Volume 1, Issue 1 Fall 2007



Welcome from the Dean

Greetings and welcome to the Fall 2007 semester.

I am pleased to introduce the College of Arts and Sciences Newsletter -**CAS Connections** - to strengthen our college community of students, faculty, staff, alumni, donors and other friends of the arts and sciences. We plan to publish two issues during the academic year (fall and spring). If you have ideas for articles or if you have news items to submit, please contact the CAS Connections editor, Juli Rowen, at (312) 322-7142 or jrowen@roosevelt.edu

I look forward to the 2007-2008 academic year with great excitement. I am confident that the College of Arts and Sciences will lead the Roosevelt University community in quality teaching, scholarship and community engagement.

Sincerely,

Lynn Y. Weiner, Dean

CAS Upcoming Special Events

10/18/07—12/30/07 - Technicalities: Digital Weaving Exhibit - Roosevelt University Gage Gallery, 18 S. Michigan Avenue

10/20/07 - Chicago Art Deco Society Lecture: Curves of Steel: the Auto - 2:00 pm, Auditorium Bldg., Congress Lounge (2nd Floor) (co-sponsored by Dept. of History, Art History & Philosophy)

10/24/07 - Nonprofit State Budget Briefing and Panel - 9:00 am, Auditorium Bldg., Congress Lounge (2nd Floor) (co-sponsored by the Roosevelt University Institute for Politics)

10/26/07 - Women's and Gender Studies Job, Internship and Volunteer Fair - 12-4 pm, Auditorium Bldg., Congress Lounge (sponsored by the Women's and Gender Studies Program)

For a complete list of all college events, visit

www.roosevelt.edu/cas/events

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CAS Facts and Figures—2006-2007:

- · For the past two years, the number of fulltime students in the College of Arts & Sciences has risen. Full-time students now represent 60% of our undergraduates, compared to 53% two years ago.
- During 2006-2007, the Roosevelt Scholars Program grew to an all-time high of 180 students, with an average ACT in the 89th percentile and an average incoming GPA of 3.8.
- · The College of Arts and Sciences received a \$1 million gift from the Helford Family Foundation to establish a doctoral program in Industrial-Organizational Psychology.

CAS Students Make Headlines

Harry Epstein (BA, Economics) will enter Georgetown University Law School in Fall 2007 after completing a summer internship with Congressman Emmanuel (D-IL). John Donnelly (BA, Political Science) will work as a Senior Legislative Analyst for Congressman Burton (R-IN) in Washington DC. History major Doria Johnson has been accepted into the PhD program in History at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

The student newspaper, *The Torch*, collected seven awards from the Illinois College Press Association, including a first place award in sports writing for **Jeffrey Schwister (MSJ, Journalism)**.

Karla Brennscheidt (MA, Clinical Psychology) and current PsyD student, participated in a summer practicum in neuro-psychology in Liepzig, Germany. **Claudiu Dumitrescu (PsyD, Clinical Psychology)** completed a practicum at the University of Chicago before entering his two year post-doc in neuro-psychology at Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Chicago, Illinois.

Spanish major Samanatha Johnson received an International Studies Abroad scholarship to study at the University of Granada, Spain in Fall 2007. **Kayeromi Gomez (BA, Communications)** was awarded a fellowship to the European Journalism Institute in Prague, Czech Republic. **International Studies major Miriam Berger** received the Gilman Scholarship from the U.S. Department of State to study at the University of Wroclaw, Poland in Spring 2007. **Economics major Christian Delgado de Jesus** won a National Science Foundation scholarship to study Economics at Duke University during the summer of 2007.

Chicago Tribune Writer Charlie Madigan Joins CAS Faculty

The College of Arts and Sciences is pleased to welcome Charlie Madigan to the Journalism faculty this fall as Roosevelt University's first Presidential Writer in Residence. Madigan is well-known as a distinguished writer for the *Chicago Tribune* where he has served as national correspondent, news editor, and as columnist and editor of the popular Sunday *Perspectives* section.



The author of several books, Madigan's latest book (due in September, 2007) is titled *30: The Collapse of the Great American Newspaper*, which details the decline of American big city newspapers.

Charlie Madigan, Presidential Writer in Residence

Madigan will teach journalism courses that relate to his extensive career in political reporting. He will also create the Chicago Writing Institute, a summer writing program at the university.

New York Times Writer John Fountain Joins CAS Faculty

The College of Arts and Sciences is pleased to welcome John W. Fountain, distinguished journalist, educator and author, to the faculty this fall as Professor of Journalism. Fountain has written for the *Chicago Tribune* and the *Washington Post* and he was a national correspondent for the *New York Times*.

Fountain's personal story of growing up in Chicago and his struggles to overcome poverty, are told in his 2003 memoir, *True Vine: A Young Black Man's Journey of Faith, Hope and Clarity*.

