

College of Arts & Sciences: Dean's Report

May 1 2007 - May 1 2008

The College of Arts & Sciences is growing rapidly. At the same time we are deepening our commitment to civic engagement, global understanding, and community partnerships. Our mission is to provide students a comprehensive liberal arts and science undergraduate and graduate curriculum, paired with innovative programs in such professional fields as integrated marketing communications, actuarial science, biotechnology, and computer science. Our planning is guided by the twin goals of fostering academic excellence and enabling student success.

- Enrollment increased for the sixth year in a row, with a rise this year of four percent in combined graduate and undergraduate majors and six percent in credit hours for the fall and spring semesters.
- The Roosevelt Scholars Honors program enrolled 180 students, welcoming the largest class of new students since the program began, with entering freshmen averaging ACT scores of 26.8 and high school GPAs of 3.7.
- Faculty productivity was remarkable this year, and included 7 books, over 80 journal articles and book chapters, and 105 conference presentations. Faculty won awards from the Fulbright Program, American Association of University Women, Carnegie Endowment for the Advancement of Teaching, National Science Foundation, McCormick Tribune Foundation, Illinois Arts Council, and National Endowment for the Humanities.
- We welcomed an outstanding class of new professors. About a third of the College's full-time faculty has been hired within the past five years. The class of 2007-2008 includes:

Chemistry:

Tasneem Islam, Ph.D, University of Iowa

English:

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

History:

Chris Chulos, Ph.D, University of Chicago

Journalism:

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

Charles Madigan, BGS, Roosevelt University

Integrated Marketing Communications:

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, M.S., University of Illinois-Urbana

Brian Siers, Ph.D, Central Michigan University

Public Administration:

Joanne Howard, Ph.D, University of Illinois-Chicago

Joining us in August 2008 will be five talented faculty:

Biology

Norbert Cordiero, Ph.D, University of Illinois-Chicago

Creative Writing

Scott Blackwood, MFA, Texas State University

Mathematics

Mary Williams, MS, Florida-Atlantic University

Psychology

Nicole Gravina, Ph.D, Western Michigan University

Women's and Gender Studies

Margaret Jolles, Ph.D., Temple University

Several faculty left the university during or at the end of this academic year. Retiring were Professors John Currano (Mathematics), Carl Entemann (Computer Science), David Hamilton (Public Administration), Ray Shepherd (Mathematics), and Susan Weininger (Art History). Others leaving the University include Megan Kozak (Psychology), Leslie Schwartzman (Computer Science) and Jin Tang (Computer Science). We wish them well in their future endeavors.

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

The Public Administration program graduated the first class in the new Executive Masters of Public Administration program, which was launched this spring with 21 students from the Beijing Statistical Bureau in China. A second cohort from China is expected next year.

New online courses were developed or are in development in composition, psychology, sociology, economics, mathematics, public administration, and computer science.

The Sociology program initiated a new fast-track five-year BA-MA program.

The Department of Communication developed one of the only university labs in the Chicago area equipped with fiber optic network and multi-stream digital video editing hardware and software, so that students can simultaneously edit multiple digital video streams, and work on photo, design and web projects.

The College signed formal partnerships with the Chicago Botanic Garden, Museum of Science and Industry, and Field Museum of Natural History to support public and educational programming in the sciences.

The first students from Shijiazhuang Post and Telecommunications Technical College (SPT) in China arrived to study undergraduate computer science, with additional students expected in September. Professor Alex Wolpert visited SPT this summer as part of our “sisterhood” partnership.

Study abroad opportunities continue to grow in popularity and 31 of our students traveled this academic year to such countries as England, Ecuador, Spain, Belize, Egypt, Italy, Argentina and Austria. The Political Science department offered a new course, “Cities at War” that included a comparative look at – and visit to – London, England this spring, and the Department of Biological, Chemical and Physical Sciences offered a course in tropical biology in Belize over winter break.

