

A Conversation  
with John Fry

Abuzz About  
BEES

A University  
on the Rise

# [DREXEL]

FALL 2012 //

1E 22 NO. 2

## Selling Their Future?

SHAYA HONARVAR  
AND A TEAM OF DREXEL  
RESEARCHERS ARE  
DOING THEIR PART  
TO SAVE A SPECIES,  
AN ISLAND AND  
A WAY OF LIFE.

// SEE PAGE 30 //////////////////////////////////////



# 12

Number of stories the final beam for the new LeBow College of Business building traveled before being set into place on Aug. 21. Speaking at the “topping out” ceremony, Drexel President John A. Fry said the building would serve as a “cornerstone of the Innovation Neighborhood we plan to build right here in University City.” The building is scheduled to be completed in fall 2013.

# THE LEDGER

[ A NUMERICAL ANALYSIS OF LIFE AT DREXEL ]

3.5	Cumulative GPA earned this year by the Drexel women's lacrosse team. The high overall team score was good enough to earn the team "Merit Squad" honors from the Intercollegiate Women's Lacrosse Coaches Association, and placed the Dragons among the Top 3 in all of Division I women's lacrosse.
655,000	Approximate number of people who die each year due to malaria. But now, thanks to the efforts of researchers from Center of Molecular Parasitology at the Drexel University College of Medicine, there is hope for a cure. The researchers—James Burns, Bill Bergman and Akhil Vaidya—have developed a preventative vaccine promising enough to draw the attention of the National Institutes of Health. Pre-clinical trials are underway, and results could arrive as early as November.
0	Number of universities in Philadelphia, except for Drexel, who can lay claim to the city's Scientist of the Year—at least, Scientist of the Year as determined by the Philadelphia Geek Awards, which in August gave that honor to Drexel's Youngmoo Kim, associate professor of electrical and computer engineering and assistant dean of engineering for media technologies.
5:51.48	Time posted by the U.S. men's eight crew team—a team that included Drexel alum Steve Kasprzyk—posted in the Olympic final on Aug. 1. The time was just three-tenths of a second slower than the Great Britain team that finished third, meaning Kasprzyk and his teammates missed out on a medal by the narrowest of margins.
1	Place that a team of students from Drexel's LeBow College of Business team came in at the Scholastic Achievement Award market research campaign competition in July. Logan Levenson, Rachel Kobol, Chris Baccash, Michael Wade, Zachary Schaeffer, Taylor Barsamian and Jill Weingarten took home top honors in the national competition, during which they analyzed, developed, implemented and assessed Philadelphia-based startUP Productions' new social search website, zaahah.
\$250,000	Funding from the Obama-Singh 21st Century Knowledge Initiative awarded to Drexel in July. The money will support the creation of a new partnership with the Indian Institute of Technology in Delhi to study the human health risks of microbial contamination. The initiative is symbolic of Drexel's increasingly global presence, which has also been highlighted by the opening of the new Drexel-SARI Center in Shanghai, China. ( <i>See story, Page 8</i> )
9	Number of Drexel students who traveled to London in late August for the 2012 Paralympics Games. The students made the trip as part of the course "Perspectives on Disability" and spent their time speaking and working closely with both Paralympic athletes and trainers to understand on a very personal level some of the issues they had previously explored in the classroom.
75	Percent by which leatherback turtles could decline by the year 2100, according to a new study from researchers at Drexel, colleagues at Princeton University and elsewhere. The study, published in the journal <i>Nature</i> in July, suggested that climate change and human pressures could push the species to the brink of extinction.

[DREXEL MAGAZINE]

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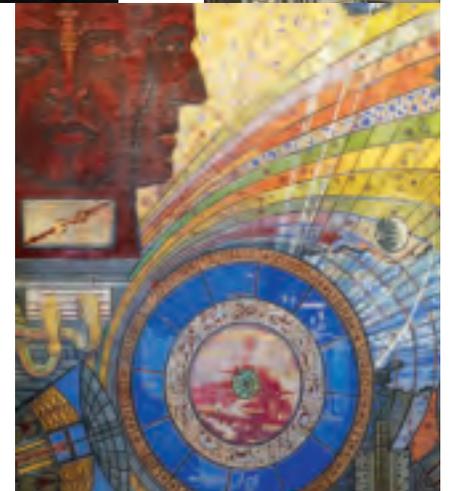
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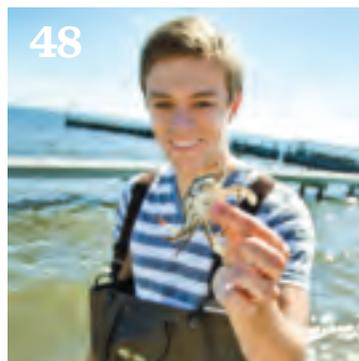


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The secretive, little-understood drill monkey has thrived for centuries on the African island of Bioko. But with hunting pressures now pushing the species to the brink, Drexel researchers are fighting back—and working to convince islanders that the monkeys are worth saving. **BY TIM HYLAND**

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Drexel's upward rise in the academic rankings is mirrored by the continued development of its campus and its community. Just a year after the opening of the Papadakis Integrated Sciences Building, two more prominent Drexel projects are reshaping the skyline of University City.

**PHOTOGRAPHS BY BARRY HALKIN AND TOMMY LEONARDI**

## 44 A BOLD VISION

Drexel President John A. Fry chats with *Drexel Magazine* about his eventful first two years on the job, his new Strategic Plan and his bold vision for the future. **BY TIM HYLAND**

## THE VIEW FROM MAIN

Even before I arrived here as Drexel's president, more than two years ago now, I knew this University was a special place.

My career in higher education began just a few blocks away at the University of Pennsylvania, and in my years at Penn I had the good fortune to form a close friendship with Drexel's late president, Constantine Papadakis. Through my friendship with Taki, I came to understand Drexel occupied a truly unique place not only in Philadelphia, but also in the field of higher education as a whole. I also came to believe this University held unlimited potential.

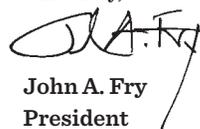
Today, I am proud to say that that my belief in this place has been fully justified.

As I write these words, Drexel is being completely transformed—and not just through construction projects that are reshaping our skyline. Each day, it seems, our University celebrates another huge leap forward.

In May, Drexel announced the formal opening of the Drexel-SARI Center in Shanghai, a new research center that signals our commitment to growing the Drexel brand on a global scale. Late this summer, Drexel rose to No. 83 in the *U.S. News & World Report* college rankings, up five spots from last year, and in September, we welcomed our most academically gifted freshman class ever. Meanwhile, through the important initiatives contained within our new strategic plan, we are working diligently to make Drexel a transformative university—one whose impact can be felt not only here in West Philadelphia, but throughout the region and the entire world.

These are certainly exciting times at Drexel, and in this issue of *Drexel Magazine*, you will read about just a few of the groundbreaking researchers, initiatives and milestones that are collectively telling the world what you and I already know: There's no limit to how high Drexel can soar.

Sincerely,



**John A. Fry**  
President



# EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

If I had just one word to describe the Drexel that I've come to know over the past year and a half, that word would be this: Ambitious.

So, if nothing else, I hope this magazine over the past three issues has successfully documented this University's amazing upward mobility, its far-reaching ambition, and its willingness to both redefine itself and the modern urban university.

From the addition of the Academy of Natural Sciences last May to the opening of the Papadakis Integrated Sciences Building in September, from the unveiling of the University's new strategic plan this past June to the groundbreaking for the stunning new LeBow College of Business building in August, the past year and a half has seen President John A. Fry pushing Drexel forward like never before. And as you'll see in this issue of *Drexel Magazine*, that forward movement is showing no signs of slowing.

■ In "A University on The Rise," (Page 36), photographers Barry Halkin and Tommy Leonardi take us on a thrilling visual journey into the highest reaches of the two structures that are already re-shaping the Drexel skyline: The new LeBow building at 31st and Market streets, and the Chestnut Square student housing and retail development a block away on Chestnut Street. The two massive buildings bookend the quad and, along with the Papadakis Building, will eventually help create an exciting, dynamic campus center—precisely the kind of place that President Fry has called for in his campus master plan.

■ In our cover story, "Selling Their Future?" (Page 30), we visit with Shaya Honarvar, a Drexel biology professor who is doing some really heroic work on the small African island of Bioko. A turtle specialist by training, Honarvar has over the past two years expanded her Bioko work to include study of the endangered drill monkey, a species that is being driven to the brink not by ecological change, but rather by hunting pressure. Through up-close engagement with islanders and a recently completed documentary, Honarvar and her team—including two Drexel co-ops—are working to convince the hunters that the slaughter must end.

■ Perhaps most notably, in "A Bold Vision" (Page 44), we hear from President Fry himself. In a wide-ranging interview in early September, I asked him about his experiences so far at Drexel, his thoughts on the strategic plan that will guide Drexel going forward and, of course, his hopes and ambitions for the future. It was a pleasure to speak with President Fry, and I hope you will find the interview as interesting and enlightening as I did.

As always, we hope that you'll enjoy this issue of *Drexel Magazine*, and we again welcome you to share your thoughts with us. You can send your letters and feedback to [magazine@drexel.edu](mailto:magazine@drexel.edu) or to the traditional mailing address at right.

Thanks so much for reading.

Sincerely,  
**Tim Hyland/Editor**



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## LETTERS

### The HUBOs Were a Hit

Dear Mr. Hyland,  
I am a huge Beatles fan, and seeing the cover of the spring/summer issue of *Drexel Magazine* (“Meet the HUBOS,” Spring 2012) put a smile on my face. I enjoyed reading your description of how you created the cover photo, and compared it to my copy of *Abbey Road*. Did you have to get copyright permission from Apple Records? Did you show it to anyone there? I kind of wonder what Sir Paul McCartney or Ringo Starr would think of it.

If I may be extremely picky about it, Paul was holding a cigarette in his right hand, and the stride length of the robots is waaay off, but as you said, the robots were not proportioned like adult humans. Did you make a video of how you made this cover? As I recall, the term for that particular type of crosswalk is a “zebra crossing.” Douglas Adams mentioned zebra crossings in *The Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy*, but for years I thought he meant “a place where zebras cross the road”—it was British humor, after all, which Americans don’t always understand.

I ordinarily take *Drexel Magazine* in to work to put out in the waiting room, but I think I may hang on to this issue for a while. Thank you.

—**Peter Whitcopf, M.D.**, MCP, ’94  
Lewisburg Cancer Center  
Lewisburg, PA

THE EDITOR REPLIES: *Peter, thank you so much for the note. To answer a few of your questions: 1. No, we did not run this image past Sir Paul or Ringo—hopefully they aren’t offended. 2. Yes, we did in fact make a video about this, which you can find at our website (drexelmagazine.org). 3. And yes, you are being a bit picky about the cigarettes, though your attention to detail is certainly admirable. That being said, the HUBOS don’t smoke, so we probably couldn’t have sold them on the cigarettes anyway.*

### More on Youngmoo Kim?

Just received the latest issue and it is very impressive, especially [the story about] the changes to campus. I liked reading about the robots too.



We see the robots on the cover (which I knew was Baring Street because I lived on it) and numerous times inside in the feature article about them, and the article opens with a powerful sentence—“Drexel’s Youngmoo Kim is pushing the boundaries of modern robotics”—yet he’s not shown in the article at all.

The editor’s column talks about taking the cover photo, so the editor of the magazine is shown with the robots, but where is Youngmoo Kim? Important enough to feature in the article’s very first sentence, but nowhere to be seen?

—**Anthony Burokas**

THE EDITOR REPLIES: *That’s a very good point, Anthony, and an oversight on our part. To learn more about (and, well, actually see) Dr. Kim, you can visit the website for the Drexel Music Entertainment Technology (MET) Laboratory at music.ece.drexel.edu. He is also featured prominently in the video we shot of the HUBO photo shoot, which can be found at drexelmagazine.org.*

### From The Class of ’46

I was pleased to receive the *Drexel Magazine* yesterday. It has had a great makeover!

As a 10-year resident of Houston, I was pleased to be notified of the Drexel Houston Reunion, held Feb. 25 at Danton’s Seafood Restaurant, one of my favorite places. I enjoyed meeting Cindy Leesman—she did a great job!

In the alumni news section, there was nobody of my “vintage” listed! But I am sure there are still some of us left who remember the original “Drexel Tech.” I was having lunch between Drexel classes when Roosevelt announced the end of the war.

Abbotts was in full swing then, and Drexel students were Abbott’s best ice cream customers. Little did I know that I would end up working for their ice cream division at 2nd and Lombard.

I will be celebrating my 90th year in December and am still very active!

—**Doris Bedrossian Bobb**

### Kudos

Just wanted to drop a note to say how much my husband (Drexel class of ’03) and I enjoy reading the alumni mag. It’s so well done—from the design to print to photography. It’s nice to stay in the loop with all the good stuff Drexel folks are up to. Keep up the good work.

—**Kelly A. Heese**

### Where’s Mario? Minus Mario

I enjoy your magazine every time it comes out. Wish it would be more frequently.

I thought the following photo might be of interest for you in the future, to show where Drexel alumni have been. I unfortunately didn’t have the dragon [Mario] with me, but thought the bag might do. This was taken off the 9th hole on Turnerry Ailsa in Scotland, one of the most famous holes in all of golf. Tom Clark (Lebow College of Business) and I (College of Engineering and a master’s degree from LeBow) are both golf team alumni.

—**Adam Warner**

THE EDITOR REPLIES: *Thanks for the note, Adam. As to your first point, we have some good news: Starting this year, this magazine will indeed be coming out more often, as we are adding a third issue. You can expect the next issue in February, and then another in June. Additionally, our new research magazine, EXEL, will be published in March, and will be sent to all alumni who donate at least \$25 to the Drexel Magazine fund. For more details, see Page 47.*



## Westphal, Reimagined

The beautifully restored (and redesigned) URBN Center has opened its doors, giving the Antoinette Westphal College of Media Arts & Design a fittingly sleek, cutting-edge, modern new home. **BY MARIA ZANKEY**

### A blank canvas.

For students of design, it's not just a means to an end. A clean slate—a masterpiece in waiting—is an essential tool in realizing their creative potential.

So when planning a complete renovation of the iconic Robert Venturi-designed building located at 3501 Market St., designers, architects and University officials wanted to harness the essence of endless possibility in creating the URBN Center—the raw, minimalist yet cutting-edge new home of the Antoinette Westphal College of Media Arts & Design.

“The structure of the building is exposed, as well as the concrete floor, which has been really polished. It really has an urban look, but there is also a lot of glass and high-tech components with an open feel,” says **Simone Pucca-Fera**, the URBN Center's project manager consultant, who has overseen various Drexel projects over the past four years. “The architects wanted to show the structure of the building and allow it to be an educational tool for students.”

The architectural firm MS&R was charged to adapt the 130,000-square-foot building, which was previously home to the Institute of Scientific Information. The URBN Center will house the college's programs in architecture, arts administration, design and merchandising, digital media, entertainment and arts management, fashion

“Westphal has the potential to be one of the most elite design colleges in the country—that destiny is in our hands.”

design, graphic design, interior design, music industry and product design, as well as administrative offices and Historic Costume Collection.

Across the street at 3401 Filbert St., a 13,000-square-foot former daycare center is also being transformed as the URBN Center's annex building, designed to house the Leonard Pearlstein Gallery, a multi-use screening and lecture room, and a black-box theater.

“At Westphal, we boldly re-imagine the world through inspired design, media and the arts,” says **Allen Sabinson**, Westphal's dean. “Our faculty, distinguished leaders in their fields, challenge students to push the boundaries of creativity to transform the world around us.”

But designing a space that would be able to comfortably contain all of Westphal's classrooms, critique rooms, office space and galleries proved to be a challenge. “The building is a square. It's literally a box, meant for cubicle-style office space,” Pucca-Fera says. “That shape can make the building kind of dark.”

To accommodate, the architects inserted mezzanine levels surrounding an atrium that spans the height of the building and crests with a skylight, both of which will brighten the area while maximizing space.

“Besides having everything exposed and raw, one of the main ideas behind the space was to make it open for easy collaboration,” Pucca-Fera says.

The URBN Center's main lobby was designed for just that. The open corridor will feature a prominent digital media screen that displays student work, plenty of informal meeting areas and lounges, an all-college Hybrid Making Studio that will offer student services from across Westphal's disciplines to clients, and a café. The second floor



and the second mezzanine will feature a large motion capture studio, compositing lab, gaming research facility and multiple high-end computer studios for animation, modeling and interactive design. “For a school of design, when prospective students walk through and see a space like that, it’s just cool,” Pucca-Fera says.

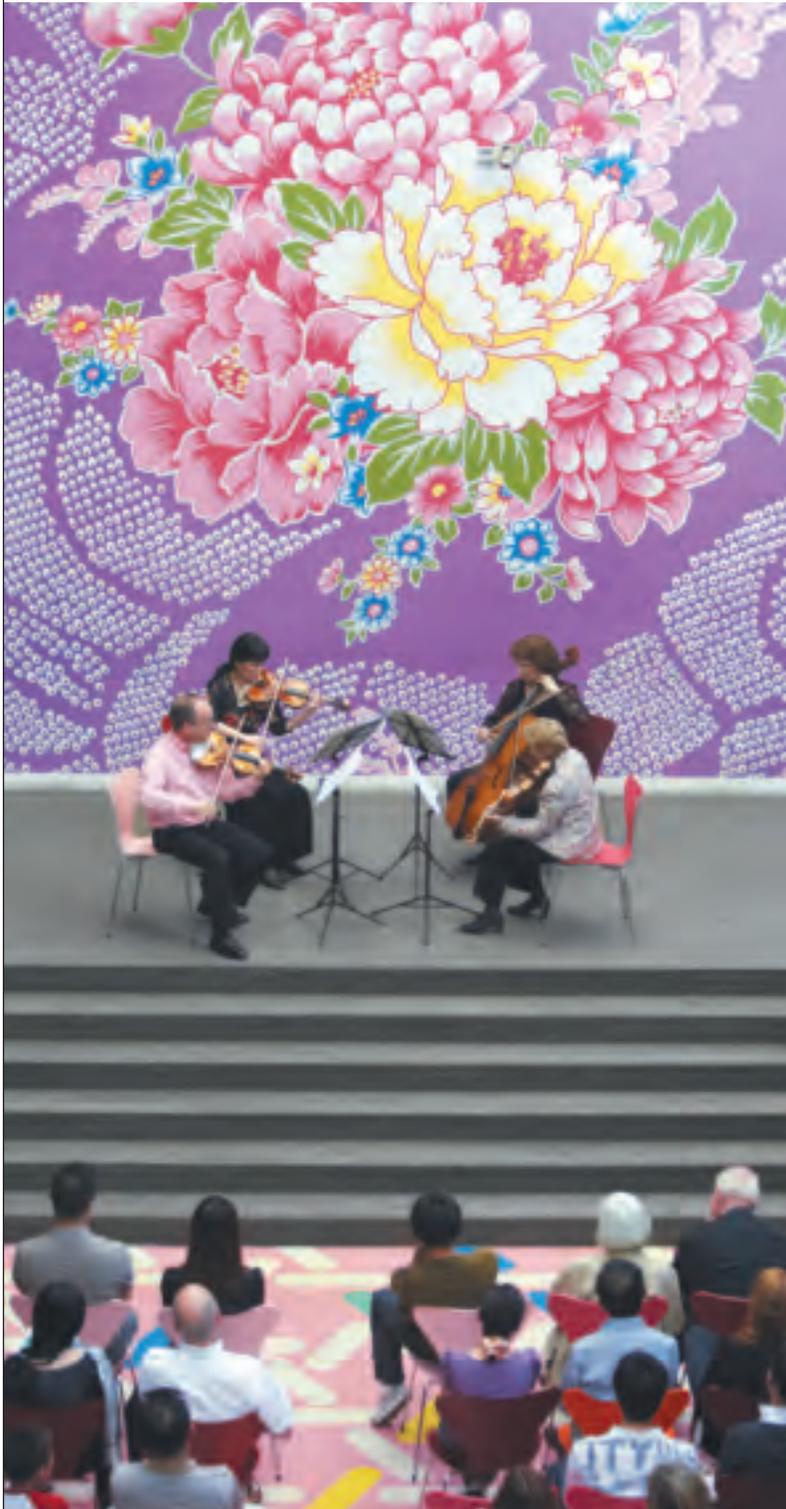
As students ascend the building via the open, grated staircase or the glass-encased elevator, they’ll find sewing labs and a CAD design studio, as well as a fabric dyeing and printing studio, a state-of-the-art fashion research lab, a SHIMA-SEIKI computerized knit prototyping studio and a runway for class critiques and informal fashion shows, and reconfigurable studio space. “I knew that if we did not improve the facilities, this college could not achieve its natural destiny,” Sabinson says. “Westphal has the potential to be one of the most elite design colleges in the country—that destiny is in our hands.”

