

Roosevelt University College of Arts & Sciences

Dean's Report

May 1 2006 - May 1 2007

The College of Arts & Sciences remains the heart and soul of Roosevelt University. Our mission is to provide students a comprehensive, innovative liberal arts and science undergraduate and graduate curriculum, paired with cutting edge programs in such professional fields as marketing communication, biotechnology, and computer science. Our planning is guided by the twin goals of fostering academic excellence and enabling student success.

- Enrollment increased for the fifth year in a row, with a rise this year of 5 percent in majors and 5 percent in credit hours for the combined fall and spring semesters. This fall we marked our highest enrollment of majors in five years – up 8.4 % since 2002.
- The Roosevelt Scholars Honors program grew to an all-time high of 180 students, with an average ACT in the 89th percentile and average in-coming GPAs of 3.8.
- We developed and initiated a new Academic Writing Center based on a peer-tutoring model; there were over 370 student visits during the inaugural semester.
- Faculty productivity included 4 books, 60 journal articles and book chapters, and 95 conference papers. Faculty won awards from the Fulbright Scholars Program, National Science Foundation, McCormick Tribune Foundation, Illinois Arts Council, National Endowment for the Humanities, and others.
- Six new student honorary societies and clubs were launched, dozens of students attended academic conferences and meetings, and students won prizes and fellowships from the Illinois Press Association, National Science Foundation, U.S. Department of State, and the European Journalism Institute.

- We welcomed another outstanding class of new professors. Over a third of the College's full-time faculty has been hired within the past five years. The class of 2006-2007 includes:

Biology:

Kelly Wentz-Hunter, Ph.D, Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Sciences

Chemistry:

David Szpunar, Ph.D, University of Chicago

English Composition and Writing Center Director:

Carrie Brecke, MA, University of Illinois-Chicago

Economics:

Ozgur Organhazi, Ph.D, University of Massachusetts

History:

Erik Gellman, Ph.D, Northwestern University

Journalism:

Anne-Marie Cusac, MA, University of Washington; MFA, University of Wisconsin

Mathematics:

Barbara Gonzalez, Ph.D, Cornell University

Psychology:

Cami McBride, Ph.D, University of Miami

Susan Torres-Harding, Ph.D, DePaul University

Public Administration:

Lin Ye, Ph.D, University of Louisville

Joining us in August 2007 will be another class of new professors. These include Presidential Professor Charlie Madigan, author and columnist for the *Chicago Tribune*, and Journalism Professor John Fountain, the nationally known *New York Times* reporter and author, along with 10 other talented new faculty:

Chemistry:

Tasneem Islam, Ph.D, University of Iowa

English:

Kimberly Ruffin, Ph.D, University of Illinois-Chicago

History:

Christopher Chulos, Ph.D, University of Chicago

Journalism:

John Fountain, MSJ, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Charlie Madigan, BGS, Roosevelt University

Integrated Marketing Communication:

Pamela Davies, MBA, Northwestern University

Lawrence Fisher, Ph.D, Northwestern University

Psychology:

Lisa Lu, Ph.D, University of Florida

Jeri Morris, Ph.D, Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Sciences

Ben-Roy Do, Ph.D, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Brian Siers, Ph.D, Central Michigan University
Public Administration:
Joanne Howard, Ph.D, University of Illinois-Chicago

Several faculty and staff left the university during or at the end of this academic year, including IMA Director Jim Lewis, Development Officer Joan White, Assistant Professor of Psychology Daisy Chang, and visiting professors Frank Brooks, Mary Ann Mohanraj, Thomas Marnell, James Prendergast, and Ray Bishop. We wish them all well in their new endeavors.

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

New on-line courses are being created in composition, psychology, economics, and computer science. We are developing on-line certificate programs in non-profit administration and the teaching of writing.

Three programs underwent academic review—Computer Science and Telecommunications, Journalism, and Psychology. Faculty are now integrating many of the reviewer’s suggestions into their program planning.

The National Board of Certified Counselors approved the Clinical Professional MA in psychology.

The Sociology program developed a new fast-track five-year BA-MA program, to begin this fall.

The Integrated Marketing Communication faculty created a “Saturdays in Schaumburg” version of the IMC Master’s program.