ENROLLMENT

The story of this past year’s enrollment highlights a sharp rise in undergraduate students downtown, who increased in headcount by nine percent since 2006-2007, and in credit hours by ten percent; happily there was an increase in headcount of three percent and in credit hours of six percent at the Schaumburg campus as well. Total undergraduate headcount growth was seven percent. Remarkably, there was also an increase of over 11 percent in full-time undergraduate students. Seventy-one percent of our undergraduate students are now full-time. The number of graduate students stayed steady, with a slight dip downtown and a small increase at Schaumburg.

The largest numbers of majors in undergraduate programs, as of fall semester, are in Psychology, Biology and Allied Health, Communications, Political Science and International Studies, Computer Science, English, and History. In graduate studies the largest programs are Psychology, Integrated Marketing Communications, and Public Administration.

Finally, the proportion of classes taught by adjuncts fell for fall and spring semesters to 55 percent, down from 60 percent a year ago.

FUNDRAISING, ALUMNI, AND EXTERNAL SUPPORT

We were delighted to welcome our new college development officer – Dolores Metzger – who joined us from the College of DuPage. Our College Advisory Board met twice this past year to discuss program ideas and fund-raising strategies. Project and Outreach Director Juli Rowen reshaped our public presence through website development, a promotional video, and newsletter. CAS received a number of notable gifts for program enhancement. These include:

- A \$670,000 federal grant for the purchase of capital biology equipment for the Chicago campus.
- A \$300,000 gift from the Mansfield Foundation, led by Professor Heather Dalmage (Sociology) to expand the Mansfield Institute into the Mansfield Institute for Social Justice and Transformation, which will enhance the academic program in social justice studies and develop service learning curricula.
- A \$70,000 gift from the Miller Center to initiate a forum on civic life, which will be led by Professor Stuart Warner (Philosophy).
- A \$100,000 donation from the Herb and Eileen Franks Foundation and \$4,000 from the Illinois Association of Fire Chiefs to support activities of the Institute for Politics, led by Professor Paul Green (Policy Studies).
- Grants to Professor Linda Jones (Journalism), for her work on high school journalism education, and Professor Charles Madigan (Journalism), to support his courses on the presidential primaries, from the McCormick Tribune Foundation.
- A donation of \$50,000 from GolinHarris create the Al Golin Scholars in Communication awards. Al Golin is a Trustee and 1950 RU graduate. Ashley Jackson and Jennifer Schultz, Integrated Marketing Communications graduate students, received the first awards this year.
- An award of \$150,000 from the National Science Foundation to Professors Kristen Leckrone, Josh Telser, and David Szpunar for the purchase of a GC/MS analytical system. The NSF/SENCER program also funded five science faculty to attend summer institutes on instituting civic engagement and service learning themes in core courses for science majors.
- A grant from the Illinois State Library to the Center for New Deal Studies and RU library to enable the digital recording of the Jacobs FDR memorabilia collection.
- Funding from Xomix, Inc and the State of Illinois to support a summer biotechnology training course for high school students.
- We received a variety of other donations including science equipment from Dr. Norman Frankel, funds from the Chicago Chromatography Discussion Group, Goldenberg Foundation, donations to the MacLaren Book fund of the Center for New Deal Studies, and generous gifts from alumni and advisory board members.

FACULTY, STAFF AND STUDENT NEWS

CAS faculty continued to be productive, publishing 80 journal articles and book chapters, participating at 105 conferences in the U.S. and abroad (including meetings in Argentina, Austria, Canada, England, France, India, Ireland, Mexico and Russia) producing book reviews, encyclopedia articles, newspaper articles, poetry and performances, exhibitions and catalogs, and seven books.

