovas."

9



9. Student-made replica of a South American communal hut "We're a small department with no graduate program, so we treat our undergraduates like grad students," says Roe, who has taken students to excavation sites across South America and the Caribbean.

11



11. Roninqueneya ("the design of the anaconda") jug "The boa/anaconda designs end up on their pottery," says Roe. "This is something you'd use for a big beer bash, scooping the tapioca drink out and pouring it into smaller cups of the same design."

10



10. Vanishing Amazon book "We're leveling the Amazon, turning it into pasture so we can have \$1 burgers. Ecological damage? Not our problem."

12



12. Arrows Used to hunt birds, monkeys and—as recently as the 1960s, when Roe purchased the spears that now hang from his ceiling—people.



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Delaware's favorite mascot, YoUDee, made the University proud once again earlier this year, earning a first place finish in the Mascot Open Division at the 2016 United Cheerleaders Association (UCA) National Championships.

YoUDee earned first place for a spirited routine that wowed the crowd and the judges on Jan. 15 at the ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex in Orlando, Florida. The UCA National Championship is the most prestigious college cheerleading championship in the country. The event was broadcast live and online at ESPN3 and Varsity.com.

The first place finish was nothing new for YoUDee, who also took home first place national finishes in 2009, 2011, 2012 and 2013 and was second in 2010, 2014 and 2015.

PHOTO BY EVAN KRAPE

Welcome

President Assanis

Dennis Assanis, provost and senior vice president for academic affairs at Stony Brook University, named president of UD

Soon after Dennis Assanis was announced as UD's next president on November 18, the praise followed.

"Insightful. Inspirational. Inclusive and approachable," his colleagues from across the country said after the news broke of his unanimous election by the University's Board of Trustees. "Extraordinary research, teaching and leadership skills," said another. "The perfect choice," one declared.

The veteran teacher, scholar and administrator will step into his new role as president on July 1, and already Assanis has made it clear he will keep focus on some ongoing UD initiatives: more technology in the classroom and enhanced partnerships with industry; a growing emphasis on interdisciplinary and experiential learning methods; and a continued push to make UD a place where innovation and research translate into real-world products and help drive Delaware's economic growth.

He's also vowing to take on issues that have proven to be perennial challenges for UD and universities around the nation: making college more affordable, fostering new revenue sources and creating a campus that is welcoming to a more diverse array of students.

The Board of Trustees hailed Assanis as a natural choice for pushing ahead the tech-driven, research-university priorities set in part by President Emeritus Patrick Harker and sustained by Acting President Nancy Targett. Already, the Greek-born scholar has vowed to make campus diversity his "No. 1 priority" and moved to make his mark as a president who is accessible, open-minded and engaged with students, faculty and the broader community.

It all seems well within reach to those who worked over the years with Assanis, who comes to UD after five years as provost and senior vice president for academic affairs at



PHOTOS BY KATHY ATKINSON, WENBO FAN AND EVAN GRAPE

Stony Brook University in New York, and 17 years as a top engineering professor at the University of Michigan, where he pushed the leading edge in clean-energy alternatives for the automotive industry.

"He has the integrity and temperament needed to inspire and bring people together across disciplines and backgrounds," said Linda Katehi, chancellor at the University of California-Davis, who previously worked with Assanis at Michigan.

Trustees Terri Kelly and Don Puglisi, who helped review the credentials of 50 candidates as co-chairs of the Presidential Search Committee, said the ultimate choice was clear. "Dennis Assanis' combination of administrative experience and outstanding academic credentials clearly set him apart," Kelly said. "Dr. Assanis is deeply concerned with the issues facing higher education today, including affordability, diversity and the future of research innovation," Puglisi added. ■

Have a question for the president? We want to hear from you. Email your question to TheMessenger@udel.edu with the subject "Question for the President" for consideration in the next issue of the magazine, which will feature an in-depth Q&A with President Assanis.



Eleni Assanis, with sons Nicholas and Dimitris at the presidential announcement; meeting students and faculty; with wife Eleni

Student-athletes earn All-American honors

Standouts from football, soccer and field hockey receive national accolades

Every fall thousands of collegiate student-athletes begin the year with the anticipation of not only leading their teams to championships, but rising above the others to be recognized as standout performers.

This past fall, five UD student-athletes proved that they were among the best nationally in their chosen sport by being selected as All-Americans. And for two of them, it wasn't the first time they have been honored.

Quiet giant

Senior offensive tackle Ben Curtis, AS15, who started each of his senior-year football games, was honored nationally twice this winter earning second team NCAA FCS Associated Press and third team College Sports Madness All-American honors. Curtis, a 6-foot-6, 290 lb. criminal justice major from Columbia, Maryland, was also selected first team All-Colonial Athletic Association and second team All-East for his outstanding play.

Delaware has now placed at least one student-athlete on a postseason All-American football team for 14 straight years. Curtis was a four-year starter and was the lone Blue Hen selected to the All-CAA first team during the 2015 season. He played in 43 career games for Delaware. He anchored an offensive front that has helped Delaware rank No. 2 in the CAA and No. 17 nationally in rushing offense.

Nearly perfect on the pitch

Blue Hen junior Guillermo Delgado, HS17, has accomplished a lot during his time in a Delaware soccer uniform and can now add three-time All-American to his

list of accolades.

A Second Team honoree in 2013 and Third Team selection in 2014, Delgado earned Third Team praises once again this season from the NSCAA.

The forward completed his junior campaign with a team-best 24 points and 10 goals. Delgado led the Colonial Athletic Association with 1.20 points per game, 0.50 goals per contest and four game-winning goals. He is currently second in program history with 85 career points (37g, 11a) while his 37 goals are also good for second all-time.

Terrific tandem

Two Blue Hen field hockey players have been named National Hockey Coaches Association All-Americans.

Junior Esmée Peet, BE17, earned First Team honors, becoming the first Delaware player to do so since Michelle Rosenbaum, HS90, was named a First Team honoree in 1988. Senior Michaela Patzner, AS16, joined Peet as a Third Team selection.

Peet guided the Blue Hens this season with 15 goals and six assists for 36 points. The midfielder is currently tied for ninth in program history with 95 points (39g, 17a). Her 39 goals are also good to tie for eighth

all-time. Patzner finished her Delaware career with 122 points, 28 assists and 47 goals. In 2015, Patzner logged 32 points on 12 goals and eight assists while leading Delaware (16-6) to its third straight Colonial Athletic Association title and NCAA Tournament appearance.

Soccer scholar

While the University had four individuals honored as All-Americans for their accomplishments on the field this past fall, equally impressive was the honor bestowed upon men's soccer standout Ben Sampson, EG16.

For the second straight season, Sampson was honored on the College Sports Information Directors of America Academic All-American squad for his efforts in the classroom.

A three-time District 2 All-Academic selection, Sampson carries a 3.98 cumulative grade point average, is a Dean's List student, has been selected to the CAA Academic Honor Roll, and is a member of the National College Athlete Honor Society. He is the third men's soccer player in UD history to earn Academic All-American accolades. ■



From Top: Ben Curtis; Guillermo Delgado, Esmée Peet, Michaela Patzner and Ben Sampson. PHOTOS BY MARK CAMPBELL, UD ATHLETICS MEDIA RELATIONS PHOTO



Fancy plants



Some plants are known for just plain looking good. These are the beauty queens of the horticultural world, the dahlias and orchids and lilies, turning their pretty faces toward the sun as if they're aching to be adored.

Other plants are more highly regarded for their ability to do good—to sustain the species that rely on them and to improve the environment they inhabit. Not always as showy, and sometimes even a little awkward and drab, they tend to be ignored despite their inner charm by home gardeners intent on creating an enviable landscape.

The elusive horticultural holy grail in this equation has been the plant that looks good and does good—after all, a plant with noble qualities does little good if no one wants to plant it.

So for the past year and a half, the Mount Cuba Center—a plant research center in Delaware well-regarded for its studies of native plants and their role in a healthy local ecosystem—and its research partners at the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources (CANR) have been busy searching for varieties of native plants that will charm the customer, but also benefit the ecology.

As part of the search, they are taking cues from the true judges of a plant's beneficial nature—the bees, butterflies and other insects who gather (or not) on the



LINDSAY YEAGER

flowers and leaves of the plants that gardeners cultivate. Through funding from Mount Cuba, the researchers have set up beehives at Mount Cuba and on CANR's property in Newark and have been collecting and testing pollen from the insects as a way of determining which plants are favored, and which pollens and nectars have the greatest nutritional value to the insects.

The UD partnership, in which Mount Cuba and UD researchers hope to make "eco-friendly" a selling point of certain cultivars, is rare in the world of horticultural product development. It also aligns nicely with the shifting preferences of today's gardeners, who increasingly favor plants marketed as having the "best

nectar for butterflies," or the "best pollen for bees."

"In the past, gardeners and landscape experts tended to treat plants like decorations and ignore their ecological roles," says Doug Tallamy, the professor in UD's Department of Entomology & Wildlife Ecology who is helping lead the current studies, along with fellow professor Deborah Delaney. "Their priority was beauty for beauty's sake, and insects weren't too welcome in the garden."

But hopefully this will change.

"We want people to realize that you don't have to have an ugly garden to enjoy nature," Eileen Boyle, Mt. Cuba's director for education and research says. "Native plants are beautiful." ■

SOME BENEFICIAL PLANTS

Research by the Mount Cuba Center has identified some winning varieties of popular garden plants – variants that boast such positive attributes as longevity, disease resistance and beauty. Here are a few of their favorites:

COREOPSIS (Also known as Tickseed)
Coreopsis palustris
'Summer Sunshine': Stays tall, lush, sturdy and dense all season long.



HEUCHERA (Also known as Coral Bells, Alumroot)
Heuchera 'Citronelle': Large and vigorous, the Citronelle leaves have a blinding intensity.



ASTERS
Aster laevis 'Bluebird': Attractive, pest-free foliage, drought-tolerant with large flowers.



CONEFLOWERS (Echinacea)
Echinacea 'CGB Cone 2': This charming and vigorous flower produce is hardy, drought-tolerant and disease-and-pest resistant.





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Nursing celebrates

As the School of Nursing celebrates its 50-year anniversary in 2016, its students continue to build on a tradition of excellence in the classroom, at the bedside and far beyond.

Today's nursing students have more educational opportunities than ever before. And they follow a long line of well-trained UD nursing alumni whose work has helped redefine what it means to be a nurse.

"Health care looks much different today than it did 50 years ago, but our students continue to thrive in a rich educational environment that offers opportunities in the classroom, the community and around the world," says Kathleen S. Matt, dean of the College of Health Sciences.

Take, for instance, Brianna Hafetz, HS16. As a sophomore, she was one of the first students

to participate in the Nursing Alternative Spring Break in Kingston, Jamaica. There, she volunteered in an orphanage and made her first diagnosis, a self-described "monumental moment in a nursing student's life."

While opportunities have grown over the decades, some things have remained hallmarks of UD's program; specifically, a commitment to excellence in education, as well as strong support for the program from health care organizations, alumni, faculty and donors.

As the recipient of the Muriel E. Gilman Scholarship for Returning Students in Nursing and the Wilmer and Clara Stradley Nursing Scholarship, Meghan Jornlin, HS16, recognizes this support, saying, "I will think of the donors' contributions for many years—and strive to pay it forward."



1966-2016



The first graduating class, 1966

The School of Nursing was at the forefront of academia when it created the BSN program for nurses in 1966, says Betty Paulanka, who worked at UD for 33 years, as a member of the faculty and as dean of the College of Health Sciences for 15 years. In the '90s, UD was a leader in developing online nursing degrees for RNs as well as for its advanced practice nurse practitioner program.

Inherent to the profession is the need to draw on innovation to enhance patient care, and UD has done so exceptionally well, adds Linda Laskowski Jones, HS83, 88M, vice president of emergency and trauma services for Christiana Care Health System. "For nurses," she says, "learning doesn't stop when they leave the classroom."

Though at Delaware, the classroom is more robust than ever.

Recent advancements, including the opening of the Nurse Managed Primary Care Center and the establishment of the Healthcare Theatre program, foster the goals of developing a highly educated nursing workforce.

Part of that education is seeing the many ways nurses can use their skills. Amy Cowperthwait, HS87, 10M, is a nursing educator and coordinator of the Healthcare Theatre program who never expected to add "entrepreneur" to her job title. But that's what happened following the development of the SimUTrach device with students and faculty. This wearable technology allows nursing students to practice airway suctioning on non-patient actors—and is one of six products under development by SimUCare, a UD-based company that Cowperthwait founded to market



Student nurses at Christiana Hospital, 2010



The Nurse Managed Primary Care Center, 2012



Student nurses practicing with SimUTrach, 2014

PHOTOS BY KATHY E. ATKINSON AND AMBER ALEXANDER-PANNE

wearable technology products.

“This opened my eyes to a whole new facet of nursing—understanding the connection between research and mentorship,” Cowperthwait says. “My emergency room experience as a nurse gave me the skills to work under fire and really helped me in the simulation lab.”

This bridge between education and application is one that continues to grow stronger with time.

Today, the school is actively working to make sure the nursing workforce better resembles the patients it serves, thanks to efforts to recruit and retain underrepresented populations. A \$1 million federal Human Resources and Services Administration grant offers scholarships, stipends and tutoring for 27 students. They include first-generation college students, students from disadvantaged backgrounds and cultural and ethnic minorities.

Diversity in health care is critical to being able to

understand the challenges facing patients, says KaWansi Newton-Freeman, HS07, who serves as recruitment and retention coordinator for the program. “To address those issues properly, you have to address the workforce.”

There’s more work to do, but in the meantime, nurses will continue to remain leaders in the transformation of health care, says Emily J. Hauenstein, professor, Unidel Katherine L. Esterly Chair of Health Sciences and senior associate dean for nursing and health care innovation at UD.

“Whether in acute or community care, in practice or through research,” she says, “nurses have always been instrumental in reducing health inequities and shaping better health outcomes for people across the lifespan.” ■

—Kelly Bothum, AS97

Visit <http://sites.udel.edu/nursing-alum> for a full event listing surrounding Nursing’s 50-year anniversary.

A legacy of support

The nursing program at UD inspires passion and commitment—both on and off campus.

In the course of a typical year, dozens of outside benefactors contribute financially to the school—in 2015, 332 individual donors gave to UD’s nursing program. And each semester, nursing students and faculty are supported by nearly 40 donor-established funds, including scholarships, fellowships, visiting lecturers and funds in support of the Nurse Managed Primary Care Center.

One of those scholarship students is Kearstin Raby, HS16, who discovered her passion for nursing after enduring spinal surgery as a newly graduated high school student. “I was very fortunate for the team that took care of me. I knew then that nursing was the best profession for me,” says Raby, a recipient of the Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children Scholarship, which supports students interested in pediatric care.

“The scholarship helped me get through that year,” she adds. “Being a nursing major at UD has allowed me to understand that anything’s possible.”

Several of the donor-supported scholarships seek to

benefit specific kinds of students—returning adult students pursuing second careers in nursing, or those with financial need. For example, the Rose Louese Mayr '14 Memorial Scholarship supports freshmen with financial need in the School of Nursing, and the William Winder Laird and Mary du Pont Laird Nursing Scholarship supports Delaware residents with financial need.

Other donors have been motivated—like many nurses themselves—by their own passion for helping others. Betty J. Paulanka, former College of Health Sciences dean, has helped make two scholarships possible, one established in her name, and a second in honor of her mother, Francis M. Cahn. The Wilmer and Clara Stradley Scholarship, for instance, recognizes Clara’s 40-year career as a nurse who has worked in hospitals, schools and doctors’ offices throughout the state of Delaware.

“I feel extremely blessed and grateful,” says Stradley Scholarship recipient Christine Briley, HS17. “Their generosity inspired me to give back to the University in any way I can in the future.” ■



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A photograph of three scientists in a laboratory. On the left, a young man in a light blue lab coat and safety glasses looks towards the center. In the middle, another young man in a white lab coat and safety glasses holds a spiral notebook. On the right, an older man in a white lab coat and safety glasses is focused on a piece of equipment. The background shows laboratory shelves with various supplies. The text 'UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE' is visible on the lab coats.

INVESTING IN OUR STUDENTS

Exploring new styles of learning to provide
a stand-out academic experience.

UD's mission, at its core, is to ensure an exceptional academic experience for each and every student. It's an investment that begins before they even step foot on campus, with a team of dedicated admissions counselors reviewing 27,000-plus applications to craft a distinguished and diverse incoming class. And it's an investment strengthened by faculty expertise and time, by the scholarship that serves as a foundation upon which even greater knowledge can be built. Ultimately, it's an investment in ideas and infrastructure, in the essential, unending mission to ensure students leave the University stronger, sharper and armed with the skills to thrive in a rapidly changing world.

Photo by Kathy F. Atkinson

#AUDWAVE

Shaping a class

An inside look at admissions and enrollment at the University of Delaware

Mike wasn't the textbook 4.0 automatic shoe-in. And yet there was something special about him.