The Women’s and Gender Studies MA was repositioned as an autonomous unit.

Our interest in internationalizing the curriculum continues. This year we initiated an Executive MPA program with 21 students from the Beijing Statistical Bureau, who will be at Roosevelt for a year. It is the first international cohort for the college. Students from Shijiazhuang Posts and Telecommunications College will begin a new partnership program in computer science this fall. In addition, our agreement with Shenyang University brought the second group of four “Visiting scholars” to Roosevelt. This year we signed a cooperation agreement with the Federal University of Uberlandia (UFU) in Brazil. We are planning a tropical biology course in Belize next January. As our partnership with London Metropolitan University evolves, we will send two students to London, and receive four students from London in Chicago, this fall. Study abroad opportunities continue to increase in popularity and our students traveled this past year to Mexico, Spain, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Germany, the United Kingdom, and the University at Sea.

ENROLLMENT

The College exceeded enrollment goals by 1.5 percent (credit hours of 44,111 over a projected 43,467). Almost all of our growth continues to be located at the downtown campus, although there are slight gains in graduate enrollment at Schaumburg. Graduate students comprise 41 percent of total CAS enrollment. Graduate programs showing significant growth include psychology, biotechnology and chemical science, and sociology; undergraduate programs that increased substantively this year include psychology, communications, political science, mathematics, chemistry, international studies, and history.

Over the past two years the numbers of full-time students have risen throughout the college. Full-time students now represent 60 percent of our undergraduates, compared to 53 percent two years ago. In contrast, only about a third of graduate students are full time though that proportion has increased slightly from 31 to 35 percent.

Our students are coming from a widening pool of applicants. Graduate students applying for scholarships now come from over 35 different colleges and universities, including Kenyon, Morehouse, Ohio State, Kentucky, Pittsburgh, Auburn, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and the University of Illinois.

ALUMNI, FUNDRAISING AND EXTERNAL SUPPORT

We lost our unit development officer, Joan White, in September and were not able to replace her for the year. Nevertheless we hosted two meetings of the college Alumni Advisory Board and raised funds for student prizes, scholarships, and program development. Gifts from Board members Troy Ratliff and Joe Loundy helped support student and faculty travel and special events. We established a college-wide scholarship committee for the first time. Most significantly, we received a \$1 million gift from the Helford Family Foundation to establish a doctoral program in Industrial-Organizational Psychology. We also received \$150,000 from the National Science Foundation for the purchase of scientific equipment, \$90,000 from Commonwealth Edison for a Science and Math Resource Center at Schaumburg, \$30,000 from AT&T to support a new Institute for Politics, and numerous other gifts and awards. These include \$50,000 from GolinHarris to fund the Al Golin Scholars in Communication awards, \$20,000 from the Jack Silber Foundation for faculty development in mathematics, and funds for scholarships in English and creative writing. Other gifts and donations are noted in the unit reports. We will be hosting an alumni event at the late summer 2007 meeting of the American Political Science Association.

We are very grateful to our alumni and donors for their support of our students, faculty and initiatives.

FACULTY, STAFF AND STUDENT NEWS

I am pleased to report the following:

CAS faculty continued to be productive, publishing 55 journal articles and book chapters, presenting 90 conference papers in the U.S. and abroad, producing book reviews, newspaper articles, poetry and performances, exhibitions and catalogs, and four books. These include:

- Regina Buccola, *Fairies, Fractious Women, and the Old Faith: Fairy Lore in Early Modern British Drama and Culture* (Susquehanna University Press)
- Regina Buccola, co-editor, *Marian Moments in Early Modern Drama* (Ashgate Press)
- Anne-Marie Cusac, *Silkie (poetry)* (Many Mountains Moving Press)
- Svetozar Minkov, ed., *Enlightening Revolutions: Essays in Honor of Ralph Lerner* (Lexington Books)

Our faculty mentorship program continued to connect junior faculty with senior colleagues. 40 faculty received college funds to travel to academic and professional conferences. Other highlights include:

- Mike Ens Dorf (journalism), Heather Dalmage (sociology), and Steve Meyers (psychology) were promoted to full professor. Priscilla Archibald (Spanish), Evgeny Dantsin (computer science), Bonnie Gunzenhauser (English), and Kristen Leckrone (chemistry) were tenured and promoted to associate professor. Celeste Chamberland (history), Christian Erickson (political science), Sandra Frink (history), Cherise Harris (sociology), and Bob Seiser (biology) were awarded second three-year contracts.
- Faculty on research leave included Priscilla Archibald (Spanish), Sandra Frink (history), Pamela Robert (sociology), Stuart Warner (philosophy), and Steve Ziliak (economics). The University awarded the following faculty research leaves for 2007-2008: Shiva Achet (geography & environmental science), Ann Brigham (English and women's & gender studies), Celeste Chamberland (history), Evgeny Dantsin (computer science), Ellen O'Brien (English and women's & gender studies), and Robert Seiser (biology). Twelve Arts and Sciences faculty received research grants for Summer 2007.
- Sam Rosenberg, Director of the Roosevelt Scholars Program and Professor of Economics, and Catherine Campbell, Associate Professor of Psychology, were given the Faculty Outstanding Service Award. Margie Rung, Associate Professor of History, won the Outstanding Service to the Library Award.

- Gina Buccola (English) and Celeste Chamberland (history) co-taught the Newberry Honors Seminar in the spring, to honors students from Roosevelt, UIC, Loyola, and DePaul.

We are proud to report national and regional recognition accorded our faculty. Among these are:

- Chris Erickson (political science) taught in Kyrgyzstan at the American University of Central Asia on a Fulbright Fellowship during Spring Semester 2007.
- Bethany Barratt (political science) was awarded an International Research and Exchanges Board (IREX) travel grant for research in the Kyrgyz Republic.
- Anne-Marie Cusac (journalism) was selected for the summer Teaching Fellows program at Indiana University.
- Emily Tedrowe (composition and English) won an Illinois Arts Council Literary Award for her short story, “Claudia Leaving” and also was awarded a residency for summer 2007 at the Ragdale Artist’s Colony to complete work on a novel.
- Janet Wondra (English) was awarded a Yaddo Writer’s residency for Summer 2007.
- Andy Carter (mathematics) was elected President of the Illinois Mathematics Teacher Educators organization.
- Peter Fallon (journalism) was named the 2007 winner of the Media Ecology Association’s Marshall McLuhan Award for his book, *Printing, Literacy and Education in Eighteenth Century Ireland: Why the Irish Speak English*.
- Linda Jones (journalism) received a \$25,000 grant from McCormick Tribune Foundation to support her work with the Scholastic Press Association of Chicago.
- Heather Dalmage (sociology) received a National Endowment for the Humanities fellowship for a Newberry Library workshop in 2006.

STUDENTS

Our students continue to be admitted into graduate, medical, law and dental schools. Some examples of recent student success include: Harry Epstein (BA, economics) will begin Georgetown University Law School in the fall after a summer internship with Congressman Rahm Emmanuel (D-IL). Graduating senior John Donnelly (BA, political

science) has been named a Senior Legislative Analyst for Congressman Dan Burton (R-IN) in Washington. History student Doria Johnson has been accepted into the PhD program in History at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Three Allied Health students graduated from the Nuclear Medicine and Medical Technology clinical programs at Northwestern Memorial and Evanston Hospitals. Eleven students passed 13 actuarial exams, our highest success rate to date.

The College supported the participation of students at meetings and conferences, including the Society for Industrial-Organizational Psychology, Women's Equality Summit and Congressional Action Day, National Women's Studies Association, Midwest Modern Language Association, Midwestern Conference on Literature, Language, and Media, North American Forum on Integration, Central States Communication Association, American Psychological Association, Midwestern Psychology, and many others.

Student staff members on the student newspaper, *The Torch*, collected seven awards from the Illinois College Press Association, including Jeff Schwister (MSJ, journalism) who won first place for sports writing. Arts and Sciences students held internships at dozens of sites, including the *Chicago Tribune*, McCan Erickson Advertising (New York City), Chicago Blackhawks, WGN-TV, CNN America, WBBM-TV, the Chicago Conservation Center, Spertus Museum, Oak Park Historical Society, and the National Museum of Mexican Art.

Sixteen students participated in the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program, working on projects with faculty in fields including history, economics, psychology, and biology.