These include:

- Marian Azzaro, *Strategic Media Decisions* (second edition) (Bendinger Davis, 2008)
- Bethany Barratt, *Human Rights and Foreign Aid: For Love or Money?* (Routledge, 2008)
- David Hamilton (co-editor), *Urban and Regional Policies for Metropolitan Liveability* (M.E. Sharpe, 2008)
- Charles Madigan, *30: The Collapse of the Great American Newspaper* (Ivan Dee, 2007)
- Ellen O'Brien, *Crime in Verse: The Poetics of Murder in the Victorian Era* (Ohio State University Press, 2008)
- Ozgur Orhangazi, *Financialization and the U.S. Economy* (Elgar Publishing, 2008)
- Steve Ziliak (with Deirdre McClosky), *The Cult of Statistical Significance: How the Standard Error Cost Us Jobs, Justice and Lives* (University of Michigan Press, 2008)

Our faculty mentorship program continued to connect junior faculty with senior colleagues. We hosted the inaugural faculty issues lunch series with 25 faculty in attendance. Forty faculty received college funds to travel to academic and professional conferences. Other highlights include:

- Yao Wang (Mathematics & Actuarial Science) was promoted to full professor. Bethany Barrett (Political Science), Sathees Chandra (Biology), Lee Earle (Communication), and Anna Marie Schuh (Public Administration) were promoted to associate professor with tenure. Associate Professor Catharine Campbell (Psychology) was granted tenure. Megan Kozak (Psychology) and Svetozar Minkov (Philosophy) were awarded second three-year contracts.
- Faculty on research leave included Ann Brigham (English), Celeste Chamberland (History), Ellen O'Brien (English), and Shiva Achet (Geography & Environmental Science). Eight CAS faculty have been awarded research leaves for next year, including Christian Erickson (Political Science), Peter Fallon (Communications), Erik Gellman (History), Michael Maly (Sociology), Svetozar Minkov (Philosophy), Ozgur Orhangazi (Economics), Priscilla Perkins (English), and Margaret Rung (History).
- Sixteen Arts and Sciences faculty received research grants for Summer 2008.
- Kristen Leckrone (Chemistry), Mary Ellen Schiller (Communication), and Colleen Kennedy (Adjunct instructor in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology) were awarded the Roosevelt Excellence in Teaching Awards this year. Anna Marie Schuh (Public Administration) and Jocelyn Yarborough (staff in the Science and Math departments) won Outstanding Service Awards.

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

- Bethany Barratt (Political Science) was awarded an International Research and Exchanges Board (IREX) travel grant for research in the Kyrgyz Republic during the summer of 2008.
- Ann Marie Cusac (Journalism) was nominated for a 2008 Pushcart Prize for *Silkie* (Many Mountains Moving Press, 2007).
- Heather Dalmage (Sociology) won a Fulbright Scholar Award to South Africa for Spring Semester 2009.
- Lee Earle (Communications) was recognized for his advertising work with national and international awards.
- Erik Gellman (History) was awarded the 2007 Harold Perkins Prize for best doctoral dissertation from Northwestern University.
- David Hamilton (Public Administration) was named Professor of the Year by the Chicago Chapter of the American Society for Public Administration.
- Linda Jones (Journalism) received a \$25,000 grant from McCormick Tribune Foundation to support her work with the Scholastic Press Association of Chicago.
- Steve Meyers (Psychology) was named Illinois Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.
- Ellen O'Brien (Literature) was awarded a Fulbright-Hays Fellowship to attend a summer seminar in Morocco.
- Kim Ruffin (Literature) won a Post-doctoral Research Fellowship from the American Association of University Women for 2007-2008, to complete research on her book *Black on Earth: African-Americans and Ecological Insights*.
- David Szpunar (Chemistry) received an award with education professor Byoung-Sug Kim from the National Science Foundation/SENCEER project to develop a class on the issue of global warming.
- Emily Tedrowe (Composition and English) 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 2008 Ragdale Foundation fellowship.