He was eager, his excitement at high school visits so palpable that Jackie Tatnall opened his online application with bated breath. He was good, she knew, but was he good enough?

The assistant admissions director soon exhaled. The coursework he had taken was rigorous, the essay compelling, and his recommendations vouched solidly for his ability. The second reader on the application—all undergraduate applications to UD are read by a minimum of two admissions counselors—agreed. He was in. He started last fall.

When Tatnall bumped into him a few months back, a beaming Mike told her about the fraternity he had joined and how he had made the Dean's List. "And he said, 'Thank you. I'm so excited for my future,'" she remembers. "He's probably not a student we would have admitted if we went solely off the numbers."

In fact, Mike is one of thousands of students (from more than 27,000 applicants) who comprise "that middle ground" of students walking the border between outright acceptance and flat out rejection. Part intuitive detective and part data analyst, Tatnall and her fellow admissions professionals must add a pinch of tea-leaf reading when it comes to Blue Hens like Mike.

That's when they turn from their spreadsheets and programs and put a closer focus on the factors that no computer could ever assess. They check with guidance counselors, and search for signs that measure performance against rigor. They patiently await the release of the next term's grades, and pay closer attention to the essays and recommendation letters.

"They're the students who really want to be here," Tatnall says. "It's our duty to take the extra time to fully look at their records."

And, in the end, if the decision's still just too close to call, the counselors gather together and talk it out as a group. It's impossible to be certain the decision they make is ultimately the correct one—but they do know they can do everything they can to be fair.

And they realize that the consequences of their commitment is crucial—for the student, and for UD itself.

STANDING OUT, REACHING OUT

In many regards, UD is performing well in the never-ending competition for students. Over the prior two years, UD enrolled the highest quality and most diverse classes in history, and both classes exceeded enrollment goals. The ability to offer competitive financial aid has been central to our enrollment success, and given the admissions environment, will be critical for future success.

The Northeast has the highest density of colleges and universities in the world. And approximately 85 percent of students attend a school near their home, making the Delaware region especially aggressive.

At the same time, the current recruiting environment is becoming increasingly volatile. According to the National Center for Education Statistics, the proportion of high school graduates is expected to decline over the next decade, particularly in the Northeast.

For UD, this means a critical need to expand beyond the Northeast, now the source of 85 percent of the enrollment.

And where we tap is increasingly driven by where we already are.

THE ALUMNI CONNECTION

Illinois, Ohio, Missouri, Georgia, Florida, California, Colorado and the Carolinas are just some of the domestic markets in which the University hopes to expand, due in part to a large and growing alumni base.

"Our alumni are our strongest and most impactful advocates," says Michael Sclafani, associate vice president for alumni engagement and annual giving at the University.

A casual conversation with a friend's college-aged kid. A bumper sticker. A UD hoodie at the grocery store. It all adds up. In fact, the incremental impact of such tacit endorsement is not all that different from the situations admissions counselors face across the country when marketing the University.

"I can go to one school in Connecticut and it's packed with students who want to come to Delaware," says Amanda Gearhart, who manages recruitment in the New England states. "Then I'll drive 10 miles down the road and one or two students might stroll by."

Welcome



KATHY F. ATKINSON

How is that possible?

"It typically takes that one student to come back home and share how much they love UD," Tatnall explains. "Every person connected to UD is an admissions ambassador."

WORLD SCHOLARS

Ultimately, though, the admissions question is a big one.

"It is a buyer's market," says Chris Lucier, vice president of enrollment management. "And it really boils down to 'why UD?'"

To help the University stand out from the pack, he and other leaders have been creating unique programs and exceptional opportunities to attract would-be Blue Hens.

One such initiative, the World Scholars Program, launched in fall 2015 to provide high achieving students an immersive, four-year

global experience. Unlike any other global study program, it includes multiple semesters of learning abroad, beginning in the first semester of a student's freshman year with partner institutions in Rome or Madrid (with more global sites to come), and concluding with a special World Scholar designation at graduation.

It has already helped give UD an edge over competitor institutions. Carl Valentino, AS19, turned down Penn State, UMass-Amherst and the University of Maryland-College Park to enroll in the program.

"Immersing yourself in the world like this is not an opportunity I could pass up," says the New Jersey native. "I'd recommend it to anyone."

In fact, all of his 37 fellow Scholars echo this sentiment.

Above, student workers prepare welcome packets for admitted members of the Class of 2020.

At left, the World Scholars program is one of many new initiatives to give UD students a unique undergraduate experience; here, members of the fall 2015 cohort sightsee in Rome.



RICCARDO PUGLIESE/JOHN CAROL UNIVERSITY



EVAN KRAPE

Delaware in D.C. students

Ally Chelst, AS19, considered taking a gap year to travel before realizing she could do that—and earn college credit.

“It taught me to be open-minded and patient, to better understand myself and my interests,” she says. “And it got me out of my comfort zone—just talking to people, taking initiative, saying hi to someone I didn’t really know. I couldn’t imagine a better first semester.”

WHY UD

And yet there are so many variations for what that first semester at UD can be.

The new Delaware Innovation Fellows Program, administered by the Horn Program in Entrepreneurship, offers students in any

major a four-year experience in the design and development of new solutions to real problems. Throughout their time at UD, fellows have an opportunity to engage with successful inventors, educators, entrepreneurs, business executives and community leaders. They can launch their own ventures, and benefit from plenty of resources, including grant dollars, internships, mentorships and other professional development.

“There are not too many places that have an offering like that,” says Dan Freeman, director of the Horn Program. He sees the Innovation Fellows Program as a crucial step toward making entrepreneurship education a campus-wide effort, and also a key University asset for attracting top students and building momentum.

Another new program, Delaware in D.C., gives students on UD’s wait list for admission the opportunity to spend their fall semester at American University in Washington, D.C., where—in addition to classes—they take part in a three-credit mentored internship at one of many leading organizations in the District, giving them a head start in gaining valuable field experience before they even walk onto the UD campus.

“The top reasons students choose a college or university are its academic excellence and outcomes,” says Lucier. “We have to be able to articulate what we can offer, because students are applying to eight to 10 universities. They are shopping around and looking for the best return on their investment.”

For UD—and for its future—that means a constant investment in their continued success. ■

UD makes test scores optional for Delaware applicants

In a four-year pilot program set to get underway in fall 2017, the University will make submission of SAT and ACT test scores optional for first-year applicants from Delaware—a move that is expected to open doors for the many students who show promise of success, but who tend to perform poorly on tests, making them reluctant to even apply.

Frequently, those students are from historically under-represented groups—the very groups UD realizes it must reach in order to truly serve the

community, encourage campus diversity and stay competitive in a changing admissions market. Those efforts are already being supported by such programs as UD’s Commitment to Delawareans (C2D), which provides financial aid and an academic roadmap for admission. Since 2010, UD has provided more than \$57 million in financial aid from C2D and other institutional sources for Delaware students.

“There are likely many outstanding Delawareans,

students who challenged themselves, worked hard and performed well in their high schools, who are not applying to UD because they assume their scores on the SAT or ACT will disqualify them from admission,” says Doug Zander, director of admissions at UD. “We know that these students can be successful in college and we want them to apply.”

National data indicate that low scores are frequently tied to cultural biases in the tests rather than shortcomings in the students, says Chris Lucier,

vice president of enrollment management at UD.

Research shows a strong predictive measure of success is a student’s GPA—a cumulative performance that’s four years in the making, as opposed to the more limited measure of a single test, on a single day.

UD now joins a growing list of about 850 U.S. colleges and universities—including close to 200 schools designated “top tier” by *U.S. News and World Report*—that no longer require applicants to submit results from the SAT or ACT. ■



EVANKRABBE

Incubating innovation

Igniting imaginations and empowering world changers

In today's Shark Tank-obsessed society, "entrepreneurship" is a buzzword. At UD, it's a mindset. A mantra. A tenet of higher education.

We live in a rapidly changing world where entrepreneurial ideas and new technologies have made the path to success increasingly non-linear—and where the security of lifelong jobs and vested pensions has disappeared. Today, it's more essential than ever that we embrace grand challenges and support bold visions for tackling societal, environmental and business problems.

With this shift in educational philosophy, UD is building an array of programs and investing in resources across campus that

aim to update traditional book-bound notions of "learning" with a progressive platform that inspires great minds and fosters great ideas. It is a movement that is sweeping across campus and touching students in every

college, steadily integrating "Innovation & Entrepreneurship" (I&E) as a core component of the Blue Hen experience.

"Universities that don't get this right will be left behind," says Bruce Weber, dean of the Lerner College of Business and Economics.

UD's Innovation & Entrepreneurship movement has great potential for broad impact—on UD's reputation, on society at large and especially on the students it is educating today and in the future.

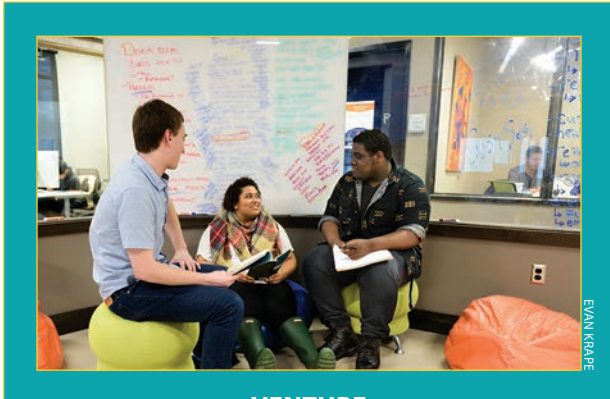
In fact, UD's entrepreneurship mission isn't as much about generating patents, startups and profits as it is about showing students that they have the capacity to thrive amidst rapid change, the potential to take a path that's never been walked and the ability to make the world one they want to live in.

"One student might launch a business or offer a service that meets a critical need. Another might create an advocacy group to effect social change. Still another might simply build a reputation in their future workplace as an innovator and a problem-solver," says Acting President Nancy Targett. "We see this whole entrepreneurial

ecosystem as one crucial way we can make UD stand out from our peers, and make our graduates stand out in the world."

Ultimately, the aim is to create a university that not only imparts knowledge, but also instills a mindset—a willingness to dream, to dare, to adapt and overcome—in every UD student, regardless of major or career goal.

"I tell my students, 'Go out and change the world!'" says Babatunde Ogunnaike, dean of the College of Engineering. "My view is that everyone can be entrepreneurial. My hope is that every student who comes out of the University of Delaware—not just engineers—has an entrepreneurial spirit."



EMAN KRABBE

VENTURE DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Part learning laboratory, part business incubator, the Venture Development Center (VDC) is the physical nexus of UD's ambitions to give students with great ideas a place to make them real.

In its cozy, brainstorm-friendly spaces on Delaware Avenue, students work in teams and with expert mentors, capitalizing on the force-multiplier effect that many minds can bring to a fresh idea. Here, learning isn't so much about classes and lectures, but about giving students experience in the real-world, nuts-and-bolts details of bringing ideas to market, from access to start-up funds to designing a marketing campaign.

On one day, a visitor might see three students from business, communication and engineering, working together on the multidisciplinary demands of a project, from funding to marketing to product development. Another day might bring a meeting with experienced private-sector entrepreneurs or expert alumni, eager to help nudge the students down the right path.

By taking that inside-out, outside-in approach, the VDC sets UD apart from many of its rivals, says Dan Freeman, director of the Horn Program in Entrepreneurship. And by giving innovative students a place to learn, collaborate and make crucial outside connections, it serves to unlock one of the secrets to entrepreneurial success, he says:

"Neither of us can do it alone. But together, we can do some pretty incredible things." ■

AN ENTREPRENEURIAL MINDSET

For Charlie Horn, a 1975 UD graduate whose \$3 million gift to the University in 2011 established the Horn Program in Entrepreneurship, all of this is about creating learning environments for students hungry to change the world. It is about investing in their big dreams before life's pressures come to bear. And it's about giving those dreams a place to grow and become realized with the help of others—for the benefit of us all.

"All innovation, job creation, invention, improvements to the way we live—for example, the big challenges to cure disease, hunger, and to create sustainable sources of energy—it will all come from an entrepreneurial mindset," Horn says. "And that mindset is, in its simplest sense, the belief in the ability to do the impossible—and the requisite skills to execute it."

The energy provided by Horn's gift—bolstered by the commitment of then-President Patrick Harker—quickly accelerated UD's shift toward those dream-focused ideals. Today, that vision is being embraced at the highest levels: by Acting President Targett, Provost Domenico Grasso, deans of all seven colleges, and most crucially by incoming University President Dennis Assanis, who was selected in part because of his forward-leaning views on entrepreneurship's role in higher education.

Already, in labs and collaboration centers across campus, young entrepreneurs are coming together to solve meaningful problems by developing world-changing ideas with the assistance of experienced innovators from the private sector.

It's happening in places like the Horn Program's Venture Development Center (VDC), a vibrantly decorated space with a laid-back, "no ties allowed" atmosphere, where students have the freedom and inspiration to dream big and take concepts to market. The VDC has become the epicenter of entrepreneurial education and experiences at UD. There, Nate Matherson, BE16, and Matt Lenhard, BE16, were able to grow the concept and resources needed to launch their business, LendEDU, a marketplace for students to review and compare student-loan refinancing options.

And every year at the final round of Hen Hatch, UD's premier startup funding competition, hundreds of students, alumni and community members gather to listen to the pitches of Blue Hens competing for a share of the competition's \$100,000 prize pool. In 2015, Carvertise, a student-created company, found success with its

concept of paying consumers to have their cars wrapped as “rolling billboards.” The company now employs a team of six who work from their Wilmington, Delaware office.

The I&E movement is not limited to the commercial, as evidenced by Lindsay Yeager, AS15, who as a junior learned the limitations of women’s health care in Third World countries during a study abroad trip to Tanzania. With the help of UD resources, Yeager developed a program that gives poor women access to reusable sanitary pads and provides them with a means to earn an income by making and selling

them. Yeager’s solution solved an access problem that had discouraged many women from pursuing educational opportunities—and opened doors to improved social and economic well-being.

UD is aggressively working to inspire more students like Lindsay, Nate and Matt—to ignite their imaginations and support their dreams as they explore, define and refine their visions into practical realities that serve the world.

And UD’s campuswide efforts are making a big impact. Already there are dozens of ideas simmering across campus, ready to burst into the world. Maybe the next big thing will be the student-developed mobile app called PocketFarmer that helps Christmas tree farmers identify and mark diseased plants. Or possibly it will be SimUCath, a wearable training system for urinary catheterization that was developed by a team of four students and has since gone on to win Grand Prize at the 14th annual Design of Medical Devices Conference.

The examples of student-led creativity and problem solving go on: Lazarus Rising, a resume writing service to help homeless men and women obtain employment and move off the streets; GeoSpot, a location-based file sharing application with commercial and educational uses; and Vibrating Therapeutic Apparel, which aims to alleviate pain and improve health outcomes. At UD’s Spin In program—which seeks to connect innovative undergraduates with



LANE MCCLAGHLIN

entrepreneurial businesses—last year’s efforts resulted in a device for removing a pervasive toxin from drinking water, a smartphone app that allows bosses to coach sales reps while they’re on the road, and a biofeedback device called “mTrigger” that is expected to hit the market soon.

“In the beginning, it was challenging to collaborate with such different people,” says mTrigger developer Adam Engelson, EG16. “On the mTrigger project, we learned to work together with graphic designers, biomedical engineers and business analysts while

getting exposed to the whole product life cycle.”

It’s those kinds of experience-based, mentor-assisted approaches that will be crucial in UD’s efforts.

“Hands-on, experiential learning isn’t just an academic buzzword,” says Acting President Targett. “It’s something we must cultivate, nurture and grow. This is what we mean when we talk about entrepreneurship at UD.”

CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

While UD is well positioned to incorporate holistic, entrepreneurial educational experiences, that task is not without its obstacles.

Creating a system where each cog in the University machine is aligned for accommodating, nurturing and possibly commercializing big dreams is admittedly daunting—somewhat like changing the tires while the car is still in motion.

Perhaps the biggest challenge is that entrepreneurship isn’t so much a “field of knowledge,” like chemistry or physics, as it is an activity—a progression of steps that demands an ability to utilize a variety of tools and collaboration with a variety of players.

“It’s something you do, not something you know,” says Horn.

The University possesses some clear advantages in the quest for this new paradigm of education—assets like the 272-acre Science,

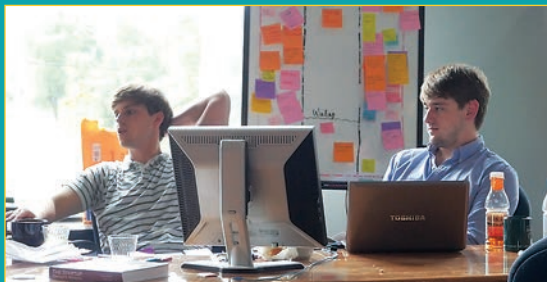
DELAWARE INNOVATION FELLOWS PROGRAM

To become a place where innovation and entrepreneurship thrive, UD knows it must continue to attract great students with exceptional aptitude—and give them the challenges and resources they need to grow.