Fountain previously held a Visiting Professorship at the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University and a Professorship at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

John W. Fountain, Professor of Journalism

This fall, Fountain will teach courses in media writing and personal memoir writing. He will teach other journalism courses, including capstone courses, in future semesters.

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CAS Welcomes New Faculty Class of 2007-2008

Joining the College of Arts and Sciences in August 2007 is another distinguished class of new professors. The college is pleased to welcome these new colleagues:

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

Integrated Marketing Communication:

Pamela Davies, MBA, Northwestern University

Lawrence Fisher, Ph.D, Northwestern University

Journalism:

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

Charlie Madigan, BGS, Roosevelt University

Psychology:

Lisa Lu, Ph.D, University of Florida

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

Ben Roy Do, ABD, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Brian Siers, Ph.D, Central Michigan University

Public Administration:

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

All new faculty will be part of the college's **New Faculty Mentoring Program**. The program, which began in 2003, is designed to assist new tenure-track faculty members acclimate to the Roosevelt culture, obtain feedback on issues related to teaching, research/creative work and service, and foster collegiality within the college. New faculty meet with their mentors several times each semester, with lunch or dinner provided by the dean. Junior faculty participate in the program until tenure is granted, when they have the opportunity to become mentors.

"I am proud of this year's class of talented new faculty who will help us create exciting programs for our students."

-Lynn Weiner, Dean

CAS Faculty Tedrowe and Fallon Receive Literary Awards

Emily Gray Tedrowe, Director of Composition, earned a writing award from the Illinois Arts Council for her short story *Claudia Leaving*, which was published in the Summer/Fall 2006 issue of the *Crab Orchard Review*. The story is a snapshot of a day in the life of a young widow living in New York City. Tedrowe was also recently awarded a residency by the Ragdale Foundation in Lake Forest, Illinois. Time spent at the Ragdale artists' community will allow Tedrowe to complete her novel.

Peter K. Fallon, Associate Professor of Journalism, received the

Marshall McLuhan Award for Outstanding Book in the Field of Media Ecology for his book *Printing, Literacy and Education in 18th Century Ireland: Why the Irish Speak English.* Fallon's book explores the impact of the printing press on 18th century Ireland and particularly on the Gaelic culture and language.



Peter K. Fallon accepts the Marshall McLuhan Award— 6/8/07

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Catching up with recent Roosevelt University alumnus Kayeromi (Romi) Gomez (BA, Communications '07) is a challenge. I spoke with Romi after he returned from a summer fellowship at the European Journalism Institute in Prague, which he attended with participants from 19 countries. This fall, Romi enters Roosevelt's Master of Science in Actuarial Science program. One has only to spend a brief time with Romi to be impressed by his intelligence and responsibility.

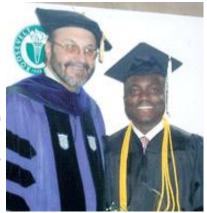
Born and raised in Benin, Africa, Romi arrived in the United States in 2000 at the age of 25. He settled in Chicago upon the advice of his brother who had visited the city while attending Southern Illinois University. Romi remembers his first day in Chicago vividly. "I arrived in

the middle of the evening rush hour on the bus from Carbondale and I felt I was the only person not going anywhere." Romi has not become fully accustomed to the busy pace of Chicago and he doubts that he ever will. "I can't rush like other people do. Students and faculty see me walking slowly, staring at the buildings and at all of the people."

Romi soon grew to love his adopted city and Roosevelt University. Graduating with honors, Romi found time to become involved in student activities, including writing for *The Torch*. Romi advises RU students to get involved by connecting with students and faculty and by volunteering. He advises, "don't just get your degree and go, because Roosevelt University is about much more than books and education - it is about life."

Romi plans to return to Benin with his wife Chandra and their 3 year-old daughter, Divine Mercy, to open an international orphanage. Romi envisions a community with a school and television and radio stations to allow the children to pursue careers in journalism.

Returning to Benin will allow Romi to serve his community and his mother and five brothers and sisters and their families. The second oldest child and first son (known as a *cadet* in Benin) Romi has permanent responsibility for his family of origin. Romi says his life's purpose is to serve others; this belief, he says, comes from his mother's teachings and his experiences at Roosevelt University.



President Charles Middleton & Romi Gomez at the May '07 RU Commencement

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CAS Connections

Your Connection to the College of Arts and Sciences at Roosevelt University

CAS Connections is the biannual newsletter of Roosevelt University's College of Arts and Sciences. All members of the college community are invited to contribute stories and news items by July 1 and February 1 for issues published in September and April. Please send all submissions to Juli Rowen at jrowen@roosevelt.edu

We're on the Web!

www.roosevelt.edu/cas