Dean’s Report

May 2009-May 2010

The College of Arts & Sciences recorded the highest number of student credit hours in recent history, reflecting the growth of full-time undergraduate students at the Chicago campus. We continue to deepen our commitment to civic engagement, global understanding, student research, and community partnerships. Our mission is to provide students a comprehensive liberal arts and science undergraduate and graduate education, paired with innovative programs in professional fields such as clinical psychology, actuarial science, marketing communication, and biotechnology. Our planning is guided by the twin goals of fostering academic excellence and student success.

HIGHLIGHTS

• Student enrollments reached nearly 29,600 credit hours in fall 2009 – an increase of nearly six percent over last year and a 32% increase since Fall 2006. The trend of increasing student enrollments downtown, and decreasing enrollments at the Schaumburg campus, continued.

• The College welcomed 21 students from the Beijing Statistical Bureau for a fast-track executive Master of Public Administration degree, a program recognized by the Cook County Board with a resolution commending the university “for its important role in educating and exposing international exchange students to American institutions.”

• The Creative Writing MFA program had an extraordinary year, with four student publications and prizes, including two high profile national awards – Adam Morgan won the top prize (and a development deal) in the FOX-TV comedy script competition, and Lori Rader-Day won the best short story award from Good Housekeeping magazine. Program Director Scott Blackwood was awarded the Texas Institute of Letters Award for Best Fiction of 2009 for his novel, We Agreed to Meet Just Here.

• Student research activity accelerated, with six on-campus student conferences highlighting student work, funding for student travel to academic conferences, publication of student and faculty research, and growing undergraduate and graduate research opportunities.

• Initiatives for increasing student success in math and science included summer camps, faculty workshops, curriculum innovations, and bridge programs with Harold Washington College and Elgin Community College – all funded by the National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation, and the federal SENCER program (Science Education for New Civic Engagements).

• Faculty published 102 book chapters and articles and four books, and journalism professor Peter Fallon accepted the editorship of the journal, Explorations in Media Ecology.
We welcomed one of our largest groups ever of new full-time professors. The class of 2009-2010 includes:

**Chemistry**
- Sergiy Rosokha, National Academy of Sciences, Kiev

**Computer Science & Telecommunications**
- Michael Ruth, University of New Orleans

**English**
- Mairin Barney, Northern Arizona University
- Ji-Hyae Park, University of Michigan
- Matt Pavesich, University of Illinois-Chicago
- Amanda Wornhoff, Roosevelt University

**History**
- Nicole Anderson-Cobb, University of Illinois
- Fabrizio Prado, Emory University

**Journalism**
- Billy Montgomery, Roosevelt University

**Mathematics**
- Jie Yu, University of Georgia
- Melanie Pivarski, Cornell University
- Cathy Evins, Georgia State University, DePaul University

**Psychology**
- Jill Coleman, University of Illinois
- Kimberly Dienes, UCLA
- Robyn Oliver, University of Pennsylvania
- Eliza Wicher, Wayne State University

**Sociology**
- Stephanie Farmer, Binghamton University

Visitors this year included:

**Anthropology**
- Christine Malcolm, University of Chicago

**Biochemistry**
- Shara Compton, University of California-Davis

**Political Science**
- Mark Kaplinsky, Tulane University

**Sociology**
- Laurie Cooper Stoll, Loyola University

Leaving the University are Jimmie Johnson (Mathematics), Lin Ye (Public Administration), Shiva Achet (Environmental Science) and Don Nelson (Psychology). We wish them well in their future endeavors. Finally, moving from the College to the Provost’s office were Linda Jones, Associate Professor of Journalism, to Interim Graduate Dean, and Sam Rosenberg, Professor of Economics, to Acting Vice Provost.