But as for the colorful, modular Market Street façade of the building, Pucca-Fera says it’s being left untouched. Though MS&R had originally proposed to expose the beam supporting the building’s cantilevered entrance, the University ultimately decided to preserve its original state. “The building’s front is not historical, but there’s an architectural community that feels strongly that it should stay as originally designed,” Pucca-Fera says.

Though the inside of the building was almost completely gutted, another original feature remains—a 10-foot, 8-inch by 33-foot, 6-inch mural titled “In the Garden” by Jennifer Bartlett. And aside from the blue and yellow exposed wires that trace the ceiling, the Bartlett mural is one of the space’s few pops of color. “There’s the gray concrete floor, the reddish, exposed steel, the piping and HVAC system above—you can see how it’s all connected,” Pucca-Fera says. “But the color that’s eventually going to populate the space is going to be derived from the artwork. ... It’s the students that are going to be adding the color to this place.”



# A New Home, A World Away



**With the opening of the new Drexel-SARI Center in Shanghai and a tour of China with the Philadelphia Orchestra, Drexel cemented its reputation as truly global university.**

It's official: Drexel has a new home in the most exciting and dynamic city in China.

A Drexel University delegation led by **President John A. Fry** marked the official opening of the new Drexel-SARI Center in Shanghai on June 6 with a celebration at the Center that included a performance by musicians from the Philadelphia Orchestra, with which Drexel toured China for two weeks this summer.

Drexel signed an agreement with the Shanghai Advanced Research Institute (SARI) at the Chinese Academy of Sciences to launch the Drexel-SARI Center last October. The Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) is a leading academic institution and comprehensive research and development center in natural science, technological science and high-tech innovation in China. The Center will serve as home to a variety of Drexel research initiatives and broaden the University's global outlook.

Drexel alumnus and president of the Shanghai branch of the Chinese Academy of Sciences **Dr. Mianheng Jiang**, who was instrumental in the formation of this partnership, joined the Drexel festivities and—together with the Drexel delegation—toured the new facility. Mianheng received a doctoral degree in electrical and computer engineering from Drexel's College of Engineering in 1991. His father, Jiang Zemin, former president of the People's Republic of China, made a major international visit to Drexel during his presidency in 1997.

Drexel Provost **Dr. Mark Greenberg**, Vice Provost for Global Initiatives **Dr. Julie Mostov**, Vice Provost for Research **Dr. Deborah Crawford** and **Daniel Tedesco**, a 2011 Drexel graduate and 2012 China Fulbright Fellow, were among the Drexel representatives. Other distinguished guests included United States Consul General Robert Griffiths and CEO and Philadelphia Orchestra President Allison Vulgamore.

The celebration of the new center was among the highlights of the China trip, which Drexel undertook as education partner for the Orchestra's 2012 Residency Week and

Tour of China. The weeklong residency in Beijing marks the first time any U.S. orchestra has co-created a long-term residency in the People's Republic of China, opening a new door for the Orchestra's deeper engagement with China.

The Residency Week included three concerts, two free open rehearsals, community engagement activities, and U.S.-China diplomatic forums and cultural exchange programs. Of course, for Drexel, the trip also included the formalization of the landmark agreement with SARI—one that cements Drexel's reputation as a truly global university.

Located in the Shanghai Pudong Science and Technology Park, the Drexel-SARI Center will be a home for Drexel's research collaborations and educational partnerships with SARI and other institutes of the CAS, offering Drexel faculty insight into the latest technology and innovation in China. The Center will also serve as a base

in Shanghai for other Drexel educational endeavors including internships and co-ops, and symposia.

Among the first research collaborations at the Drexel-SARI Center will be a joint research initiative led by **Dr. Wei Sun**, Albert and Harriet Soffa Professor in Drexel's College of Engineering and School of Biomedical Engineering, Science and Health Systems, and scientists from SARI's Life Science Department to apply 3D cell assembly technology to generate in vitro cellular cancer models used for drug screening testing.

Engineering professor **Dr. Yury Gogotsi**, director of the A.J. Drexel Nanotechnology Institute, has also proposed expanding his study of nanomaterials for biomedical applications with SARI colleagues at the Drexel-SARI Center.

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## 'AN AMAZING OPPORTUNITY'

**AMANDA PENTECOST**, a senior in Drexel's Department of Materials Science and

Engineering, knew growing up that she wanted to be a researcher. This desire led her to Drexel, and to Dr. Yury Gogotsi, professor and director of the A.J. Drexel Nanotechnology Institute.

Now, thanks to Drexel's new partnership with the Shanghai Advanced Research Initiative, that same desire has taken her all the way to China.

Earlier this summer, Pentecost arrived in Shanghai as the first ever co-op at the Drexel-SARI Center, which will serve as Drexel's home base for research in China.

"I knew that I had to take the leap into this new world and learn everything I could from the experience," she says.

Though she was certain she wanted to study outside of the U.S., Pentecost was initially unsure of where exactly to go. She reached out to Gogotsi, her adviser, and asked for some suggestions.

What happened next demonstrates the importance of networking, she says.

Drexel senior Amanda Pentecost has the unique honor of serving as the first co-op at the new Drexel-SARI Center.

BY DANICA DELIZZA

"Dr. Gogotsi began excitedly telling me about how he was involved in the starting of the collaborative project with SARI, which was being supported by the formation of a formal partnership between Drexel and SARI," she says. "The project he wanted to start there would be an extension of what I was already working on at Drexel."

Gogotsi immediately contacted Drexel's Global Initiatives Department, and Pentecost was on her way to China shortly thereafter.

While at SARI, Pentecost is working on the development of a nanomaterial-based platform for anticancer drug delivery. Currently, there are very few non-invasive methods of penetrating the blood-brain barrier to deliver brain tumor treatment drugs to the brain. As she explains it, the ultimate goal of this project is "to use the novel carbon nanomaterial, nanodiamond, to create a new safe and effective mode of drug delivery." There are many forces at work to ensure that this project is successful, allowing for collaboration across a variety of disciplines.

Describing her current co-op as an "amazing opportunity," Pentecost emphasizes the benefit of co-op and its ability to give students the chance to apply theoretical knowledge learned in the classroom to practical situations one might encounter in the workplace. When speaking to prospective students, she talks about the satisfaction one gets when classwork translates to the research lab. Too often, students blindly complete lab work without a true understanding of a project's purpose. Co-op brings classroom work to life, she says, allowing students to perform that classroom work for a specific objective and application.

"That 'Aha! moment' when you notice yourself actually applying things you learned in class is so thrilling and only comes through a combination of traditional and hands-on learning," she says.

Fortunately, this combination of traditional and real-life learning lies at the foundation of Drexel's curriculum.

# 'Gas on the Fire'

As Dean of the College of Engineering, **Dr. Joseph B. Hughes** says he aims to create a “culture of planning.” But as it turns out, one of the biggest decisions in his life arrived through serendipity.

After majoring in chemistry as an undergraduate at Cornell, Hughes had decided to study engineering at his home-state university, the University of Iowa. Accepted into the doctoral program but undecided about what discipline to pursue, he visited campus to interview with the various engineering and

science departments. “I parked my car right in front of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering,” he says. “And I thought, ‘Well, I’m right here, I might as well go in and talk to them.’ I signed up and never looked back.”

Hughes arrived at Drexel in January after a hugely successful tenure as chair and professor of civil, environmental and materials science engineering at Georgia Tech. After his arrival, he spoke about his impression of Drexel Engineering, and how he aims to take the College forward. - *Kelly Andrews*



This story originally appeared in *DrexelNow*, Drexel's home for news on the Web. To read the full interview—and to catch up on all of the latest exciting news out of the University—visit [Drexel.edu/now](http://Drexel.edu/now).



**Drexel is unique** in several different facets. The undergraduate engineering program has a strong focus on design early in the curriculum, and the other factor is the co-op program. I had to understand that it's different from other places I've been.

**When you're in the outside world** and you mention Drexel, a lot of people think, “Oh, that's an engineering program.” If there's a challenge for me, it's being able to say, “Yes, we have a very strong tradition in engineering, but Drexel is a complete university, and our objective at the College of Engineering is to integrate horizontally across the University. We want to have the most impact an engineering program can.”

**We know what works**—what it takes to turn a student into a professional engineer. But we want them to walk out the door with the skill set of what's done in modern engineering—new software platforms, and classes in areas that are becoming more and more important, like systems engineering.

**On the undergraduate level**, my vision is to put gasoline on an existing fire that's been burning here at Drexel for a long time. That's experiential learning. I want to integrate leadership skills into experiential learning so that our students graduate with the engineering skill set people expect from Drexel, and also so they are capable of running their own company, beginning a startup, or having a rapid ascent in a larger corporation because of their ability to lead.

**On the graduate level**, we want to see programs that have impact on large societal issues—health, energy, the environment. We want our growing research programs to bubble up information and have an impact on global challenges.

**My research** is trying to understand processes of evolution, and in particular evolution in the environment. A lot of my work has been related to hazardous chemicals—learning how microorganisms respond to them and how to engineer processes that exploit those abilities to get rid of chemicals.

**I'm very pleased** to be reunited with Mira Olsen, a professor in Civil and Environmental Engineering, who was actually an assistant in my laboratory when I was at Rice University.

**I really want to ramp up** our institutional advancement program to increase the financial resources of the College. We just hired the person who's going to run that for us, John F. Dolan, and we're really excited about him being here.

**I also want to** create a culture of planning. I always tell faculty and students there's nothing about excellence that's accidental.

**There's a lot more here** [at Drexel] than people know about. I hope that in the years ahead we're able to communicate the quality of Drexel—we need to brag a little bit more. We need to get the word out.

# With \$10M Dornsife Gift, Drexel Moves to Become Ever More Engaged

**In early October, Drexel's ongoing efforts to become the most civically engaged university in the nation were given a major boost.**

As President John A. Fry announced during a special Oct. 4 event in West Philadelphia, noted philanthropists Dana and David Dornsife pledged \$10 million to Drexel in support of the new Dana and David Dornsife Center for Neighborhood Partnerships.

Expected to open in 2014, the Dornsife Center will be located at 35th and Spring Garden streets on a vacant site that currently includes two historical properties and a school totaling more than 29,400-square-feet of space. The Dornsife Center will serve as a resource for sharing expertise and knowledge with the members of the local community. Dedicated to education, problem solving, social entrepreneurship and innovation, it will offer a welcoming environment for local children and families, rich with technology, and fully accessible to senior citizens.

"In the tradition of the cooperative extension programs that brought university education and services to rural areas, we're thrilled that the Dornsife Center will allow Drexel to teach and partner with our neighbors right where they live," said Fry.

The Dornsifes are well-known for helping to solve the biggest problems facing today's world through their intelligence, talent, generosity and time. Their steadfast focus is on improving the quality of life for all people.

Dana Dornsife received her bachelor's degree in business from Drexel. She is the founder of the Lazarex Cancer Foundation and serves as its president and CEO. David Dornsife, a University of Southern California trustee and 1965 alumnus, is chairman of the Herrick Corp., the largest steel fabricator and contractor on the West Coast. Herrick's projects include high rises, specialty projects, hospitals, airports and hotels.

"Drexel's project inspired us because of



*"I'm proud of my alma mater, and I look forward to seeing Drexel's impact on the Powelton Village and Mantua neighborhoods."*

its potential to serve as a model for urban outreach by universities nationwide," said Dana Dornsife. "I'm proud of my alma mater, and I look forward to seeing Drexel's impact on the Powelton Village and Mantua neighborhoods."

In order to create the Dornsife Center, the University will renovate the site's three existing buildings. The site was formerly used to house an elementary school and two administrative buildings but has been vacant for a number of years. Philip B. Lindy, the driving force behind Drexel's Lindy Center for Civic Engagement, secured the Spring Garden

Street property for the University and will be an active participant in the renovation. The Dornsife gift will be used for the development of the site and operation costs of the center.

The Dornsife Center will offer space for activities developed and delivered by the University's participating colleges and schools. Through offerings—such as a free law clinic, health and wellness programming, homework help, arts collaborations, architectural design-build studios and environmental engineering demonstrations—Drexel faculty, students and professional staff will provide service and instruction as they fulfill the requirements of their academic programs. Whether through courses, research projects, service and class assignments, or required co-ops, experiential projects and internships, the programs offered at the Dornsife Center will be self-sustaining.

The Dornsife Center will engage every college and school at Drexel, and programs in the University's Student Life, Lindy Center for Civic Engagement and Drexel Libraries. The Dornsife Center will attract adults and senior citizens, children and neighborhood youth, and its programming and services will be expansive.

"The Dornsife Center, and the generosity of Dana and David Dornsife, will help make Drexel's commitment to neighborhood partnerships tangible," said Drexel Vice Provost for University and Community Partnerships Dr. Lucy Kerman. "Rather than bringing our neighbors to campus, or bringing education and services to Powelton Village and Mantua as visitors, Drexel will stand alongside residents in an inspiring, inviting facility open to all."

## FROM THE COLLECTION

The Tall Case Clock BY KATIE CLARK

Every hour on the hour, a majestic 12-foot clock outside of Provost Mark Greenberg's office in Drexel's Main Building tells the time with a series of modest gongs. But this handsome piece of history has another story to tell—the story of how it got a second chance.

The clock, with its impossible-to-ignore ornamental carvings, sits in its new space in Main Building like it's been there for centuries. The truth is, just a few short months ago, the clock was tired and crumbling, tied to a pillar in the shadows of a storage room with a thick layer of dust masking its potential. It was secured to the pillar for stability—in 1956, the piece fell and was severely damaged after the elevator explosion at the Tidewater Granary at 31st and Market streets.

One might have said it was damaged beyond repair but, because it was gifted to the Drexel Collection in 1911 by Mrs. George W. Childs, it was not to be discarded. George W. Childs was a decades-long family friend and business partner to University founder Anthony J. Drexel. “We never get rid of anything given by Mr. or Mrs. Childs,” says Drexel Collection Curator Jacqueline DeGross. “It's an unwritten rule.”

“We could see that [the clock] had real potential,” she adds. “Since we had some funds for conservation, it seemed like a great candidate.”

Enter Alan Andersen, a specialist in antiques restoration and conservation, and Bob Desrochers, an expert in clock repair, who were chosen to work on the clock. Once the clock made it to Andersen's shop in Cochranville, Pa., he and his team set to work cleaning the clock, taking portions of it apart, making and blending in missing pieces, stabilizing and regluing—basically getting the case sound once again.

“I think it's stunning,” Andersen says of the finished product. “I couldn't be happier with how it turned out.”

Still, Andersen says, even as he helped install the restored clock in its place outside the Provost's office, he couldn't help

but feel something was missing. “While the clock was in the shop, we saw there were a couple of holes drilled into the very top of the hood [the area around the mechanical face of the clock],” he says. “We knew at some point something was attached to the top of the clock, but we didn't know what.”

On the day of the installation, DeGross asked Desrochers and Andersen to take a look at another clock that was being considered for conservation, and the three walked to an art storage room on the fourth floor of Main Building.

“I was in the room just looking around and I saw some parts sticking out of a cardboard box,” Andersen says. “I realized that I was looking at the finials that go on top of the clock. As I'm holding these finials, I see another box with the cartouche that goes in the center between the two finials. I couldn't believe it. I was dumbfounded.”

Andersen began immediately working on the decorative pieces of the clock and two weeks later, they were ready.

“[The finials and cartouche] really completed it and added another foot and half to the clock,” says Andersen. “The hood really needed that ornamentation. It just completed the whole story.”

Clockmaker Bob Desrochers, meanwhile, says the work on the mechanical portion of the clock took about three months to complete. “The works were very badly worn,” he says. “There was a lot involved to bring that back up to speed.”

The most challenging job, Desrochers says, was restoring the clock's dial. Typically, the numerals are engraved into the dial; in this case, they were painted on, a cheaper but less popular method at the turn of the century.

Desrochers, like Andersen, takes pride in the final product.

“It's a fantastic piece and very unique. I really hope the students and faculty admire it,” he says.

 To see before and after images of the tall case clock visit [drexelmagazine.org](http://drexelmagazine.org)



## From DUCOM, a breast cancer breakthrough

Scientists at Drexel are on the cusp of revolutionizing breast cancer detection.

A hand-held device developed at Drexel that can detect cancer by sensing the elasticity of breast tissue is moving into the final stages of testing and development. With help from a Pennsylvania Department of Health grant, physicians could soon have a new noninvasive, radiation-free option when it comes to performing regular breast exams.

The device—"Intelligent Breast Exam," or iBE—was developed by researchers in Drexel's College of Medicine and School of Biomedical Engineering, Science and Health Systems. Using piezoelectric finger technology, iBE is able to glean more accurate information from routine breast examinations. The device could become a valuable tool for physicians in the early detection of breast cancer.

In a pilot clinical study conducted at Drexel's College of Medicine, iBE detected nine out of 11 clinician non-palpable breast tumors and identified one invasive breast cancer that was missed on the mammogram.

"The Intelligent Breast Exam can differentiate between the stiffness of normal breast tissue versus that of a tumor," says Dr. Ari Brooks, chief of surgical oncology at the College of Medicine. "Within our clinical trials, iBE was even more effective at finding tumors in women under 40."

UE LifeSciences Inc., a Philadelphia-based startup that licensed the technology in 2010, will use the \$878,422 grant from the Pennsylvania DOH's Commonwealth Universal Research Enhancement (CURE) program to further commercialize and clinically validate the sensor technology. UE LifeSciences will collaborate with various organizations as it develops an energy efficient, smaller footprint beta sensor integrated with smartphone platform for further clinical evaluation. The technology behind the device originated at Drexel's School of Biomedical Engineering, Science and Health Systems, under the research of associate professor Dr. Wan Shih. Shih was inspired by her own battle with breast cancer.

"I am thrilled to see this technology move a few steps closer to being available in the clinic," Shih says. "It will benefit millions of women for whom mammography is not effective."

 "It will benefit millions of women for whom mammography is not effective."



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## EXPERT ANALYSIS

**T**he Jerry Sandusky sex abuse scandal at Penn State has done more than nearly bring down one of college football's most successful programs.

It has also led many to question whether big-time college sports have grown too powerful, whether colleges spend too much time and too much money in pursuit of athletic success, and whether the massive amounts of money tied up in major college sports have compromised the mission of the modern university.

