



Total number of years that Drexel has competed in athletics. And each of those years is now covered in detail at the new Janet E. and Barry C. Burkholder Athletics Hall of Fame, which opened with a gala event at the Daskalakis Athletic Center in early December. The new Hall of Fame is an interactive exhibit that allows visitors to view a complete history of Drexel Athletics, including information on Drexel greats, retired numbers, memorable moments, all-time rosters and more (see story, Page 21).



[A NUMERICAL ANALYSIS OF LIFE AT DREXEL]

[A NOMERICAL ANALISIS OF LIFE AT DREADL]	
12	Number of MacBooks held by the new laptop kiosk at the W.W. Hagerty Library—a kiosk that allows students to check out one of 12 MacBooks for free, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Drexel is the third university in the nation to install this kind of kiosk, and it's possible that additional machines could be installed around campus in the future. Said Drexel Libraries Dean Danuta A. Nitecki: "This was a great opportunity to match a specific student need with library staff's ongoing exploration of cutting-edge technologies."
\$464,775	Total raised so far by the College of Medicine's annual Pediatric AIDS Benefit Concert (PABC). The event, which benefits the Dorothy Mann Center for Pediatric and Adolescent HIV at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children, was held this year on Feb. 16. The money raised through the event helps pay for the services of a child-life specialist and a dietitian at the Center, offers the children the opportunity to attend summer camp and helps provide the affected families with emergency funds for housing and other expenses.
\$0	Total co-pay required for Drexel faculty and staff with the Drexel Preferred insurance plan to use the new Drexel Medicine medical practice in University City. The new clinic opened in early January, with the stated goal of providing convenient, comprehensive, high-quality primary care to the Drexel community.
76	Placement given to Drexel's digital fossil research efforts in <i>Discover Magazine</i> 's list of the Top 100 science stories of 2012. Dr. Kenneth Lacovara is spearheading the effort here at Drexel, using 3-D digital scanning, 3-D printing and robots to better understand dinosaurs. Says Lacovara: "This is a powerful way to see how these ancient creatures worked."
32	Ranking assigned to LeBow College of Business professor Jeffrey Greenhaus in the Academy of Management Perspectives' 2012 list of the Top 35 management experts in the world.
2	Number of Drexel teams—men's soccer and women's field hockey—who qualified for the NCAA tournament for their sports during the fall sports season. The Dragons' achievement was a historic one, as never before had two Drexel teams made it to the NCAA tournament during the same season (See story, Page 20).
18 million	Approximate number of specimens contained within the vast and scientifically important collections at the Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University. Those collections are the focus of a new course, ENVS 102: Natural History Collections and Research, that aims to teach students in the Biodiversity, Earth and Environmental Science (BEES) department about the importance of such collections—and how they can be used to continually explore the natural world. Says Academy scientist Dr. John Lundberg: "These specimens are the material basis for what we know about life on earth."

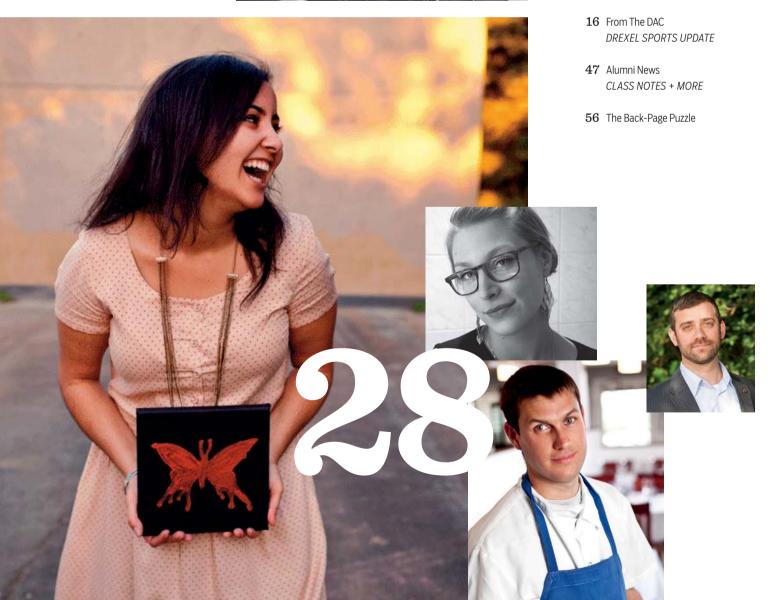
[DREXEL MAGAZINE]