This coming fall we again welcome another stellar group of new professors. These include:

**Biology**
- Neil Voss, Yale University

**Communication**
- Jiwon Yoon, Temple University

**English**
- Sheldon Walcher, University of Utah
Environmental Science
   Aaron Schoults-Wilson, University of Georgia
Mathematics
   Wilfredo Urbina-Romero, University of Minnesota
Political Science
   David Faris, University of Pennsylvania
   Naser Javaid, Stony Brook University
Psychology
   Shari Berkowitz, University of California-Irvine
   Jacqueline Deuling, Wayne State University
   Amy Roberts, University of California-Santa Cruz
   Adrian Thomas, Georgia Institute of Technology
Public Administration
   Jeanine Love, George Washington University
Sociology
   Alfred DeFreece, University of Michigan

ENROLLMENT

The trend towards rising undergraduate enrollment at the downtown campus continued. The undergraduate headcount in the college has grown 23% since 2006, with an increase in downtown undergraduates of 26%. In addition, the proportion of all Arts and Sciences students at the downtown campus has increased from 64% to 71%. Most of the growth has been in biology & allied health, communications and journalism, political science & international studies, English, history and psychology. At the same time, a few programs have grown in Schaumburg including actuarial science, communication, and chemistry, with strong programs maintained in psychology, biotechnology and chemical science, and communications. As a result, we are examining a reframing of program offerings in Schaumburg to respond to the professional development needs of students in the area; initiatives to bolster enrollments there include the development of a new PhD program in industrial-organizational psychology.

CURRICULUM

Work was completed this year on new initiatives— a bachelor’s degree in biochemistry to be offered at the downtown campus, and a Graduate Certificate in the Teaching of Writing.

New international study agreements were signed with Hebei North University near Beijing (in computer science), Sussex University (in history), and the University of Seville, Spain. Thirty-six students started courses in Chicago and completed their work by traveling abroad, to countries including China, Ireland, Amsterdam, Belize, and Guatemala.

A medical shadowing program with Alexian Brothers Hospital Network was initiated, allowing students to rotate through several specialties and interact with practitioners, and a new allied health agreement in Respiratory Care is under consideration with Rush University Medical Center. We renewed a clinical affiliation agreement with Northshore University Health System (Evanston Hospital) for medical technology/clinical laboratory allied health programs.

Faculty completed work on a revised general education program, which is now being prepared for scheduling in fall semester 2011. This new program, shepherded by Associate Dean Priscilla Perkins, will highlight an academic First Year Seminar, a “Primary Text” course, and a sophomore/junior level “Grounds for Change” course focused on problem-based learning in the disciplines.

Several initiatives to increase student participation in science and math have been on-going, including the National Institute of Health Bridges project in conjunction with Elgin Community College, the National Science Foundation STEP project with Harold Washington College to increase access and support to
science and math students, the Schaumburg Summer Science and Math camp for girls, and the National Science Foundation/Project SENCER programs to bring civic awareness into the teaching of science and math.

Last year the Department of Computer Science & Information Technology piloted the use of the teaching tool Elluminate to improve student learning in courses teleconferenced between campuses; this year programs in biology and mathematics successful adopted this technology as well.

Program reviews – with external evaluators -- were conducted in the programs of Biology, Chemistry and Economics.

Roosevelt co-sponsored several summer programs for high school teachers and students in biotechnology, history & philosophy, and college math and science, and for professors in political science and honor’s programs.

The Roosevelt Scholar’s Program (for honors students) has been moved from the College to the Provost's office, where a broader perspective can help shape this university-wide program.

**FUNDRAISING HIGHLIGHTS**

Guided by Senior Director of Development Dolores Metzger, the College received grants and donations of over $2.5 million this past year. In addition, the College Advisory Board met twice, in the spring electing Kathy Kuntzman (MPA, ’82) as President and Joe Loundy (BA ’66) as Vice President. Highlights of donations include:

- The University received a million-dollar bequest from an Arts & Sciences alumna, which will provide scholarships for students in the Colleges of Arts & Science and Education.
- Alumnus Joe Loundy will continue to support the Loundy Human Rights Project, directed by political science professor Bethany Barratt, with a new three-year pledge of $100,000. An annual pledge of $34,000 was also received this year.
- The Institute for Metropolitan Affairs was awarded over $100,000 in foundation grants to support drug policy research.
- The Jack Miller Center and private donors funded $85,000 for a summer academy for high school teachers on “Liberty and Constitutionalism.”
- Art Weil (BA ’49) donated $27,000 for the Montesquieu Forum for the Study of Civic Life.
- James Blinder (BA ’57) donated $45,000 to support scholarships and library collections in the Center for New Deal Studies.
- The Mansfield Foundation awarded $50,000 to the Mansfield Institute for service learning education.
- The journalism program was awarded $210,000 from the McCormick Tribune Foundation to support a Youth Media Technology Program, and $50,000 for a high school journalism program. The Foundation also granted Journalism Professor Charles Madigan $12,000 for the production of a book to be created by students in his Fall 2010 class on “Loud Talk in Politics.”
- Individual donors provided some $25,000 to the Dean's discretionary Fund, campaign and scholarships. The Dean’s fund was used to support student research and travel, faculty travel, and special events.
FACULTY