These are important questions, and **Ellen Staurowsky**, a professor in the department of sport management in the Goodwin College of Professional Studies, agrees that they must be answered. But to hear Staurowsky tell it, the Penn State situation—and more specifically, the way the Penn State situation was handled by the NCAA, which levied historically harsh penalties against the school in August—raises serious questions about the governance of college athletics, as well.

Staurowsky, a longtime critic of the NCAA, spoke with *Drexel Magazine* about the sad Penn State mess—and what its aftermath means for other colleges and universities—late this summer.

**WERE YOU SURPRISED BY THE SEVERITY OF THE SANCTIONS AGAINST PENN STATE?** Nothing really surprises me anymore in terms of how the NCAA operates. I think the NCAA is a creature of the moment in terms of how it presents its authority and its power to act. But while it didn't surprise me, I do believe that the

## 'A Royal Mess'

**The Penn State scandal isn't just about Penn State, and it isn't just about football, says Ellen Staurowsky. Rather, the greatest scandal in college sports history raises serious questions about the very state of college athletics as whole—as well as the organization that supposedly polices them.**

BY TIM HYLAND

NCAA very much overreached its authority in terms of the sanctions they meted out to Penn State.

**SOME HAVE SAID THAT THE NCAA'S ACTIONS HERE—LEVYING PENALTIES RELATED TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES, RATHER THAN ISSUES UNDER ITS PURVIEW—HAS SET A DANGEROUS NEW PRECEDENT. DO YOU AGREE?** Yes, they very much did. Essentially, they've entered new territory here. For example, there was a news item [recently] about a former football coach at Georgia who is alleged to have engaged in a Ponzi scheme. That's clearly an illegal act that has the potential to have terrible implications in terms of the investors who went along with it. So if the NCAA is going to intercede in the Penn State matter, because of the grievous nature of that [situation], then does that also obligate them to get involved every time a public figure associated with a college sports program is engaged in criminal activity? I think this does open the door for that very, very large problem. I also think the fact that they subverted their own internal review mechanism is particularly troubling. And whether or not college insiders will say it, I know there has been a great concern over the past two years about that very matter.

**WHY DO YOU THINK THE NCAA ACTED SO STRONGLY AGAINST PENN STATE?**

In my mind, part of the reason why the NCAA leadership came out blazing the way they did against Penn State was because the last thing they want is a mass movement of people rising up and asking, 'What is happening at all of these schools?' Part of what they did was the idea of the best defense being a good offense. By blitzing forward with these indefensible sanctions, they provided the media beast with many things to talk about. But the one thing they didn't give the media to talk about is that question—'If this was happening at the best school in the country [for compliance], then what on earth is happening elsewhere?'

**YOU SAID EARLIER THAT THE NCAA OVERREACHED WITH THESE PENALTIES. WHY DO YOU SAY THAT? IT DID SEEM AS THOUGH PUBLIC OPINION WAS STRONGLY IN FAVOR OF VERY STRONG PUNISHMENT HERE.** They penalized a bunch of young men who were not

PATRICK SMITH/GETTY IMAGES



**“I would like to think that college and university presidents would have the capacity for discerning when public opinion should dictate certain actions, and when it shouldn’t.”**

even in the program when this happened. They penalized a coach who was not in the program when this happened. The rationale was that the ‘culture’ needed to change. But on the other hand, true educators know that you don’t penalize the next generation for something they didn’t know anything about ... I would like to think that college and university presidents would have the capacity for discerning when public opinion should dictate certain actions, and when it shouldn’t.

With all the disruptions going on and a new coach coming in, and this program trying

to play at the very highest levels of the game, the idea of the NCAA putting young men in harm’s way is deeply troubling. What’s going to happen when the first key player gets nailed, or after Penn State gets beat up after the first couple of games and the depth chart isn’t deep enough? It would not surprise me if we got a lawsuit from a player accusing the NCAA of placing them in danger.

**HOW WOULD YOU HAVE PREFERRED THAT THE NCAA HANDLE THIS?** Surrounding much of the dialogue about Penn State and the idea that Penn State needed to be punished were many references to SMU [which received the so-called death penalty in 1986 for a scandal involving illegal payments to players]. But that was the fatal flaw in my mind. Because Penn State is Penn State, not SMU. This was an issue about the sexual abuse of boys by a serial predator who was enabled to do what he did, and all of that is heinous and awful, but the question becomes whether it was really the NCAA’s

## **Armstrong’s Tarnished Legacy**

**A**fter years of speculation, Lance Armstrong in late August relinquished his seven Tour de France titles in response to accusations that he repeatedly cheated to become the world’s winningest cyclist.

“There comes a point in every man’s life when he has to say, ‘Enough is enough,’” Armstrong said, alluding to the barrage of claims made by the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency that Armstrong has used performance-enhancing drugs throughout his career. Though Armstrong never tested positive for such methods, the USADA claimed it had “overwhelming proof of doping” and subsequently imposed a lifetime ban on Armstrong. A couple months later, the agency released a report that concluded Armstrong had run the most sophisticated doping scheme in sports history.

In the wake of these developments, Dr. Eric Zillmer, Drexel’s athletic director and the Carl R. Pacifico Professor of Neuropsychology, talked about why Armstrong—whose perseverance through cancer to athletic excellence has made him a hero to many—could ultimately be erased from the history books.

**Did the USADA have the authority to strip Armstrong of his titles?**

Yes. The landscape of doping enforcement in sports is still developing. But most international athletic associations are deferring to the athletes’ host nation to manage their doping eligibility. In turn, international sports organizations such as the Tour de France or the Olympic Games adopt—de facto—the verdict of those national agencies. It expedites and streamlines the complexities involved in athletes competing in numerous international athletic events.

*continued on next page*



territory for punishing the institution here. I would argue that they had a few mechanisms to do it [correctly], with institutional censure being one of them, but they erred when they even entertained the idea that providing extra benefits to players [like what happened at SMU] was at all similar to what happened at Penn State. And I think the other area of vulnerability for the NCAA is the fact that they used the Freeh Report, which indicates that there were not sufficient athletic compliance mechanisms in place at Penn State. Well, if that's the case, then that's an indictment of the NCAA, because in 1998 and again in 2008 the NCAA did review the Penn State program in accordance with the certification review process, [and Penn State passed]. So, for the NCAA to turn around and say that part of this issue was a lack of institutional control, well, it was the responsibility of the of the NCAA to ensure that all reporting mechanisms were healthy and strong. To lay all of the blame on Penn State exempts them from admitting that their own processes failed.

**SOME HAVE CALLED EMMERT HYPOCRITICAL FOR HIS WORDS AND ACTIONS RELATED TO PENN STATE—PARTICULARLY HIS ASSERTION THAT PENN STATE FAILED TO ACHIEVE A PROPER BALANCE BETWEEN ATHLETICS AND ACADEMICS. IS THAT FAIR?** Yes, because instead of making discerning judgments in a way that is consistent with educational practice, the NCAA has just continued to move ahead, with, for instance, these huge television contracts. On top of it all, they can't afford anymore not to. They've grown these huge athletics infrastructures, so they can't afford anymore not to pursue those big dollars. Otherwise you'll just have these huge cavernous empty stadiums. Which is a glaring testament to the fact that they didn't handle this right—they really have created a royal mess for themselves.

**WHAT IS THE BIG LESSON YOU HOPE COLLEGE ATHLETICS TAKES AWAY FROM THIS SCANDAL?** What everyone at every institution needs to be thinking about is, "It can happen here." Now, the longer I live, the less I like being right about that. I'm not rooting for it to happen. But at this point, you can almost set your watch to it. I remember speaking with the former president of a Division I University about how difficult it was to maintain "true North" when trying to compete in the stratosphere of big time basketball. He spoke a lot about the pressures of what that stratosphere did, and he's one of the few who speak about these things so candidly. But if you can't acknowledge that those pressures exist, it becomes more difficult to figure out how to handle them.

**Why was the organization so vehement about pursuing the drug case against Armstrong?**

Lance Armstrong has always polarized people. He has a strong, ultra competitive personality. During his prime he did not defeat his opponents—he crushed them. When he passed his archrivals in bicycle races such as in the mountain stages of the Tour he would set them up and then stare them down. It was incredible drama. To the furor of the French, Lance was "made in the USA." The bottom line is, you either love him or you hate him.

GARY MILLER/GETTY IMAGES



**If the claims against Armstrong are false, what reasons would he have to give up fighting the USADA?**

The doping claims against Armstrong are probably true. While Lance may have beat the system at the time, additional and subsequent tests have found his samples to be positive. A number of his teammates have been found guilty of doping, [and] his former physician and team chef have all been implicated in a doping conspiracy and other racers have testified against him. The evidence is mounting, and it may be a better public relations move by Armstrong to let the court of public opinion decide if he is guilty. His most recent decision not to fight the charges is symbolic of one of his famous racing "moves"—to let someone else win an individual race on purpose, only to later win the entire event.

**What effect could this scenario have on Armstrong's legacy?**

[The effect could be] mixed. One has to remember that Armstrong probably competed against his opponents that were all doped. In addition, race organizers are just as guilty as the riders. To the delight of the public, race organizers have made the Tour increasingly more difficult and inhuman, to the point that the competitors must have felt that they needed an illegal boost to be able [to] stay in the race. However, at the basis of every sporting event is "democracy," the idea of a level playing field. If Armstrong cheated, he violated this most basic principle of an athletic contest.

This most recent development leaves me divided, because the history books will have erased his magnificent run of seven Tour titles. I personally feel that Armstrong's titles should not be forfeited. Otherwise, modern science can rewrite the history books of athletics retroactively. The beauty of sports is that it creates moments that can last a lifetime. If those moments get drawn out because of the controversy about an athlete's performance, all of sports will ultimately lose.



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DRAGON QUOTES

“I literally watched the Congresspeople’s eyes glaze over, and I thought, ‘Well this isn’t doing it.’”

—Drexel professor **MARIANNA CHILTON**, recalling her experience testifying before Congress in 2007 in defense of food stamps. Her frustrations eventually led her to create the hugely successful Witnesses to Hunger program.

“This shows that Drexel and the game design program have produced some of the best game design and development students in the world. They have certainly earned all of the accolades they have coming to them.”

—Drexel Engineering professor **FRANK LEE**, after a team of Drexel computer science graduates under his guidance claimed the world championship in the 2012 Microsoft Imagine Cup game design competition.

“It was the most incredible experience of my life.”

—Drexel Engineering alumnus **KELLY COLLETT**, after watching NASA launch a “piezoelectric cantilevers experiment” designed by her and her classmates into space from the Wallops Island Flight Facility in Virginia in late June.

“I kind of naively started working on this problem, not knowing that if I had done it 10 years earlier, it wouldn’t have been possible to really make it.”

—Drexel mathematics professor **R. ANDREW HICKS** on the new driver’s side mirror he developed—one that eliminates the blind spot.

“I tried it out of boredom. If that hadn’t worked out, I probably would have tried something else.”

—Drexel alumnus and Olympic rower **STEVE KASPRZYK ‘05**, on how he got into the sport.

“As the University and its College of Medicine continue to grow in both quality and impact, I have complete confidence that he will be the ideal leader to guide the College of Medicine in the years to come.”

—Drexel President **JOHN A. FRY**, upon announcing the appointment of Dr. Daniel V. Schidlow as Dean of the Drexel University College of Medicine

# connecting our global network international <sup>co</sup>/<sub>op</sub>

Kent Troutman, Finance '09  
Co-op with Von Braun and  
Schreiber in Munich, Germany

Drexel is committed to preparing citizens of the world who are ready for a broad array of global opportunities and challenges. The International Co-op program is at the heart of that commitment. This past year, Drexel students worked in 35 countries, and have shared with us how this experience has changed their lives. Drexel's global network is growing every day and you are an important link. Help build Drexel's International Co-op program by offering co-op employment to one of our highly qualified and globally-minded students, or take the time to mentor students as they embark on this important journey. To learn more about Drexel's International Co-op program and to get involved, visit [www.drexel.edu/internationalcoop](http://www.drexel.edu/internationalcoop) or contact us at [internationalcoop@drexel.edu](mailto:internationalcoop@drexel.edu) or call Kathy Neary, Director of Career Services, at 215-895-2918.



COMMENTARY



# CHANGING LONGITUDES TO CHANGE OUR LIVES

By Larissa Milne (EMBA, '06)



Life wasn't working out like we had planned. I guess it never does. You hit bumps in the road, or a detour that takes you out of your way for a while. Eventually life's road smoothes out, the detour ends and things are normal enough to handle the next bump when it arises. But what do you do when the detour takes you further and further from the main road, and the bumps become the rule rather than the exception? You can ride along aimlessly getting your teeth rattled, or you can grab a bulldozer and create a whole new road.

In August of 2011 that's exactly what we did. My husband Michael and I sold our house in suburban Philadelphia, jettisoned most of our belongings, put our professional careers on the back burner and jumped on a plane to travel the world for a year. We would forge ahead into new territory with an open-ended airline ticket, our new road yet to be mapped.

It was a drastic step to take, but one we finally realized was a necessity for our own health and well-being. Our life had gotten off-track. Circumstances with our adult daughter, whom we adopted from Russia at age 9, had deteriorated. We slowly realized that we needed to move forward with our lives and extract ourselves from an enabling situation that was draining us emotionally, physically and financially. We needed distance: thousands of miles, hundreds of days and totally new worlds would help us to chart new paths.

We had long dreamed of taking a round-the-world trip, and once the realization hit that we needed to make a significant break from our current situation, long-term travel was our first thought. We would circumnavigate the globe, with an open itinerary, collecting experiences and creating a new roadmap for our lives.

So how did we go from a fully furnished house in the suburbs, filled with years of

accumulated objects, to living out of our suitcases? What started out as a grand adventure—"Hey, let's travel around the world for a year"—became practically a full-time job as it morphed into a giant "To Do" list containing more than 100 items: sell the house and cars, find travel health insurance, get many vaccinations for diseases we didn't know still existed, and on and on. The few possessions we hadn't sold or donated were packed into a 10-foot square storage facility. We left for a year, for parts unknown, and all we were taking was what we could each carry in a 22-inch suitcase and shoulder bag.

It would not be a year long vacation—that implied lying on the beach with umbrella drinks. The word that summed our adventure up best was "sabbatical." We weren't part of an academic institution, but we were seeking intellectual growth and a break from our normal routine. Our sabbatical would involve traveling and evaluating what the next phase of our life would become. To chronicle our journey we created a website called "Changes in Longitude" ([changesinlongitude.com](http://changesinlongitude.com)) the name reflecting our circling of the globe as well as the changes we were making in our lives. *The Philadelphia Inquirer* featured our articles in an ongoing travel series.

We left with no set itinerary other than a goal to travel around the world. Renting flats and cottages helped immerse us in neighborhoods off the well-trodden tourist path and live like locals in unfamiliar cultures and places.

One night during the Tet holiday we got lost in our neighborhood in Saigon and ended up at a Buddhist convent, where the nuns graciously invited us to pray with them, demonstrating serenity in that frenetic city. A family in a small village in northern Israel invited us into their home for coffee and dessert. They spoke matter-of-factly about enduring rocket barrages from nearby countries over the years.



Have a story to share with your fellow Drexel alumni? Send us your commentary ideas at [magazine@drexel.edu](mailto:magazine@drexel.edu) or [thyland@drexel.edu](mailto:thyland@drexel.edu).

A cattle rancher in Australian bush country showed us that the joys of the wide-open spaces overcame the hardships of ranching, as an evening roundup in his battered truck turned into an impromptu kangaroo viewing safari. Speaking with local families out for a picnic in North Korea showed us that while the country's government is repressive and cold, its citizens are friendly. Spending the night in a Bedouin camp in Jordan gave us an appreciation for a nomadic lifestyle. As we continued to see the world from different viewpoints, we learned more about ourselves.

Along the way we adapted to a simpler life. As the world became our home, our need for personal space shrunk. Comfortable with fewer belongings, we wondered why we kept all that stuff in storage back home.

The growing readership we've gained from our blog, as well as the series we've written for the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, confirms that the concept of a career break is intriguing. The tagline for our website is "Just Go Already!" We hope to inspire others who want to shake up their lives. If a middle-aged couple like us can do it, so can you.

After six continents, 25 countries and 100,000 miles, we have gained a new perspective on our prior life and learned to accept things we cannot change. We will not return to our former careers. Instead we will create a new career that builds upon our travel writing and international expertise. The future is not mapped out completely, but that's not as daunting as it once was. We've swapped an abundance of belongings for a wealth of experiences. The trip may have ended, but the journey's just begun.



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▼ WALNUT HILL COMMUNITY FARM

8.15.2012



Tucked away in a once-vacant lot behind SEPTA's 46th Street Station sits one of the hidden treasures of West Philadelphia—the Walnut Hill Community Farm. The garden is one of the true success stories of Philadelphia's nascent urban garden movement, and recently, it received a big boost from students from Drexel's College of Engineering. As part of a class project, the Drexel students helped create an innovative new irrigation system that will allow the garden to continue to bloom for many years to come. As of press time, the students were also working on additional improvements in the garden, including new tilling machines and even a greenhouse that could allow for year-round urban agriculture. *Drexel Magazine* visited the site in late summer—just as the farm's many tomatoes were ripening up—to get a closer look at the students' handiwork.

**1 /// THE SIGN:** The Walnut Hill Community Farm is a joyful, beautiful place—an oasis amid West Philly urbanity. So it's only fitting that such a fun, colorful place boast a fun, colorful sign. The brightly painted shed, located on the southern edge of the garden, serves as a sunny centerpiece to the surrounding greenery.

**2 /// THE STATION:** Looming overhead of the garden is SEPTA's 46th Street Station, one of the original stations built for the Market-Frankford Elevated line way back in 1907. Trains heading east from the station head underground soon after leaving 46th street. So at the very least, the garden gives those passengers something to look at before they are plunged into subway-induced darkness.

**3 /// THE VEGGIES:** When we visited the garden in mid-August, we were duly impressed by what we saw: Most of the beds at the farm were growing lushly, with the tomato and pepper plants doing especially well. Other crops at the time included zucchinis, pole beans and even the famously fussy eggplant.

**4 /// SOLAR-POWERED CISTERNS:** Other gardens boast the services of plain old regular rain cisterns. But Walnut Hill? No, it goes for the next step up—the Mercedes of rain cisterns, if you will. The garden's two massive, solar-powered water collection devices sit on the backside of the SEPTA station and are each capable of holding 2,200 gallons of water.

**5 /// IT'S ALL CONNECTED:** The cisterns are nifty and all. And of course, the fact that they can hold a combined 4,400 gallons of water means that the tomatoes and peppers and zucchinis of the garden need not worry about even an extended Philly summer drought. But all that water would be useless if it were not for a reliable irrigation system—and that's exactly what the Drexel students supplied this past summer. The student team drew up a plan for, and then built, a low-pressure irrigation system that will carry water from the cisterns to every corner of the quarter-acre garden.

**6 /// LOW-PRESSURE, LOW-COST:** The students' design isn't just effective. It's also efficient—the system uses a great deal less water than the previous hose-based system, and was constructed at a cost of just \$100.

**7 /// THE RAISED BEDS:** The constantly evolving Walnut Hill Farm got a big boost this year when six "raised beds" were installed to help gardeners increase their yield. The beds are easier to work and help plants grow stronger, more expansive roots, but also are more difficult to till, as they are raised roughly six inches off the ground. Another team of Drexel students set out to solve that issue, designing a machine that could be installed on each bed and used to till up soil more easily. The machines were set to be installed in late summer.

