Welcome from the Dean

Dear Friends:

I am delighted to share the news and achievements of the College of Arts and Sciences with our community of students, faculty, staff, alumni, partners and donors.

The 2008-09 academic year was marked by increased enrollments, student and faculty accomplishments, fund raising success and programmatic innovations. I invite you to read the college’s annual report for 2008-09 on our website at www.roosevelt.edu/cas.

The 2009-10 year will be even more notable, as Roosevelt continues to stand out as an institution that is thriving in these hard economic times. This fall we are joined by 23 new professors to help us meet the needs of our growing student population. College enrollment increased for the seventh consecutive fall semester, with a rise of 12 percent in student head count. In response to the continuing growth in enrollment, I am pleased to announce that the University has approved searches for 13 new professors to join the college next fall.

I welcome your ideas and suggestions and am happy to discuss ways in which you can support the College of Arts and Sciences. Please contact me at (312) 341-2134 or at lweiner@roosevelt.edu. I look forward to hearing from you.

Lynn Weiner, Dean

CAS Funding Highlights

The Journalism Program was awarded a $210,000 grant from the McCormick Tribune Foundation to fund a Youth Media Technology program to be directed by Professor Linda Jones.

The Institute of Metropolitan Affairs, directed by Kathleen Kane-Willis, won over $90,000 in foundation grants to support research into drug policy.

The Mansfield Institute for Social Justice and Transformation, directed by Professor Heather Dalmage, was awarded a $50,000 grant from the Albert and Anne Mansfield Foundation to enhance service-learning education.

Alumnus and CAS Advisory Board member Joseph Loundy donated $34,000 to continue support for the activities of the Joseph Loundy Human Rights Project, directed by Professor Bethany Barratt.

Alumnus Art Weil donated $27,500 to fund the Montesquieu Forum, directed by Professor Stuart Warner.

To discuss support for the College of Arts and Sciences, contact Dolores Metzger, Senior Director of Development, at dmetzger@roosevelt.edu or at (312) 341-2252.

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Professor Mary Ellen Schiller Awarded Fulbright Scholarship

The U.S. Department of State’s Fulbright Program selected Mary Ellen Schiller, associate professor of communication, for a Fulbright award to study mass media and cross-cultural perspectives in spring 2010 at the University of Lodz in Poland. Schiller has taught in Roosevelt's Department of Communication for over two decades, has published on the topics of ethical practice and cultural issues in mass media, and edits the department's IMC Review journal. Professor Schiller said "mass communication is increasingly becoming globalized and there are implications for countries large and small, including Poland."

Schiller is one of only approximately 800 U.S. faculty who will travel abroad next year through the Fulbright Scholars Program. She joins the rank of fellow College of Arts and Sciences professors who have recently won Fulbright scholarships: Heather Dalmage (Sociology), Christian Erickson (Political Science) and Ellen O’Brien (English and Women’s and Gender Studies).

CAS Faculty Achievements

Assistant Professor and Director of the Creative Writing Program Scott Blackwood won the annual best book prize from the Association of Writing Programs for his novel We Agreed to Meet Just Here. Assistant Professor of Integrated Marketing Communications Pamela Davies was awarded a fellowship at the Indiana University School of Journalism Teaching Fellows program. Associate Professor of Public Administration Lavonne Downey was appointed to the editorial board of the Southern Medical Journal. Adjunct Chemistry Faculty Ray Hoff has written a new textbook, Handbook of Transition Metal Polymerization Catalysts (Wiley). Presidential Writer in Residence Charlie Madigan and his journalism students published a book, States United: Red Meets Blue and the Obama Election, about the 2008 presidential election. In October, Madigan also published his latest monograph on the election, Destiny Calling: How the People Elected Barack Obama. Ralph Martire was appointed Distinguished Lecturer in Policy Studies. Martire is the executive director of the Center for Tax and Budget Accountability and is a leading expert on Cook County and State of Illinois budgets. Assistant Professor of Philosophy Svetozar Minkov won a $25,000 Enduring Questions grant from the National Endowment for Humanities. Associate Professor of English Priscilla Perkins was featured in the Mr X Stitch Contemporary Embroidery and Needlecraft Blog (www.mrxstitch.com) for her documentary needle art series on the eugenics movement in the United States. Professor of Psychology Jonathan Smith has published a new textbook, Pseudoscience and Extraordinary Claims of the Paranormal (Wiley-Blackwell). Associate Professor of English Janet Wondra was awarded a 2009 Ragdale Foundation Artist’s Fellowship to work on her creative nonfiction.
The PsyD Program welcomed a new class of 20 students at the University’s New Student and University Convocation on August 28 in the Auditorium Theatre. The students come from a wide range of undergraduate institutions, including Bucknell University, Indiana University, Ohio State University, Pennsylvania State University, Purdue University, Roosevelt University and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. For more information about the PsyD Program, contact Professor Cami McBride at camcbride@roosevelt.edu or (312) 341-2388.
Photography Exhibit - Violent Realities - Opens at Gage Gallery

The College of Arts and Sciences, the Mansfield Institute for Social Justice and Transformation, the Joseph Loundy Human Rights Project and the Department of Communication are sponsoring a powerful photography exhibit (Violent Realities: Photographs by Jon Lowenstein and Carlos Javier Ortiz) at the Roosevelt University Gage Gallery this fall. Violent Realities tells the story of intended and unintended victims of gun violence in the United States and Guatemala. The exhibit made its Chicago debut to a packed house at the opening reception and lecture by the award-winning photographers on September 17 at the Gage Gallery. The exhibit runs through January 15, 2010. The Gage Gallery is located across from Millennium Park at 18 S. Michigan Ave. and is open Monday through Friday from 9 am to 5 pm. The mission of the Gage Gallery is to show work that is consonant with the mission of the University and its ideals of social justice. For more information about the Gage Gallery, visit the gallery website at www.roosevelt.edu/gagegallery or contact Professor Michael Ensdorf at mensdorf@roosevelt.edu or (312) 341-6458.

Photograph by Jon Lowenstein

For a complete list of all CAS events, visit our website:
www.roosevelt.edu/cas