That’s the goal of the Delaware Innovation Fellows Program, which launches this fall with its first cohort of 40 students from a variety of majors, selected (from more than 300 applicants) for their dedication, commitment and potential to be the world’s next great innovators. These are the students who have shown—through the activities they have tackled, and the things they have accomplished—that they have the passion, creativity and leadership skills crucial for entrepreneurial thinking.

Starting as freshmen, the fellows will be immersed in the intricacies of identifying a concept, finding funding and connecting with outside mentors as they work toward project launch in their senior year. Along the way, they will take specialized courses, learn how to pitch their ideas to potential backers, expand their networking connections and even get internship experience inside a real-world startup.

In the coming years, UD aims to set itself even further apart—giving fellows the opportunity to participate in off-campus immersion experiences in places like the Silicon Valley, Europe and Africa. ■



Y COMBINATOR

A couple of years ago, all Nate Matherson, BE16, and Matt Lenhard, BE16, had was a good business idea and a lot of determination. A year later, they were being whisked to Mountain View, California, to meet with investors. By this time next year, these UD students could be rich men—before either of them reaches their 23rd birthday.

It all started with an idea for a website called LendEDU, which acts as a marketplace for students to review and compare student loan refinancing options. With help from UD's Venture Development Center and the Horn Program, the friends grew their concept into a business that already works with top national lenders. The LendEDU team is now up to six strong, with fellow Blue Hens Alex Coleman, BE15, Dave Rathmanner, EG16, Tommy Flynn, BE17, and Mike Fiorito, HS18, on staff.

Now, they're ready for the next big step.

Last December, the founders were accepted as one of 107 startups (from 6,000-plus global applicants) for the world's most successful startup incubator, Y Combinator, nationally known as a place where entrepreneurs receive "boot camp" training and possibly venture capital funding. It was the chance they both knew could be the big one—the chance to become that next Y Combinator success story, following in the footsteps of such startups as Reddit, Dropbox and Airbnb.

Getting into the program was, in Matherson's words, "one of the happiest moments of my life." ■

Technology and Advanced Research (STAR) Campus and the state-of-the-art Harker Interdisciplinary Science and Engineering Laboratory. Meanwhile, the Delaware Technology Park, a joint venture between the University and the state of Delaware, is a key driver of science-based and technology-driven innovation.

"I really do believe the Horn Program and [UD's] entrepreneurship effort are so core to what we're trying to do as a state," Gov. Jack Markell said at the Horn Program's inaugural Innovation and Entrepreneurship Showcase in 2015. "Delaware's economy is going to be vibrant for years to come."

As Dan Freeman, director of the globally recognized Horn Program in Entrepreneurship, says, "Innovators and world changers fall in love with solving problems, not learning solutions."

When you place innovative students and world-class faculty in collaborative environments, life-changing ideas emerge. Consider the creations of chemical engineering professor Terry Papoutsakis, who founded the tech firm Elcriton to commercialize his technology for using microbes as engines of renewable energy. Or the seems-like-science-fiction research of chemical engineering professor Norman Wagner, who is pursuing commercialization of his technology for fashioning life-saving body armor out of fluid materials. Or the now-ubiquitous touch-screen technology familiar to every cell phone and mobile device user, co-developed by alumnus Wayne Westerman, EG99PhD, while studying here at UD. Emerging ideas pertaining to flow batteries for large-scale energy storage, microbes for improving crop yields and naked eye 3-D hint at UD's growing pipeline of innovations.

LOOKING AHEAD

Building upon its existing Innovation & Entrepreneurship-related degree programs, UD is further developing a broad array of educational programming. Adding to the foundation of a bachelor's degree major, an undergraduate minor, a master's degree and a graduate certificate, UD will welcome the incoming class of Delaware Innovation Fellows this fall, as well as introduce a new MBA major in entrepreneurship and design, and an undergraduate minor in social entrepreneurship.

UD has also become a global leader in youth entrepreneurship education. The Horn Program's Diamond Challenge for High School Entrepreneurs is a four-year-old program that has brought introductory,

CHARLIE'S DREAM



Charlie Horn was never the kind of guy who liked to be told what to do.

When people do only as they're told, this UD alumnus believes, they can lose the vision of the greatness within. When they're working only for others, they might be tempted to abandon their own big dreams—dreams that are

desperately needed in a problem-plagued world.

So when this self-made entrepreneur and his wife Patty were searching for ways to truly help UD students—and by doing so, help the world—they did it in a way that would ensure there's always a place on campus for outside-the-lines thinking and bold ideas. Their \$3 million gift to

the University in 2011 established the campus-wide Horn Program in Entrepreneurship, which aims to give students the freedom to dream—but also get the hands-on learning and expert guidance that's needed for turning those dreams into solutions.

A university-wide collection of initiatives, the Horn Program serves as a nexus and

FIRST STEP GRAND CHALLENGES

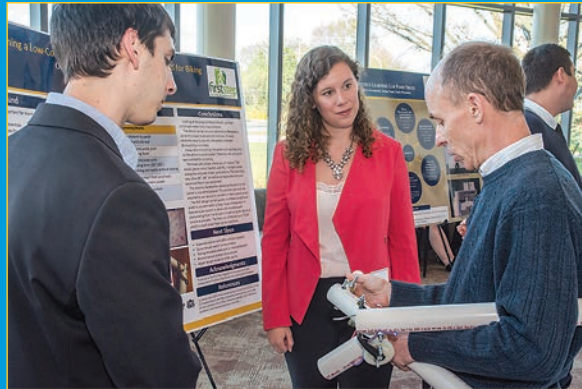
When it comes to innovation, a little competition and some prize money can be great motivators.

That's what UD has found with such efforts as Hen Hatch—the Horn Program's annual funding competition for students, faculty and staff with big ideas.

Now, the University is working to inspire that innovative spirit in a way that tackles social and environmental problems in addition to commercial startups. The First Step Grand Challenges program asks interdisciplinary teams of undergraduates across campus to spend a year identifying and working to resolve a big social problem they care about—world hunger, for example, or sustainable energy.

"We are looking for true interdisciplinary ideas from all across campus," says Kathy Matt, dean of the College of Health Sciences, which launched the First Step program in the 2014 school year.

The teams whose ideas have the greatest potential for impact get a share of \$25,000 in prize, seed and grant money—helping



students overcome the financial barriers that can stand between ideas and action. Along the way, the competition gives them faculty guidance, mentoring opportunities and other startup-related advice. ■

evidence-based entrepreneurship education as well as business concept and social venture competitions to thousands of students across the world. As the cornerstone of the Paul and Linda McConnell Youth Entrepreneurship Initiative, the 2016 Diamond Challenge has involved schools and students from 17 states and 22 countries on five continents. The global finals of the \$50,000 Diamond Challenge and a celebration of youth entrepreneurship—the Youth Entrepreneurship Summit (or YES!)—will be hosted on UD's campus, planned for April 2016.

"Not only are new solutions to important societal problems being imagined by these young students, they are being prepared to create meaningful lives for themselves," says Julie Frieswyk, director of the Diamond Challenge.

UD also envisions even more industry partnerships in its future, thanks to a network of successful alumni who are eager to help. This access to the experts is crucial for mentoring students, connecting with industry and establishing pathways to funding. And already the

University has seen significant new investment from corporate and foundation sources, says Rob Rudd, senior director of corporate and foundation relations for the University.

It is part of a larger trend, notes Freeman.

"We're seeing it not just here but across the country," he says, "The private sector is looking to universities to partner in ways they've never partnered before."

AN INVITATION TO ENGAGE

Active engagement by alumni and community leaders is critical to the success of UD's I&E movement. Alumni and friends are invited to get involved with the University by sharing their experiences and expertise; providing resources and connections for students; and presenting interesting problems seeking innovative solutions. For more information on how to get involved, contact the Horn Program in Entrepreneurship at hornprogram@udel.edu. ■

philosophical engine for UD's entrepreneurial ambitions. With the Horns' generous support, UD gains the financial resources needed to take the risks that are crucial for progress in this still-developing mission. And through winter 2016, additional donors have contributed more than \$2 million to UD's entrepreneurial initiatives.

As a man whose own industry-changing ideas for new insurance products brought him great success, Horn senses that the potential for finding solutions lies within us all. To bring out that potential, he believes that the children we once were—the children who dreamed of being astronauts and artists—need to forever be

part of who we are.

"That creativity can be reawakened, and those attitudes can be re-instilled," he says. "I really believe that."

Ultimately, he wants UD to be a school that routinely teaches students how to unleash that creativity, encourage those attitudes and take those ideas from concept to reality, with the

help of classmates and hands-on mentors. He sees UD as a place renowned for producing students who are resilient, adaptable—ready to turn on a dime when winds shift and new solutions are needed. With the continued support of alumni like Horn and the creative vision of our students and faculty, that dream is coming to life. ■



Professors Thomas Epps, Matt Oliver and Gabrielle Foreman are three exemplars of faculty excellence and the ripple effect it has on the student academic experience.

RIPPLE EFFECT

The art of attracting and keeping extraordinary faculty

There's a sign near the door of an otherwise unremarkable office in Colburn Lab—a sign just prominent enough to give proper notice, but inconspicuous enough to be practically invisible to the people who pass each day.

"Thomas H. Epps, III," it reads. "Thomas and Kipp Gutshall Associate Professor of Chemical Engineering."

Some might pause and puzzle at the drawn-out title that UD's "endowed professors" typically get. Others might dismiss it as just another piece of honorary fluffery in a world drenched in promotional noise. But to Epps and to the dozens of graduate students he has taught and nurtured and sent on to great new opportunities, the title represents far more than its nine words could hope to convey.

Epps and other UD professors whose research is supported by benefactors say the impact of financial gifts reaches far beyond the labs and research groups of UD, rippling like a wave to foster the aspirations and even the careers of dozens upon dozens of students—and ultimately bolstering the prestige of entire departments and the University itself.

Talk to Epps about what it has meant to be an endowed professor, or "endowed chair" as they are sometimes called, and he will use words like "freedom" and "flexibility." For him, it's not about personal honor or professional status as much as it's about

potential—of both his students and his ideas.

Talk to his students, and they will point to the high-risk, high-reward research the endowment has allowed, the paths toward innovation it has cleared—and the many doors that it could open for them, long after they have left the University.

For Julie Albert, EG11PhD, working with Epps and his group of graduate students and postdoctoral researchers has led not only to significant advances in the complex and infinitesimal world of polymer science, it has helped bring her to a job as professor of chemical engineering at Tulane University, with a research group and endowment of her own.

For Sarah Hann, EG12, it has meant an opportunity to go on to innovative Ph.D. work at the University of Pennsylvania. "It was helpful to have a well-known and respected name tied to my application," she says. "Just being able to say I came from his lab was a benefit to me."

Look at the resumes of dozens of other students who have been part of Epps' research, and the sense of advancement and opportunity becomes clear: assistant professor at Arizona State University. Ph.D. student at Cal-Tech, postdoctoral researcher at Dow Chemical, scientist at Hexcel.

"My experience with him wasn't just limited to those five years of graduate school," says Albert, who is researching



KATHY E. ATKINSON

Thomas Epps

designer polymers that could one day be used in more practical diagnostic instruments and cleaner sources of energy. "It's definitely something that comes up every day in things that I'm doing, having worked with him and trained with him."

Many came to UD because of Epps' reputation of working at the cutting edge and would also soon discover that being a student of a named professor carried extraordinary benefits. Epps' graduate students—and even undergrads—are being asked to present at big academic conferences, an honor that frequently leads to networking opportunities, name-recognition and even bigger opportunities.

"The networking is the good part," says Angela Holmberg, EG16PhD. "You need people for jobs, you need people for feedback, to read your research and see if you're doing something wrong. It gives you encouragement that you're doing something right."

For Holmberg, more carry-on effects of working with an endowed professor would become apparent: At a conference in November, Epps introduced her to another up-and-coming research professor from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology—currently the top-ranked school for chemical engineering in the nation. The professor, Bradley Olsen, asked

to meet again later, and that in turn would lead to her next adventure: a post-doctoral research job with MIT's Olsen Group. There, Holmberg will explore ways to recycle waste-stream items—old automobile tires, for example—into new products. "Recycling has always appealed to me," she says. "I hate seeing litter. I hate throwing things away that still have potential use. I want to work on something that I can feel passionately about for as long as possible."

EXPANDING OPPORTUNITIES

Even before they leave UD, students say, endowments bring the prominence and name-recognition needed to access broader opportunities in their fields of study.

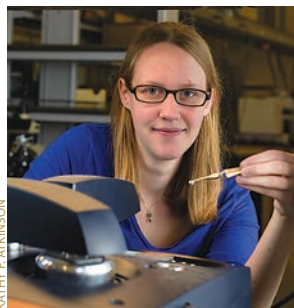
Consider the students studying under Matt Oliver, the Patricia and Charles Robertson Professor of Marine Science and Policy: Of his four doctoral students, three are already lined up to speak at the nation's pre-eminent ocean sciences conference this year. "Which is astonishing," says their professor. "I didn't even get asked to speak—but my students did."

And the oceanography students are already becoming familiar with a certain sort of fame. In the months since Oliver received his professorship, Megan Cimino, EOE16PhD, has seen her team's research of Adélie penguins featured in the national media—research that was made possible in part by the Robertsons' funding of high-tech submersible vehicles based at the College of Earth, Ocean, and Environment's Lewes, Delaware campus. And the work Danielle Haulsee, EOE16PhD, has done with the sand tiger sharks of the Delaware Bay has also attracted the media spotlight—a glare that's not always entirely welcome to a busy doctoral student, but which surely brings its public relations benefits.

"They're all over the media," says Oliver. "And all of them that

have been touched by the Robertsons' endowment have been invited to give talks at huge conferences, at universities."

"Prof. Epps always works hard to be sure you are capable of seeing the whole picture, and arguing why your ideas might work."



KATHY E. ATKINSON

—Angela Holmberg, EG16PhD

AN IMPACT BEYOND NUMBERS

In practical terms, endowments do serve to help fund the nuts and bolts of research: travel, expenses, equipment, even salary. But in Oliver's view, its biggest promise lies in its potential for creating students with the drive and vision to seek meaningful impact on the

world, years after they leave UD. “That’s how I think I can make the world a better place,” he says. “You are far more likely to impact the world through a person than a theory.”

Gabrielle Foreman, the Ned B. Allen Professor of English, with joint appointments in history and Black American studies, also sees the reach scholarship can extend to hundreds of students, at UD and beyond.

Her Colored Conventions project—which digitizes the social networks of African-American political organizers from the 19th century—involves 100-plus undergraduates from the University and more than 700 transcribers from across the country, all working toward a common goal: to educate.

“The student response has been overwhelming, but I’m not surprised,” she says, “We are documenting political struggle and change, crucial to anyone’s sense of self and history.”

It’s clear to Foreman and her fellow professors that even in the sometimes insular world of research—a world that can seem irrelevant to outsiders’ lives—endowments increase the chances of big breakthroughs that can have a broader impact on society itself. In case after case across campus, endowments are allowing scholars to explore game-changing ideas that might have been deemed too risky to explore without the supplemental finances, professors say.

“The funds made available through endowed professorships make it possible



Gabrielle Foreman

AMBERE ALEXANDER-PANINE

to seed a new research project that may not be able to attract funding any other way,” said Babatunde Ogunnaike, dean of the College of Engineering and the William L. Friend Chair of Chemical Engineering.

For Epps, that means being able to pursue his goal of using the waste products of manufacturing to create next-generation plastics that are biodegradable—and thus possibly pave the way toward cups, automobile tires and other disposable products that are less environmentally harmful. For Oliver, it means gaining a greater understanding of how changes in environmental conditions—many of them man-made—may be impacting sea life. For Foreman, it’s about understanding the deep and unstudied voices and social networks of a century past.

THE POWER OF PHILANTHROPY

The University of Delaware has 113 endowed professorships, with a goal of establishing 50 more by 2020. Next to competitor institutions, this number is low.

But it’s growing. In the past few years, UD has received gifts and commitments to establish 18 professorships, five of which were made in the past year alone.

“The donors who make these gifts either really understand academia and the need for professorships, or they think of the impact UD professors have had on their own careers and want to continue that tradition,” says Monica Taylor Lotty, vice president of Development and Alumni Relations.

Like William Severns Jr., EG50, who studied under Allan Colburn, Robert Pigford, Jack Gerster and other “outstanding engineers, brilliant minds” of chemical engineering. “Right here in Delaware, I was exposed to top faculty from all over,” he says. “I admired that.”

To continue—and ensure—this tradition of faculty excellence,

he and his wife, Jacqueline, recently committed \$4 million to establish the William Severns Jr. Distinguished Chair of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering.

They are not alone in their generosity.

“The strength of our faculty is absolutely necessary for the quality of the program to continue,” says Alan Ferguson, EG65, a UD-trained engineer and venture capitalist who, with his wife, last year established the Allan and Myra Ferguson Distinguished Chair of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering. “Chemical engineering is a star at UD, and we want to keep it that way.”