Pre-doctoral Internships for Psy.D students included Henry Ford Health Sciences Center in Detroit, Mt. Sinai School of Medicine in New York City, and Miami Children's Hospital. PsyD student Karla Brennscheidt (MA, psychology) is participating this summer in a neuro-psychology practicum in Leipzig. Claudiu Dumitrescu (PsyD) completed a practicum at the University of Chicago before his two-year post-doc in Neuro-psychology at Northwestern Memorial Hospital.

Student clubs and organizations proliferated. The sociology honors society, Alpha Kappa Delta, inaugurated its first group of students in May. The Black Student Union was revived after a period of dormancy. A new Spanish honorary society, Sigma Delta Pi, inducted some 20 students and the Roosevelt University Journal Club began meeting to discuss student-selected scientific journal articles and books. The newly formed chapter of the economics honors society – Omicron Delta Epsilon – won a grant for a teach-in on economics issues in the 2008 election. The Model United Nations club reformed as the RU Diplomatic Society. The Roosevelt Association of Marketing Communications was founded by IMC students, and immediately sponsored a series of speakers and events. Students were also inducted into honorary societies in history, communications, and psychology and were active in new or revived clubs in math and computer science.

International Studies student Miriam Berger received the Gilman Scholarship from the U.S. Department of State to study in Poland during the spring semester. Economics major Christian Delgado de Jesus won a National Science Foundation scholarship to study economics at Duke University during summer 2007. Spanish student Samantha Johnson received an International Studies Abroad scholarship to study at the University of Granada in Fall 2007, and Kayeromi Gomez was awarded a fellowship to the European Journalism Institute in Prague.

SPECIAL EVENTS

The college hosted dozens of special events – ranging from poetry readings, student competitions, gallery exhibits, panels and lectures on politics and policy, to biology teacher workshops and a summer rock music camp for girls. Among the myriad departmental events were an Economics film series at University Center, a Neuropsychological Society speaker’s series, Science Day, and a sociology colloquium series. Two photography exhibits – “Tubeho: To Live Again ” --which documented the story of Rwandan refugees -- and “Inside Out: Photographs by Iraqi Civilians and Farah Nosh” – which documented the ravages of war on ordinary Iraqi families -- were attended by hundreds of visitors and received extensive press coverage, including CNN.

Our Centers and Institutes hosted numerous programs. A sample includes:

The Center for New Deal Studies hosted a lecture by Luis Alberto Cordero, Executive Director of the Arias Foundation for Peace and Human Progress, on human rights in Latin America.

The St Clair Drake Center for African and African-American Studies continued its partnership with the Chicago Housing Authority’s Wentworth Gardens, providing summer internships, scholarships, and special events for residents.

The Mansfield Institute for Social justice organized the One Book/One University project with workshops on Barbara Katz Rothman’s book, *Weaving a Family: Untangling Race and Adoption*, followed by a lecture by Rothman in the spring.

The Institute for Metropolitan Affairs sharpened its focus to become one of the leading drug policy research institutes in the Midwest, producing 8 studies covered by 35 newspaper radio or television reports.

Finally, Professor Paul Green initiated The Institute for Politics with the announcement of a grant by AT&T to provide the tools needed for detailed election analysis.

GOALS FOR NEXT YEAR

Our goals for next year include:

- Increasing credit hours generated by the College by 3.5 percent or more.
- Continuing to revise the curriculum, including production of an on-line certificate in non-profit administration, a graduate degree in biology, and collaborations with the other four colleges.
- Developing more Schaumburg resources including offerings in languages, a Math and Science Resource Center, an on-line Writing Center, and a “Pathways to Pharmacy” program for high-school students to develop a student base for a future pharmacy curriculum.
- Developing consistent departmental procedures and bylaws.
- Creating improved promotional materials to advertise our programs.
- Continuing to develop a student culture that facilitates student satisfaction and success.

Thank you to the faculty and staff who work so hard on behalf of our students. For many more details on Arts and Sciences accomplishments this past year, please see the individual reports posted on department and program websites at www.roosevelt.edu/cas.

Lynn Y. Weiner
Dean

Lois P. Backas
Assistant Dean

Michael Ensdorf
Associate Dean

Priscilla Perkins
Associate Dean

Juli Rowen
Project and Outreach Manager

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