Our faculty continue to be productive in their disciplines, publishing 102 journal articles and book chapters, presenting 160 conference papers, and presenting 24 readings or performances. They served on editorial and professional society boards, reviewed papers, and were interviewed in the media. They also won 31 grants and awards, published 35 newspaper articles, and four books. These include:

- Peter Fallon, *The Metaphysics of Media* (University of Scranton Press, 2009)
- Charles Madigan, *Destiny Calling: How the People Elected Barack Obama* (Ivan Dee, 2009)

Faculty on research leave were Regina Buccola (English), Jim Choca (Psychology), Heather Dalmage (Sociology), Bonnie Gunzenhauser (English), David Szpunar (Chemistry), Kelly Wentz-Hunter (Biology), and Janet Wondra (English). Awarded research leaves for next year are Bethany Barratt (Political Science), Larry Howe (English), Tasneem Islam (Chemistry), and Marjorie Jolles (Women's and Gender Studies).

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

- Nicole Anderson-Cobb, Assistant Professor of History, won a New York City Theatre Award for “Tangled,” a play about guns and violence on Chicago’s South Side.
- MFA director and Assistant Professor of English Scott Blackwood was awarded the Texas Institute of Letters Award for Best Fiction of 2009 for his novel, *We Agreed to Meet Just Here*.
- Associate Professor of English Regina Buccola was awarded an Artists’ Residency at Writers in the Heartland in October.
- Journalism professor Anne-Marie Cusac’s book, *Cruel and Unusual: The Culture of Punishment in America* (Yale, 2009) was selected by the *Baltimore City Paper* as one of the top ten books for 2009, and won a Prevention for a Safer Society Award from the National Council on Crime and Delinquency.
- Peter Fallon, Associate Professor of Journalism, accepted the editorship of the journal, *Explorations in Media Ecology*.
- Journalism professor John Wesley Fountain accepted an assignment as a weekly columnist for the *Chicago Sun Times*.
- Nicole Gravina, Assistant Professor of Psychology, was elected President of the Organizational Behavior Management Network.
- Professor of Policy Studies Paul Green published articles in the *Chicago Sun-times, Daily Herald, and Crain’s Chicago Business*, and was a political analyst for WGN radio and the City Club of Chicago.
- Assistant Professor of Mathematics Barbara Gonzalez received a National Science Foundation/SENCER award for curriculum redesign.
• Bonnie Gunzenhauser, Associate Professor of English, was named a Newberry Library Scholar-in-Residence during the spring semester.

• Mary Ellen Schiller, Associate Professor of Communication, spent Spring Semester 2010 at the University of Lodz in Poland on a Fulbright Award.

• Associate Professor of English Janet Wondra held a Ragsdale Artist’s Residency Fellowship in the fall and was awarded a fellowship to the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts for the spring semester.

• Lynn Weiner, Dean and Professor of History, was elected to a three-year term on the Board of Directors of the Council of Colleges of Arts & Sciences.

STUDENTS

During the past year some 50 Arts & Sciences students studied abroad, not only in travel classes but also in semester-long programs in Cyprus, Finland, Germany, Ghana, Italy, Mexico, Poland, Spain and the United Kingdom.

Numerous students presented their research at professional meetings hosted by such groups as the Indiana University Graduate Student History Conference, American Psychological Association, American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, National Women’s Studies Association, Chicago Area Women’s and Gender Studies Consortium, Interdisciplinary Study of Social Imagery Association, Argonne Undergraduate Symposium, and the American Society for Cell Biology. Many were co-authors with their professors on conference and journal papers.

Fourteen Math students participated in the Illinois Section of the Mathematical Association of America meeting at Augustana College this spring.