“Prof. Foreman has worked tirelessly to foster campus communities that are diverse, collaborative and unusually interdisciplinary.”

COURTESY OF GABRIELLE FOREMAN

—Jim Casey, AS12M, 18PhD

In many cases, donors establish faculty endowments to support an area of research they view as a priority, a way to create lasting and meaningful change in the world beyond anything they themselves could orchestrate alone.

"We focus our giving on education, the sciences and technology because those are the causes we believe in. UD researchers are really digging into what's going on under the ocean using the latest technology. So it's satisfying for us to support an entire project—the personnel, the hardware, everything—and see it prosper," says donor Charles Robertson.

By maintaining a close relationship with benefactor Tom Gutshall, EG60—a widely respected entrepreneur and still a driving force in next-generation medical testing devices—Epps says he and his students have gained crucial access to the world where ideas and innovations are transformed into products and solutions. (Read about Gutshall's impact on page 60).

For the University itself, those kinds of developments can certainly lead to profit through patents and even the heightened academic status that can attract more top professors and students.

TALENT MAGNETS

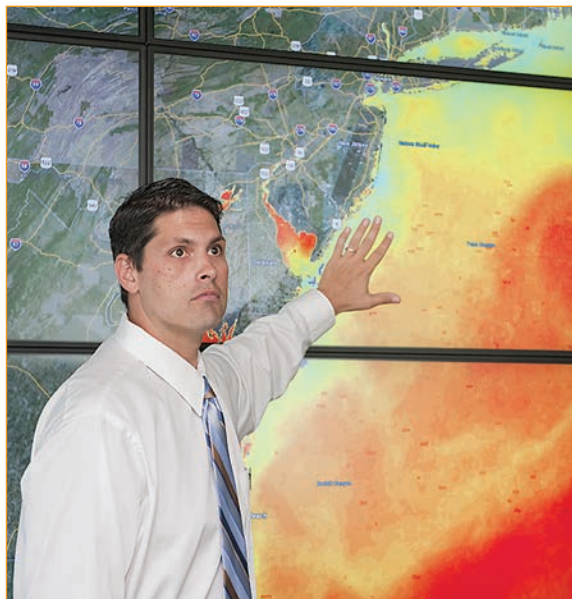
More and more, faculty endowments are being seen as an essential tool in an increasingly challenging task faced by university administrators—getting great professors to come to UD, and keeping great professors from going somewhere else.

As College of Arts and Sciences Dean George Watson, AS85PhD, explains, "Professorships are like a university's equivalent of a Nobel." (It's worth noting that UD's own Nobel laureate, the late Richard Heck, was the Willis F. Harrington Professor Emeritus of Chemistry.)

And it's tougher—and more critical—than ever to win that fight for top professors, especially when competing with relatively richer universities, administrators say. Rivals are constantly on the doorstep, trying to woo away the best and brightest. And deans are constantly alert for signs that a professor might be hired away, so that countermoves can be made before it's too late.

"We do that proactively," says Provost Domenico Grasso, the University's chief academic officer. "We're not waiting for the offer letter to come in from MIT. It's something we are ever-vigilant about."

Endowments are becoming essential tools in this ongoing struggle, especially for research



Matt Oliver

universities like UD that are trying to beef up faculty and infuse high-priority programs with academic strength. It's also important in cases where the University is trying to add momentum to growing efforts, such as the new initiative to make UD a hotspot for training tomorrow's cybersecurity experts.

"We want people of named-professor caliber leading our big initiatives," Grasso says.

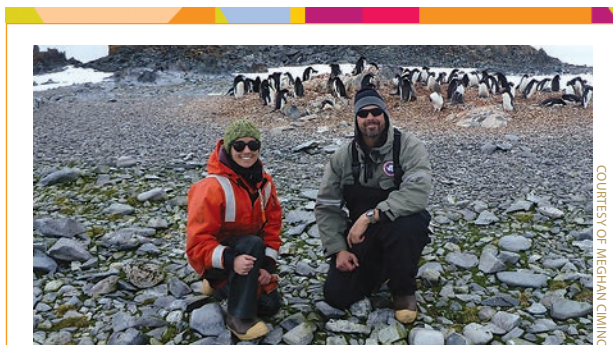
Once a professorship is funded and put in place, the benefits tend to be sustained and self-perpetuating, administrators say. With great professors come great students—and then possibly more great professors. As the saying goes, "talent goes where talent is"

But in the end, the ultimate goal—and the ultimate worth—of the endowments is not the University's status or

the professor's ego, but the students' momentum in the years that lie ahead, and how positively the world is affected by that energy, insiders agree.

"I feel like I was better prepared to start up my lab at Tulane having seen what it took to start up a lab with [Prof. Epps] in Delaware," Albert says. "In many ways, he's still a role model for me when I ask myself, 'Am I on track for my career?'"

—Eric Ruth, AS93



"Prof. Oliver is always pushing us to think bigger."

—Meghan Cimino, EOE16PhD

#BlueHensForever

UD on social media



Blue Hen pride is thriving across social media. Here, we celebrate the excitement of our newly accepted students, ready to embark on some of the greatest years of their lives. Welcome to UD!



pearl jam
@baileypearlman



just won the powerball  
#UDWelcome @UDAdmissions

Desi Pilla
@PillaDesi



Finally got my acceptance letter!
Newest addition to #UDel's
mechanical engineering and
honors program! #UDWelcome

samatha
@samifuchs



I am so ready for college
#UDWelcome #yasbluehens

Banana
@hanna_sato



Sosososoo happy to say that I'm
accepted to University of
Delaware    
#UDWelcome @UDAdmissions

Ameerah
@AmeerahFussell



#UDWelcome

@laurenmfiney



She got accepted! #UDWelcome
#proudsister

Austin Buck
@YoungBuck1246



Can't wait! #UDWelcome

emily
@mess_with_EM



#UDWelcome woot woot

Abbyoncé
@lamA_Jamaican



Admitted students day
❤️💛 #UDWelcome

Dan Cronin
@DancroCronin



Ayyy first acceptance #udel
#UDWelcome

@udpups



He's screaming with excitement
welcome back everybody!!
#UDPups #UDWelcome
#dogsofinstagram #UDel

@jack_cic



Happy to say I'll be a Blue Hen
next year! #UDWelcome

@UDCHS



So many new hens!
#UDWelcome



Nancy Targett
@NancyMTargett

A great group of new
Blue Hens and their
families! #UDWelcome
#udel #bluehenpride

@siwavocado



Main street was as always a
pleasure, glad to visit my
potential university once more :)
#UDWelcome

JOIN THE
CONVERSATION



/UDelaware



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@UDelaware

DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT

Did you know that gifts to the University of Delaware may be doubled or even tripled through your employer's matching gift program? Learn more about how you can **multiply the power** of your generous gifts to UD by visiting www.matchinggifts.com/ud

Annual gifts from alumni, friends, parents, faculty, staff and students enrich the educational experience at UD.

Identical twins Kaitlyn Sommer, HS16, and Elyssa Sommer, BE16, are studying Nursing and Hotel Restaurant & Institutional Management, respectively.



www.udel.edu/makeagift

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#UDAW

1 **Fr Sa Su**
Weekend



6,000
Blue Hens



60+
Events

The University of Delaware invites you to attend the

8th Annual



ALUMNI WEEKEND

June 3-5, 2016

NEW THIS YEAR!

Brunch
with the
Mascots in
the Dining
Hall

Wine Tasting

Alumni
Team
Games

Ice Skating
with National
Champions

**Register
Today**

www.udel.edu/alumniweekend

Visit www.udel.edu/alumniweekend for more details
about this in-demand, weekend-long alumni extravaganza!

Main Events

DELA-BRATION

FRIDAY, JUNE 3



Join thousands of Blue Hens for the alumni party of the year! Dela-bration is your opportunity to enjoy friends, live music and dancing in the heart of campus. Now a giant, open air event on the North Green, Dela-bration is the event formerly known as Mug Night.

“This was probably the best weekend of my life. I thought I was in love with UD before, but after Alumni Weekend I really realized how much I love this school!”



STAY THE WEEKEND



Make a weekend of it and relive your college days by staying overnight in a residence hall or local hotel.

“There is a great sense of UD pride the entire weekend and it’s a great way for the alumni to stay connected to the University. I haven’t heard of any other school having an event even remotely similar to this. It’s such a fun weekend!”



BLUE HEN 5K & KIDS FUN RUN SUNDAY, JUNE 5

Go for the gold, set a new personal best or just enjoy a stroll with friends during the Blue Hen 5K. Future Blue Hens (ages 11 and under) are invited to race in the free Kids Fun Run.

“Year after year Alumni Weekend continues to be a highlight of my summer!”



CAMPUS PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Expand your mind and learn something new at Alumni Weekend’s array of programs. Allow yourself to experience the museums or botanical gardens, take an ice skating lesson with our National Champions or have your picture taken with YoUDee and Baby Blue at our family-friendly brunch in the dining hall.

“It doesn’t matter whether you’ve been out of school for one year or 50 years -- it’s always a fun time for everyone!”



#UDAW



Come celebrate your class reunion on campus throughout the weekend. All reunion classes are encouraged to informally gather at Dela-bration where reunion fundraising efforts will be celebrated. Below is a list of times and locations for the formal reunions held on Saturday, June 4.

1st Year Reunion

Class of 2015
5-7pm, The Green

10th Year Reunion

Class of 2006
3-5pm, Center for the Arts Lawn

20th Year Reunion

Class of 1996
3-5pm, Stone Balloon

30th/35th Year Reunion

Classes of 1986/1981
3-5pm, Speakeasy
at the Wright House
(Formerly Blue & Gold Club)

50th Year Reunion

Class of 1966
4-9pm, Mentors' Circle/
Gore Rotunda

5th Year Reunion

Class of 2011
5-7pm, The Green

15th Year Reunion

Class of 2001
2-4pm, Klondike Kate's

25th Year Reunion

Class of 1991
3-5pm, Perkins Gallery

40th/45th Year Reunion

Classes of 1976/1971
3-5pm, Caffé Gelato

Spread the word by using **#UDAW** and **#BlueHensForever!**
For more information on reunions, please visit
www.udel.edu/alumniweekend/reunions





OUR ALUMNI & FRIENDS

Before and after graduation, and through the years ahead, one thing is certain: Once a Blue Hen, always a Blue Hen. The friends and memories made here stay for a lifetime. And there's no better way to sustain those connections than a milestone class reunion. Members of the Class of 1991 (pictured above at Commencement) will be one of the eleven classes to celebrate reunions this Alumni Weekend, June 3-5.

Before and after that big weekend, UD also offers a variety of ways for lifelong Blue Hens to get engaged and keep their connections strong, ranging from regional alumni clubs to sporting events to networking and volunteer opportunities. To see what's available, or to learn more about giving back to UD, visit www.UDconnection.com.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF UD LIBRARIES

The ladies of Mu Pi

In the early 1970s, African American students could walk the entire campus without seeing another person of color. It was a time when sports defined “black culture” at UD, so much so that black students would attend games and root for any black player—it didn’t matter the team.

“People knew the athletes,” remembers Esther Welch, AS77, “but there was no student voice for black females.”

Until there was.

On Oct. 26, 1975, Welch and 10 other women established the Mu Pi Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., making it the first African American

sorority at the University of Delaware.

In matching white shirts, wrap-around skirts, crimson scarves and platform red Payless shoes, the Mu Pi ladies walked in solidarity around campus. They put on step shows. They studied at the library each night. They created a community for each other and for the University, helping the wider campus see and understand why their voices mattered.

“But it was the 70s,” says Mu Pi charter member LaVerne Terry, EHD77, O6EdD. “Things were not always ‘kumbaya.’”

Though their chapter was chartered on Oct. 26, 1975, the sorority’s acceptance was contingent upon recognition by the Pan-Hellenic Council, a process that brought on both passive and overt resistance. Finally, in May of the following year, as the women were to board a bus headed to the Delta Regional Conference in Washington, D.C., someone hand delivered a letter confirming their status at the University.

“We had a lot of resilience,” says Terry Joyner, EHD77, who, along with her fellow “sorors,” nonetheless holds their UD experience and education in highest regard.

“I had a ball at UD,” says Marlene Hurtt Dunkley, EHD76. “I cried when I graduated.”

“It was one of the best times of my life,” adds Edith Knotts Moyer, EHD76.

They all tout their Delaware education and agree few institutions come close.

“If it weren’t for UD,” says LaVerne Terry, “we wouldn’t be sitting here today.”

The Mu Pi Chapter celebrated its 40th anniversary last fall, with a



OUR ALUMNI & FRIENDS

"We wouldn't be here were it not for what [the charter members established]," says senior Morgan Franklin, BE16.

"The initiative, integrity and courage they displayed—you can't be anything but grateful."

Across campus and beyond, current students who follow in their footsteps speak with palpable love and admiration for their torch bearers.

Senior Kimani DeShields, AS16, agrees. When asked what the charter line means to her, she says, simply, "Everything." ■



PHOTOS BY LANE MCLAUGHLIN

Top left to right: Charalane Hoxter, Denise Hayman, Dr. LaVerne Terry. Middle left to right: Marlene Hurtt Dunkley, Edith Claude Moyer, Lethia Cottman. Front left to right: Dr. Terry Bayard Joyner, Tara Harmon Williams, Esther Hayman Welch, Agnes Green (Advisor).

Homecoming reunion attended by all living charter members (of the original 11, two have since passed away); their first adviser, Agnes Green; and more than 125 alumni and current students.

With a weekend full of activities, ranging from a welcome reception to gospel brunch, the reunion provided an opportunity to reflect upon the legacy of both the chapter and University.

But all the Mu Pi members know their history.

Marlene Dunkley recalls rummaging through Nordstrom recently when a young lady ran up to greet her.

"Hi soror," the girl exclaimed. "I'm Mu Pi, too!"

Dunkley hugged her new-found sorority sister. "How'd you know I was?"

"I know the Charter Line," the student responded, referring to the 11 sisters who established the sorority four decades ago. "I was on the phone with a friend from Texas when I saw you, and told her, 'I gotta go!'"

Dunkley laughs while retelling the story to her fellow charter members. "We're like celebrities," she says, as her sisters nod and smile in acknowledgement.



THE LEGACY

THE GREY FAMILY



KATHY F. ATKINSON

Rob Grey, his daughter Emma and nephew Stephen

The tradition of Grey family members attending the University of Delaware dates back to a time when the Beatles were just breaking up and the fear of being drafted loomed over college-aged men.

It all started with Paul, EG73, and John Grey, AS75, the two oldest brothers among nine children born in Wilmington, Delaware. Paul arrived on campus in 1969 and earned a degree in mechanical engineering. John started in 1971 and graduated with a degree in sociology. While they were in school, they would often bring their younger brother, Robert, EHD85, down to visit.

The Greys lost their father at a young age, making their bond on campus that much more special.

“The way UD accommodated my family because of our circumstances, with in-state tuition and scholarships, they really made it affordable for all of us,” says Rob.

He and his brothers credit the University for the success they’ve had in their careers and beyond.

Rob worked both in and outside of the classroom over the course of a career that brought him back to his alma mater 11 years ago. He is currently the program coordinator of the Delaware Transition to Teaching Partnership in UD’s Delaware Center for Teacher Education; his wife, Teresa, was an administrator in the Office of the Vice Provost for Research from 1995-2000.

John, who was always mechanically inclined, went on to work for Amtrak for 40 years before retiring two years ago.

“Even though I didn’t exactly work in the field of my degree, the things I learned at UD, I used them

throughout my life,” he says.

Paul will be the first to admit that while he’s smart, he isn’t book smart, and that became a problem when it came time for math courses. His adviser, a brand new professor named Michael Greenberg, took Paul under his wing.

“He was really patient and spent a lot of time with me,” says Paul, now 64 and retired after a long career in the paper industry. “He never said, ‘This isn’t working out. Pick another field.’ I had to work a lot to get through school, and I give him a lot of credit for that and for the future success that I had.”

Paul, who lives in Lynchburg, Virginia., decided to see if Greenberg was still around during a recent trip to Delaware. Sure enough, Greenberg, now professor emeritus, was there.

“I didn’t tell him in advance that I was coming. I just went up to his office and knocked. After all that time, he simply opened the door and said, ‘How can I help you?’ That says it all. That’s UD.”

It’s in that same welcoming spirit that the Grey Blue Hen tradition continues.

There have been biologists, history majors and education specialists, and later this year Emma, HS16, an exercise science major, and Stephen, AS16, a public policy major, will make 14 Greys to have graduated from UD.