# Just a 'Good Start?'

**D**rexel goalkeeper Eve Badana racked up many impressive accomplishments during her freshman year, including a stingy 0.82 goals against average, ranking her third in the Colonial Athletic Association, and back-to-back shutouts against James Madison and VCU.

The political science major from Markham, Ontario, also was a 2011 CAA Commissioner's Academic Award winner, so we know she's pretty bright.

Yet when asked how she assesses her by-all-accounts sterling rookie season, she seems to confuse personal goals with team ones.

"Looking back on it, it was a good start," the sophomore says. "I'm still disappointed because I didn't meet my personal goals. I wanted to be a part of a team for the first time in Drexel history to make it to the CAA playoffs. I decided this year I'm going to work that much harder to achieve it."

Actually, Badana didn't misspeak—she's just that unselfish a player. It was the all-for-one, one-for-all aspect of the sport that first drew her in at age 8, when basketball and volleyball also consumed her time.

"It's such a universal game," she says of soccer. "There are so many elements to it. I love the team atmosphere. I don't think I'd do so well in an individual sport."

Badana played all over the field for her club team until its regular goalie got hurt. In a pure Wally Pipp moment (he's the New York Yankees' first baseman whose injury cleared the way for iron man Lou Gehrig), she took over on an emergency basis.

"I remember being in practice and just stopping shots," she says. "I remember thinking, 'how am I doing this?' I had never done it before. I stepped up, and I kind of never left."

Growing up in her small town about 45 minutes north of Toronto, Badana never played high school soccer. But she was a standout on an academy team that competed frequently in the U.S., and it was at an event in New York that Drexel Coach Ray Goon first saw her.

"You could tell she had a real passion for the sport," he says. "Goalkeepers sometimes are the odd man out when they're growing up. They're kind of stuck in that position. She didn't

display that. She took on a real passion for her position, and you could tell she had zest in her play."

When she arrived in Philadelphia in the summer of 2011, Badana was one of two goalkeepers on the roster. They split time during nonconference games, but when the CAA season rolled around, Badana entered the goal box and never left.

It was her command of that 18-yard box that won her the job and admirers throughout the league. Prior to this year, she was named to the CAA Preseason All-Conference Team.

"The thing that surprised me was how quickly she adapted to the college game," Goon says. "Being a freshman with some seniors back there I'm sure it was a little bit unnerving for her, but she stepped to the challenge very well. She gained the players'

respect very quickly, and I think once you have the respect it's easy to lead."

As surnames go, Badana sounds about as Irish as Beckham. But Badana's mother, Catherine Morgan (now that's more like it) grew up in Ireland, making her daughter eligible to play for the republic's national team. At a tryout in Boston, Badana got noticed.

She's played in two international games, both 1-0 losses, one to Switzerland and the other to Hungary. But earning two international caps and competing against the best players in Europe has been a thrill, she says, and a learning experience that only will make her a better keeper.

"It was a huge honor being there and being able to represent a country I love," she says. "It was interesting to play with veterans, women who have been on the team for a decade. They've given so many years to their sport and their country. I just thought it was amazing to be on the same pitch as them."

The team asked her back for two more games this fall, but she declined. Getting Drexel to the CAA tournament, a dream that ended last year when Delaware played the Dragons to a 1-1 draw in the final game of the season, is her sole goal now.

"We definitely have to keep up what we've done last year and of course improve on that foundation," she says. "I think it comes down to being on the same page, to staying united as a team and being able to tackle every battle together."

**Drexel goalkeeper (and Irish international) Eve Badana enjoyed a stellar freshman season. But she says she knows she, and her team, are capable of doing even better.**

BY MIKE UNGER



**“I remember being in practice and just stopping shots. I remember thinking, ‘How am I doing this?’ I had never done it before. I stepped up, and I kind of never left.”**

LAST SEASON:

# 19-14



After picking up Drexel's first-ever postseason win last season, Hollie Mershon and the Dragons are aiming even higher in the year to come.

**NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS:** Defeating Fairfield in the first round of the WNIT for the program's first-ever postseason win. Making it to the CAA championship game for only the second time in team history.

**2011-12 IN REVIEW:** "We started off slow," Coach Denise Dillon says. "As coaches, we can't forget about that as much as we want the players to. We were pleased with the finish of getting to the championship game and then post-season play. Obviously the ultimate [goal] is to get to the NCAA tournament. Losing some of those nonconference games, that's what sent us from the NCAA tournament to the NIT.

But then we won a game [in the NIT], so overall, definitely, I think it was a successful year. But we want to iron out some of those bumps along the way this upcoming season. The out-of-conference games are what help when the committee's getting together and they're looking at your overall RPI and strength of schedule. We were very strong in both those categories, but our overall record did not match what they were looking for. So we're really focusing in on the out-of-conference schedule and doing our best to win a lot of games on the road, and then having a strong year in conference.

**THE TEAM WILL REALLY MISS:** Seniors Tyler Hale, Kamile Nacickaite, Marisa Crane and Ayana Lee.

"Tyler will probably be the toughest player to replace," Dillon says. "On and off the court she was a consistent, solid athlete and student and person. I always said the way Tyler Hale went is the way we went as a team. Those will be big shoes to fill.

"When you look at what Kamile did as a player, she was our leading scorer the last couple years. We have to count on the team collectively coming together to make up the points she put up on the board. Marisa, before her injury, was just so solid and such a threat out there. Ayana was consistent as a sixth man off the bench. They did some great things in the years they were with us."

**TOP OFFENSIVE THREATS:** Hollie Mershon.

"She has proven each year how she develops a different part of her game. She came in as a solid shooter, but she's really developed a game off the dribble, rebounding and putting the ball back in the basket, and handling the ball. She is really that player whose all-around ability is something we're going to look for to take that leading role.

"We need Taylor Wootton to take more shots. She shoots the ball so consistently [mid 50 percent from the field] so we tell her she needs to take more shots."



**DEFENSIVE STOPPERS:** Taylor Wootten.

"She's our best defender. She's capable of guarding guards, but as a post player she does a real nice job. We always put Taylor on the best offensive player on the other team. She doesn't look to score as much because that's her No. 1 focus, and you don't want that to change.

"Renee Johnson-Allen is another senior for us in the guard position. She can lock down a quick guard on the other team."

**IMPACT NEWCOMERS:** Meg Creighton, Rachel Pearson, Carrie Alexander and Pandora Wilson.

"I'm really excited about this freshman class we have. I think the four freshmen coming in have potential to step on the floor early in their careers at Drexel, and that's exciting for everyone. Meg Creighton is a point guard, which is a position we need to fill. Rachel Pearson is a strong shooter. Carrie Alexander is a combo guard and can do a little bit of everything. And then Pandora Wilson in the post is another one who can get out there and play."

**TOP CAA COMPETITION:** Delaware and James Madison.

"Delaware will certainly be top not only in the CAA but in the nation. They're returning Elena Delle Donne. They'll be a unanimous pick to repeat as champions. James Madison will be another team that will find themselves at the top of the conference. It's going to be interesting after that, but those two certainly, with the players they have returning and what they did last year, will be the top picks."

No one's won more Division I women's basketball games at Drexel than Denise Dillon.

"It's a great accomplishment, I'm extremely proud of it, but I'm most proud of the opportunity to be here for enough years to accomplish such a milestone. I've had support from the top, and I've received so much support from our athletic director, Dr. Eric Zillmer.

"We wouldn't be talking about it if they didn't have the confidence in me and I didn't have a tremendous staff and some great, great young women who played for the program. It's something that's next to my name, but it's a milestone that so many were a part of."

**WHY YOU SHOULD CHEER FOR THIS TEAM:** "The 100 percent effort that our players put forth on both ends of the floor. There are many times that we might be out-matched size-wise defensively, but we make up for it by the pure effort that the girls put forth on the court. Offensively we play such a team system, a style that's enjoyable to watch. The ball's constantly moving, the players are moving on the floor and working together. It's team basketball."

**By NEARLY ANY FAIR MEASURE**, last season was a monumentally successful one for the Drexel men's basketball program. The team won a school-record 29 games, and won two postseason games for the first time ever.

But the world of big-time college basketball isn't always fair. The Dragons also will be remembered for falling three points short in the Colonial Athletic Association tournament championship game. And those postseason wins came in the NIT, not the NCAA tournament, which Drexel didn't make.

The 2012-13 team returns all but one player, and those veterans will have one thing on their mind: unfinished business.

We spoke with Coach James "Bruiser" Flint, who signed a multiyear contract extension in March, about the upcoming season.

He's bullish on this year's team, and as you'll find out, he thinks Daryl McCoy is the best defensive big man in the league.

**You accomplished so much last season, but unfortunately I think one thing the fans will remember most is not getting that NCAA invite. What was it like for you on Selection Sunday when the last team was called and you realized that you weren't going?** It was disappointing,

but I knew we had a chance of not going. There was too much being said about it. I had been through it before in 2007, same thing. I actually told the team after we lost the championship game, 'Look guys, we're going to be playing next week, no matter what tournament we're in, NCAA or NIT, let's just be prepared to win games.'

Did I think we were good enough to be in the NCAA Tournament? No question. But it just didn't work out for us that way.

**How do you go about replacing not only Samme Givens' scoring and rebounding, but also his leadership?** You hope that what a good leader does is he hands it down to the guys who come behind him, so the seniors who become leaders next season understand what they need to do. Those are things true leaders do. I think Samme did a good job of that.

**That being said, who are going to be your leaders this year on the court?** I've got three good seniors. Derrick [Thomas], Daryl [McCoy], and Chris [Fouch] have been there for a long time, played a lot. Those guys have been really really good players in the program. I think they understand the responsibility of being a senior, they've seen some good ones over the last couple of years. I think they've learned some good lessons. I know they're excited about playing; this is their senior year. They know that they can do special things again.

**What about offensively? Who are going to be your scorers this year?** We return pretty much all the guys who scored the points for us. We did lose Samme, and I look at Dartaye [Ruffin] as the guy who will probably take up that slack. We still got Chris [Fouch] and Frantz [Massenat] and even Damion [Lee], who improved his scoring last year.

**Who are a couple of players whose contributions are really felt on the defensive end?** I think Daryl [McCoy] is actually the best big defensive guy in the league. We never get any credit in the conference, we never put anybody on the all-defensive team, but I think Daryl is the best defensive big man in the league by far. He doesn't block a lot of shots, put that type of statistic up there. Most people attribute steals and blocked shots to playing defense, which I really don't. I think he's the best defensive big man in the league.

**Who are some newcomers who fans can expect to see some contributions from this year?** Kazembe [Abif] got sick at the end of the year, but he was playing well for us before that. We're looking for him to make a recovery. Our two redshirts, Tavon Allen and Casey Carroll, they're gonna play big for us. We need a backup point guard and we're gonna need some contributions from those guys. They're gonna have to play some good minutes for us.

**Who do you see as the top teams in the conference this year?** George Mason will be good again. Delaware, they return everybody. Northeastern returns three or four starters, James Madison I think returns four starters. Although they're not eligible for the play-offs, Old Dominion is going to be a good-looking team. A lot of the teams that actually are eligible for the



## from the **DAC**

[2012/2013 BASKETBALL PREVIEW]

playoffs are going to be the better teams returning anyway.

**How does the fact that only seven teams will compete in the conference tournament change the dynamic in the league?** I don't even know myself. We'll find out. If you come in first place, I think you get a bye to the semifinals, so we'll just go from there. The tournament's going to be a day short, so instead of having to win three or four games, you gotta win two or three. Everybody knows it's gonna be tough, you just gotta be ready.

**Do you think your team earned some new fans last year? Could you feel the buzz on campus and around the city?** I actually think the buzz started the year before. We went to Louisville, won the game, we beat some teams in the city, so I think people were looking to see whether we could come back and do it again. And we sure did.

**You had such a great year last year, but you did fall short in the conference tournament and didn't make the NCAAs. Do you look at the season as not being successful unless you perform in the postseason? How do you analyze that heading into the year?**

Drexel's not one of those schools that goes to the NCAA Tournament every year. We're not North Carolina. I think it's unfair to the kids—when you win 29 games, it's unfair to tell them that if you don't go to the NCAA Tournament that you failed. We were able to go and win the most games ever in postseason in the history of the school. We know we had a good year. Was it disappointing that we didn't make it to the tournament? Yes. I think a little bit in our guys' minds it's sort of like unfinished business. One of the best things about this season is the last time we were in this situation all the guys were seniors. In '07 we pretty much lost our entire team. We've got a lot of guys back, so we've got an opportunity to go back and finish some things.

**What aspect of your team's play needs to improve to get over that hump?** Honestly, we lost a lot of games to teams that pressed us. We only lost seven games, but the five teams that pressed us, we lost to them. We gotta get better handling the ball. I thought last year we got off to a slow start because we had some injuries, but once we got everyone back we sort of got it going again. It will be interesting, as long as we can stay at full strength and have guys ready to go from the beginning, to see what type of start we get off to.



Ace shooting guard Chris Fouch

Coming to  
Philadelphia  
(and Drexel):

## THE OTHER FINAL FOUR

**In late May, Drexel will play host to one of the most popular—and most heavily attended—events in the NCAA calendar year.**

BY MARIA ZANKEY

**IN** partnership with the Philadelphia Eagles, Drexel will host the 2013 NCAA Men's Lacrosse Championships, the second-most attended event sanctioned by the NCAA.

The three-day event will include the Division I Semifinals and Championship game and the Division II and III title games.

"It's very exciting. Two other cities and schools had put in bids to host, but Drexel was awarded the bid," says Nick Gannon, deputy director of athletics. "The NCAA knows we are a player. This puts us at the forefront of the sport."

The championships, which will consist of eight teams over five games, will be held at Lincoln Financial Field during the event's traditional Memorial Day weekend schedule, May 25-27.

"Anyone who is a lacrosse fanatic for sure is looking to Memorial Day weekend, and [in 2013] that will mean looking to Philadelphia and Drexel," Gannon says.

Organizers are expecting an influx of as many as 40,000 spectators—many of whom will be traveling to Philadelphia from all over the country for the event, Gannon says.

"A bid like this legitimizes what you're doing on and off the field,"

Gannon says. "It gives you a notch up of respect in athletics. There are certain schools who host a ton of events, and you wonder how and why they do it. Drexel

***"The NCAA knows we are a player. This puts us at the forefront of the sport."***

is becoming one of those schools in that conversation, and it can only lead to more."

Gannon says Drexel will handle much of the event's logistics, such as communications, marketing, volunteer coordinating and revenue planning, while the Eagles will manage facilities and game planning.

"It's nice to be in a partnership with a professional organization such as the Eagles that has so much influence," says Gannon, who previously worked as the coordinator of football administration with

the team before joining Drexel in 1998. "The Eagles are very good at organizing these special events, and it's big for us to work alongside them."

"It does put stress on Athletics from an infrastructure perspective because it really is a huge yearlong process," Gannon adds. He says the department began holding monthly planning meetings in September and will continue to have bimonthly meetings in January as the event nears.

"We've carried the wave of how successful the University has been, and we've tried to match that as an individual department [in Athletics]," Gannon says. "Hosting the [Lacrosse Championships], partnering with the Eagles—this is pretty big."



WINSLOW TOWNSON/GETTY IMAGES



The 2013 Men's Lacrosse Championships will be hosted by Drexel and played at Lincoln Financial Field from May 25-27. For more

information about the event, including ticket sales, visit the NCAA men's lacrosse site at [ncaa.com/championships/lacrosse-men/d1](http://ncaa.com/championships/lacrosse-men/d1)

# SELLING *their* FUTURE?



The secretive, little-understood drill monkey has thrived for centuries on the African island of Bioko. But with hunting pressures now pushing the species to the brink, Drexel researchers are fighting back—and working to convince islanders that the monkeys, and the biodiversity they represent, are worth a great deal more than the \$300 they fetch at market.

BY TIM HYLAND

## THREE-HUNDRED DOLLARS.

That's the going rate for a dead drill monkey on the island of Bioko these days.

Three-hundred dollars.

It's a nice chunk of change on Bioko, a stunningly beautiful but deeply isolated and impoverished island located 20 miles off the coast of Cameroon, on the West Coast of Africa, in the nation of Equatorial Guinea. Indeed, \$300 is more than most islanders will make in a month, and a hefty portion of what many will make in a year.

Three-hundred dollars.

For that, a discerning buyer—mostly, the folks who work for the government, the ones who've escaped the forests and work in air-conditioned offices and are perceived to have “made it”—can cook up the local delicacy that is drill monkey, a primate species that has lived on the island for centuries, but suddenly finds itself pushed to the brink, and for just one reason: Hunting.

Three-hundred dollars.

This, it seems, is the price point at which the islanders of Bioko—or, at least, some of them—are willing to sell the future of not only the drill monkey, or the other six monkey species on the island, but the very environmental stability of the island itself—a place that, despite its isolation and despite the political instability that so dominates Equatorial Guinea, holds vast potential, not only as an important venue for scientific research, but also as a future destination in the fast-growing eco-tourism market.



TIM LAMAN/ILCPRAVE



JOEL SALTORE, ILCP RAVE

Three-hundred dollars.

It's a symbolic sum, and a powerful sum, and on Bioko, a pretty large sum. It's also what a small group of Drexel researchers are currently waging war against.

But the clock is ticking, and right now, the money is winning.

#### AN ACCIDENTAL DOCUMENTARIAN

So far as drill-monkey documentarians go, Shaya Honarvar is certainly not the norm.

While it is true that Honarvar has found herself engaged in some pretty serious drill monkey research on Bioko over the past few years, and while it is also true that her work will culminate this fall with the debut of a documentary, set to be aired on African television about the perilous state of the Bioko drills, the simple truth of the matter is that Honarvar, a Drexel research associate in biology, is not an expert in drill monkeys at all. Or even monkeys in general. Rather, Honarvar is a sea-turtle specialist.

It was her work studying the similarly imperiled olive ridley sea turtles of the Pacific—like the monkeys, the turtles are being threatened by human pressures, rather than environmental ones—that sent her to the island in the first place. She made her first trip to Bioko in 2007, when she was still a student at Drexel, and has returned every year since.

But it wasn't until 2010 that she even thought about the monkeys that now occupy so much of her time. And the only reason she got interested in them, it seems, was boredom.

"The turtle work is mostly done during the night, and during the day we didn't have a lot to do," explains Honarvar, who

earned her Ph.D. from Drexel and previously studied the olive ridley sea turtles of Central America. "You're there out in the forest, there is nothing else to do, so you're always looking for other things to distract you. That's basically how it started."

Though they had spent the entirety of their early years on the island focused on the leatherbacks, Honarvar and her team—including volunteer Justin Jay, a biologist with the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources who was the first to propose the drill project—had always been aware of the monkeys. It would have been nearly impossible not to be aware of them.

The monkeys are indeed extremely private (as the filmmakers would later find out) but because they are so densely populated on Bioko—populations here are three times what can be found elsewhere in the world—the researchers saw them often. But while the monkeys were seen, they most certainly weren't understood. By anybody.

What did the drills actually do out there in the forest?

How did they live?

What did they eat?

Just how badly had the hunting pressure damaged the populations as a whole?

These were questions to which nobody seemed to know the answers.

"When we started out, it was really just us basically walking around the forest trying to find these animals," Honarvar says. "I had seen them, but only when they were running away from us. It was almost a case of us just being curious about them. How close could we get to these animals? It started out as a game and then just became more serious."