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22 HOW TO BUILD A GREAT TEACHER

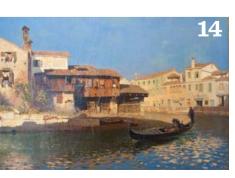
Sheila Vaidya has spent countless hours in Philadelphia's public schools, and she's seen what they lack: Great teachers. Through her new Master Teacher program, she is working to give the city's school system a much-needed boost—and give students hope for a better future. BY MARIA ZANKEY

$28_{_{40\,\mathrm{UNDER}\,40}}^{_{\mathrm{THE}\,\mathrm{DREXEL}\,\mathrm{UNIVERSITY}}}$

We've known it for years: Drexel alumni are, by rule, ambitious, driven, creative and entrepreneurial. In this, our first-ever 40 Under 40 edition, we highlight the varied and remarkable accomplishments of some of our University's most accomplished young alumni.

- 30. The People's Architect: Anthony Bracali, '99
- 33. The Fashionista: Autumn Kietponglert, '07
- 36. The Super Chef: Chip Roman, '02
- 38. The Eagles Insider: Chris McPherson, '03
- 39. The Tastemakers: Abby Kessler, '01, and Katie Loftus, '01
- 40. The Rising Star: Bashir Mason, '07
- 42. The Master of the (Marvel) Universe: Tom Brennan, '05
- 43. The Top Doc: Mikhail Kogan, '04
- 45. The Gatekeeper: Henry Fairfax, '04
- 46. The Big Thinker: Maria Papadakis, '08, '12

ALSO FEATURED: Lauren Pitcow Van Scoy, Michael Brennan, Matthew Hilbush, Kathleen Mandziuk, Brittany Gandy-Knox, Amitra Bhowmick, Lilliam Ambroggio, Ted Oswald, Colleen Wolfe,



Evan Urbania, Travis Mohr, Amanda Danziger, Jeffrey Stockbridge, Michael Hagan, Elayne Weiss, Joshua Batushansky, James Langel, Steven Ward, Jamie Blomquist, Elizabeth Archer, Karlo Young, Samantha Borer, Ranjan Dash, Drew Ginsburg, Chris Cera, Ajarat Bada, Ajamu Johnson, Christian Birch, and Ilya Braude.

THE VIEW FROM MAIN

This issue of *Drexel Magazine* celebrates our young alumni, particularly the "40 under 40" honorees who were chosen to represent a cross-section of the remarkable achievements of our recent graduates.

As I have gotten to know our young alumni community, I have been consistently impressed with their maturity, their focus and their innovative spirit. But perhaps it's not surprising, because Drexel's experience-focused educational model draws an exceptionally entrepreneurial student body. New Drexel graduates are driven, perhaps even impatient, to begin to build their own businesses, careers, portfolios—their own paths to success and fulfillment. And the results begin to show very quickly.

The women and men highlighted in this issue are an outstanding resource for the alumni community, and for the University itself. Some are propagating Drexel technology in the commercial sector, some are hiring Drexel co-ops and graduates, and some are contributing directly to the ongoing transformation of our University.

This engagement by our alumni is critical to our success. I am grateful to every graduate who continues to think of Drexel as a partner in their careers. And whichever side of 40 you're on, I encourage you to consider how you might forge a mutually beneficial working relationship with your alma mater. Together, Drexel and its alumni are capable of doing amazing things.

Sincerely,

John A. Fry President

EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

One of the mild frustrations of my job here as Editor of the Drexel Magazine is this: I don't get out of the office nearly as much as I'd like.

I started my career as a newspaper reporter and I'm still a reporter at heart, which means that I'm much more comfortable out of the office than in it. Given my preference, I'd spend my days out and about, meeting as many people as I could, or traveling far and wide in search of great stories about this great university.