“I think it feels like home,” says Emma. “UD has provided all of us with some great opportunities, and a lot of memories.” ■

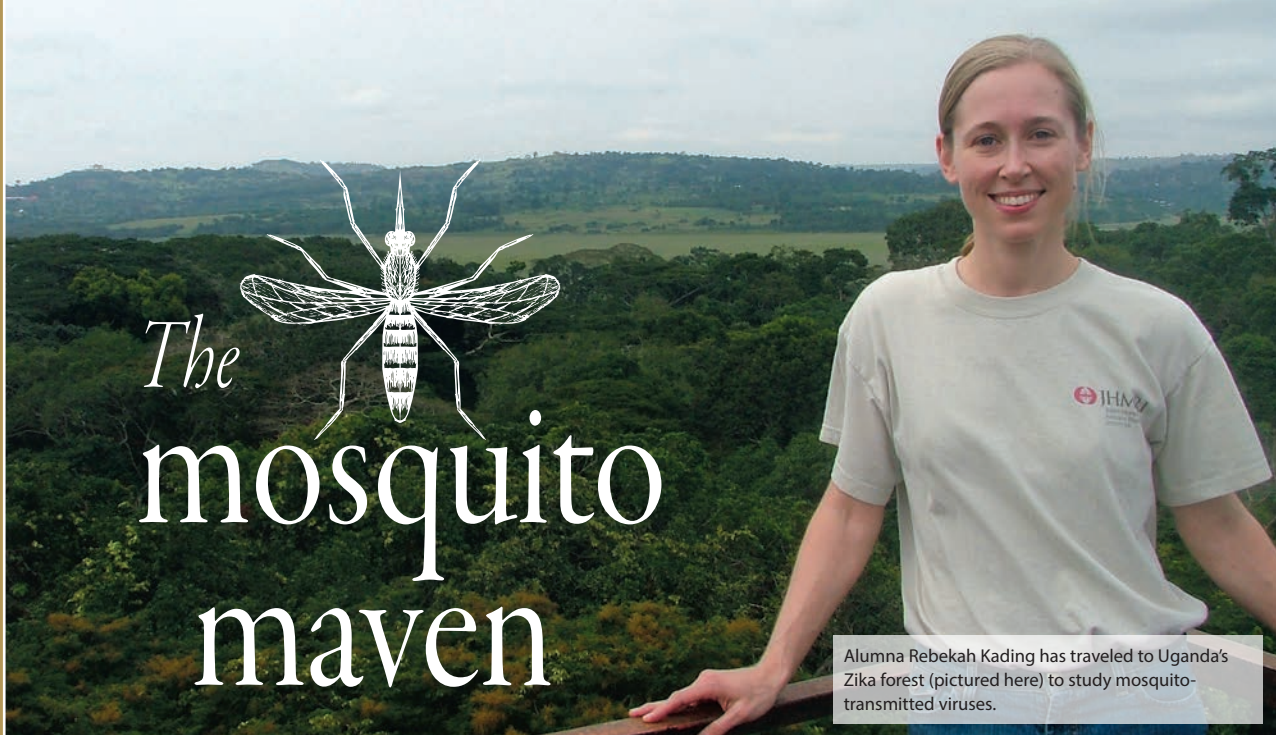
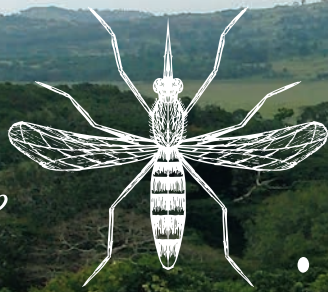
—Peter Bothum, AS97

Grey Blue Hens

First Generation:
 Paul Grey, EG73, married to Theresa Clifton, AS82, John Grey, AS75, Theresa Johnson, HS77, James Grey, AS78, Robert Grey, EHD85

Second Generation:
 Andrew Grey, BE02, married to Jennifer (Zak) Grey, EG03, Erin Grey-Avis, AS03, Lyle Hemphill, EHD05M, also UD football cornerback coach, Brian Milewski, AS06, married to Becky Milewski, AS08, Emma Grey, HS16, Stephen Grey, AS16

The mosquito maven



Alumna Rebekah Kading has traveled to Uganda's Zika forest (pictured here) to study mosquito-transmitted viruses.



When the Zika virus emerged on the island of Yap in the Pacific Ocean sometime in 2007, researchers, doctors and scientists all wondered the same thing: How exactly is this happening?

Considering that the last known outbreak was 60 years prior and roughly 7,000 miles away—in 1947, in the Zika forest of Uganda, to be exact—the question was obvious, even if the answer has proven far more elusive.

For Rebekah Crockett Kading, ANR00, the mystery is part of her own fascination with one of nature's most unpopular creatures.

"The fact that something so tiny can transmit some of the world's most deadly diseases," she says. "That's what's always interested me."

While most of the world is now learning more about the virus—declared a public health emergency by the World Health Organization earlier this year, having already infected more than 1 million people in Brazil, with potentially devastating effects on children and those in utero—Zika is no stranger to scientists like Kading.

In fact, as a scientist with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, she visited the Zika forest in Uganda in 2010 to study the potential role of bats as reservoirs for mosquito-transmitted viruses. Standing on 120-foot platforms over the forest—built in the late 1940s to study the virus after its first outbreak—she made a startling observation.

Towering over the trees in the canopy region, where the *Aedes* mosquitoes known to carry Zika virus are known to thrive, Kading could see the rich diversity of the tiny forest—and just beyond, the homes of villagers in close proximity to the vector mosquitoes.

"From that view, you could actually visualize the virus being transmitted," she says. "It was disturbing."

Today, Kading works as assistant professor in the Department of Microbiology, Immunology and Pathology at Colorado State University, where she is developing a research program on emerging mosquito-borne illnesses, with a focus on "one-health," which combines disease control with

ecological conservation: "the health of wildlife, of people and of the environment,"

It is a topic that originated at her alma mater.

"My story really starts at UD," says Kading, speaking fondly of her adviser, Prof. Roland Roth, who involved her in undergraduate research on the wood thrush, and served as her academic adviser during her experiences monitoring the breeding habitats of mosquitoes on the Delaware salt marshes.

"I was initially only interested in wildlife conservation, but entomology snuck in there somehow," she says. "In fact, the combination of both disciplines has defined my career." ■

Things to know about Zika:

The main culprit in spreading Zika virus—*Aedes aegypti*—can't survive in more temperate areas of North America. But the Asian tiger mosquito, also capable of transmitting Zika, can. "However, because of its more opportunistic blood feeding behavior, the role the Asian tiger mosquito would play in circulation of Zika virus would be very different than that of *Ae. aegypti*," says Kading. "There are a lot of unknowns as far as what North American mosquito species would play key roles in transmission of Zika virus."

The best defense against any mosquito-borne illness is to be "vigilant, prepared and proactive," says Kading, who keeps a can of bug spray in her son's baseball gear. "We just make applying it part of our routine," she adds, and recommends wearing long sleeve-shirts, pants and head nets when traveling in areas with high mosquito populations.



Six numbers that tell a tale of life

“Grandma, what does the number on your arm mean?”

When a child asks a Holocaust survivor such a question, what should the answer be?

In the case of Courtney Tisch, AS04—who asked that very question as a 10-year-old, her grandmother’s answer would forever change how she viewed life’s true value, and love’s real meaning. It was an experience that would forever shake her, but ultimately inspire her to write a children’s book about their conversation.

With *The Number on Her Arm*, self-published last September, the third-grade teacher was seeking a way to memorialize her late grandparents Vicky and Zelman Gorewicz and also

help adults teach essential truths about an uncomfortable topic to children in fourth through sixth grades.

In the book, the grandmother gently tells the little girl of the concentration camps and touches on the hatred that inspired them. But she quickly shifts the focus from the horrors and stresses the hope that endured. In the end, the girl learns that the ugly tattoo has come to symbolize something bigger—the possibility that freedom and love ultimately prevail.

“I had always just felt proud they were my grandparents, because whenever they talked about the Holocaust, they talked about it with absolutely no anger or bitterness,” says Tisch, now living in Washington, D.C.



“Hearing those stories taught me that if my grandparents can survive the most unbelievable horrors and still live their lives for family, doing things for others, then gosh, I should try to live my life that way, too.” ■

‘Amazing’ beauties

Emily Drake is no stranger to beauty pageants. As the 2015 Miss Delaware United States, she has felt the pressure, endured the scrutiny and accepted the vulnerability that comes with putting herself out there to be judged.

But as she watched a documentary on the National Miss Amazing Pageant—the nation’s premier “beauty contest” for girls with disabilities—Drake, AS10, knew it was time to take her success as a contestant and pay it forward. She reached out to national organizers and committed herself to putting together a competition for Delaware.

“I wanted to bring the same opportunity that I had to these girls,” she says.

In 2015, the 27-year-old Hockessin, Delaware, resident succeeded in staging the first-ever Delaware Miss Amazing Pageant, which crowned queens in four age groups. On May 21, the second annual Delaware pageant will be held at the Independence School in Newark.

Unlike bigger pageants, the focus at Miss Amazing isn’t so clearly fixed on physical beauty—though contestants are praised for (and clearly proud of) their regal attire. “It’s a day when they get to feel entirely special and it’s all about them,” says Drake. “Unfortunately, in the world of disabilities, that doesn’t happen as often as we’d like.”

As each contestant takes the stage, and the looks of pride fill their faces, the pageant’s true purpose becomes



Emily Drake (third from left, back row) joins winning contestants at the 2015 Delaware Miss Amazing Pageant.

clear, she says. It’s a way to expand these girls’ potential, enhance their sense of worth—and encourage society to be more inclusive of people with special needs.

“It has definitely built up her confidence,” says Michelle Taylor, mother of 2015 Miss Amazing contestant Jordan Taylor. “Just the look on her face when she won—she was surprised, but very happy.”

In the coming months, Drake hopes to expand the pageant’s connections to UD. In the physical therapy department, faculty and staff are exploring a possible partnership between Miss Amazing and UD’s efforts to develop more functional, comfortable clothing for children with disabilities. ■

FROM OUR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

I'm a UD legacy. My father, Nicholas F. Giacom, AS43, was a Delaware grad and a proud Blue Hen. I was lucky to grow up with all things Blue and Gold and knew the words to the UD Fight Song at a young age. My parents returned to campus in the fall for football games with their UD friends, and I saw how they were still actively involved with their alma mater.



But many UD students might not realize that their relationship with UD doesn't have to end after graduation. "Students Today, Blue Hens Forever" perfectly describes the University of Delaware Alumni Association's (UDAA) relationship with current students to help foster Blue Hen pride and a lifelong relationship with the University. Earlier this year, we proudly presented the T. Muncy Keith Spirit Award and scholarship to Julia Perez, HS17, for her commitment to UD. As vice president of outreach for the Student Alumni Ambassadors, Julia continues our tradition

of engagement and helps foster student support.

The UDAA sponsors many alumni-to-student touchpoints, such as New Student Send-Off events, the Twilight Induction Ceremony and "I Heart UD" Day. Just prior to graduation, the UDAA hosts a cap decorating party and "Life After UD" event, and at Commencement graduating seniors are presented with a commemorative UDAA pin to officially welcome them as alumni. There are so many opportunities to stay connected. Be sure to check out the list of regional alumni club events in your area.

The UDAA board is composed of professionals who share their knowledge and experience serving as mentors to current UD students. This informal interaction fosters personal engagement and encourages networking and support for students. We continually strive to strengthen the connection between current and future alumni, and we continue to invest in our students because we know they'll be Blue Hens Forever.

Anne Giacom Barretta, AS83
President, UD Alumni Association
@angiabar

REGIONAL ALUMNI CLUB & AFFINITY EVENTS

KENT AND SUSSEX COUNTIES (DELAWARE)

August TBD – Dewey Day

LEHIGH VALLEY (PENNSYLVANIA)

June 19 - Iron Pigs baseball game
Sept. 10 - UD vs. Lafayette football tailgate

PHILADELPHIA

May 14 - Phillies reception and game

RICHMOND

April 16 - Richmond SPCA Dog Jog
June 17 - James River Winery event
Aug. 13 - Flying Squirrels baseball game
Nov. 12 - UD vs. Richmond football game

WASHINGTON, D.C.

April TBD - Spring White House garden tour
June 11 - Nationals baseball game
May 20 - Young Alumni Potomac river cruise

The following clubs are currently planning spring and summer events for alumni in their areas: Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Florida, Lancaster, Raleigh-Durham, Los Angeles, New Castle County, New York City, Northern New Jersey, Phoenix, Pittsburgh, San Diego, San Francisco, Seattle and Southern New Jersey.

**Stay tuned to
www.udconnection.com/events
for more information.**



Internship & Job Drive 2016 Calling all UD alumni, parents and friends!

At UD, many of our talented students are eager for professional work experience.

Participate in our inaugural internship and job drive by helping these students find full-time positions at your workplace.

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Sponsored by Career Services and Development & Alumni Relations

Doing well by doing good

On Tom Gutshall's LinkedIn profile, his business (Cepheid Inc.) and nonprofit (CityTeam Ministries) appear side by side as his current affiliations.

The juxtaposition of a commercial enterprise and a charitable one exemplifies the life of this entrepreneur, chemical engineering alum and UD benefactor, who has given generously of his time and treasure.

Gutshall, EG60, has dedicated the latter part of his career to what he calls "doing good by doing well." Cepheid, the Sunnyvale, California-based molecular diagnostics company he started in 1996 with inventor Kurt Petersen, offers rapid tests for healthcare-associated infections, critical infectious diseases, sexual health, virology, oncology and genetics.

By partnering with groups like the World Health Organization, the company has successfully implemented its technology, known as GeneXpert™, across the globe and linked medical necessity with diagnostic resource.

"There's a wealth of information swirling around, and technology has enabled us to capture it, organize it, and get it to people who can use it," Gutshall says.

"We can diagnose a patient with a rare disease in Cape Town, South Africa, and connect that person with a specialist in London who can make recommendations for care. And we can provide data on the rates of HIV in Guinea to an epidemiologist in Switzerland."

Gutshall emphasizes that this technology is not just for the upper 5 percent of people in the United States and Canada. It's for anyone facing a healthcare crisis, from Ebola outbreaks in Sierra Leone, to human papillomavirus infections in Malaysia.

"Wherever you are, whoever you are, we can help by detecting or monitoring disease, which permits you to receive the care you need," he says. "Our goal is to improve quality of life, coupling tools like cell phones and the cloud to move diagnostics data to where it's needed."

Gutshall's years as head of Cepheid confirmed his belief that "you can charge reasonable prices for drugs and medical devices and still be successful." Annual revenue for the company, which went public in 2000, is now over \$500 million.

Gutshall stepped down as chairman in 2012, but he was not finished with bringing innovative medical technology to those who need it most.

Since 2013, he has been an investor and board member of Profusa, a diagnostics company focused on enabling continuous biofeedback for chronic disease management and healthy living. For instance, one of its new products, the Lumee, continuously tracks the most critical elements of a person's body chemistry and then transmits that data directly to his or her physician for diagnosis. Lumee is already being hailed as a ground-breaking tool for long-term management of chronic diseases such as peripheral artery disease, diabetes and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

"This is a great example of how engineers can really change the world," says Babatunde A. Ogunnaike, dean of UD's College of Engineering. "It shows how we have the potential to create the future—make the future happen—rather than just passively predicting it."

For his part, Gutshall continues to help invent tomorrow for millions around the world, and for many more closer to home.

Having studied under some of the most world-renowned professors in chemical engineering—the ones who literally wrote the book on the subject—he and his wife established the Thomas and Kipp Gutshall Career Development Chair in Chemical Engineering in 2011. "My professors helped make me who I am today," he says. "Establishing this chair was my way to pay that forward."

—Diane Kukich, AS73, 84M



BLUE Hens & Friends

The *Messenger's* on-the-scene photo spread highlighting UD events and our special guests—alumni, friends, parents, faculty, staff and students.

Presidential Homecoming Tailgate

November 7, 2015

Bob Carpenter Center

Acting President Nancy Targett hosted faithful Blue Hen alumni at an “Inventing Tomorrow” tailgate event that featured faculty and student research stations highlighting new work underway from each of the University’s seven colleges.

Photos by Kathy F. Atkinson and Wenbo Fan



Brennan, Jamie, Len, AS91, and Lucy Stark



Phil, EG57, and Ruth Evans; JoAnne Collier Shaw, AS60, 75M, Jon Peerson, Ross Lanius, EG58, and Charles Shaw Jr.



Lynn Morgan, HS78, 87M, at a health sciences demonstration run by Emily Pavilonis, EG15, Amelia Lanier, HS12, and Julia Paganucci, EG18



Dan, HS95, 98M, Bella, and Ed Cocks



Alexandra, AS09, Kenneth and Mikayla Burnham



Catie Cottrell, AS18, and Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences George Watson, AS85PhD

BLUE Hens & Friends

Conversations & Connections

Nov. 12, 2015

NPR Headquarters, Washington, D.C.

100-plus University of Delaware alumni, friends and students gathered to discuss the “New World of Digital Politics” as part of UD’s Conversations and Connections series, which explores far-ranging topics in which UD has a strong foothold. The event was presented by the Washington, D.C., Alumni Club and sponsored by the UD Alumni Association.