Eleven MFA students traveled to the Association of Writing Programs conference in Denver.

Students in the Women’s and Gender Studies MA program joined faculty as volunteers with the Chicago Metropolitan Battered Women’s Network as part of their Court Watch Program.

13 PsyD students were successfully matched with internship placements, with 94% of internship eligible doctoral students placed for next year at such sites including the Naval Medical Center in San Diego, the University of Louisville School of Medicine, and the Texas Woman’s University Counseling Center. The national match rate is 79%.

The student-run radio station – WRBC-The Blaze – completed its first full year on the air in January with more than 16,000 listeners worldwide. During the spring semester 28 students ran 15 shows for a total of 35 hours per week of station programming.


Student awards included:

• Adam Morgan (MFA ‘10) was awarded the FOX-Procter and Gamble television comedy script prize at the New York Television Festival Awards, winning $25,000 and the possibility of having his script -- Liberal Arts -- produced as a TV pilot.
• Lori Rader-Day (MFA ‘09) was the grand-prize winner in Good Housekeeping Magazine’s annual fiction contest; her short story “Layers of Love” was published in May and selected from over 5,000 submissions.

• Cecelia Villarruel (MFA ‘11) won the National Society for Arts and Letters Central Illinois Chapter Literature competition for Short Story Writing for “Footnotes: Mexican Evolution.”

• Lauren Stacks (MFA ‘10) published four poems in the anthology Time You Let Me In: 25 Poets Under 25.

• Three staffers for the Torch, the Roosevelt student newspaper, won awards at the Illinois College Press Association: Nikoleta Kravchenko took second place in sports photography, Jonathan Samples won third place for layout design, and Cassandra Clegg won an honorable mention for feature stories.

• Biotechnology MS graduate student Alexander Flowers was one of four students in the United States selected for the Minority Health and Health Disparities International Research Training Program at the University of Cambridge in England.

• Computer Science graduate student Leah Kane and undergraduate Kristie Zillis were named to the Illinois Technology Foundation’s “Fifty for the Future” program in technology leadership potential.

• Economics major Jane Fidman was awarded the Benjamin Gilman International Scholarship to study abroad at the University of Helsinki during the spring semester.

• Dimitra Georgouses, undergraduate major in political science and sociology, is one of two students appointed to the Illinois Board of Higher Education, and one of 44 student members on the Board’s Student Advisory Committee.

• Graduate mathematics student Amanda Fisher received an Association of American University Women grant for summer study at North Carolina State University.

• Allied health student Jerrin Varughese won a first place student presentation award from the School of Nuclear Medicine at Northwestern Memorial Hospital.

Numerous student clubs and honorary societies welcomed new members, including the history student club, Phi Alpha Theta history honors society, Psi Chi, psychology club, sociology club, Alpha Kappa Delta sociology honorary society, philosophy club, and the Kappa Chi chapter of the National Communications Honors Society. Biotechnology and Chemical Science graduate student Alex Flowers formed a Roosevelt chapter of the National Society for Collegiate Scholars, and a new English majors club attracted some 50 students to its first meeting.

Our students won internships at a multitude of sites, including the Cook County Treasurer’s Office, Cook County Board, YWCA, Archdiocese of Chicago, Korn/Ferry (Minneapolis), Lincoln Park Zoo, Field Museum of Natural History, and DuSable Museum of African-American History.

And their success continues after graduation. Alyssa Auge received a full scholarship to the Royal Veterinary College at the University of London, Jennifer Betzer has been admitted to Northwestern’s Engineering program, Chantal Boutros will begin studies in the fall at Temple University Dental School, Graciela Solis was awarded a fellowship for the PhD program in psychology at the University of California-Santa Cruz, Jennifer Malinowski is entering the biology PhD program at Vanderbilt University, Mathew Amidon will begin studies at Midwestern University Medical School, Women’s and Gender studies graduate KT Leuschen is entering a PhD program in Rhetoric and Composition at the University of North-
Carolina-Greensboro, and Mallory Umar accepted a position in Milwaukee with the Teach for America Program.