But alas, the job of the editor is to get the magazine published—not to write it. And so, I spend an awful lot of time at this desk, doing a lot in the way of planning and a lot in the way of editing, but not much in the way of writing, or reporting, or, well, seeing the sun.

That wasn't the case with this issue, however. Because if our decision to publish a "40 Under 40" edition of Drexel Magazine did anything, it forced me-and our wonderful staff-to get out of the office, to go find great stories, and to meet up in person with some of the wonderful young alumni who are doing their part, every single day, to tell the world about the amazing (and ongoing) rise of Drexel.



In writing and reporting this

special issue—an issue in which we'll tell the story of 40 accomplished, diverse, ambitious young alumni-my staff and I had the opportunity to hop all around Philadelphia and the nearby suburbs, and we thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to not only meet these impressive graduates, but also see up close where they work and what they're doing: We visited a glitzy boutique in Old City, a Main Line private school, a Center City building site and Lincoln Financial field, home of the Philadelphia Eagles (on a very, very cold day, it must be said). We interviewed doctors and engineers, authors and rising media stars, athletes and entrepreneurs. Along the way, we gained a new appreciation for the opportunities that Drexel has helped create, and the impact that this university has had on its city, region and world.

We hope that you will enjoy this issue of *Drexel Magazine*, and we hope, too, that you will share your feedback, comments and criticism. I invite you to send your letters to magazine@drexel.edu or to the mailing address at right.

Thanks, as always, for reading. And go Dragons.

Sincerely.

Tim Hyland/Editor

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[DREXEL MAGAZINE]

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LETTERS

In remembrance of Lester Stradling

I was saddened to read that, earlier this year, Mr. Lester Stradling passed away, but even more saddened to see his name as just one more in the magazine's traditional "Friends We'll Miss" list, with not so much as a footnote as to who he was. I am aware that nobody receives footnotes, but to me, Mr. Stradling deserved one.

Mr. Stradling was Dean of Mechanical Engineering at what was then called Drexel Evening College for years. He was a no-nonsense instructor during class, with an office door that was always open to students, even very late into the night. His specialty, as I knew it, was thermodynamics. He even wrote a highly detailed textbook that was used in his classes.

And when the semester was over, one had an intimate relationship with the material presented—and an inner feeling of true accomplishment. Thermodynamics was the easiest final I ever studied for, because I "knew" that material.

Charles Connor, BSME'80 Runnemede, N.J.

The Editor Replies: Thank you for this wonderful note, Mr. Connor. It is always great to hear fond remembrances of Drexel, and of Drexel people, too. We welcome others to share their memories or Mr. Stradling, or of any other Drexel faculty member, by writing to us at any time at magazine@drexel.edu. —T.H.



Researcher Educator Policymaker Leader

[Teacher]

How can society meet its challenges?

Educational leadership is part of the answer. The School of Education makes good on all the promises of Drexel, one of the nation's 100 best universities: education with real-world experience, research with impact on society, civic engagement that builds community. We produce leaders in STEM education, and educators in every field with expertise in technology. Our faculty are helping create the future, with a focus on urban education. And our students graduate ready to solve complex problems in the service of society.



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CERTIFICATIONS, CERTIFICATES AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Ellen Furxhi M.S. in Higher Education Class of 2010 [WHAT'S HAPPENING ON CAMPUS]

AN UNYIELDING CHALLENGE

Mumbai, the most populous city in India, a modern day tale of two cities is unfolding. Glitzy steel and glass apartment towers are rising adjacent to some of the poorest slums in the world. It's the wealthiest city in India, yet like other fast developing cities around the globe, Mumbai also suffers from widespread poverty, unemployment and poor public health.

Because of its tropical climate, female anopheles mosquitoes are ubiquitous, and when they bite, they don't discriminate between the rich and poor. Unlike other metropolitan cities where improvements to public health are strongly associated with economic development, reports of new malaria infections are up 71 percent in Mumbai over the last four years, according to a survey conducted by Mumbai-based Praja Foundation.

A sharp increase in cases of drug-resistant malaria has experts like Akhil Vaidya, a Drexel microbiology and immunology professor, especially worried that malaria could be making a comeback in that region.

