Welcome from the Dean

This fall semester the College of Arts and Sciences welcomes a large group of some 623 new freshmen and transfer students, representing a 10 percent increase since last fall. Most are full-time undergraduates, with many athletes, honors students, Chicagoans, and students from around the country and the world. We also welcomed nearly 260 new graduate students. Hundreds of our new students live in our spectacular new residence hall in the Wabash Building, with views of the city skyline and Lake Michigan, and easy indoor access to new science labs, classrooms, fitness center, and cafeteria.

It is our mission to establish a community that helps these students prepare for a lifetime of learning, achievement, and global citizenship. Study abroad opportunities have expanded, as have classes where students study at Roosevelt and then travel for a week or two of comparative learning. This year students can study integrated marketing communication in Spain; biology in Tanzania; psychology in Guatemala; or history in Finland and Sweden. They can also take advantage of our partnerships with universities in England or Poland; and as of press time we are exploring a new collaboration in Australia.

Our centers and institutes continue to provide expanded activities for students through guest lectures, service learning assignments, and special projects. For example, the current photography exhibit on juvenile injustice at the Gage Gallery partners with the Mansfield Institute for Social Justice and Transformation and the Joseph Louny Human Rights Project to host speakers, classes, and workshops for students and the broader community. And we are proud that the service learning and community engagement opportunities provided by the Mansfield Institute were recognized with a major national prize this year: the Washington Center’s 2012 Higher Education Civic Engagement Award.

I invite you to read our newsletter with items about our student achievements, remarkable faculty, and generous donors, and to share your ideas and suggestions. I am happy to discuss ways you can support the College of Arts and Sciences. Please contact me at lweiner@roosevelt.edu or at (312) 341-3670. I look forward to hearing from you.

With regards,

Lynn Weiner
Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

CAS Welcomes New Faculty

Laura Kopff
Visiting Assistant Professor of Chemistry
PhD, University of Wisconsin

Paul Kubik
Visiting Assistant Professor of Economics
PhD, University of Tennessee

Joseph Mazzola
Assistant Professor of Psychology
PhD, University of South Florida

Peggy Shinner
Visiting Lecturer and Interim Director of the MFA in Creative Writing Program
MFA, Warren Wilson College

Melissa Walker
Lecturer of Composition
MFA, School of the Art Institute

Save the Date

Guantanamo: If the Light Goes Out

Join us on February 7 at 5 p.m. for the opening lecture and reception with photographer Edmund Clark. Mr. Clark will discuss his award-winning book and body of photographic work addressing the concept of “home” at the Guantanamo Bay detention camp. The event will be held at the Roosevelt University Gage Gallery, 18 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago. For more information, contact Gage Gallery director and professor Mike Ensdorf at mensdorf@roosevelt.edu or visit the Gage Gallery at roosevelt.edu/gagegallery.

The show runs through May 4, 2013.
The Jack Miller Center supported the Montesquieu Forum for the Study of Civic Life with a $40,000 gift to underwrite the annual Summer Teachers’ Academy and a $10,000 gift for the High School Student Essay Contest, an annual competition with monetary awards for students of the teachers who attend the academy. Stuart Warner, associate professor of philosophy, directs the forum.

Susan Rubnitz (BGS, ’76), a member of the College of Arts and Sciences advisory council, gave a gift of stock worth $25,000 to name one of the east lounges in the Wabash Building.

James F. Blinder (BA, ’57) donated $10,000 in scholarship support for English majors. Mr. Blinder also gave a $10,000 gift to the University library to build resources for students.

The family of Leroy Mock (BA, ’48) presented a $10,000 estate gift to the Department of Political Science and Public Administration.

Alton B. Harris, a friend of the College of Arts and Sciences, gave $5,000 to support the Montesquieu Forum for the Study of Civic Life.

To discuss support for the College of Arts and Sciences, contact Andrea Adams, director of development, at aadams07@roosevelt.edu or (312) 341-2252.

Support for the college may be in the form of contributions to the Dean’s Fund for Excellence, Departmental Funds for Excellence, scholarships, lectures, workshops, centers, institutes, the Gage Gallery, and more.

The St. Clair Drake Center hosted a reception in October for alumni, students, faculty, and members of the community. Alumna and Northwestern University professor Darlene Clark Hine (BA, history, ’68) highlighted the center’s tribute to Professor Drake. Drake, a pioneering sociologist, taught at Roosevelt from 1946 to 1969 and was the coauthor of Black Metropolis, a landmark study of race and urban life in Chicago. Professor Hine and Roosevelt University colleagues Erik Gellman, associate professor of history, and Christopher Reed, professor emeritus of history, have taken another look at Chicago’s black community in Black Chicago Renaissance (University of Illinois Press, 2012). For more information about the work of the St. Clair Drake Center, contact director and professor of sociology Albert Bennett at abennett@roosevelt.edu.

Alumni Pursuits

College of Arts and Sciences alumni continue to secure post-graduate admissions to graduate and professional schools, many with full funding. Here are some examples.