And as the work became more serious, so, too, did Honarvar and Jay's investment in it. They started to see the little side-project as much more than that; rather than something to pass the time, they saw the

opportunity to make a real contribution—scientifically, and culturally—not only to the drills, but to the island as well. They also learned fairly quickly that the drills weren't going to make the work easy.

Indeed, even as the team found that shockingly little research had actually been done on the drills, they were also learning precisely why the dearth of research existed. The monkeys, skittish around humans because of the unrelenting hunting pressures, were not easy to get near. In fact, Honarvar and her team found it nearly impossible.

"The goal was to have pictures and videos of them, because we know that nobody had done that with drills in the wild," she says. "So we started taking our camera with us. But we realized we were never going to be able to take pictures. They hear the [click] of the camera and they're gone."

In a sense, the monkeys' fear of humans proved to be a blessing, as the problems with the click cameras ultimately drove Honarvar to video—and by extension, to the documentary. The video cameras were comparatively much quieter than the still cameras, and so long as the researchers sufficiently hid themselves—which they eventually did, thanks to a series of elaborately designed blinds that they set up all throughout the forest—they found they could, in fact, get close enough to the monkeys to get the footage they needed.

With it, they would be able to start collecting data that scientists had been seeking for years.

Unwittingly, they also took their first steps toward producing a film that could change the way the islanders look at the monkeys—and the island as a whole.

### A FOCUS ON BIODIVERSITY

Gail Hearn says she wasn't all that interested in drill monkeys at the start.

Long before Hearn ever set foot on Bioko, long before she established the Bioko Biodiversity Protection Program (BBPP) and long before she moved the entire BBPP project over to Drexel in 2007, she was a professor of biology at nearby Arcadia University.

As part of her work at Arcadia, Hearn and her students became aware of an ambitious project to establish a drill colony at the Philadelphia Zoo. It was an effort that proved to be unsuccessful—and Hearn's students wanted to find out why. Somewhat reluctantly, she agreed to help find out.

"Gradually it was decided that we would go over to look for drills in Africa—to try get a feel for how they lived and why the program at the zoo wasn't working," Hearn recalls. "We went to Cameroon in West Africa, and we saw leaves that had been moved by the drills, but never saw the drills themselves. That wasn't very satisfying. But then we heard in 1990 that there was an excellent [research site] on an island that had been isolated from the rest of the world. We ended up going to Bioko in 1990, and we found plenty of drills, but the thing I fell in love with, really, was the island. I just thought it was a spectacular place."

And by all accounts, that's exactly what it is: An island covered in a rain forest of stunning beauty—lush and green thanks to the 35 feet of rain that falls

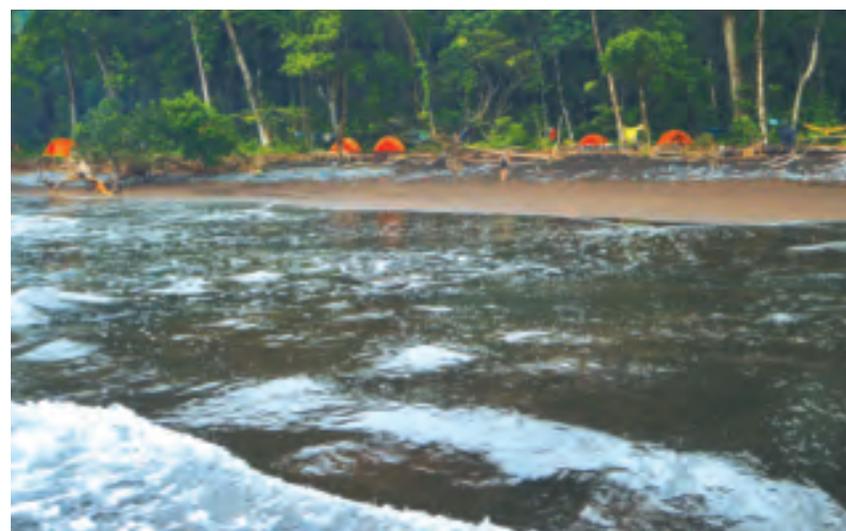
each year—accented by soaring cliffs, cascading waterfalls and, of course, incredibly diverse wildlife. It is home to one of the greatest concentrations of primates (the drills included) in all of Africa, a dizzying array of butterflies and nearly 200 species of birds. To the north, there is the Pico Basile National Park, and north of that, the island's one commercial center—the capital city of Malabo, home to 100,000 residents, many of whom who work in the oil business. It is not a completely pristine place, but it's certainly a unique place—and to Hearn's mind, one worth saving.

"It wasn't so much about the drill monkeys," she says. "It was about the biodiversity. Could we save the spectacular ecosys-

tems of this island? I never had any illusions about being Jane Goodall. I was married. I had kids. I never really wanted to live out in the rainforest in a tent for weeks and weeks at a time. But I did feel this was a place where I could make a difference."

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Through the BBPP, that's precisely



"The single biggest pressure on the drills is hunting. When they take the guns away, the hunting goes down. We have data showing this. [But] when they stop enforcing the laws, [deaths] go back up."

what she's set out to do. First launched in 1997, the program has grown into an academic partnership between Drexel and the Universidad Nacional de Guinea Ecuatorial, with the stated aim of helping conserve the island's remarkable biodiversity. The drills, it seems, stand at the center of the effort. According to BBPP officials, the "dramatic loss" of population among the island's seven monkey species represents the most immediate threat to the island's long-term environmental health. Though it's been difficult to get an exact estimate of just how many drills, for instance, live on the island, both Honarvar and Hearn say their team has been able to compile enough data to conclude that hunting pressures have done serious and perhaps lasting damage. More than that, they say that if the hunting is allowed to continue, the drills could very well be pushed to the brink.

The most depressing thing about that, they say, is this: The carnage could be stopped tomorrow.

That is, if the government actually wanted it to stop.

"It's so easy," Honarvar says. "You just take the guns away."

#### CHANGING A CULTURE

The hunting of monkeys is illegal on Bioko. And in years past, when the government has decided, for whatever reason, to actually enforce the anti-hunting laws, the impact has been both plainly apparent and immediate.

Putting it bluntly, Honarvar says, when the hunting is banned, dead monkeys stop showing up at the markets.

"The single biggest pressure on the drills is hunting," Honarvar says. "When they take the guns away, the hunting goes down. We have data showing this. In 2007, the president came out with a decree banning the hunting of monkeys, and we went out to count dead monkeys in the markets. Very quickly, that number went down to zero—and then, when they stop enforcing the law, it goes back up. Later, the minister of the interior started talking to people in the markets, telling them that they were no longer allowed to sell monkeys. Again, the number of dead monkeys went down to zero. But within a couple of months, it shot back up again."

"I think the population is on the cusp, yes," Hearn adds. "We're trying to do what we can, but the reality is, it's very easy to save the monkeys. The government merely has to enforce its own laws. They could do it in a day if they wanted to."

Of course, that's much easier said than done. And cultural differences—differences between the way Hearn and Honarvar see the rainforest, and how Bioko islanders see the rainforest—are the biggest reason why.

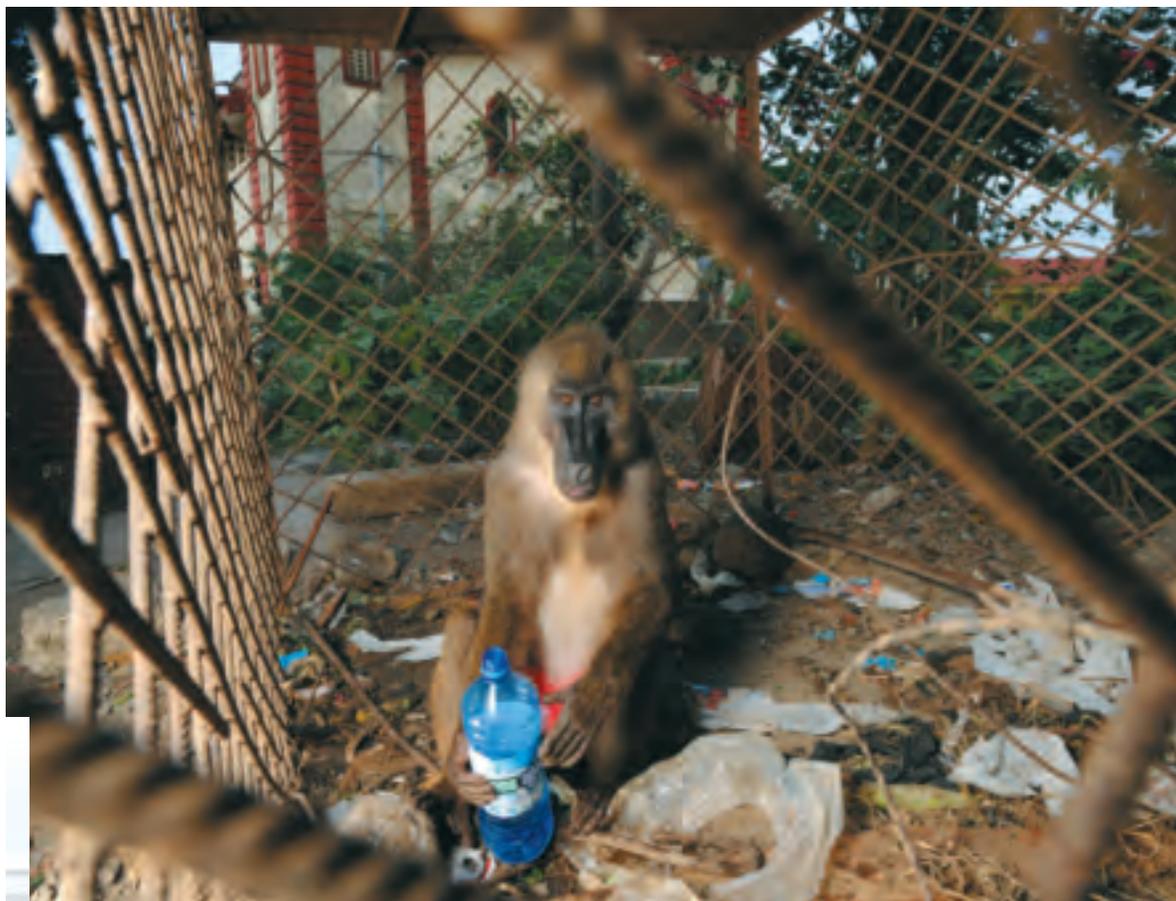
To the Drexel researchers, Bioko is a treasure—a gift to the world of science, a refuge for untold number of species, and one of the last remaining bastions of unspoiled rain forest in the world. But to the islanders? Well, to most of them, it's just home. And the rainforest, while romantic and rare to many outsiders, is to them mostly an annoyance—a place they mostly

want to get away from, not return to, and certainly not a place they believe needs to be "saved."

"Making it" in Bioko, Hearn says, means landing a cushy job in an air-conditioned office, working behind a computer and making enough money to live well in Malabo. "Making it" most certainly does not mean doing research in the rain forest. It's this gulf of perspectives that has made selling residents on "saving" the island so difficult. By extension, it's made their efforts to convince government officials to enforce hunting laws nearly impossible.

"In many cases it's the people in the government who are eating the monkeys, and who profit from the hunting of the monkeys," Hearn says. "Now, there are forces of good in the government who realize that [preservation] is important for the long-term pride of the people in that country. They know that the opportunity is there for ecotourism, but while the monkeys are present in incredible density on the island, when you walk through the forest, you don't see the money. If the people decide that it's important to save them, though, then the government is forced to act; the forces of good would use that groundswell of





## “This is not our film. This is their film. It’s about their country, and it’s about their wildlife.”

support to say, ‘Yes, we can enforce these laws,’ and the forces of bad would say, ‘Yes, I guess we have to.’”

In a sense, this is where the film comes in. It is one of the biggest weapons the Drexel team has in its public relations war to win over the islanders.

Set to air in mid-November on Equatorial Guinea TV, the film simply deals with facts and reality. It presents the drills as Honarvar and her team saw them in the wild—which, notably, is not how most islanders have seen them.

For so many islanders, Honarvar says, the monkeys are only seen as they are presented in the market—as a commodity. In the wild, however, they can be seen for what they are: Highly social, deeply family-oriented animals who live much like we do. At market, they are presented as commodity; in the wild, they are mothers and fathers and babies.

“The local people have never seen the drills like this,” Honarvar says. “They only see them when they’re dead, in the market. I want to show them as a social group, to show people that they are just like us. They really are very close to humans. They interact with each other, they start out as little babies and they grow up.”

It is Honarvar’s hope that being able to see what she has seen will convince locals that the monkeys shouldn’t be eaten, and the hunters

Drexel researchers say that unless Bioko residents buy into the idea that the drill monkeys have real value, the population could be pushed to the brink of collapse.

that the monkeys shouldn’t be shot. And make no mistake, she says, at the moment, the hunters show no mercy in pursuit of their \$300: Babies are just as likely to be sold as adults.

“The hunters will kill whatever they can,” she says. “They’ll kill a mother with infants. They’ll eat the mother and sell the baby.”

In other words, yes, there is much work to be done—and a huge gap to be closed. Neither Hearn nor Honarvar believe that winning over the islanders, or saving the forest, will be easy. It may take years and, ultimately, it may never happen at all. But they say the effort—the film, the research, the students working at the site via study abroad, the engagement with locals, the BBPP project—is more than worth it.

“Something like this film is just part of the process,” Hearn says. “As you have people seeing more and more things—posters, brochures, town meetings—that tell them they shouldn’t be eating the wildlife, or that in the long run they need to keep the animals in the forest because it might be the [economic] answer when the oil runs out, it helps. And really, there’s no quicker way to get the message than to put a film on national television.”

If and when the islanders do tune in, Honarvar says, the message they get will be fairly simple. There will be talk about the importance of biodiversity and talk about the promise of ecotourism, there will be talk about the monkey’s familial habits and talk of their importance to the overall health of the forest.

But at its core, the argument from the filmmakers, and from BBPP, is much more blunt.

That message is this: The clock is ticking. To save the monkeys. And, in a sense, to save the island, too.

Says Honarvar: “This is not our film. This is their film. It’s about their country, and it’s about their wildlife.” **DJ**

# UNIVERSITY'S ON THE





*By Tim Hyland*

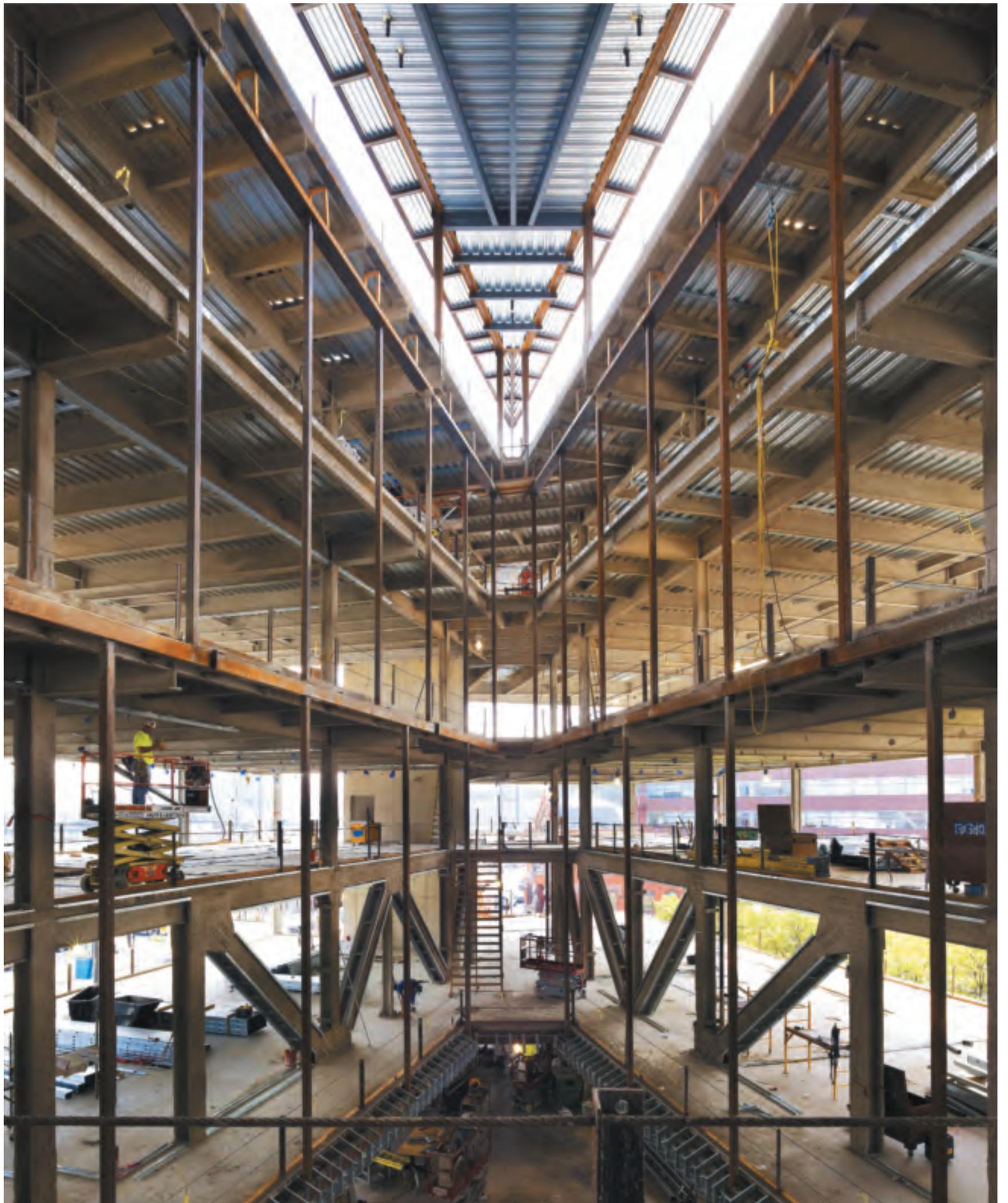
**T**hey pretty much dominate the Drexel skyline these days: The two giant cranes, located just a block apart, that have been hoisting steel almost non-stop over the past year, as work crews go about the work of completing two more massive building projects that will change the way Drexel looks and works.

At the corner of 32nd and Market, the large and elegant new home of the LeBow College of Business now rises 12 stories into the sky—making the building, even in its unfinished state, the tallest on Drexel's campus. Designed by renowned architect Robert A. Stern in conjunction with Voith & Mactavish Architects of Philadelphia, the building is set to open in just more than a year.

Meanwhile, over on Chestnut Street, the Chestnut Square development is racing toward completion as well. The project, a partnership between Drexel and private developer American Campus Communities, represents a major step forward in Drexel's efforts to revitalize its Chestnut Street corridor, as it will provide not only beautiful living spaces for students, but crucial new street-level retailers as well.

As construction at both sites soared ever upward this fall, *Drexel Magazine* sent two photographers—Barry Halkin and Tommy Leonardi—up into the heart of these structures to get an up-close view of these two momentous projects, which in tandem will bring new life and dynamism to the eastern edge of campus.

Their images, I think you will agree, are both striking and beautiful; we can only imagine how the buildings will look this time next year, when they're finally open to the public.



[PICTURED AT LEFT] Forming the center of the new LeBow building will be a soaring five-story-high atrium that will be ringed by classrooms, student lounges, events spaces and offices.

[PICTURED AT RIGHT] The glass exterior of the new LeBow College of Business building reflects an emerging design trend in the next generation of Drexel buildings—sleek, modern and beautiful. The glass will also open the building up to the street, allowing passersby to see the happenings inside.