We’ve heard from recent alumni too – Larry Hook received his MD degree from the University of Iowa and will be doing his residency in Wisconsin, Anastasia Khoubava received her MD from Boston University and is now a resident at the University of Chicago, and Hector Martinez received a DC degree from the National Health Sciences University. Journalism graduate Brian Wright works for the Cayman Free Press in the Cayman Islands, and journalism graduate Sheila Blackis President of the Chicago Alliance of African American Photographers. WGST graduate Elizabeth Ricks earned her JD at DePaul University College of Law, and Harry Epstein graduated from Northwestern University Law School. PsyD graduate Sara Michelson is beginning her second year of a postdoc at Yale University/Connecticut VA Healthcare System.

We are proud of our alumni now serving in the U.S. Congress: Rep. Melissa Bean (BA ’02), Rep. Mike Quigley, (BA ’81), and Rep. Bobby Rush (BGS ’74).

SPECIAL EVENTS

The college co-sponsored numerous lectures, workshops, meetings and other events with the goal of enhancing academic programs and reaching out to the larger community.

The Gage Gallery staged three exhibitions: “Violent Realities: Photographs by Jon Lowenstein and Carlos Javier Ortiz” (curated by Associate Dean and Gallery Director Mike Ensdorf) and “A Procession of Them: The Plight of the Mentally Disabled: Photographs by Eugene Richards.” This summer the Gallery sponsored “San Francisco in the 1970s: Photographs by Jerry Pritikin.”

One review called the gallery “Chicago’s premier space for showcasing contemporary critical social photo-documentary work.” Not only did these exhibits draw hundreds of people into the university and receive widespread press coverage, but they also served numerous classes and student projects during the year.

The Center for New Deal Studies presented a lecture by Jeff Shesol, author of Supreme Power: Franklin Roosevelt vs. the Supreme Court (2010), and co-sponsored workshops on “Women Justice and the Law” and “A New New Deal: Obama’s first Year.”

The Institute for Metropolitan Affairs provided research opportunities for students, operated the Illinois Consortium on Drug Policy, and more generally focused its activities on drug policy reform, announcing the results of a major study early this summer on heroin use in metropolitan Chicago that garnered national press coverage and discussion.

The Institute for Politics hosted the third annual Herb and Eileen Franks Seminar on Local Politics, and published an analysis of the 2010 Illinois primary election.

The Loundy Human Rights Project hosted a number of events, including a report by students on their comparative human rights class in Amsterdam and Chicago. In addition the Project co-sponsored a teachers workshop on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the first collaborative International Human Rights Conference (with the American Political Science Association) in June.

The Mansfield Institute for Social Justice and Transformation organized a “One University-One Book” program around Shame of the Nation: The Restoration of Apartheid Schooling In America, culminating with a lecture by author Jonathan Kozol. The Institute also sponsored numerous film, lecture and workshops, organized a Social Justice Summer Institute, and oversaw the expansion of service learning courses throughout the university.
The Montesquieu Forum for the Study of Civic Life hosted a number of lectures on topics ranging from happiness and Benjamin Franklin to Ridley Scott’s film “The Blade Runner.” The Forum also raised funds to create a Seminar and Reading Room, and co-hosted a summer institute for high school teachers.

The coming academic year promises to be just as busy. For example, in September 2010, the Center for New Deal Studies will host the Surgeon General of the United States, Dr. Regina Benjamin, for the Franklin & Eleanor Roosevelt Distinguished Lecture. The Gage Gallery is planning photography exhibits focused on the global economy, and on the history of working class life. The Psychology Department will sponsor the Biennial Conference for the Society for Community Research and Action (with the American Psychological Association) in Summer 2011. Finally, at the beginning of the fall semester the College will welcome South African Fulbright scholar/sociologist Professor Richard Ballard of the University of KwaZulu Natal.

GOALS FOR 2010-2011

- Prepare the new general education program for implementation in Fall 2011
- Prepare for accreditation of new PhD program in Industrial-Organizational psychology at the Schaumburg campus
- Continue to review Schaumburg offerings and partner with the Pharmacy College on planning new health sciences classes
- Conduct program review in sociology
- Plan for student and faculty space allocations as the downtown campus expands with the new building

We thank the faculty and staff for their hard work this year as the College continues to evolve to better serve its students. For many more details, please see the individual reports posted on department and program websites at www.roosevelt.edu/cas.

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