April Aloway (MS, biotechnology and chemical science, ’12) to the PhD program in toxicology and pharmacology at the University of Louisville; Tracy Drake (MA, history, ’10) to the library and information science graduate program at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; Maria Jenkins (MA, women’s and gender studies, ’11) to the PhD program in cultural studies at SUNY–Stony Brook; Sohail Khan (BS, biology, ’12) to the PharmD program at Roosevelt University; Rasheed Sanyaolu (BS, biology, ’12) to the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Medicine; Jeff Schaller (BA, philosophy and English, ’12) to the MA program in philosophy and literature at the University of Warwick, England. His thesis, “The Genuine Ethics of Marianne Moore,” was published by Modern American Poetry.

Wendy Maier Sarti (BA, history ’00, MA, history, ’02), now a history professor at Oakton Community College, published Women and Nazis: Perpetrators of Genocide and Other Crimes During Hitler’s Regime, 1933–1945 (Academica Press, 2012). Her research began at Roosevelt as a master’s thesis with Professor Emeritus Leon Stein.

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The Doctor of Psychology Program successfully matched 15 students with internship placements at such sites as the University of Delaware, VA Medical Center in Miami, Brooke Army Medical Center in Houston, and Children’s Mercy Hospital in Kansas City. This year’s match rate was 100 percent, compared to the national average of 71 percent.

Eight College of Arts and Sciences students attended the NATO conference in Chicago this summer: Diana Akmakjian (political science), Emily Belke (international studies), Alexander Dowson (political science), Justin Kohls (social justice studies), Alanna Mojica (political science), Guy Patterson (international studies), Eleanor Peck (political science), and Ari Shroyer-Stokes (political science).
**CHEMISTRY PROFESSOR AWARDED NSF GRANT**

Sergiy Rosokha, assistant professor of chemistry, was awarded a $280,000 grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) for his study of halogen bonding between organic acceptors and transition-metal complexes. This marks the first time a Roosevelt professor has been awarded a scientific research grant from the NSF. Previous awards were for instruments and science education. In addition to supporting his innovative research, the grant allows up to six undergraduate students to receive paid internships to study with Professor Rosokha. “Roosevelt has many students who are capable of participating in scientific research” Rosokha says. “This grant allows us to show chemists across the nation what we at Roosevelt University can do.”

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**NEW DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL ARTS AND SCIENCES AT SCHAUMBURG**

The College of Arts and Sciences has established a Division of Professional Arts and Sciences at the Schaumburg Campus. The division is led by associate dean and associate professor of mathematics Steve Cohen. Plans for the new division include development of interdisciplinary professional science graduate programs, formation of an advisory council with corporate and community representatives and campus alumni, development of articulation agreements to ensure seamless transfer for area community college students, and a daytime cohort program for incoming freshmen. For more information please contact associate dean Steve Cohen at scohen@roosevelt.edu.

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**READING BY AWARD-WINNING FANTASY FICTION AUTHOR CHINA MIÉVILLE**

The MFA in creative writing program is hosting a stellar reading series for 2012–13, with a line-up featuring award-winning British fiction writer China Miéville, whose book *The City & The City*—an existential thriller—has been compared to the work of Kafka and Orwell. Miéville spoke to an audience of 100 on November 5 in the Roosevelt University Murray-Green Library Angell Reading Room. For more information about the MFA in creative writing program or about the reading series, contact interim director Peggy Shinner at pshinner@roosevelt.edu.

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**POLITICAL SCIENCE PROFESSOR PUBLISHED BOOK ABOUT POLITICS AND HARRY POTTER**

Bethany Barratt, associate professor of political science and director of the Joseph Loundy Human Rights Project, recently published *The Politics of Harry Potter* (Palgrave, 2012). This political analysis of Harry Potter uses the beloved wizarding world to introduce readers to the equally murky and intimidating world of the political. Readers may be surprised to discover that in fact J. K. Rowling’s work provides us with entries into all of the most important political questions in history—from current controversies about terrorism and human rights, to the classic foundations of political thought.

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**ACTUARIAL SCIENCE MAJOR NAMED FEMALE STUDENT ATHLETE OF THE YEAR**

Actuarial science major Carina Balan was named Roosevelt University Female Student Athlete of the Year and Student Laureate of the Lincoln Academy of Illinois. A native of Moldava, she came to the United States when she was in the seventh grade and later graduated from Hersey High School in Arlington Heights, Illinois. Ms. Balan is a member of Roosevelt’s first women’s tennis team, tutors students in math, and works with professors to research real-life math concepts.

**HARRISON KEYES MAKES HISTORY**

Harrison Keyes (BA, philosophy, ’12/JD ’15) is our first graduate to participate in the new Roosevelt University/John Marshall Law School fast track BA/JD program.

**CREATIVE WRITING STUDENT REPRESENTS MFA PROGRAM**

Creative Writing student Christina Kloess represented the MFA program at the Chicago Literary Guild’s Teaching Artist/Multi-University Student Showcase. Out of six writing programs represented at the city-wide showcase, Kloess’s reading was chosen as the audience favorite.