[PICTURED BELOW] The Chestnut Square development lining Chestnut Street between 32nd and 33rd streets will include a 19-story residential tower at the corner of Chestnut and 32nd streets, bringing new life to one of Drexel's most important thoroughfares.





[PICTURED ABOVE] The new LeBow College of Business building towers over Market Street at 32nd Street, just minutes away from the skyscrapers composing the Center City skyline. The lands between LeBow and 30th Street Station, seen in the foreground here, are being targeted by Drexel as the base for the planned “Innovation Neighborhood”—a thriving nexus for innovation, technology and economic development.

[PICTURED AT LEFT] The 177,500-square-foot LeBow building, which is poised to transform business education at Drexel and the region, was designed by the New York firm Robert A.M. Stern Architects LLP and Philadelphia firm Voith & Mactavish Architects.



 For more info about Drexel’s plans for University City, visit [drexel.edu/strategicplan](https://drexel.edu/strategicplan) and click on “Campus Master Plan.”



## WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU...

As we all know, Drexel alumni are a dynamic, entrepreneurial, energetic and innovative bunch. They are hard-working. They are focused. They make a difference.

In the next issue of *Drexel Magazine*, we'll take a look at some of the most prominent and promising alumni working in the world today.

This winter, we will unveil our “Drexel 40 Under 40” edition—a first-of-its-kind issue that will feature profiles of 40 young alumni who are making a name for themselves and making a real impact in their industries and communities.

We have a few people in mind already (of course, finding accomplished young Drexel alums is not exactly a difficult task) but we also want you, our readers, to share your nominees for this exciting issue as well.

### FINAL CALL FOR NOMINATIONS!

- Must be 40 years or younger as of November 1, 2012.
- May be self-nominated or nominated by another person.
- Should have achieved demonstrated success in business, the public sector, the nonprofit sector, community involvement or advocacy.

Nominations should be sent to [magazine@drexel.edu](mailto:magazine@drexel.edu) or to the following mailing address by **November 30**:

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# 40 UNDER FORTY

# Researcher Educator Policymaker Leader

## [Teacher]

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M.S. in Higher Education  
Class of 2010



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# A BOLD VISION

After two years as Drexel's President, John Fry reflects on what the University has accomplished so far during his tenure—and what more can be accomplished in the years and decades to come.

BY TIM HYLAND

What John Fry remembers most about his first few days on the job at Drexel was how incredibly normal it all felt.

Even though he had arrived at Drexel after eight years working at a much different institution—Lancaster-based Franklin & Marshall, a liberal arts institution located in a sleepy college town—Fry says he settled in to his new job with ease. Which was a good thing, indeed, because Fry knew before he even arrived back in August of 2010 that his most important task, at least at the start, was going to be keeping Drexel moving forward—to keep the amazing momentum it gathered under former president Constantine Papadakis rolling.

Suffice to say, Fry has succeeded—and, as a result, Drexel today stands stronger and taller than it ever has before.

Overall student enrollment has surpassed 26,000, the University has climbed to No. 83 in the influential *U.S. News & World Report* college rankings (its highest ranking ever), two major building projects are nearing completion and, last spring, Fry rolled out his new strategic plan—the blueprint that will guide Drexel’s growth and evolution over the next five years.

In early September, just before students arrived back on campus for the Fall quarter, Fry took time out of his busy schedule to chat with *Drexel Magazine* about his early days on the job, his proudest moments so far, and his exciting vision for the University going forward.



## Q & A

**You’ve been at Drexel for just over two years now. Can you give me a sense of how you feel these first 24 months have gone?**

I think the University has done incredibly well over the past two years, in part because we had a very strong base to build from—that’s because of Taki’s leadership and Chuck Pennoni’s as well—and in part because I came in as an experienced college president who didn’t have to spend a lot of time learning the job. I understood the necessity of not only building on the momentum that Taki had created, but actually accelerating the pace of progress and development.

**When you arrived here, what was it that you wanted to get accomplished, both in the short term and the long term?**

My primary goal, and I mentioned this when I sat down with the search committee, was to be a president who could quickly understand where the institution was and make the kinds of decisions that would help it get to where it needed to go. In that regard, I’m proud of how we were able to resolve some of the bigger issues that we faced when I got started. We’re at the point now where we’re basically done with

the URBN Center and we’re within a year of opening the LeBow College building. Those were two projects where there was a lot of uncertainty about timing and financing, but we were committed and we had to keep our word to our donors, deans and faculty. In a larger sense, executing on these initiatives was the best way of sustaining Drexel’s momentum.

**Those two projects are, as you mentioned, moving toward completion. What are some of the other accomplishments that you are most proud of?**

I think the second big thing has been our ability to continue working in an entrepreneurial way—that Drexel was going to go after opportunities that made strategic sense. The merger with the Academy of Natural Sciences reflects that kind of mindset. It allowed me to put my leadership stamp on the institution and at the same time forge a partnership that will benefit both the Academy and Drexel. It will change the way we do our work in earth and environmental sciences. It allowed us to create the new BEES Department. It basically joined us to one of the most important and prestigious scientific organizations in the world.

**The merger with the Academy has been viewed far and wide as a huge success for Drexel. I’m wondering, was there a “model” out there that you followed when you were putting this deal together?**

I can’t think of another merger that came together in a similar way to this one, particularly when you’re talking about a merger between a 120-year-old university and a 200-year-old scientific institution that had a lot of success in its own right. We were able to work through what might have been a very delicate situation, and we did it in a lightning-fast timeframe and a very harmonious way.

**You mentioned earlier that your previous experience as a president proved valuable. Was that true, even though you were coming from a very different institution in Franklin & Marshall?**

The two institutions may have been different, but the leadership scenarios have a lot in common. I’ve been aware of Drexel for years, ever since I joined Penn back in 1995, and Taki and I were very close. I had enough engagement over the years to give me a sense of what Drexel was trying to do. Making matters easier was the fact that I had a very eager and

talented senior staff and faculty who were anxious to move their own programs and the University forward. Even in the first week, though there were quite a number of issues, I remember feeling very comfortable with everything. Having that sense that we needed to keep the progress going, I was able to lock right in and get to work.

**From your perspective, what is the “state of Drexel” at this moment?**

I would say that Drexel is very strong in its fundamentals and very competitive in its market. Beyond our excellent faculty, strong academic programs and co-op opportunities, we’ve had a great year financially in terms of our operating margins. After restructuring our debt and implementing various capital projects, we now have a stronger balance sheet. We also had a record-breaking fundraising year—we raised over \$80 million for the first time, and beat our previous record by a significant amount. Meanwhile, we’re expecting to increase our enrollment to over 26,000, which is just amazing, given where Drexel has been in the past.

**At the same time, the building continues.**

Yes, and although physical development is only part of the story, you can certainly tell if a place is on the move by the amount of work being done on campus. We’re in the process of finishing over \$300 million worth of projects right now, from the big academic buildings like the URBN Center, to innovative mixed-use projects like Chestnut Square, on down to renovations of buildings like Stratton and Nesbitt. This is a good thing. All the while, our research enterprise is as good as it’s ever been, and our faculty are very competitive. The place is very healthy academically, financially and physically. So I would say the state of the University is very strong. But we still have a lot of work to do.

**In May, you introduced the university community to your Strategic Plan. What is your sense of how that document and the efforts to implement its vision have gone over so far?**

I think it’s galvanized the community. The plan begins with overarching themes, like the idea of “One University,” which I’ve been gratified to hear many people talking about. There are many examples of why One University is important—from getting the Academy and the



College of Medicine better integrated into our University to making sure all our co-ops are placed where they want to be placed. It’s about the institution becoming more effective and efficient from a management standpoint. What I’m doing is establishing real goals within the context of those themes and getting the institution to move briskly in the same direction. I think the university community has responded very well to that challenge.

**One of the more exciting aspects of the Strategic Plan is your vision for what you’re calling the “Innovation Neighborhood,” which would quite literally be an entirely new neighborhood surrounding 30th Street Station. It’s a pretty grand vision. And I’m wondering just how big a deal you think this could be both for Drexel and Philadelphia.**

I think it could be a very big deal. The thing I’m sure of is that the land we currently control in this area—land that the university was so smart to buy back in the 1990s, as well as more recent acquisitions—will assure Drexel’s growth for the long term. If you envision the west side of 30th Street Station from Market Street to JFK Boulevard as Drexel’s gateway, and consider our partnership with Amtrak and SEPTA to develop strategies for the air rights over the tracks north of the station, it would completely change the face of University City. It would be absolutely unprecedented to have that much development opportunity for any major urban university. Any other campus would love to have what we have, and if we can put this together and engage in some pretty dramatic urban planning, which we’re already starting to do, then I think the potential for Philadelphia is enormous. If you fly over Philadelphia today, you can see the entire city is developed, but the “hole in the donut” is the Amtrak and SEPTA rail yards—right next to us.

**So your plan is now in place, and the work has begun to make the plan become a reality. My final question, then, is this: What does the future hold for Drexel?**

I think between Taki’s presidency, Chuck’s presidency and my presidency, an enormous amount has happened in a very short period of time. I would say, looking five years down the road, our team is going to execute our strategic plan and the first two phases of the campus master plan. Then we’ll be in position to move forward with the third and fourth phases. I think we need to follow the plan, and the good news is that one of Drexel’s great gifts is its ability to do that. It really is an amazing story for Drexel—what it was in 1995 and what it is today. It’s a great national university. We’ve started a new law school. We’ve added a distinguished College of Medicine, School of Public Health and College of Nursing and Health Professions. We’ve merged with the Academy of the Natural Sciences. We’ve expanded our campus by thousands of square feet to make room for thousands of talented new students and hundreds of incredible faculty members. This is an institution that, when it puts its mind to making a change, goes ahead and makes it happen.

Along the way there will be challenges we’ll have to overcome. There will always be things that need to be fixed or fine-tuned. But again, one of Drexel’s most special characteristics is its ability to honestly assess its shortcomings and address them head on. It’s one of the great strengths of this place, its people and its culture. We’re a University that is very ambitious, and committed to being the best we can be. I have a feeling that Anthony J. Drexel would be very proud to see what his university has become. [D]

# In The Field, Early and Often

**Drexel's new Biodiversity, Earth and Environmental Science Department offers students a more comprehensive environmental science experience, with heavy emphasis on work in the field. In that way, it's a perfect fit for Drexel's learn-by-doing model.**

BY KATIE CLARK

**A**nytime you start something new, it's important to have a good motto. This mission, this baseline, is the driving force behind all that you do. For the faculty and leadership in Drexel's new Biodiversity, Earth and Environmental Science (BEES) Department—a department made possible by the University's merger with the Academy of Natural Sciences last year—the motto “Field Experience, Early and Often” was an easy choice. After all, work in the field is crucial in the natural sciences, particularly environmental science, and getting these

students out of the classroom and into the very environment they study is experiential learning at its best.

It was decided early on in the development of the new department that a pre-term field experience would be offered to incoming freshmen and sophomores, as such opportunities were not available prior to the affiliation with the Academy, and the program wasted no time enacting the “early” portion of the motto. In fact, this September, just days before classes even began, three incoming freshman and

seven sophomores were introduced to current field methods used by environmental scientists, worked side-by-side

*“In the first 48 hours of college, I was knee-deep in mud. I don't think any of my friends at other schools can say that.”*



EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

with their soon-to-be professors, and made new friends along the way.

The students spent two nights and three days at the Barnegat Bay Field Station at the Lighthouse Center for Natural Resource Education in Ocean Township, NJ. The facility is owned by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's Division of Fish and Wildlife and is situated on 194 acres of land with a wide range of habitats available for education and research including a maritime forest, salt marsh, tidal streams and a freshwater impoundment.

BEES faculty and staff led a series of field trips to explore a variety of coastal, marsh and terrestrial habitats. The students were exposed to many of the state-of-the-art environmental monitoring techniques and collection methods used by BEES faculty.

Freshman Kerry Rugenstein said it best—"In the first 48 hours of college, I was knee-deep in mud. I don't think any of my friends at other schools can say that."

The Barnegat Bay trip is certainly not the last time the students

will be getting their hands dirty. To satisfy the "often" portion of the BEES motto, four of the five core courses in the curriculum have an intensive fieldwork component. For many of the incoming students, though, the pre-term field experience was an unforgettable first.

"I never thought I'd ever be able to go into the ocean, or the bay in this respect, and literally pick up the marine life," said freshman Jackie Garcia. "I just didn't imagine having that kind of experience."

After trying out a few different activities, sophomore Zak Cirelli realized that his interests lie in fisheries. "I love fishing, so this is right up my alley," Cirelli said while winding up a seine net. "[Fisheries scientists] spend half their time examining the fish they caught during the other half."

During the Barnegat Bay experience, the idea was to have a little fun, too.

"On Saturday, we set up some crab traps and those ended up being pretty fruitful," Cirelli said. "So, we cooked them and we had a pretty good dinner of seafood and burgers."

"We didn't want to go into a great amount of detail and we didn't want to lecture," said Dr. Tracy Quirk, a wetlands ecologist at the Academy and a BEES faculty member, about the purpose of the field experience. "It's about

getting the students out there and becoming familiar with some of the tools of the trade."

The students noted that the field experience also provided a unique opportunity to get to know their professors in a non-traditional way.

"When we were driving here, we heard what the professors are doing—they're working in places like Chile and Mongolia," said sophomore Alex Leszczynski. "It's awesome. It gives us an idea of what we can get into and where this will take us."

The students also recognized that it was a chance to bond with their peers, as well.

"This is meant to be a bonding experience for the students," said Dr. David Velinsky, director of the Academy's Patrick Center for Environmental Research and head of the new department. "We wanted to get the small number of BEES students together to build a cohort and a sense of identity."

Undergrads in the department (there are 47 students total) must take five core courses, Velinsky said, and from there, they choose a concentration, in fields including Biodiversity and Evolution, Earth Science, and Ecology and Conservation.

"By the end of their second year, these students should have a really good idea of what this department is all about," Velinsky said. [D]



To learn more about the BEES department or its faculty, visit [www.drexel.edu/bees](http://www.drexel.edu/bees).

# CLASS NOTES

## 1960s

**Thomas A. Leonard**, Business Administration '68, was named to the Pennsylvania Rising Stars list by *Super Lawyers* as one of the top up-and-coming attorneys in Pennsylvania for 2012.



**George Stasen**, Business Administration '68, MBA '73, co-authored "Pantheon of Political Philosophers" and "Freedom and Prosperity in the 21st Century." He serves as chairman of CoreCare Systems, Inc., a public corporation, and CEO of RAPC Systems, Inc. He also serves as a director of several corporations and is a professor of economics.



**David C. Steinberg**, Chemistry '65, wrote the third edition of the reference book, "A Guide to European Regulations."

## 1970s

**Teresa Cavenagh**, Library Science '76, served as the event chair for SeniorLAW Center's annual fundraiser, SeniorPROM.

**Jeffrey Craighead**, Mechanical Engineering '78, was elected by the National Society of Professional Engineers as Federal Engineer of the Year Agency winner for the Naval Surface Warfare Center-Ship Systems Engineering Center.



**Duane Davis**, MD, HU '71, was named chief executive officer for Geisinger Health Plan in Danville, Pa. In addition to his role as CEO of Geisinger Health Plan, Duane will serve as CEO of Geisinger Indemnity Insurance Company and Geisinger Quality Options, Inc. and executive vice president, insurance operations for Geisinger Health System.

**Eveann S. D'Onofrio**, Civil Engineering '75, was named 2012 Environmental/Water Resources Engineer of the Year by the Philadelphia Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

**Mark Hershman**, Mechanical Engineering '70, was named leader of the new engineering division of Blackney Hayes Architects, providing mechanical, electrical, and plumbing consulting services out of the firm's Independence Park offices.

**Mariell Jessup**, MD, HU '76, associate chief-clinical affairs, Division of Cardiovascular Medicine, and medical director of the Penn Medicine Heart and Vascular Center, was named president-elect of the American Heart Association. She is also a member of the Penn Medicine Cardiovascular Institute.

**Judy Karagjozi Harris**, Home Economics '77, CEO of Carson-Dellosa, was honored as one of the Triad's Top Women in Business by the *Triad Business Journal*.

**James Madara**, MD, HU '75, received an Honorary Doctor of Letters Degree and delivered the commencement address at Juniata College. James has been the Executive Vice President and CEO of the American Medical Association since July 2011.

**Pat Munday**, Metallurgical Engineering, Humanities and Communications '78, received a Fulbright Award to lecture on American environmental history at Southwest University in Chongqing, China for the spring 2012 semester.

**Philip Robin**, Electrical Engineering '71, was named one of the state's top attorneys for 2012 by Pennsylvania Super Lawyers.

**Roseann B. Termini**, Human Behavior and Development '75, spoke at the 55th Annual Food and Drug Law Institute Educational Conference in Washington, D.C. She is the author of "Food and Drug Law: Federal Regulation of Drugs, Biologics, Medical Devices, Foods, Cosmetics, Dietary Supplements, Veterinary and Tobacco Products, 5th ed" and "Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act and Related Laws CD, 5th ed."

## 1980s

**Stanislav Antolin**, Metallurgical Engineering '83, founded the Law Office of Stanislav Antolin PLLC, located in Greensboro, North Carolina.

**Evan Blaker**, Accounting '86, joined the Philadelphia office of Cohen Seglias Pallas Greenhall and Furman PC.

**George Bodenger**, MBA '83, was appointed to the Radnor Educational Foundation Board of Trustees.

**Orlando Haddad**, MS Arts Administration '86, performed with his Brazilian music group Minas at World Café Live at the Queen in Wilmington, Del.

**William J. Leonard**, Accounting '81, was named to the Pennsylvania *Rising Stars* list by *Super Lawyers* as one of the top up-and-coming attorneys in Pennsylvania for 2012.

**John Luciani**, Civil Engineering '82, passed his Professional Land Surveyor exam, licensing him to practice land surveying in Maryland and seal and certify drawings for projects within the state.

**Patricia A. Mitchell**, Design '82, was recognized by *The Network Journal* as one of its annual 25 Influential Women in Business award winners.

**Alex Otey**, Physics and Atmospheric Science '84, was a featured artist on the Grammy-nominated album "Fitness Rock & Roll," and was a contributing featured artist on the Grammy-winning album "All About Bullies... Big and Small."

**Tony Sauder**, Civil Engineering '83, MS Civil Engineering '96, MS Engineering Geology '96, was named chair of the technical committee of the Philadelphia Global Water Initiative (PGWI).



# CLASS NOTES

## Michelle Freeman,

General Studies '08, founder and president of MAF Marketing & Events and publisher of Flying Kite Media, is the recipient of The Forum of Executive Women's Forum Award for Emerging Women Leaders.



**Joel Gerstman,** Business Administration '09, returned to his hometown of Maple Glenn, Pa., after completing his Peace Corps service in Thailand for more than two years.

**Sandra Keirse,** MS Library and Information Science '09, joined Price Mohammad Bin Fahd University in Al Khobar, Saudi Arabia, as assistant librarian.

**David B. Litsky,** Business Administration '05, was promoted by TD Bank to vice president, commercial portfolio loan officer III in healthcare financial services in West Palm Beach, Fla.

**Cory Ng,** MS Accounting '02, was promoted from instructor to assistant professor at the Community College of Philadelphia where he teaches accounting.

**Mitchell Peabody,** Computer Science '02, MS '02, is currently employed at The MITRE Corporation as a senior systems engineer with specialties in computer science and systems analysis.