Photos by Evan Krape



NPR host Domenico Montanaro, AS01, Rosenberg Professor of Communication Ralph Begleiter, NPR correspondent Sam Sanders, and Kevin Howard, AS90



UD’s Conversations & Connections events bring together students, alumni, professors and industry experts



Communication Prof. Paul Brewer speaks to alumni



Associate Professor of Communication Lindsay Hoffman



On-air personalities Mara Liasson and Audie Cornish (with alumnus Domenico Montanaro) speak with members of the Delaware Diamonds Society during a backstage studio tour



Ayana Gill, AS16



NPR Correspondent Sam Sanders speaks to current students

BLUE Hens & Friends

President's Courtside Basketball Reception

Feb. 11, 2016

Bob Carpenter Center

Acting President Nancy Targett hosted UD alumni and donors as the Blue Hens men's basketball team topped Drexel 69-60. In 2015, UD's sports programs benefitted from nearly \$2 million in donor support.

Photos by Lane McLaughlin



Susan, EHD71, and Paul Arruda, EG70M, and Traci Boddy, BE01



University Trustee Stuart Grant and Bob Aerenson



Sandy, EHD77, and Bob Ashby, BE77, and Newark Mayor Polly Sierer



Ed and Maureen Freel, AS87M



Ruth Crossan, Chris Pickering, BE89, Kristen Halvorsen Pickering, AS91, Stuart Sharkey, former vice president of student affairs and distinguished fellow emeritus, and Dorothy Sharkey, EHD78



Professors Jim O'Neil and Helen Bowers



Marilyn and Dick Taylor

1950s

William H. Brady Jr., AS51, of Elkton, Md., was awarded the Purple Heart by U.S. Sen. Tom Carper of Delaware for his service during the Korean War. Brady is the father of the Hon. Jane Brady, AS73, of Lewes, Del., a Delaware Superior Court judge.

Theodore C. Zutz, BE54, of Wilmington, Del., has retired after 59 years as a property and casualty insurance broker, working most recently as executive vice president of USI Insurance Services, LLC, in Wilmington.

1960s

Michael F. Ryan, AS65, of Bridgewater, N.J., was appointed by the National Board of Medical Examiners to assist in the development of its Clinical Research Professional Assessment. Ryan is founder and president of Medical/Marketing Decisions, a consulting firm that works with pharmaceutical and biotech companies to develop clinical research programs.

Michael S. Purzycki, AS67, of Wilmington, Del., has announced his candidacy for mayor of Wilmington. Purzycki, a Democrat, works as executive director of the Wilmington Riverfront Development Corp.

Dr. Anthony F. Cutrona, AS69, EHD76M, of Youngstown, Ohio, was awarded the James S. Tan Laureate Award, which recognizes hospital administrative leaders. Cutrona is president of staff at St. Elizabeth Health Center in Youngstown, Ohio, and professor of internal medicine at Northeast Ohio Medical University in Rootstown, Ohio.

Robert D. Fleck Jr., EG69, of New Castle, Del., has been awarded the Antiquarian Booksellers' Association of America Medal in recognition of his service to the organization.

1970s

Richard T. Stouffer, AS70, of Viewtown, Va., was honored on his retirement from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office after 36 years with the renaming of the Patent and Trademark Office Society's Outstanding Service Award as the Richard T. Stouffer Outstanding Service Award.

Karen Jessee, AS73, of Wilmington, Del., has earned two first-place writing awards from the National Association of Press Women for her historic fashion shows, "The Under-the-Skirt Tour of the Civil War" and "Bustles to Bras."

Steven Leech, AS74, of Newark, Del., has published the book *Valdemar's Curse: The Legacy of*

Delaware's Literature (Pinhead Press).

Tom Sebok, AS74, EHD76M, of Broomfield, Colo., has retired as director of the Ombuds Office at the University of Colorado, where he worked for 25 years.

Richard A. O'Leary, AS76, EHD78M, of Cincinnati, Ohio, has been named vice president and chief human resources officer at Hopkins Manufacturing Corporation in Emporia, Kan.

Betsy O'Brien, HS77, 86M, of Audubon, N.J., has been chosen as the Leader of the Quarter by the senior administration of Inspira Medical Center Woodbury. O'Brien is the medical center's maternal child health educator.

Rich Zawisha, BE78, has published the book *Twisted* under the pseudonym Linda Rich (FriesenPress).

David Raymond, HS79, of West Grove, Pa., the original Phillie Phanatic from 1978-1993, is now managing the Mascot Hall of Fame, opening in 2017 in Whiting, Ind. Raymond also coaches mascots and schools through his business, Raymond Entertainment Group.

Beverly Stewart, EHD79, 84M, of Avondale, Pa., was honored when the Delaware-based company she founded—Basics Learning

Dynamics Inc.—was named to the prestigious Philadelphia 100, an annual list of the fastest growing, privately held entrepreneurial companies in the Greater Philadelphia Region.

1980s

Scott Klosterman, BE80, of Austin, Texas, has been elected to the Board of Trustees at Dynatronics Corporation, a manufacturer and marketer of rehabilitation and physical therapy products.

David L. Warnock, AS80, of Baltimore, has announced he will run for Baltimore mayor this year. Warnock is a former executive vice president of T. Rowe Price and founder of Camden Partners, one of the city's largest private equity firms.

Steven Mento, AS81, of Ventnor City, N.J., has been commissioned by New Jersey's Bay Atlantic Symphony to compose a symphonic piece called "Algonquian Dreamcatcher," which tells the story of the Native American Lenni-Lenape people. The symphony made its world premiere in March 2016.

Steven Querner, BE82, of Laguna Niguel, Calif., has been named vice president of North America sales for Violin Memory, a company that designs and manufactures computer data.



Share Your News!



The *UD Messenger* encourages alumni to send us news you want to share with your fellow Blue Hens. A new job, a promotion, a personal or professional award ... they're all accomplishments we want to announce.

Email a note or a press release to themessenger@udel.edu

Please include your graduation year and college or major.

COLLEGE LEGEND

- ANR—Agriculture and Natural Resources
- AS—Arts and Sciences
- BE—Lerner College of Business and Economics
- EG—Engineering
- EOE—Earth, Ocean, and Environment
- EHD—Education and Human Development
- HS—Health Sciences
- M—master's degree
- PhD/EdD/DPT—doctoral degrees
- H—honorary degree

AN “UNINTERRUPTED BROTHERHOOD”

They arrived by car and by plane, from as far away as Arizona and Nevada. They came filled with unique memories—from different times and distinct eras, about different people and different lives.

But each man left Newark just as they came: As brothers, for all time.

The alumni of Lambda Chi Alpha’s Lambda Beta chapter descended on Laird Campus late last fall to celebrate what is truly a landmark for the University, and especially for the fraternities it hosts: For 50 years now, ever since December 4, 1965, Lambda Chi has been part of UD’s fraternity system, with generations of brothers living at its vintage West Main Street house.

That makes it the oldest continuously operating fraternity on campus, and currently among the most academically successful. But its true essence and distinction is more than a number, its thousand-plus brothers say. It lies



in the years of philanthropy they have produced, and in the decades of support they have provided to one another, on campus and off.

It’s a distinction that’s sometimes demonstrated in actions—like the decision by the national fraternity to abolish pledging and embrace an anti-hazing culture in 1972, years before such moves became routine. And it’s a character shown in the fact that 13 of the 19 founding brothers who started Lambda Chi here five decades ago attended the Dec. 5 reunion.

That sense of commitment and loyalty is clear in the emotions of Brian Miller, EG93, who was one of 381 brothers who attended the fall event at Clayton Hall. “It’s about lifelong friendships,” he says. “I’ll talk to people I haven’t seen in 20 years, and it will be like I never left.”

Twenty-plus years after Miller graduated, those notions are still common sentiments among the current crop of “Lambda Betas.”

“Someone’s always got your back,” says senior Erik Elsasser, EG17. “You always have someone to talk to. It’s all about brotherhood. Wherever life takes you, you have someone back home.”

The bonds are especially strong because of the University of Delaware’s own character, adds Rich Goodwyn, AS79, who senses that a special connection exists between all UD grads—not just fraternity brothers—because of the school’s special ability to inspire deep and enduring emotional ties.

“UD gave me a great education,” says the 30-year Naval Aviation veteran. “Wherever I went in the military, all over the world, I met Blue Hens.” ■

—Eric Ruth, AS93



LANE MCCAUGHLIN

Theresa Malloy Brodrick, HS83, of Greensboro, N.C., was recently promoted to regional chief nursing officer and vice president of clinical integration for Kaiser Permanente in Oakland, Calif.

Albert Roop, BE83, of Wilmington, Del., has been promoted to senior vice president and director of technology services for WSFS Bank.

Kenneth Solon, EG84, of Basking Ridge, N.J., has been named executive vice president and chief

information officer for Lincoln Financial.

Robert Teeven, AS86, of Newark, Del., has joined the Long & Foster Real Estate firm in Hockessin, Del.

Jefferey B. DeFazio, BE87, of Piedmont, Calif., has joined the global executive search and advisory firm Heads! International as managing partner, based out of its San Francisco offices.

Chris Davis LaFontaine, AS87, of Ashland, Mass., was recently

appointed director of internal communications at Liberty Mutual in Boston.

Janet G. Casey, AS88M, 91PhD, has published *Teaching Tainted Lit: Popular American Fiction in Today’s Classroom* (University of Iowa Press).

Steven M. Herman, EHD88M, currently working as a psychologist at the Indianapolis, Ind., VA hospital, recently received the Distinguished Service Award

from the Indiana Department of Disabled American Veterans.

Robert McDermott, BE88, of Annandale, N.J., has been hired as finance director by Falcon Manufacturing LLC, a fabricator of point-of-purchase displays in Somerset, N.J.

Amanda L. Mullan, HS88, of Wall Township, N.J., has been appointed chief human resources officer of New Jersey Resources, a Fortune 1000 company that

GIVING BACK ALL HE GOT

For Mike Epstein, BE85, the impact of the UD experience still resonates strongly, both personally and professionally: It was here that he met the friend—Art Carril, EG84—who would become his business partner in the Gold’s Gym franchise they have operated in Paramus, New Jersey, for 23 years.

From that friendship would come so much, for so many: Each year, Epstein, Carril and the gym sponsor a seemingly endless lineup of charity efforts, ranging from a weight-loss challenge for the entire town, to holiday food-and-toy drives, to a bicycle-team diabetes fundraiser that has been embraced nationally by Gold’s Gym as part of the American Diabetes Association’s Tour de Cure. Last fall, Gold’s Gym formally inducted Epstein (and actor Arnold Schwarzenegger) into the company’s Hall of Fame for their contributions to the brand.

“We have raised close to \$4 million since we started raising funds for diabetes a couple of years after we opened,”



Mike Epstein with actor and former California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger

he says. “I’m a big believer in giving back.”

He’s also a big believer in keeping the connections to his alma mater strong. Once a year, the River Vale, New Jersey, resident heads south to Newark to golf and gab with his old fraternity brothers. Every September, he and his former teammates from the Blue Hen Tennis team head out together to catch the U.S. Open. And he serves as a Volunteer Admissions Support Team ambassador for UD, gently nudging prospective New Jersey students toward the campus he loves.

“Over the years I’ve definitely spoken to hundreds of kids and their parents,” Epstein says. “And I tell them all the same thing: It’s the perfect school.”

And he hopes that after they graduate, they end up finding what he and Carril found—no matter how far you go, or how long you’ve been gone, you never really leave. ■

—Eric Ruth, AS93

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provides natural gas and clean energy services, including transportation, distribution and asset management.

Kevin J. Hayes, AS89M, 91PhD, has recently published two books, *A History of Virginia Literature* (Cambridge University Press) and *The Two-Wheeled World of George B. Thayer* (University of Nebraska Press).

Bayard Williams, ANR89, of Wilmington, Del., has been named by the Delaware Association of Realtors as its 2015 Realtor of the Year. Williams is also the New Castle County Board of Realtors president-elect.

1990s

Jason R. Davis, BE90, of Cohasset, Mass., has been named chief fiduciary officer for Abbot Downing, the ultra-high-net-worth unit of Wells Fargo’s Wealth and Investment Management group.

Chris James, AS90, of Hinsdale, Ill., has joined Waddell & Reed as a financial adviser.

Todd E. Mason, BE90, of New York, N.Y., has been named partner-in-charge of the New York City law offices of Thompson Hine LLP.

A.B. McFarland, AS90, of Seattle, Wash., has published a book called *Pieces of Home* via CreateSpace Independent.

Vatsal P. Sonecha, EG91M, of Palo Alto, Calif., has joined cyber-defense firm Armor as the senior vice president of Strategy and Business Development.

Sean M. Dalton, EG92, of Winchester, Mass., has joined the Board of Directors of Xometry Inc., an advanced-manufacturing company based in Gaithersburg, Md. Dalton is a general partner at Highland Capital Partners.

Bill Mammarella, AS92M, of Lancaster, Pa., has been appointed chair of the fine art department for

the Pennsylvania College of Art & Design.

Arlene M. Benton, AS94, of Dover, Del., was honored among the “Top Lawyers 2015” by *Delaware Today* magazine. She is a real estate law attorney with Delaware’s Baird Mandalas Brockstedt, LLC.

Aaron R. Goldstein, AS95, of Wilmington, Del., has been selected to lead the Civil Division of the Delaware Department of Justice as state solicitor.

Alison Long, BE95, of Wilmington, Del., participated in Miami University’s Earth Expeditions global field course in India over the summer of 2015. A teacher and naturalist at Delaware Nature Society, Long took the graduate course in pursuit of her master’s degree from Miami University’s Global Field Program.

Steven Olsen-Smith, AS95M, 99PhD, has published *Melville in His Own Time: A Biographical Chronicle of His Life, Drawn from*

Recollections, Interviews, and Memoirs by Family, Friends, and Associates (Iowa University Press).

Bruce Wissinger, AS95, of Doylestown, Pa., has been promoted to director of community outreach at Worthwhile Wear, an organization that fights human trafficking in the Philadelphia, Pa., area and in India.

Stephanie Lonie, AS96, of Elkton, Md., has been named chief executive officer for YWCA Delaware.

Micah Pawling, AS96, of Orono, Maine, authored and co-authored eight atlas plates in the *Historical Atlas of Maine* (University of Maine Press).

Brian Richards, BE96, 12M, of West Chester, Pa., has been named vice president and senior relationship manager at M&T Bank.

Patricia Campbell, AS97M, of Harrisburg, Pa., has been promoted to chief operating officer of the

RACING FOR A CURE

Al “Scott” Carter, BE88, started his career as a professional racer just seven years ago—but he’s already driving in some decidedly elite circles. The 49-year-old Greenville, Delaware, resident won two prestigious



team-driving endurance races in 2015: the 6-hour at Watkins Glen and The Rolex 24 at Daytona. He also chalked

up a third place at Petit Le Mans, a fourth at Sebring, and clinched the 2015 Tequila Patron North American Endurance Cup Driver Championship—his first professional title.

The finance professional and father of three also serves as racing ambassador for the Wilmington, Delaware-based Andrew McDonough B+ Foundation, which provides financial assistance to families of children with cancer nationwide. Carter wears the foundation’s “B+” logo prominently on his Porsche race car, and makes regular visits to young cancer patients in hospitals.

“I’m a cancer survivor myself, so helping in the fight against childhood cancer is important to me. I relate to the daily struggles of both the patients and their families,” Carter says. “By donating space on my car to the B+ Foundation, we help them spread their message across the country—and have raised more than \$250,000. It’s just so crucial to give these kids hope.” ■

—Eric Ruth, AS93



Al Carter visits a young patient battling blood disease at the Peyton Manning Children’s Hospital, Indianapolis, in 2012. The visits are part of Carter’s efforts to support the Wilmington-based B+ Foundation, which assists families of children who have cancer.

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HENS OF A FEATHER

UD alumni recognized for career milestones and accomplishments

In 1995, a Governor’s task force created the Riverfront Development Corporation of Delaware to oversee the futures of the Brandywine and Christina Rivers. For the past 18 years, numerous Blue Hens have been instrumental in its development and design, including: **Nancy Bergeron, EG89**, vice president of RK&K Engineers, where she has been responsible for infrastructure design; **Jenna Connelly Harwanko, EOE98, BE06M**, chief environmental scientist for WIK Associates; **Jason Hastings, EG00, 01M**, bridge engineer for the Delaware Department of Transportation (DELDOT); **Robert Healy, EG77**, lead structural engineer for Rummel, Klepper & Kahl; **Raymond A. Petrucci, EG71**, project manager for DELDOT; **Mike Purzycki, AS67**, executive director of the Riverfront Development Corporation; **Michael Walsh, BE89**, president of Pettinaro Construction; and **Carey Webb, EG93**, lead design engineer for roadways for RK&K Engineers.