STUDENTS

Our students continue to be admitted into graduate and professional schools. A few examples include Shreya Adhikari, who presented her research at the Argonne National Lab Undergraduate Symposium in November and will attend the PhD chemistry program at Notre Dame. Biology major Colleen Smith has been accepted by the Emory University School of Medicine, Valerie Lawrence by St. George's School of Medicine, and Jo-Ann Jose and Jill Motle by the Rosalind Franklin School of Medicine. Jennifer Vlk will study for a PhD in Biomedical Sciences at the University of Massachusetts, and Christopher McCullough received a full fellowship in the Molecular Genetics graduate program at UIC. Nick McCormick will begin the doctoral program in history at the University of Illinois-Chicago. Two Allied Health students graduated from the Nuclear Medicine and Medical Technology clinical programs at Northwestern Memorial and Evanston Hospitals. Alex Limanowski, a philosophy major, has been accepted into the Oxford University study abroad program for fall semester 2008. Twelve students passed actuarial exams. Economics student Christian Delgado has accepted a position as an economist at the Chicago Federal Reserve Bank.

Undergraduate student Linn Borgeau had her English Composition class essay accepted for publication in the upcoming 8th edition of the *Bedford Guide for College Writers*. Graduate journalism student Jacqueline Sanders wrote an article for Professor John Fountain's Memoir Writing class that was published in the *Chicago Sun Times*.

Recent Department of Communication graduates are working at WTTW 11, Dow Jones, Morton College, the *Chicago Sun Times*, WSB-TV (Atlanta), public relations at Navy Pier, LaSalle Bank, and many other positions in news, public relations, writing, marketing and promotion. Students in Professor Charlie Madigan's course on political reporting published a book, *Primary Rhythms*, with support from the McCormick Tribune Foundation. Student staff members on the student newspaper, *The Torch*, collected four awards from the Illinois College Press Association, including best headline writing in the state and third place in editorial writing.

The College supported the participation of students at meetings and conferences, including the Southern Sociology Society, American Popular Culture conference, the American Psychological Association, Society for Industrial Organizational Psychology, National Association of Neuropsychology, and others. Students also co-authored scholarly papers with professors in the fields of biology, chemistry, and psychology.

Arts and Sciences students held internships at dozens of sites, including the *Chicago Reporter*, *N'Digo*, WJMK-FM, *The Onion*, CNN Insurance, CareerBuilder.com, Abbott Labs, art galleries, non-profits such as Make-A-Wish Foundation, and Chicago Books for Women in Prison.

Fifteen students participated in the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program, working with faculty in psychology, history, biology and economics.

Post-doctoral Internships for Psy.D students included placements in the Ann Arbor VA Health System, University of Louisville School of Medicine, Gulf Coast VA Medical Center, Toronto Bloorview Kids Rehab, and Oak Forest Hospital of Cook County, among many others. Our Psy.D. students had a 100 percent placement rate – the national matching rate this year was only 79 percent.

Students were inducted into honorary societies in history, communications, psychology, sociology, Spanish, and economics. Biology students established a new club – a chapter of the American Cancer Society’s Colleges Against Cancer. The Black Student Union activities included a lecture by Haki Madhubuti and a step-dancing program. The RU Computer Association sponsored a number of events including discussions of video game development, PC security, and robotics. The Neuropsychological Society sponsored a distinguished lecture series. The History Club visited the Lakota Nation Reservation at Pine Ridge over spring break. The Environmental Alliance, Scientific Journal Club, Economics Club, and Pre-Professional Health Club were also active this year. Students for Sensible Drug Policy won an outstanding chapter award.

SPECIAL EVENTS

The College co-sponsored numerous lectures, workshops, meetings and other events.

The Gage Gallery hosted an exhibition of photographs of late Mayor (and RU alumnus) Harold Washington, and *The Border Film Project: Photographs by Migrants and Minutemen on the US-Mexico Border*. The latter show received press coverage from Univision TV, Telemundo, National Public Radio, and Radio France Internationale.

Science Day was held this year on both campuses, featuring presentations on breast cancer disparities in the Chicago area, baseball statistics, drug problems in Chicago, and preparation for graduate school and professional school.

The MFA creative writing program brought numerous poets, non-fiction writers and novelists to campus, including Rosellen Brown, Deb Olin Unferth, and an Agent workshop. Our literary journal, the *Oyez Review*, was launched with readings at 57th Street Books in Hyde Park and Quimby’s Bookstore in Wicker Park.