## BABY DRAGONS

**Oscar Rueda,** MS Library and Information Science '09, and Karen Rueda had a baby boy, Martin, on November 4, 2011.

## Lauren Pitkow Van Scoy,

MD Medicine '06, wrote the book "Last Wish: Stories to Inspire a Peaceful Passing."



**Michelle Sipics,** Computer Engineering '03, MS '05, accepted a position at Yale University as director of news and strategic initiatives in the School of Engineering and Applied Science.

## 2010s

**Jeremy Chrzan,** Civil Engineering '12, MS '12, was named 2012 Philadelphia Young Civil Engineer of the Year by the Philadelphia Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

**Peter D. Coyl,** MS Library and Information Science '10, joined the Dallas Public Library as an assistant branch manager and was recently appointed to the American Library Association's Stonewall Book Awards Committee.

**Hunt Ethridge,** MBA '12, served as host for the 2012 Miss New York Pageant.

**Marek Hlinka,** Business Administration '12, was named a junior global security analyst at Turner Investments.



**Robert Masters,** MS Library and Information Science '10, was named director of the Bermuda College Library.

**Ryan Monkman,** Civil Engineering '12, was hired as assistant project manager for Remington Group, Inc.

## FRIENDS WE'LL MISS

### 1930s

Florence Bareford McGuckin '33  
 Ida Carlson Bradway '37  
 James Carson '33  
 Charles Case '38  
 Francis Corbin '33  
 Everett Cranmer '32  
 Clayton Deal '38  
 Lavern Delong Kohl '39  
 John Eggert '35  
 Selma Elkind '38  
 Elinor Emery Lanz '36  
 Merlin Fisher '36  
 Anne Fox Brownell '33  
 Howard Galloway '33  
 Anna Hidley Peters '33  
 Edwin Jones '36  
 Robert Krouse '39  
 John Kupits '39  
 Edward McDonald '39  
 Arthur Moscrip '36  
 Dorothy Mundorf Lloyd '32  
 Helen Nobel Lipsitz '39  
 Martin Rothstein '39  
 Rita Scott '39  
 Ethan Trexler '38  
 Anne Umstad Martin '39  
 Jeannette Vanoy Barbour '37  
 Frank Wurst '36

### 1940s

Martha Babyar White '47  
 Alphonso Bax '43  
 Marcia Blittersdorf Gill '48  
 Herman Blumel '48  
 Carmela Ciminello Fahey '42  
 Marie Coia DeLaurentis '43  
 Nicholas D'Alessandro '47  
 Dorothy Daltry Heck '40  
 Andrew D'Ascenzo '48  
 Carol Davis Kelley '49  
 Mevio DiMeglio '40  
 Richard Doncaster '45  
 Reed Donnard '49  
 Marie Elbersen Webster '45  
 Wilbur Ellis '40  
 Helene Frank Alper '46  
 Natalie Furstman Basch '43  
 Leo Gallagher '49  
 Herbert Galman '43  
 John Gilbert '42  
 Dorothy Gilmore Morgan '43  
 Charlotte Grove O'Rear '43  
 Edwin Guilfooy '40  
 Marvin Hamberg '41  
 Harry Harris '47  
 Donald Hartranft '44  
 Virginia Haskins Mynick '44  
 Paul Hess '43  
 John Hornberger '42  
 William Hutchinson '48  
 David Jack '44  
 Tyra Kennedy Donohoe '45

Jane Kinney Early '44  
 John Kline '47  
 Jerome Kligerman '47  
 Richard Koerwer '42  
 David Kravitz '46  
 Anne Layton Berlinghof '40  
 Kenneth Lent '44  
 Mary Loughran Read '40  
 Warren MacNabb '41  
 Norman Martin '47  
 Daniel Mason '44  
 Thomas Mazzella '48  
 Margaret Milliken '48  
 Mildred Mitchell-Bateman '46  
 Helen Mooney Keown '41  
 John Miller '48  
 Florence Moore '48  
 David Mynick '47  
 Coleman Nadler '49  
 Peter Osborne '43  
 Robert Riegel '48  
 Elva Patterson Robak '44  
 Chester Robak '46  
 Samuel Roberts '48  
 Armand Robinson '49  
 Milton Rosenberg '46  
 Harry Rupp '48  
 John Schramm '48  
 Bertha Seltzer Conyne '44  
 Elizabeth Shellenberger Mc-Cracken '40  
 Nancy Smith Tross '43  
 William Spare '47  
 Margaret Taylor Cronin '44  
 Lester Van Ess '47  
 Carol Vouaux Profy '49  
 Harry Wagner '49  
 Donald Wigfield '40  
 Ruth Williams Tillett '45  
 Dorothy Winters Davall '42  
 Herman Wolf '47  
 Margaret Wood Stephenson '44  
 Gheretein Yeatman Brown '40  
 Ruth Young Hutchinson '47  
 Helen Zylinski Kraynak '48

## 1950s

John Abramchuk '58  
 Robert Anderson '58  
 Howard Bateman '51  
 Lester Betz '51  
 Anthony Biancardi '52  
 Patrick Boccagno '58  
 John Boorse '56  
 Herman Brimo '54  
 Edwin Butterfoss '59  
 Gordon Campbell '59  
 John Cargill '59  
 Nicholas Cecere '55  
 Jacob Cohen '53  
 Alexandra Cole Hansen '54  
 Vernon Collins '55  
 Richard Coursen '58  
 John Damon '55  
 June DeBoer Unger '58

James Dettre '55  
 Robert Dieckmann '57  
 Edwin Downey '57  
 John Doyle '54  
 Barbara Eberly '57  
 Robert Engel '56  
 Lisabeth Feind Holloway '50  
 Ernest Ferrero '54  
 Harry Foell '54  
 Mary Frank Houston '50  
 Alexander Gallen '55  
 O. James Gaudin '57  
 Solomon Getz '59  
 Connie Goldberg Kaufmann '53  
 Robert Grier '51  
 Leonard Grobman '53  
 Paul Gwinner '59  
 Donald Haber '55  
 Betty Hannon '52  
 Glendon Harris '58  
 Patricia Harris Wein '56  
 Lois Hays Hogan '50  
 Earl Heacock '53  
 Robert Heck '57  
 Adam Hemlick '58  
 Grace Heney McKim '50  
 Edmund Hennessy '59  
 Charles Hixson '56  
 Jean Hoffman Ruth '50  
 David Horensten '59  
 Barbara Huber Norton '50  
 William Jenkins '53  
 Donald Johnson '56  
 Donald Kasper '56  
 Ann Kennedy Wadstrom '58  
 Roy Kester '57  
 William Kiss '59  
 Eleanor Kreutzer Reeves '52  
 Edwin Ksensik '53  
 Norman Kunitz '57  
 Leonard Kunkin '51  
 Charles Kuntz '51  
 Joachim LaRosa '51  
 Michael Lemonedes '53  
 Howard Levin '58  
 Claude Light '57  
 Robert Loch '51  
 Theora Marberger Denaro '57  
 William McCafferty '54  
 John McConnell '58  
 William McKay '53  
 Robert Meiers '57  
 Charles Mertz '57  
 Mary Mester Brooks '52  
 Richard Michel '56  
 Felix Miksis '55  
 Irvin Miller '52  
 Stephen Miller '50  
 Donald Nauss '51  
 Paul Nyul '54  
 Lenora Parker Johnson '53  
 Joan Peterson '58  
 Charles Rackie '53  
 Kenneth Randall '58  
 J. Donald Reimenschneider '57

Robert Rell '54  
 Walter Robbins '51  
 Edward Romanowski '59  
 Arthur Ross '50  
 Joseph Ruderman '59  
 Russel Schatz '51  
 Frederick Schmehl '58  
 Arnold Sietz '59  
 Joseph Shaw '52  
 Catharine Sheidy '55  
 Merton Sheppard '59  
 William Siegel '52  
 Elnora Slade Herring '52  
 Raymond Slegel '55  
 Robert Snyder '57  
 Robert Sonntag '58  
 John Sperry '55  
 Stanley Sulkowski '58  
 Frances Tazumi '50  
 Joseph Tentarelli '59  
 Joseph Terranova '56  
 James Toner '53  
 Aura Tyrrell Supina '54  
 Natalie Wallace Shubilla '57  
 Alan Wilde '59  
 William Zachar '52

## 1960s

Edward Biedrzycki '62  
 George Bergey '68  
 William Black '65  
 Phillip Blow '67  
 Eulie Brayboy '64  
 James Brown '65  
 Walter Burshtin '66  
 Marvin Bush '61  
 Michael Cannell '69  
 R. Cassel '61  
 Henry Collins '60  
 Thomas Cook '67  
 Roald Doskeland '69  
 Charles Dougherty '64  
 Peter Finnegan '66  
 Norman Fischer '65  
 Robert Flogaus '65  
 Stephen Gable '66  
 Richard Gagliardi '66  
 Harold Gilje '68  
 Martin Gilman '68  
 Naomi Glushakow Denenberg '61  
 John Hanley '66  
 David Heffner '68  
 Edwin Henrie '62  
 Naomi Hershey '69  
 Clarence Hill '69  
 Richard Jones '63  
 Roy Kramer '61  
 Henry Kriebel '66  
 Joseph Krulikowski '69  
 Paul Levine '67  
 Marcelle Linett Freyman '67  
 Martin Lutz '63  
 John Matra '62  
 James McGettigan '62  
 Dennis Melvin '68

Bruce Miller '65  
 Robert Morgan '62  
 Richard Moscotti '60  
 Robert Neulen '62  
 Jane Newman Vant Veer '64  
 Dmytro Odryna '62  
 Peter Pellegrino '60  
 Walter Poole '64  
 Aaron Ryesky '62  
 Charles Scheiner '66  
 George Schneider '65  
 Emil Schoen '63  
 Phillips Scott '64  
 Thomas Shover '60  
 James Silverman '61  
 Joseph Simon '63  
 Heather Slenn '60  
 Edwin Sowers '64  
 Salvatore Spica '62  
 Harvey Srolovitz '64  
 Terry Stahl '65  
 William Stewart '62  
 Alton Torre '64  
 Mary Tower '62  
 John Videler '66  
 Josefina Villegas Obed '66  
 Edward Watson '62  
 John Weischedel '61  
 Frederick Winkler '63  
 David Wittchen '66  
 Delores Zachary Pretlow '68

## 1970s

Joseph Abramson '71  
 Deidre Arthur '79  
 Roger Block '71  
 Anita Brandolini '79  
 Mary Brewster Bamber '71  
 Albert Burg '71  
 David Burkett '76  
 Anthony Canna '73  
 Kevin Chain '77  
 Andrew Ciszek '73  
 Jess Czetli '75  
 Richard Decker '78  
 Olga Dilullo '71  
 Winifred Foltz Pruitt '71  
 Gregory Fulchiero '70  
 Theodore Gilbert '77  
 Thomas Gilligan '78  
 William Hamilton '74  
 Jay Jerabek '79  
 Angela Kancsal '70  
 David Kane '73  
 William Kok '79  
 James LeSar '77  
 Michael Lind '79  
 John Mahala '70  
 John Mangan '76  
 Linda Newbury Campbell '71  
 Werner Nitschmann '76  
 W. Nolan '78  
 Paul Orr '74  
 Joseph Pettus '75  
 Emilia Richichi '79  
 Stephen Robusto '75

Catherine Sladowski '70  
 Helen Snyder Daiuta '70  
 Renee Solow '73  
 Stephen Sparkes '72  
 Jacob Steinberg '75  
 Karen Stevens '77  
 William Valentine '77  
 John Vetack '70  
 Joseph Wagner '74  
 Michael Yankovich '72  
 Michael Yurkonis '75

## 1980s

Frederick Becker '84  
 Gregory Brown '88  
 Sherri Dunlap '87  
 Eugene Finch '88  
 Elizabeth Gulla McGough '85  
 James Guthridge '83  
 George Helverson '83  
 Margaret Holmes '88  
 Joseph Junier '83  
 Dawn Kanter '89  
 James LaPrade '82  
 Timothy Margraf '84  
 Victoria Queenan '86  
 Josephine Sanders '89  
 David Sedor '85  
 Clifford Tanzler '84

## 1990s

Raymond Engblom '95  
 Sherie Engelke '98  
 Christopher Feist '90  
 Christine Giusio '95  
 Bruce Kalin '96  
 Paul Kreckmann '98  
 Donald Moesser '90  
 Long Pham '92  
 Garry Saget '94  
 Toni Welch '91  
 Marcella Williams '95

## 2000s

Ian Alexander '09  
 James Gallagher '05  
 Michael Hagan '03  
 Christopher Mosko '07  
 Phyllis Palumbo '00  
 Roberta Papinchak '09  
 Daniel Schultz '05  
 Hannah Taylor '02  
 John Williamson '09

## 2010s

Joel Eisenstadt '11  
 Matthew Henke '12  
 Robert Huang '10

## ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AWARDS

Meet the Alumni Association Award Recipients for 2012. Each year, these prestigious awards are presented to individuals who have proven to be successful leaders in their professions or communities, or have demonstrated outstanding service and commitment to Drexel. In keeping with the November Year of the Dragon theme of Dragons Celebrating Dragons by saying “thanks,” the Alumni Association asked each recipient the same question: “If you were to thank a person or group at Drexel, who would it be, and why?”

For more information, including award descriptions and details on how to make a nomination for the 2013 Alumni Association Awards, visit [drexel.edu/alumni/honors\\_awards.asp](http://drexel.edu/alumni/honors_awards.asp).

### Anthony Buccì '04, Alumni Entrepreneur Award Recipient

As a founding partner of RevZilla.com, Anthony Buccì helped drive revenues from \$0 to mid-eight figures in less than four years without raising outside capital. As the business continues its rapid growth, Buccì oversees creative, mar-



keting, content and media strategy, as well as business development initiatives. He has a decade of experience in consumer-facing e-commerce as part of his 15-plus years in software development.

“While there were many that taught me different lessons during my Drexel experience, I think my biggest thank you would go to Toni McMenamin, founder of the Pennoni Honors program. Current students unfortunately won’t have the chance to enjoy her as she lost her battle with cancer a short time after I graduated, but Toni was a positive guiding force in my undergrad life. Whether keeping me informed on the latest opportunity from the fledgling Honors program, offering friendly advice on school or life, or helping me wrangle Banner Web, Toni offered support with a genuine warmth. I am sure many would echo my sentiment as well.”

### Barry Burkholder '62, '70, Golden Dragon Society Award Recipient

Barry Burkholder became president and chief executive officer of Bank United (Texas) in 1991, an \$18 billion institution which was sold in 2001. He became a Drexel Trustee in 1998 and continues to serve on the Board as chair of Drexel’s Investment Committee.

“Coming from a small town with good grades but not a serious attitude toward education, I found a role model in my ‘big brother’ at Alpha Pi Lambda fraternity. Bob Quinn, ’59, was an outstanding student who encouraged all freshmen in the house to study and he paid particular attention to my efforts. Bob later earned his Phd at Princeton, taught at Penn State and ultimately joined the Drexel faculty. Bob passed away a few years ago, but I’m sure he changed the lives of many students along the way.”



### John Gerlach '55, Golden Dragon Society Award Recipient

John Gerlach is currently the senior business executive in the College of Business at Sacred Heart University, serves on the Boards of Directors of several corporations in the United States and in France, and makes venture capital type investments in startup companies. He remains active in Theta Chi Fraternity, and as a member of the Sports Fans of the '50s, and has volunteered as a guest speaker for programs at the LeBow College of Business.



“I have to thank a person and a group for my success during and beyond my years at Drexel. The person is Dr. John Clark, associate dean for graduate programs at LeBow, who encouraged me to get an MBA and then gave me the opportunity to teach a course at Drexel which subsequently led me to a second career in academia. The group is my fraternity brothers at Theta Chi, who were an enormous help in developing my social skills, which were sorely lacking when I matriculated, having grown up in a small town in the coal region of northeastern Pennsylvania.”

### John “Jack” Giegerich, Special Distinction Award Recipient

While enrolled as a Drexel student, Jack Giegerich’s son Steven tragically passed away in a motorcycle accident. In July 1984, following Steven’s death, Giegerich established the Steven



E. Giegerich Memorial Fellowship. The fellowship is awarded annually to one or more graduate students in Drexel’s Department of Civil, Architectural and Environmental Engineering. Since its founding, more than 40 Drexel students have benefited from the fellowship. “My thank you goes to Dr. J. Richard Weggel ’64, chairman of the Civil Engineering Department when the Steven E. Giegerich scholarship was formed in the fall of 1984. Since I am not a Drexel alumnus, Rich was the face of Drexel for me at that time. Rich worked with me in writing Steve’s scholarship and also started a tradition, which still exists, of a Giegerich Scholar Annual Luncheon where current and past scholarship recipients gather with professors, and I get an opportunity meet the newest recipients and chat with former Giegerich Scholars. Rich and I continue to be in contact. He nominated me for the Special Distinction Award for 2012.”

### Sandra Lee Sheller '04, '05, Service to Profession Award

Sandra Lee Sheller is a licensed professional counselor, Board-certified art therapist and family therapist, seeking to improve the lives of traumatized and marginalized families and children. In order to continue to address economic and social disparity, Sheller and her husband established The Sheller Family Foundation which is now helping with the expansion of Drexel’s 11th Street Family Health Services Center, and has assisted with a collaborative program between Drexel’s Public Health Department and The Salvation Army.



“To say thank you to only one person at Drexel is impossible. My thank you must be to all of the faculty, administrators and other staff I have encountered during years of involvement with this great institution. You know who you are, for you have exhibited expertise and passion in your area of specialty and a

dedication to the school and the students that goes beyond job description and paystub hours. While Drexel's buildings are changing the landscape of the city, Drexel's employees are helping to birth a new generation of leaders in a multitude of fields. What makes Drexel unique is that it operates at a state-of-the-art level in so many areas that it allows students, board members and affiliates to dream big, think of big picture collaborations, and be at the forefront of new trends in education, industry, service delivery and technology."

**Margery "Meg" Lockard '85, '92**  
Special Distinction Award

Prior to joining the Department of Health Sciences at Drexel, Meg Lockard was part of the Physical Therapy faculties at several universities, including Hahnemann University, Arcadia University and Temple University. Her current teaching focus at Drexel includes anatomy and physiology, and musculo-skeletal pathology to nursing and health science students. She also teaches amputation and prosthetic devices to physical therapy students and participates in problem-based learning clinical correlation courses for physical therapy students.



"I would like to say thank you to all the folks in the Anatomy Department at Hahnemann University when I did my Ph.D. back in the early 1990s. Many of these same people are now my co-workers here at Drexel in the Health Sciences Department of the College of Nursing and Health Professions: Mike Kennedy, Ph.D., chair of Health Sciences, Joe Rubertone '96, PT, Ph.D., Al Haroian, Ph.D., Pete Meyer, Ph.D. and my research adviser, Dennis DePace, Ph.D., Drexel College of Medicine. Back then, and now, these folks are like family. They are all outstanding teachers and mentors who modeled the excellence, academic rigor and humor that continues to be at the core of my own approach to teaching and learning. It's their encouragement and flexibility that has allowed me to engage in the community service activities for which the Drexel Alumni Association honored me with this award."

**Kevin Loftus '87**, Silver Dragon Society Award  
After working briefly for a bridge contractor in Southern New Jersey, Kevin Loftus formed

Loftus Construction, Inc. in 1994. Loftus Construction has become one of the pre-eminent bridge construction firms in the Delaware Valley. Since 2006, Loftus has served as chair for the College of Engineering Advisory Board. In addition to his work with the College, he is on the Board of Directors for the Associated Pennsylvania Contractors.