Several UD alumni and staff have been highlighted by *Delaware Today* magazine’s “Women in Business” issue: **Vincenza Carrieri-Russo, AS13**, of Newark, co-owner of Vincenza & Margherita Italian-American Bistro in North Wilmington; **Erin Cooper Barrett, BE01, 07M**,

of Dover, owner and events coordinator for Outlook Events, LLC, in Dover; **Karen Fletcher, EG81, 82M**, of Wilmington, former chief engineer and vice president of Engineering, Facilities Services and Real Estate at DuPont; **Nola Doubét Hendry, AS66**, of Wilmington, chief operating officer at Carl Doubét Jr. Jewelers in Greenville; **Jacqueline D. Jenkins, EHD06**, of Wilmington, chief strategy adviser for the city of Wilmington; **Sheryl F. Kline**, professor and chair at UD’s Department of Hotel, Restaurant and Institutional Management; **Rashmi Rangan, AS93M**, executive director of the Delaware Community Reinvestment Action Council; and **Amy Wikane Stengel, AS86**, of Wilmington, group vice president and managing director for Institutional Administrative Services at Wilmington Trust.

The University of Delaware proudly congratulates the following alumni elected to the prestigious National Academy of Engineering: **Morton Collins, EG58, Teh Ho, EG77M** and **David Welch, EG81**. These Blue Hens join several UD alumni and faculty previously elected to this prestigious academy. Election to the National Academy of Engineering is among the highest professional distinctions accorded to an engineer. ■

Keystone Initiative for Network Based Education and Research in Harrisburg.

Erica Varites, EHD98, of Wilmington, Del., was a 2015 recipient of the Distinguished Teaching Award from the National Council for Geographic Education (NCGE). She also was named Delaware’s Geography Teacher of the Year in 2014 and represented Delaware at the NCGE conference in Memphis, Tenn.

Karl Lieberman, AS99, of Portland, Ore., has been promoted to executive creative director in the Wieden + Kennedy advertising agency. Lieberman has worked on campaigns including Procter and Gamble’s “Thank You, Mom” for the 2012 Olympics, which won an Emmy, and the ongoing KFC campaign starring a “reinvigorated” Col. Sanders.

Kelli Racca, AS99M, of Wilmington, Del., has joined Bancroft as a project executive for business development.



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SEVEN CONTINENTS, SEVEN MARATHONS

When she was a child, Holly Dobrowolski, AS88, was a bit of a daddy's girl—always by her father's side. Although the little-girl years are done, daddy and daughter still seem inseparable at times.

For 11 years now, Holly and her father, Alex, have tackled—together—one of the toughest challenges an athlete can endure. On six continents, both have entered—and completed—a full marathon, from the ancient streets of Rome to the near-Arctic reaches of Reykjavík, Iceland.

They do it because of the challenge, and because of the love they share. They do it as a way to sustain the credo Alex instilled—“always live life to its fullest”—and to satisfy the competitive drive both hold in their core. And they have just one more race to run—the 2017 Antarctic Ice Marathon—before they can lay claim to having conquered all seven continents.

When that happens, Holly will be 50 years old. Alex, a retired schoolteacher who shows no signs of embracing a passive retirement, will be 76. They suspect—but can't be sure—that they will be the oldest father-daughter duo to complete the coveted seven-continent marathon challenge.

“What a great accomplishment that you can say at the end of the day, ‘I ran all these marathons with my father,’ says Holly, a North Jersey resident, who most recently was a senior sales operations analyst for Juicy Couture in Manhattan. “It's a point of pride.”

In part, that sense of accomplishment and achievement was also instilled on the UD campus, Holly says. It was a perfect place for a young woman seeking growth—small enough to be comfortable and comforting, large enough to hold opportunity. “She really grew at Delaware,” says Alex, a



Father-and-daughter running duo Holly and Alex Dobrowolski, seen here in Buenos Aires in 2013, have completed marathons together on six of seven continents, and aim to do all seven by 2017.

Highland Park, New Jersey, resident. “They did a really good job at giving her a social as well as an academic education.”

But it's probably dad who should get the credit for Holly's go-go gene.

“We run together at the start, but she gets bored because I'm much slower than she is,” says Alex. “And then she says, ‘Dad, I've gotta go!’ She's got that competitiveness. It's inbred.” ■

—Eric Ruth, AS93

Running the world

To date, the Dobrowolskis have completed eight marathons together across the globe, from Dublin to Warsaw, in addition to their six “continental challenge” races, including running the New York City marathon twice:

- Europe (2004): Rome, Italy
 - North America (2007): Reykjavík, Iceland *
 - Australia (2008): Sydney
 - Asia (2012): Tokyo, Japan
 - South America (2013): Buenos Aires, Argentina
 - Africa (2015): Cape Town, South Africa
 - Antarctica: Planned for 2017
- (*Iceland is on both North American and European continents).

2000s

Heather Derbyshire, AS00, of Cinnaminon, N.J., has been promoted to assistant vice president in the Financial Statistics Department of the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia.

Natalie J. Haskins, AS00, of Wilmington, Del., has been

confirmed by the Delaware Senate to be a Family Court judge.

Lauren Micchelli, BE00, of West Caldwell, N.J., has won a New Book Award from the Awards Judge Organization for her children's book, *I Love My Pet Elephant*.

Jennifer Amundson, AS01PhD, of St. Charles, Ill., has been named

interim dean for the School of Art, Design & Architecture at Judson University in Elgin, Ill., where she has taught history and theory of architecture since 2001.

Lauren C. Fantini, AS01, has joined the law firm of Duffy + Partners in Philadelphia.

Justina M. Sapna, EHD01M, of Seaford, Del., has been named vice president for academic affairs at Delaware Technical Community College.

Cynthia Fowler, AS02PhD, has published *Locating American Art: Finding Art's Meaning in Museums, Colonial Period to the Present*

CLASS NOTES

(Ashgate), with a dedication to the late William Innes Homer, the H. Rodney Sharp Professor Emeritus of Art History, and an acknowledgement to **Wayne Craven, 08H**, Emeritus Professor of Art History.

Michael Garcia, BE02, of Seaford, N.Y., has been named principal of Berdon LLP, an accounting and advisory firm in New York City. Garcia leads Litigation, Valuation and Dispute Resolution Services for the firm.

Jonathan Kaufmann, AS02, of Honolulu, Hawaii, has been named chief medical information officer for Bayhealth.

J. Dade Thornton, AS02, of Pittsburgh, has joined the Philadelphia office of the Blank Rome LLP law firm as an associate in the Real Estate group.

Michael G. Rushe, AS03, of Dover, Del., has been named partner in the law firm of Hudson, Jones, Jaywork & Fisher LLC.

James C. Samans, EG03, of Alexandria, Va., is a cyberspace operations officer in the Air Force Reserve and recently completed Squadron Officer School.

Kara Swasey, BE04, of Wilmington, Del., has been elected director of Bayard, P.A., a Delaware-based law firm, where she concentrates in family law.

Sarah Timmons, BE04, of Lewes, Del., has been promoted to accounting and auditing partner of Raymond F. Book & Associates.

Latoya Watson, BE04, AS08M, of Middletown, Del., was recently promoted to assistant dean of the University of Delaware's Associates in Arts program.

Michael Brennan, EG05, of Philadelphia, was named to the *Chronicle of Philanthropy's* first-ever "40 Under 40" list of extraordinary young nonprofit leaders. Brennan is program officer for the Ford Foundation in New York City.

Jennifer Weidler Karpchuk, AS06, of Conshohocken, Pa., recently conducted a 3-credit CLE program sponsored by the Pennsylvania Bar Institute entitled, "Top 10 Mistakes Philadelphia Businesses Make." Karpchuk is a state and local tax attorney with the national law firm Chamberlain Hrdlicka.

Craig Sendach, BE06, of New York, N.Y., has opened Touching Hearts at Home, a national home care service franchise for aging adults, in Manhattan, Brooklyn and Queens.

Casey D. Hentages, ANR07M, of Yukon, Okla., has been named host of the long-running horticultural television program *Oklahoma Gardening* on OETA public television in Oklahoma City.

Joshua Shaver, BE07, of Newark, Del., has been named managing director with Diamond State Financial Group, a Newark-based financial services firm, where he will be responsible for recruiting, training and developing financial

advisers in all stages of their careers.

Brian McGinnis, AS07H, of Collingswood, N.J., has been selected as a fellow of the New Leaders Council—New Jersey. McGinnis is an associate at Fox Rothschild LLP in Philadelphia.

Sean Patrick Guidera, AS08, has published a children's book, *Ethan the Raindrop* (self-published).

Laird R. Hayward, AS09, of Tustin, Calif., has been appointed to the Board of Trustees of Tower Hill School in Wilmington, Del. Hayward is co-founder and chief operating officer of Foxspring Labs Inc., a mobile app development company in San Francisco.

2010s

Megan M. Delaney, BE10, of Gaithersburg, Md., has been promoted to supervisor at Santora CPA Group in Newark, Del.

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Thomas Ford, AS11, of Hockessin, Del., and **Eric Insler, AS11**, of White Plains, N.Y., have joined the Peace Corps as volunteers in Nicaragua, Ford as an environmental education volunteer, Insler as a small business development volunteer.

Kana Panchmatia, AS11, of Dover, Del., is pursuing a Master of Integrated Innovation for Products & Services (MII-PS) degree at the Integrated Innovation Institute at Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Julie Smith Meyer, EOE10PhD, of Gainesville, Fla., a postdoctoral scientist in marine microbiology at the University of Florida, was named one of five 2015 recipients of L'Oreal's For Women in Science Fellowships, which honor female scientists at critical stages in their careers.

Veronica DeAngelo, AS12, of Philadelphia, Pa., has joined Fitzpatrick Lentz & Bubba, P.C. in Center Valley, Pa., as an attorney in

the Corporate, Business & Banking Group.

Jie Fu, EG13PhD, of Philadelphia, Pa., has completed her postdoctoral research at the University of Pennsylvania and is now assistant professor of electrical and computer engineering and robotics engineering at Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

Kristin M. Pearce, BE13M, of Newark, Del., has joined WSFS Bank as vice president and relationship manager in the Business Banking Division.

Thomas Shaner, EOE13, of Fort Washington, Pa., is researching invasive yellow ants on Johnston Atoll in U.S. remote Pacific islands with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Sofia Therese Hedman, AS15, of Rehoboth Beach, Del., has joined the Rehoboth Beach office of Accent On Travel, where she will provide travel services to family vacation groups. ■

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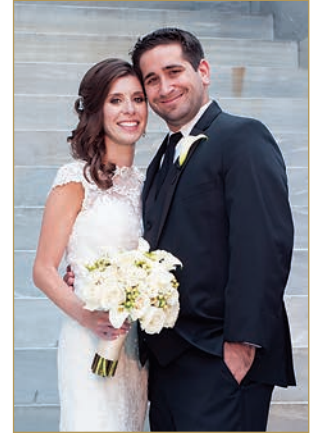
Weddings



Karen Thomas, AS11, to David Sheldon, AS11, Aug. 29, 2015



Lauren Henry, BE10H, to Justin Faucher, EG10, Aug. 8, 2015



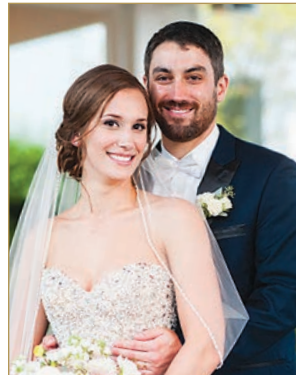
Kerri Nelson, AS09, to Tom Canataro, EG09, Sept. 20, 2015



Charlotte Strazdus, EHD14, to Chad Agostinelli, EG08, Sept. 12, 2015



Suzanne Thayer, AS10, to Adam Thompson, HS10, Sept. 20, 2015



Melissa Matulay, HS10, to Brian Stump, BE10, Sept. 12, 2015



Julia Barron, AS08, to Chris Andrews, AS06, Aug. 22, 2015



Erin Veronica Stevens, AS07, to Jonathan Paul Olmstead, AS07, July 10, 2015



Katie Chance, AS08, to Silje Lier, AS08, March 21, 2015

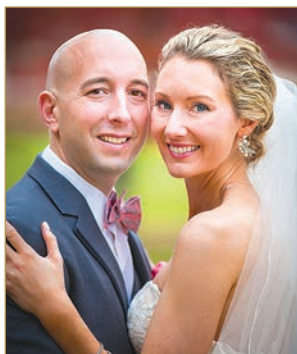


Yolanda McCallum, BE06, to Wali Rushdan, AS06, March 28, 2015



Jennifer Seelin, AS07, married Brian Tyrseck, AS07, on May 23, 2015. Among those attending were, from left: David Juliano, AS06, Todd Blass, AS05, Zoe Cumberland, Michael Quinn, AS07, Jessica Long, AS07, Elizabeth Lotz, BE08, Dan Cutright, AS06, Darley Tom, AS07, Katherine Morgan, AS07, Jennifer, Brian, Michael Janes, BE07, Jessica

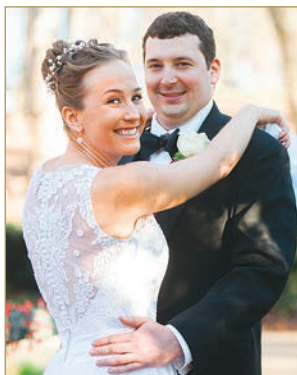
Heckman, BE07, Sam Battista, AS13, Isabel (Rivero) Whitenack, BE07, Michele (Brown) Rotkowitz, EHD07, Shari Cohen, HS05, Courtney Biegeleisen, BE07, Michael Finazzo, BE07, Allison (Greenberg) Finazzo, BE06 and Katherine (Debarros) Janes, BE07.



Laura Witt, AS07, to Nathan Mares, Nov. 7, 2015



Lindsay Stirk, AS06, to John Thompson, Oct. 9, 2015



Christine Dierickx, AS08, to Aaron Powell, on Nov. 13, 2015



Megan Copenhaver, EHD08, to Kevin Fowle, July 19, 2014



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WEDDINGS



Tywanda Howie, AS04, to Andrew Cuffy, Sept. 13, 2015



Adam Turetsky, BE02, to Phillip Steuernagel, Jan. 17, 2015



Jessica Ramierz, AS07, to Trevor Thomson, Sept. 26, 2015



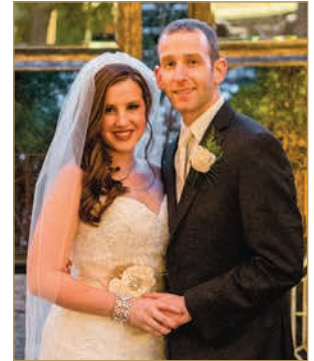
Rachel Sackett, BE04, to Brandon Putman, May 15, 2015



Emily Longwell-Grice, AS05, to Nathan Becker, June 13, 2015



Heidi Habel, AS03, to Thomas McDonough, Aug. 8, 2015



Nicole DelMonico, HS11, to Josh Matlin, HS07, Dec. 27, 2014

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50th Anniversary



Patricia (Christy) Glanden, EHD65, 70M, and James Glanden, ANR66, were married January 28, 1966, at the Methodist church in Cecilton, Md. They met while attending the University of Delaware. Both are retired teachers from the Christina School District and have lived in Newark for the past 49 years.

Dear Double Dels, the *Messenger* wants to hear from you! If you're celebrating a milestone anniversary and want to be featured in the magazine, please submit a high-resolution photo, along with your full names and class years to themessenger@udel.edu. Congratulations and best wishes from your alma mater!

Attention, newlyweds

Wedding announcements and photos for the *Messenger* should be submitted to the Office of Development and Alumni Relations, themessenger@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 couple.

To be considered for publication, please note that 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 as possible, but due to space limitations and reproduction-quality requirements, we are not able to publish every photo that is submitted. If we are not able to use a photo, we will announce the marriage in the "Weddings" section of Class Notes. As part of the University's ongoing sustainability efforts, we will publish only one group photo per issue.

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New Additions



Hudson Kenneth, born March 19, 2015, to Jennifer (Hugler) Cross, EHD05, and Benjamin Cross, EG04, 07M, of Leesburg, Va.



Ibrahim, born Dec. 9, 2014, to Pakeeza Akram, EG18M, and Muhammad Warsi, AS17M, of Newark, Del.



Brady Olson, born Dec. 22, 2014, to Alexis Mears, AS03, and Tony Mears, BE02, of Avondale, Pa.



Reese Marie, born Jan. 7, 2015, to Melissa Boulden, EG05, 06M, and Rory Boulden, AS04, of Middletown, Del.



Melanie Leigh, born May 12, 2015, to Sarah (Eggleston) Levine, ANR03, and Joshua Levine, BE03, of Westford, Mass.



Kaitlin Madison, born June 25, 2015, adopted by Colleen (Sullivan) Fagan, HS98, 00M, and Edward Fagan, HS97, of Neptune, N.J.



Haitham Bourhim, born June 3, 2015, to Shahida Dar, AS08PhD, and Abdellatif Bourhim, of Utica, N.Y.



Eleanor, born Aug. 26, 2015, to Joanna Moore, AS06, and Dillon Moore, BE05, with big sister Ryan of Tampa, Fla.



Madalyn Joyce, born Jan. 19, 2015, to Allison (Proud) Gibbons, EHD01, and Shaun Gibbons, with big brother Brendan, of Claymont, Del.