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**ALLIED HEALTH STUDENT JOINS ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Allied health student Michelle LeCaptain and Kellie Murdoch (BS, biology, ’09), together with their professor Norbert Cordeiro, published a paper in *Conservation Genetics Resources*, titled “Isolation and development of 13 new, polymorphic microsatellite loci for a threatened, understory tree, Mesogyne insignis (Moraceae) from the Eastern Arc Mountains” (October, 2012).

**SHANNON MCFARLAND JOINS ASSOCIATED PRESS**


**JOLINE REYES WORKS AS LEGISLATIVE INTERNS**

Joline Reyes (BA, international studies, ’12) is working as a legislative intern at the Bank International Center in Washington, D.C.

**REBECCA ROUSSELL NAMED DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMUNICATIONS**

Rebecca Roussell (MSIMC, integrated marketing communications, ’11) was named director of public affairs communications for Nielsen, a global leader in market research.
The work of the Mansfield Institute for Social Justice and Transformation, led by director and professor of sociology Heather Dalmage, associate director Nancy Michaels, and Mansfield professor Steve Meyers, was recognized with a 2012 Higher Education Civic Engagement Award by the Washington Center—citing Roosevelt’s dramatic growth in service learning and community engagement activities (termed “social justice in action” by the MISJT). Last year some 1,460 Roosevelt students participated in service learning classes. The award will provide scholarships for Roosevelt students to participate in the Washington Center’s internship programs. For more information about the Mansfield Institute, visit roosevelt.edu/misjt.

Assistant professor of psychology Shari Berkowitz consulted for the legal team that helped a wrongfully imprisoned man obtain a $5 million out-of-court settlement from the village of Woodridge, Illinois. Berkowitz studies false memories that can impact court cases reliant on eyewitness testimony and has served as an expert witness in more than a dozen legal cases. Professor Berkowitz trains members of the legal community nationwide about the malleable nature of eyewitness memory.

Assistant professor of biology Norbert Cordeiro was named an official member of the Red List Authority for birds and IUCN Species Survival Commission. Cordeiro also had one of his photographs of a critically endangered African bird species published in the Audubon Society’s magazine, Living Bird.

Professor Heather Dalmage presented at the 6th EducEight International Conference at Northumbria University, England, regarding “Ethnicity and Education: Old Issues, New Insights.” EducEight is an international research group focusing on social and educational inequalities.

Assistant professor of political science David Faris continues to contribute to the public discourse about social media and politics. He recently appeared on ABC Channel 7 (Chicago) to discuss political conventions and social media, published an op-ed piece in the Chicago Sun-Times about mobile app privacy, and was cited in an article on social media in the Toronto Globe and Mail. This summer, Faris presented at a global summit in Kenya about the significance of digital activism around the world today.

Assistant professor of sociology Stephanie Farmer released a report titled “Tax Increment Financing and Chicago Public Schools Construction Projects.” The report examines how the city has spent the $858 million in TIF money on schools since the 1980s and concludes that TIF expenditures are “contributing to income and race/ethnicity place-based inequality.”

Professor of journalism John Fountain received the Best Commentary Award this fall from the Chicago Journalists Association and a first place award for column writing from the Illinois Associated Press Editors Association for his columns in the Chicago Sun-Times.

Michael Maly, associate professor and chair of the department of sociology, Heather Dalmage, professor of sociology and director of the Mansfield Institute, and Nancy Michaels, associate director of the Mansfield Institute, co-authored an article – “The End of an Idyllic World: Nostalgia Narratives, Race, and the Construction of White Powerlessness” – published in Critical Sociology (September, 2012).

Chicago news veteran Charlie Meyerson joined the journalism program to teach a course in news reporting. Mr. Meyerson worked for 13 years at Tribune Co., including time as a news director, anchor, reporter and program host with WGN Radio in Chicago. “Charlie Meyerson brings a wealth of experience, talent and insight to our program and to our students,” said Marian Azzaro, chair of the Department of Communication. “We know he can best inform and help our students to be well prepared for the challenges of today’s fast-changing and increasingly complex integrated media market.”

The College of Arts and Sciences congratulates the following recipients of 2012–13 Faculty Research Leaves:

Priscilla Archibald (Spanish): Symphonic America: Hemispheric Collaborations and the Politics of Transamerican Literary Exchange

Stephanie Farmer (sociology): Tax Increment Financing and Global City Building

Jeannine Love (public administration): Relational Ontology: A new (old) foundation for governance in a globalizing world

Melanie Pivarski (mathematics): Rate of Escape for Random Walks on Graphs with Exponential Volume Growth

Sergiy Rosokha (chemistry): Spectroscopic and Structural Study of the Nature of Halogen Bonding

CAS Connections is the newsletter of Roosevelt University’s College of Arts and Sciences. All members of the college community are invited to contribute news items by August 1 and March 1 for issues published each fall and spring semester. Please email all submissions to Editor and Assistant Dean Juli Rowen at jrowen@roosevelt.edu.