Speakers visiting Arts and Sciences classes or presenting lectures included NBC Vice President Ted Frank, *Chicago Tribune* writer Dawn Turner Trice, NBC Channel 5 reporter Renee Ferguson, Ambassador Carol Moseley Braun, WBBM political editor Bob Crawford, WGN-TV sports reporter Rich King, Philosophy Professor Heinrich Meir of the University of Munich, Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White, Roosevelt Trustee Al Golin, and many others. The College also hosted the Chicago Art Deco Society and the Chicago Area Women’s and Gender Studies Job, Volunteer, and Internship Fair.

The Center for New Deal Studies presented a lecture by Wendy Puriefoy, President of the Public Education Network, on “Building a Constituency for Public Education,” and commemorations of the 75th anniversary of FDR’s inauguration as President. The Center

also developed a comprehensive website resource for students working on Chicago Metro History Fair projects. The St Clair Drake Center for African and African-American Studies offered presentations on the 2008 election, and sponsored the Black Graduate Student Union. The Mansfield Institute for Social Justice continued the One Book/One University project with workshops on Alex Kotlowitz's book, *There Are No Children Here*, followed by a lecture by Kotlowitz in the spring. The MISJ also facilitated programs on a variety of social justice topics organized by faculty in History, Economics, Political Science, and Sociology. The Institute for Metropolitan Affairs continued to focus on drug policy, completing a report for the Illinois General Assembly regarding drug-free zones. The IMA also hosted educational forums on political involvement and appropriation bills, provided research support for legislators, and provided testimony to the state legislature. Finally, the Institute for Politics hosted the Donors Forum on state and local finances and the Franks Political Seminar, and published a detailed analysis of the 2008 Illinois primary, which was posted on the website of the Illinois State Board of Elections.

Summer programs in 2008 included the Youth Communication Summer Journalism Workshop, Midtown Educational Foundation Summer College Orientation for girls, Summer Biotech Institute for high school juniors and seniors, Chicago Metro History Education Center workshops for high school teachers, Center for Popular Economics Summer Institute, and the RU Glamorous C.S.I summer camp for middle school girls from the Northwest suburbs.

Upcoming events this next academic year will include two major shows in the Gage Gallery: "*War is Only Half the Story: The Aftermath Project*" (September –January) and "*Nina Berman: Homeland Photos of American Life after 9-11.*" (Feb - May). The Mansfield lecturer will be national political columnist Katha Pollitt on October 30, and the Center for New Deal Studies will host distinguished FDR scholar William Leuchtenburg, Professor Emeritus, University of North Carolina, on November 17. We will also provide academic support for the Chicago debut of Toni Morrison and Richard Danielpour's opera about a fugitive slave, *Margaret Garner*, at the Auditorium Theater in early November.

GOALS FOR NEXT YEAR

In the coming year we aim to:

- Continue to grow enrollments and provide adequate class scheduling to meet the needs of the increased numbers of daytime students, as well as the steady population of evening students.
- Continue to revise the curriculum, including an on-line certificate in program evaluation, a 3+1 Computer Science degree with a Chinese university, a graduate degree in biology, a graduate certificate in Teaching Writing, new international study opportunities and internships, and collaborative initiatives

with the other four colleges. We will continue to explore ways to update our general education curriculum.

- Develop an integrated approach to service learning through the resources provided to the Mansfield Institute for Social Justice and Transformation.
- Continue to work with Dean Janett Trubatch to facilitate the ability of faculty to secure grants and contracts to support their research.
- Broaden fund-raising efforts in support of academic programs and student scholarships.
- Evaluate and improve program offerings in Schaumburg, an effort to be led by our incoming Associate Dean, Professor Steve Cohen.
- Create improved promotional materials and websites for each department.
- Continue to support the development of student culture and success, through the establishment of clubs and honorary societies, retention activities, and orientations.

For many more details, please see the individual reports posted on department and program websites at www.roosevelt.edu/cas.

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