Brian Paul, born March 10, 2014, to Patti (Powers) Miller, BE98, and Jason Miller, with big sister Amanda Nicole, of Wilmington, Del.



Bowie Finnegan, born March 5, 2015, to Kelly (Conlin) Fox, AS06, and Bruce Fox, AS06, 15M, of Wilmington, Del., with big sister Penelope Jane.



Domenic Joseph, born Aug. 9, 2015, to Lauren (Piccolo) Territola, BE05, and Anthony Territola, of Providence, N.J.



Nolan Stanley, born May 26, 2015, to Kristen (Shala) McCann, BE04, and Ryan McCann, of Clark, N.J.



Willie Duane Jr., born March 16, 2015, to Serena (Swann) Harris, HS01, 05M, and Willie Harris, of Wilmington, Del., with big sisters Kortney and Kendall.

Attention, parents

Birth announcements and photos for the *Messenger* should be submitted to the Office of Development and Alumni Relations, themessenger@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.

Thanks to the continued generous support of our alumni and donors, each of our 600+ student-athletes has the opportunity to create their own Blue Hen Story. These men and women represent what it means to be a Blue Hen.



"Being a Blue Hen is all about putting in what it takes to succeed on the game field and in the classroom — the passion, hard work, dedication, teamwork, time management and giving back to the community." - Ben Sampson, Men's Soccer, Electrical Engineering

"It means everything to be a Blue Hen. To play for a school that has so much pride and tradition makes you go out and work that much harder. The first time I ever played in The Bob was like a dream come true. Coming to Delaware was one of my best decisions!" - Courtni Green, Women's Basketball, Criminal Justice



See more Blue Hen Stories at:

www.bluehens.com/mybluehenstory



In Memoriam



Alice A. Aydjian, AS40, of
Wilmington, Del., Nov. 27, 2015

Helen Osborne Bush, AS41, of
Hollywood, Fla., Nov. 4, 2015

**Katherine Kappel Meekins,
EHD41**, of Wilmington, Del.,
Oct. 30, 2015

Ivan W. Herr Jr., EG42, of
Pennsauken, N.J., Nov. 15, 2015

Anna Long Gray, AS43, of
Selbyville, Del., Nov. 12, 2015

Virginia Blake Howard, AS45, of
Perryville, Md., Nov. 30, 2015

John E. Lingo Sr., EG46, of Vero
Beach, Fla., Nov. 13, 2015

Hugh A. George, BE47, of Newark,
Del., Oct. 26, 2015

Edwin L. Haines Jr., BE48, of
Elkton, Md., Nov. 12, 2015

Paul V. Heyd Jr., ANR48, of
Honolulu, Hawaii, Oct. 10, 2015

W. Robert Hickman, ANR48, 53M,
of Dover, Del., Oct. 15, 2015

John W. Buel, AS49, of
Lyndonville, Vt., Oct. 6, 2015

Jane Gordon Craig, AS49, of
Melbourne Beach, Fla., June 8, 2015

Gerald J. Grant Sr., AS49, of
Wilmington, Del., Oct. 24, 2015

Morris S. Ojalvo, EG49M, of
Washington, D.C., Oct. 19, 2015

Ferdinand C. Ritter, EG49, of
Brentwood, Tenn., Dec. 9, 2015

Lawrence H. Gillespie Jr., EG50, of
Chadds Ford, Pa., Sept. 29, 2015

William J. Kuhn Jr., ANR50, of
Wilmington, Del., Oct. 20, 2015

Gerald E. Enslin, EG51M, of
Lancaster, Pa., Oct. 14, 2015

Samuel Swinger, AS51, of
Wilmington, Del., Oct. 30, 2015

Walter F. Williams, EG51, of Palm
City, Fla., Nov. 28, 2015

Donald F. Boorse, BE52, of
Springfield, Pa., Sept. 12, 2015

John J. Keyes Jr., EG52PhD, of Oak
Ridge, Tenn., Oct. 12, 2015

Marilyn Shoemaker Mace, HS52,
of Titusville, Fla., Nov. 27, 2015

Robert E. Millar, EG52, of
Chatham, N.J., Sept. 24, 2015

Mary Turner Robb, EHD52, of
Jacksonville, Fla., Jan. 19, 2015

Elaine Abrams Buechler, AS53, of
West Orange, N.J., June 8, 2015

Mary Lou Pinder Merriken, HS53,
of Royal Oak, Md., Nov. 25, 2015

Carl O. Miller, AS53, of State
College, Pa., Nov. 5, 2015

David F. Owen Jr., ANR53M, of
Penn Valley, Calif., Sept. 20, 2015

Barbara Brown Kern, EHD54, of
Laguna Woods, Calif., Nov. 18, 2015

Joseph F. Elwood, EG55, of New
York, N.Y., Sept. 29, 2012

**Speros P. Nemphos, AS55M,
57PhD**, of Clinton, Mass., Nov. 24,
2015

June E. Spargo, EHD55M, of
Pennsville, N.J., Sept. 21, 2015

Ruth W. Ward, HS55, of Bethany
Beach, Del., Nov. 21, 2015

**Mary Ellen Kracker Warfield,
HS55**, of Bellevue, Wash., Nov. 19,
2015

A. Rodney Daniels, EHD56, 67M,
of Middletown, Del., Oct. 5, 2015

Joyce Blair Eagle, EHD56, of
Houston, Texas, Oct. 14, 2015

Ethel Hubbard Healy, HS56, of
Medford, N.J., Sept. 23, 2015

Thomas J. Rahaim, EG56M, of
Claymont, Del., Oct. 21, 2015

Winifred Blanken Wismer, AS56,
of Oxford, Pa., Nov. 9, 2015

Nancy Long Bowser, EHD57, of
Houston, Texas, Nov. 20, 2015

Francis J. Kearns, ANR57, of
Lewes, Del., Nov. 10, 2015

Ann Weslager Tatnall, EHD57, of
Woodstown, N.J., Jan. 7, 2016

Richard E. Ahlborn, AS58M, of
Bethesda, Md., Oct. 29, 2015

Albert D. D'Onofrio, BE58, of
Wilmington, Del., April 29, 2015

George D. Null, AS56M, 58PhD, of
Oxford, Pa., Dec. 1, 2015

Robert J. Peirce, EG58, of West
Grove, Pa., Nov. 14, 2015

William A. Timmons, BE58, of
Rehoboth Beach, Del., Oct. 17, 2015

Harry D. McCreary, EG60, of
Raleigh, N.C., Sept. 22, 2015

Michael A. Johnson, BE61, of
Ocean City, N.J., Sept. 25, 2015

Janet M. Lawton, EHD61, of
Buffalo, N.Y., Oct. 17, 2015

Robert A. Hotchkiss, BE62, of
Wilmington, Del., Nov. 11, 2015

Richard L. Tingle, BE62, of
Newark, Del., Sept. 27, 2015

**Loretta Lazarczyk Eller, EHD63,
66M**, of Rosemount, Minn.,
Sept. 26, 2015

**Bonnie Milspaw Seely-Edwards,
EHD64**, of West Palm Beach, Fla.,
Sept. 12, 2015

W. Brooks Bigelow, AS65, of
Angola, Ind., Oct. 16, 2015

Roberta Taylor Campbell, EHD65,
of Wilmington, Del., Dec. 11, 2015

J. Patrick Gunning Jr., BE65, of
Melbourne, Fla., Nov. 23, 2015

**Jonathan M. Heuberger, AS65,
BE69M**, of Steamboat Springs,
Colo., Nov. 8, 2015

C. D. Turner, EG67M, of
Wilmington, Del., Oct. 23, 2015

Gail Artner Chester, AS68M, of
Boca Raton, Fla., Oct. 19, 2015

C. Nelson Schlatter, AS68, of
Coshocton, Ohio, Nov. 2, 2015

Charles F. Patton, EHD69M, of
Kennett Square, Pa., July 19, 2014

James S. Cubbage, ANR70, of
Hebron, Md., Nov. 21, 2015

Jean McCormick Owens, EHD70,
of Newark, Del., Oct. 6, 2015

**Deborah Harrington Dalfovo,
AS71, EHD83M**, of Bear, Del.,
Oct. 18, 2015

John B. Mingus, AS71M, of
Richmond, Va., Oct. 10, 2015

Anthony T. Simeone, AS71, of
Bethesda, Md., Nov. 9, 2015

Roger E. Carmine, AS72, of
Wilmington, Del., Oct. 16, 2015

**Macel Hanna Negrepoint, EHD72,
78M**, of Wilmington, Del., Oct. 6,
2015

Walter A. Smith, AS72, of New
Castle, Del., Nov. 16, 2015

Robert M. Straub, BE72M, of
Hockessin, Del., June 22, 2015

Daniel H. Hall, BE74M, of
Georgetown, Del., April 10, 2015

Douglas W. Middleton, EOE74, of
Aurora, Colo., Oct. 31, 2015

Roger A. Post Jr., EHD74, of
Basking Ridge, N.J., Nov. 23, 2015

Patrick J. Brennan Jr., AS75, of
Alpharetta, Ga., March 31, 2015

Gary K. Corder, AS75, of Milford,
Del., Nov. 29, 2015

Faculty

John Stephens (Steve) Crawford, professor emeritus of art history, passed away Oct. 9 after a short battle with cancer. He was 72. As a professor at UD, Dr. Crawford taught a wide range of classes in art history over a 31-year career before retiring in 2000. He was awarded UD's Excellence In Teaching Award and served as acting dean during his tenure. ■

Michael E. McLaughlin, AS76, 88M, of New Castle, Del., Sept. 18, 2015

Bayard W. Spence, ANR76, of Houston, Del., Nov. 9, 2015

Adrienne Strickland Green, EHD77, of Newark, Del., June 29, 2015

E. Wayne Martz, BE77M, of Aberdeen, Md., Oct. 4, 2015

Thomas L. Simmons, AS77, of Claymont, Del., Oct. 7, 2015

James P. Wineland, ANR77, of Sewell, N.J., Oct. 13, 2015

Gary J. Black, EG79, of Reston, Va., Apr. 21, 2015

Carole A. Golder, AS79, of Covington, Ga., Oct. 29, 2015

Marilyn Sylvestre Poirier, EHD81M, of Wilmington, Del., Dec. 4, 2015

Murray B. Hines, BE83, of Newark, Del., Nov. 15, 2015

Kimberly Nemith Suarez, HS83, of Ellicott City, Md., Oct. 25, 2015

Marcia Rose Velimesis, BE84, of Alpharetta, Ga., Nov. 10, 2015

Sharon Davis Hayden, AS85, of Largo, Fla., Nov. 2, 2015

William E. McShane, EG85, of Vienna, Va., Dec. 5, 2015

Mark J. Sienkiewicz Jr., EG85, of Halethorpe, Md., Aug. 15, 2015

Christopher D. Lauer, AS89, of Wilmington, Del., Nov. 23, 2015

Dawn Megaro Suarez, BE89, of Nazareth, Pa., Nov. 24, 2015

Lisa Breder Wiegand, AS89, of Rising Sun, Md., Nov. 15, 2015

Karen Paine English, HS90M, of Roanoke, Va., Oct. 23, 2015

David A. Jones, AS90, of Bear, Del., Oct. 22, 2015

Denise Marano Feil, HS98, of Great Falls, Va., Sept. 23, 2015

John W. Murray, BE01, of Philadelphia, Pa., Nov. 22, 2015

Kathy Gramsky Turnbull, HS02, of Mercer, Pa., Sept. 18, 2015

Michael J. Wilson, BE02, of Pittsburgh, Pa., Oct. 3, 2015

Steven E. Sparks, EG04, 14M, of Wilmington, Del., Nov. 25, 2015 ■



Charles M. Cawley, co-founder of MBNA America Bank, generous benefactor and member of the University's Board of Trustees, passed away Nov. 18, 2015. He was 75.

"Charlie was a devoted friend, a generous supporter and a steadfast champion of the University of Delaware, playing an instrumental role in strengthening the Lerner College of Business and Economics," said UD Acting President Nancy Targett.

As a UD trustee from 1994 to 2006, Cawley spearheaded a \$20 million gift from the MBNA Foundation in memory of Alfred Lerner, chairman and CEO of the bank, to endow the business college. He also made generous philanthropic gifts to athletics, academic programs and the Center for the Arts.

Cawley began his financial services career in 1963, later co-founding what would become MBNA America Bank. He built it into one of the largest credit card financial institutions in the world and retired as CEO in 2003.

A strong proponent of education, Cawley was integral to growing and strengthening the relationship between UD and MBNA. Thousands of UD graduates found their first job at an MBNA office or call center, and the MBNA Foundation provided over \$100 million in scholarships to help talented students attend college.

UD honored Cawley with an honorary Doctor of Humanities degree at Commencement on May 31, 2008. Howard Cosgrove, then chairman of the Board, read a citation honoring Cawley as a "visionary business leader" and "caring philanthropist" who made life better for thousands of his fellow citizens and who served as a mentor to countless young people. ■

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MY UD: FROM FIRST GENERATION STUDENT TO NAMED PROFESSOR

Jean-Philippe Laurenceau, Ph.D.,
Unidel Sparks Chair and Professor of Psychological & Brain Sciences

I grew up in the mostly Hispanic and Black neighborhood of East Elmhurst, Queens, where broken English was the norm and school was a “have to.” I don’t remember feeling like it was the first step in a journey to becoming an educated person. It was just something you had to do as a kid. And for a lot of my friends, it was something you did until you got a job after high school.

But I had this agreement with my dad. He had left Haiti in the 1960s for the “Melting Pot” of New York City, where he met my mother, who had come here from Ecuador. They wanted to make sure I got the great education they never did, became the “professional” they never were, obtained the opportunities they never would; in other words, the quintessential immigrant story. And so our deal was this: As long as I got A’s in school, he wouldn’t limit my social life. I could go to house parties, hang out at the park, take the subway line into Manhattan. For better or for worse, that incentive kept me motivated to do well in school.

Well enough to gain acceptance into Regis, a small, all-boys high school on the Upper East Side of Manhattan, where you had to test to get in, and kids came from all over the NYC Tri-State area to be enlightened largely by Jesuit priests who dedicated their lives to educating youth. That was where I realized people went to college, that there was more to life than East Elmhurst.

But when I arrived at college, I experienced true culture shock, partly due to the transition from the inner city to a small town, partly from the lack of people of color, and partly because of the challenges that any first-generation freshman faces. I was surrounded by “professional college students,” with strong study habits and great calculators, and families who mailed them care packages during mid-terms and finals. My parents didn’t know about that. They didn’t know how stressful college is or can be, and not just for academic expectations. But I heard my dad’s voice, relentlessly encouraging me even if he didn’t know how to navigate these waters himself. And because my parents moved back to Ecuador while I was in college, I learned to be self-reliant in a way my college friends didn’t need to be. In the midst of all this, I also met the woman who would become my wife and love of my life, and found support in her and her family.

Today, “My UD” story is a collection of my past experiences and my vision for the future. As an undergraduate, I didn’t encounter faculty that looked like me or who had similar life experiences. And I didn’t encounter any in grad school, either. Current students, fortunately, have more resources, though the need for more is ever-present.

Take, for instance, an African American pre-med, Spanish double major I met at a Latino Heritage Month event last fall. She’s not my advisee—she’s not even from my department. But she’s kept in touch, and when we last spoke, she shared with me how difficult the first semester was, especially her math and science courses. She’s an African American woman interested in the STEM fields, where diversity is sorely lacking on a national scale. We need her to be successful. But calculus was tough. Chemistry, too. These aren’t easy classes for any student, and

she needs to feel like there are professors on campus whom she can approach for help, support, resources, guidance. I feel fortunate to be that person for someone.

I told her to keep dreaming big; don’t let one bump derail you. But the fact is, she’ll have more than one bump in the road. She didn’t choose an easy path, and so she’ll have to work harder than most. I also told her to enjoy the hell out of college! It’s not all about the grades. It’s about becoming an adult and flourishing in whatever way reflects your goals—the lifelong friends, the new activities, the exposure to ideas you wouldn’t have otherwise known or had.

I often tell students, not just first-generation ones, you can come to college and get the degree. But will you get an education for life?

All students are trying to find a home on campus, a sense of belonging, that this is where I’m supposed to be—here, right now, in college, at UD. Just talking to students for an hour about what they want to do, listening and giving freely of our time: This is one of the hallmarks of faculty at the University of Delaware, and as close to a home as we can give our students. ■

J-P Laurenceau first joined the UD faculty as associate professor in 2005 and is also senior research scientist at Christiana Care Health System’s Helen F. Graham Cancer Center. His research examines marital and romantic relationships, with a recent focus on how couples maintain connection and support each other amid health-related adversity.

His commitment to strengthening and enhancing diversity includes serving on numerous councils and task forces, including the Center for the Study of Diversity, the University Diversity Initiative and the Black Graduate Student Association. Additionally, he is active in the University’s McNair Scholars program and has given guest lectures at community colleges as a way to expose students from diverse backgrounds to potential academic opportunities at UD.





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