"There were many people who greatly influenced my time at Drexel as an undergrad, including my roommates Don Heckman '87 and Charlie Huff '87, and professors Ed Doheny and Rich Weggel '64 but if I had to pick one person to whom I feel I am forever indebted for my Drexel experience, I would have to say Dr. Joe Martin, professor in Drexel's Engineering Department. Throughout my college career, I had to balance school work, co-op work and a number of other jobs I needed to pay tuition. More than once, I found myself in front of Joe Martin to discuss my presence on the academic probation list. Without his thoughtful guidance, advice, prodding, badgering and encouragement, I doubt I would have graduated and I cannot possibly imagine how my life would have turned out without Joe's involvement."

**Rachel Schwartz '05, '11**, Young Alumni Achievement Award

Rachel Schwartz is the math specialist for kindergarten through eighth grade at New Foundations Charter School in Northeast Philadelphia. As the math specialist, Schwartz has worked with colleagues to help raise standardized test scores from 77 percent proficient or advanced to more than 90 percent proficient or advanced. She also regularly provides professional development at her school to share best practices for mathematics instruction and to encourage the use of technology.



"I hope I have thanked her before, but I would say thank you to Dr. Mary Jo Grdina. I was fortunate enough to have Dr. Grdina as my professor for a few courses during my time as an undergraduate student at Drexel University. Her passion for learning and teaching, especially in the field of science, is inspiring and contagious."

**Jackie Taylor McClure '87**, Silver Dragon Society Award

Jackie McClure is the contracts manager at Ingerman Construction Company (ICC), located in Cherry Hill, N.J. She has volunteered with the Drexel University Alumni Association Board of Governors since 2005, and has held such roles as an Alumni Ambassador, vice president of the Drexel Interfraternity Alumni Association and co-chair of the Alumni Club of South Jersey. A longtime alumnae chapter adviser for Delta Zeta Sorority, McClure was recognized by Drexel's Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life in 2002 as Adviser of the Year.



"I would like to thank the sisters of Delta Zeta Sorority for inviting me to be part of an amazing sisterhood that continues to enrich my life to this day. I honed my organizational and leadership abilities, as well as my love for giving back, while a collegian. I continue to use all those skills today in my professional life and in my personal life as an active volunteer supporting other women and the University. Without the support of my collegiate sisters, I'm 100 percent positive I would have never completed my college education."

**Ann Weiss '73**, Service to Community Award

Using her own personal funds and time, Ann Weiss has dedicated a large piece of her life to research and produced a landmark book on the families of the last Jewish victims of the Nazi Labor Camp, Auschwitz-Birkenau. She has directed documentary films on psychiatry and the Holocaust, and has curated photo exhibitions which travel world-wide. In addition, and principally, Weiss created and directs an educational non-profit foundation, Eyes from the Ashes, that uses the past, especially the past of the Holocaust, to try and create a better future for all people.



## CLASS NOTES

### A DREXEL TRAVELOGUE

## Dornbirn, Austria

From September 8 to 15, the Drexel University Alumni Association took a group of 20 alumni, family members, friends, and professional staff on a historic journey to Dornbirn, Austria, Drexel University's homeland and the birthplace of Francis Martin Drexel. Guests explored the culture, people and the culinary delights of the region while gaining a new understanding of Drexel University through the exploration of its founder's family and town of origin. Mary Henningsen '88, accompanied by her mother JoAnn, decided to go on the trip in order to reconnect with the University and the alumni community, to visit an area of Europe she's always wondered about, and to learn more about the Drexel family. During her travels, Mary kept the journal below, chronicling her adventures in Dornbirn.



IRA TAFFER, '79, '83

#### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

We started the day with a trip to the impressive and beautiful Rhine River falls, the mouth of the famous Rhine River, followed by a lunch stop and visit to the St. Gallen Monastery and Library, housing some of the oldest surviving printed books and volumes on the European continent.

Although our alumni group members are all coming from different graduating years, majors, careers, geographies and life experiences, what immediately connects us together is Drexel, whether we're alumni, parents, spouses or staff. I'm looking forward to a great week getting to know our fellow Drexel alumni community members and staff, learning about the region, and also building new friendships as we learn more about the Drexel family legacy.

#### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

On Monday, we enjoyed a walking tour of the city of Dornbirn starting off in the main square, then on to the parish church of St. Martin, with a stop at the City Archives, and then continuing on foot past City Hall and through a lovely residential neighborhood housing some of the oldest homes in town.

The highlight of the morning was visiting the City of Dornbirn Archives where we had the chance to see two of the Dornbirn family books containing handwritten entries about the history of the Dornbirn families, including the family of Francis Martin Drexel. It was fascinating to see these books and documents preserving the family history of the Dornbirn residents, and this inspired many conversations throughout the rest of the day among our group about our own personal family stories and the

various experiences tracing our own family trees!

We capped-off the day with a wonderful traditional dinner at the historic Rotes Haus Inn with the Mayor of Dornbirn, members of the City Council, the education minister and members of the local university faculty. The mayor gave a speech welcoming our delegation. I could feel that there was already a developing common ground and sense of purpose between the Dornbirn city officials and Drexel University.

#### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

We started the day with a moment of silence, led by Larry Lehmann '72, to remember the 11th anniversary of 9/11. It's hard to believe that 11 years have passed already; for some it still feels like yesterday.

Then it was off to learn about cheese. We headed across the Swiss border to Appenzell to learn about how the famous Appenzeller cheeses are made! Valduz, Liechtenstein was our next stop to get a glimpse of its famous castle and to get our passports stamped with a "tourist stamp."

Another wonderful dinner (including more cheese!) was waiting for us atop the nearby Karren Mountain, accessible by cable car, at the Panorama Restaurant. The sweeping views of the Rhine Valley across to Lake Constance, which borders Switzerland and Germany, were well worth the trip!

It was a very relaxing day exploring the Alps and spending time with our Drexel colleagues and newfound Dornbirn friends.

#### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

Today was another great day spent in mountains above Dornbirn, visiting a small family farm called Metzler Farm.

They make cheese from goat and cow milk and make cosmetic products from the leftover whey from the cheese production.

We were treated to another amazing dinner at the G le Gasthof restaurant just on the edge of town, which included our group and members of the City Council and Mayor's Office.

#### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

We started our day at Dietrich Farm to hear the story of how its founder, Dr. Richard Dietrich, produces fresh apple juices, schnapps, and fruit jams, as well as the ingredients and tools to make a traditional dish called riebhel. It's quite delicious with blackberry and black currant jams as a breakfast dish!

The second stop was at the Pfanner fruit juice company, one of the largest producers of fresh fruit juices and iced teas in Europe. Here we learned about their 150 year-old history, and we were treated to a tasting of their new line of organic fresh juices.

After lunch, our final stop was to Fenkart Chocolates! We met the chocolatier, Gunther Fenkart, who took us through a tasting of their unique chocolates and gave us an overview of how they are made.

Our day finished with a visit to the Hohenems Palace where, much to our surprise, we were met by the Count Waldburg-Zeil of Hohenems. He gave us a private tour of his 16th Century Renaissance palace, including many public rooms, recently restored rooms, and also parts of his private residence. I wondered what a big commitment it must be to be responsible for the preservation of such an important cultural and historic palace.

For Friday, we'll visit Lake Constance and Lindau, Germany. It's hard to believe this will be our last full day of the trip. Dr. Eric Zillmer, Drexel's athletic director, informed us that he'll be asking everyone to talk about their favorite experiences from the week at dinner on Friday. It'll be hard to choose; there have been so many experiences worth remembering!

*Mary graduated from Drexel in 1988 with a degree in marketing, and was a member of Drexel's varsity swim team. In 2007 she moved to Beirut, Lebanon to help found an international Pre-K to Grade 12 school which currently serves 400 students. Mary keeps in touch with her Drexel classmates, particularly a small group of alumni who used to be members of the Drexel swim team.*



Drexel alumni group on the steps of St. Martin's Church with the mayor of Dornbirn, city officials and FHV faculty.

## ALUMNI TRAVEL PROGRAM

### See the World with Drexel

As part of its commitment to lifelong learning, the Drexel University Alumni Association invites all alumni to take part in its exciting travel opportunities coming in 2013. Join other alumni for the once-in-a-lifetime chance to experience other cultures through a combination of educational forums and exciting excursions. Expand your understanding of the world through tours, lectures and unexpected visits to little-known local places of historical and cultural significance.

The Alumni Association plans to offer the highest quality educational travel experience. Traveling with Drexel graduates is an experience you will not want to miss!



For trip details and to register, visit [drexel.edu/alumni/travel](http://drexel.edu/alumni/travel). If you would like an individual trip brochure about the Alumni Travel Program, or to be added to the mailing list for future trips, call the Office of Alumni Relations at 1-888-DU-GRADS or e-mail [alumni@drexel.edu](mailto:alumni@drexel.edu).

May 4-15, 2013  
**Cruise the Best of the Mediterranean and Greek Isles**

June 13-22, 2013  
**National Parks and Lodges of the Old West**

July 1-9, 2013  
**Prague**

July 12-22, 2013  
**Cruise the Alaskan Frontiers and Glaciers**

September 7-15, 2013  
**Italian Riviera**

October 7-15, 2013  
**Rhine Riverboat Tour**



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# CLASS NOTES

## 2012: THE DREXEL YEAR OF THE DRAGON

*Check out the photos below to get a look at how the Alumni Association and graduates around the world have been celebrating 2012 and the Year of the Dragon!*



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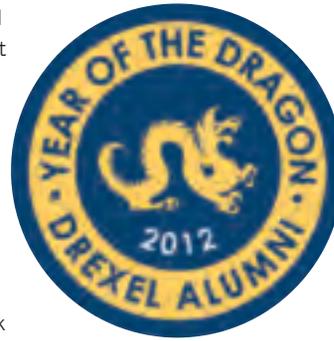


# Celebrate the Year of the Dragon

The Year of the Dragon is winding down, and with just a couple of months left in 2012, the Alumni Association is wrapping up this year-long celebration with a bang!

Since January, we've highlighted many of the things that make Drexel alumni special. We celebrated Dragon pride in March with Alumni Day at the DAC and our "I am a Dragon" campaign on Facebook and Twitter. In July, we celebrated Dragon talents with "how to" events and online videos featuring alumni. We celebrated Dragon discovery with an online scavenger hunt as well as an in-person hunt throughout Philadelphia in September. And the fun continues in November with Dragons celebrating Dragons.

All month long, alumni will have the opportunity to say "thank you" to Drexel faculty and staff who have positively impacted them. A few words of appreciation can go a long way, and we encourage you to think back and remember what faculty or staff made your Drexel experience that much better, and send them a note of gratitude. Maybe it was a professor whose lessons energized and excited you. Or it could have been an adviser who helped you stay on a path to success. Whoever it was, and whatever the reason, we want to give you the chance to say thanks—just in time for Thanksgiving—and to make their day a little brighter. Visit the Year of the Dragon website at [drexel.edu/alumni/yearofthedragon](http://drexel.edu/alumni/yearofthedragon) and click on "November" to find out how!



## Get a bonus code right now!

Drexel alumni who register for the Online Alumni Directory or who update their directory profile during the Year of the Dragon will receive a bonus code. At the end of each month we'll tally up who registered for the Directory or updated their already existing profile and send out the promo codes then.

Not only in November, but all year long the Alumni Association has hundreds of alumni volunteers to thank for giving of their time and talents to the programs and services that we offer. Without their support, we wouldn't be able to fulfill our mission of connecting alumni to students to the University and to each other. Whether it's by serving on a board or committee, volunteering as a speaker at an event, meeting prospective students as an Alumni Ambassador, or any of the countless ways to get involved, we thank all of our volunteers for their leadership, enthusiasm and dedication.

**photos on facing page:** **1]** Drexel alumni from Aqua America pose for a Dragons @ Work photo to ring in 2012 and the Year of the Dragon. **2]** Alumni and their families join the Alumni Association for an afternoon of fun at Alumni Day at the DAC on February 12. **3]** Incoming students Lisa Ly and Dana Nguyen, along with Jeff Dern '12, Karen Nelson, and Dean O'Brien '12 help the Alumni Association celebrate Dragons at play in California as they watch the San Francisco Giants take on the Atlanta Braves. **4]** Scott Macpherson '12, Matthew Hash '14, and John Masi '98 are Dragons @ Work at the Atlantic County Division of Engineering. **5]** Alumni, students and community friends hit the ground running at the 20th Annual University City 5k Run on Saturday, May 5. Each year, proceeds from the 5k benefit the Nicholas P. Pipino Memorial Scholarship. **6]** Jody Silverman serves up Jackie Taylor McClure '87 and Bruce Silverman '84 at the Alumni Association's mixology lesson during July's series of "how to" events in Philadelphia. **7]** Jordan Schneider '10 meets with Drexel students at Campus to Career where students had the opportunity to ask questions and share their résumés with Drexel alumni from various industries. **8]** Adam Crystal '07, Stephen Whitehead '07, Kristin Ehrgott '04, Chris Lydon '98, Ernesto Cerimele '07, and Jason Miller '07 celebrate the 2nd Annual Alumni Global Night of Networking in Hoboken, New Jersey on April 19. **9]** Dean David Ruth, PhD '05 and members of the Class of 1987 gather for a group shot during the Silver Dragon Society Pinning Ceremony and cocktail hour at Alumni Weekend. **10]** Michele Grossman Forman '84, Jeffrey Finkelstein, MD '85, Ken Forman, and Lynn Sokoloff enjoy a behind-the-scenes look at the Philadelphia Zoo featuring guest speaker Dr. Gail Hearn, research professor in Drexel's biology department. Drexel's newest alumni from the Class of 2012 were recognized and welcomed into the Alumni Association at the event.

## ALL I REALLY NEED TO KNOW I LEARNED AT DREXEL

As a spin on the popular "All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten," the Alumni Association is asking alumni to submit Drexel life lessons—one for each day in 2012. So far we've collected more than 300 creative and fun life lessons from alumni around the world, and we've only got two months to go! Join in the fun and send us your life lesson and we'll share it on our Facebook page, Twitter and our website, [drexel.edu/alumni/yearofthedragon](http://drexel.edu/alumni/yearofthedragon). Sharing a life lesson will automatically get you a promo code toward a commemorative Year of the Dragon prize!

Here are some great examples of Drexel life lessons that have already been shared:

"Reflecting back, the value of Drexel to me summed up is: working with teams, co-op, 10 week quarters and lifelong friends."  
BOB NEWTON,  
CHEMICAL ENGINEERING '83

"Everyone has a story. Learn others' stories and share yours."  
CHRISTOPHER YOUNG,  
ENTREPRENEURSHIP, MBA '11

"Look to the future and be flexible to accommodate change."  
LYNNE ASHE BLOOM,  
INTERIOR DESIGN '55

**+** Visit <http://drexel.edu/alumni/yearofthedragon> to submit your Drexel life lesson and join the hundreds of alumni who already have!

# THE BACK PAGE PUZZLE

Whether it's on the basketball courts of the CAA, the soccer pitches of Major League Soccer or the racing venues of the Olympic Games, Drexel athletes have made their impact felt all across the sports world. In this edition of the ever-popular Back Page Puzzle, we honor Drexel's greatest athletes, both past and present.

## ACROSS

- 1 Balance \_\_\_ (gymnastics apparatus)
- 5 Where to see government programs
- 10 Petty scrap
- 14 Random chorus syllables
- 15 Butler's love
- 16 Put in an appearance
- 17 The N.J. Generals were part of it
- 18 Class of '03 alum who was the first rower in history to represent the State of Palestine at the World Championships
- 20 Many dot-coms
- 22 Legit
- 23 Flier on a string
- 24 Drexel's teams, with "The"
- 26 Some football linemen
- 29 Dirk Nowitzki's team, in headlines
- 30 Guiding beliefs
- 31 Hall of \_\_\_
- 32 Feint on the field
- 36 Has a mortgage, e.g.
- 37 Fielder's overthrow, e.g.
- 38 Psychoanalysts' concerns
- 39 "\_\_\_Like it Hot"
- 40 Hardly humble
- 41 Half a tone above C
- 42 Hacienda hand
- 43 1959 Fiestas hit
- 44 Drexel's fans, familiarly with "The"
- 48 Part of a Home Run Derby call
- 49 The "O" of the OWN Network
- 50 Knock back
- 54 Class of '04 alum who holds the world record for the 50m breaststroke in the Paralympics
- 57 Move, to a Realtor
- 58 Slip through the cracks, say
- 59 Rainbow-colored fish
- 60 Capsize, with "over"
- 61 Having no width or depth
- 62 Turban-wearing Indians
- 63 \_\_\_ out (supplemented)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15					16			
17				18					19			
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39				40				41				
			42					43				
44	45	46	47				48					
49						50				51	52	53
54					55	56			57			
58					59				60			
61					62				63			

## DOWN

- 1 With 53-Down, Drexel's colors
- 2 Phillies's division
- 3 Italian carmaker \_\_\_ Romeo
- 4 Class of '96 alum who is now the 76ers broadcaster
- 5 Orbiters with tails
- 6 Have in common
- 7 Golf scores
- 8 Noah's refuge
- 9 Stay on one's case
- 10 Scrawny animal
- 11 Painting Picasso
- 12 With full force
- 13 Gravitates
- 19 Actresses Mendes and LaRue
- 21 Blinkers
- 24 Writer Runyon
- 25 One who drives to a campsite, for short
- 26 GM cars of the 1990s
- 27 Lockheed spy plane
- 28 "Over here!"
- 29 Drexel's mascot's name
- 31 Blunt
- 32 Class of '03 alum who is a star on the Seattle Sounders FC
- 33 Unattractive fruit
- 34 Zen paradox
- 35 Noble lt. family
- 37 Emerg. plan
- 41 Drexel's soccer coach Hess
- 42 Half a seafood order?
- 43 Bursts of energy
- 44 Playground retort
- 45 Chef protector
- 46 Pop-culture obsession
- 47 Put down Tarmac
- 48 "For sure!"
- 50 Broil or roast
- 51 Green-leaved bulb
- 52 1997 title role for Peter Fonda
- 53 See 1-Down
- 55 Walnut, Chestnut or Market, e.g.: Abbr.
- 56 Hosp. test

## Think you've got all the answers?

If so, send us your completed puzzle to be entered into a drawing to win a great Drexel prize. Puzzles can be mailed to:

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# Holiday Happenings

*with the*

## Drexel Alumni Association



PHOTO COURTESY OF LONGWOOD GARDENS



### **Longwood Gardens Holiday Lunch and Tour** **December 8**

Celebrate the holidays with Drexel alumni and guests at a special luncheon at The Gables at Chadds Ford followed by a tour of Longwood Gardens' festive floral displays.

### **"It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play"** **December 13**

Join the Alumni Association for a holiday reception followed by a performance of "It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play" at the Bucks County Playhouse.

### **39<sup>TH</sup> Annual Alumni Holiday Turkey Project** **December 20**

Thanks to generous donations to the Alumni Turkey Project from Drexel alumni and the University community, hundreds of families in-need will enjoy warm turkey dinners this Christmas. Make your gift to the Project today!  
[drexel.edu/alumni](http://drexel.edu/alumni)

### **"Pack the DAC" with Drexel Alumni** **December 22**

The Alumni Association will host a reception for alumni and friends before the Drexel men's basketball takes on Davidson College at 8 p.m. It will be broadcast live on NBC Sports Network, so come out and show your Dragon pride for thousands to see!

### **Alumni Weekend** **May 3 - 4, 2013**

Save the date for this annual celebration, and come back to campus to reconnect and reminisce with classmates and friends!