"I visit Mumbai often, and I've seen people who live in apartments who are wealthy get sick and die," Vaidya says. "It's a real problem."

The fight against malaria dates to ancient times, yet it remains one of the most lethal infectious killers in the world. Every second, a child dies of malaria in Africa.

As new, drug-resistant strains of the disease emerge and spread across Southeast Asia, Vaidya and his colleagues half a world away at the Center for Molecular Parasitology at the College of Medicine are leading groundbreaking efforts to stop it. Vaidya, the center's chair, and professors James Burns and Bill Bergman are probing the complex molecular and genetic structure of the parasites that cause malaria, hoping to discover hidden weaknesses that can be exploited with new, targeted medicines and vaccines. Their efforts, in collaboration with research partners around the globe and made possible in part by a new \$2 million grant from the National Institutes of Health, could lead to the development of powerful new tools in the prevention and treatment of this terrible disease.

EFFORTS INCREASE, CHALLENGES REMAIN

Malaria is entirely preventable and treatable. Yet ongoing malaria transmission occurs in 106 countries worldwide. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates there were 219 million cases of malaria in 2010 and 660,000 deaths were attributed to the disease. Those most at risk include young children, nonimmune pregnant women and people with HIV/AIDS. Although 80 percent of cases and 91 percent of deaths occur in Africa, half

Malaria has been all but eradicated in the developed world, but it still kills nearly 700,000 people worldwide every year. Researchers from Drexel's College of Medicine are doing their part to fight back, but admit the challenges are enormous. BY BRIAN M. SCHLETER

of the world population is at risk of malaria, according to the Roll Back Malaria Partnership.

The last decade has seen many gains in the fight to control, prevent and treat the disease, and mortality rates have fallen by more than 25 percent globally since 2000. This coincides with a steep increase in international investments in malaria control, up from \$100 million in 2000 to an estimated \$1.84 billion in 2012. The money has been used to distribute many more insecticide-treated bed nets in sub-Saharan Africa, to increase indoor residual spraying, and to buy and distribute drugs that can prevent infection. Seasonal malaria chemoprevention is a "simple and inexpensive intervention that has the potential to prevent more than 75 percent of uncomplicated and severe malaria among children younger than five years of age," says WHO Director-General Dr. Margaret Chan.

Targeting resources to regions hardest hit by malaria has prevented an estimated 274 million more cases and 1.1 million more deaths between 2001 and 2010, according to the WHO's 2012 annual report on malaria, released in December.

Still, major challenges persist. The worldwide economic downturn has meant a leveling off of government funding for malaria research and control efforts-less than half of what is needed is available, the WHO says. Disease surveillance is poor in the hardest hit countries. And diagnostic testing rates are nearly the same today as a decade ago.

Vaidya, professor of Microbiology and Immunology and director of the Center for Molecular Parasitology, said eradication of malaria is just as simple—and equally as complex—as eradication of poverty.

"If everyone in the world lived in air-conditioned houses with screen doors, there would be no malaria," he says. "The drugs we have are very effective when the parasites are responsive to them."

Economic issues aside, what has Vaidya and his colleagues very concerned is the emergence of parasite resistance to artemisin, the most effective antimalarial currently in use, in four Southeast Asia countries. Resistance to previous generations of therapies in the 1970s and 1980s undermined malaria control efforts. Child survival rates started decreasing. Now scientists are in a race to understand how the parasite has evolved and prevent similar setbacks.



For Vaidya, the race has been more of a marathon, spanning a 35-year Drexel career. While studying the molecular biology of retroviruses in the 1980s at what was then Hahnemann University, he "got pulled in" to a study on malaria. He never looked back.

His lab looks at the mitochondria functions of malaria parasites to understand how they differ and are similar to host cell mitochondria. In 1989, the laboratory found that the mitochondrial genome of malaria parasites consisted of a very unusual DNA molecule. The breakthrough discovery led to a better understanding of the mechanism of action for antimalarial drugs that were especially effective against *Plasmodium falciparum* parasites, but less so against other varieties. This knowledge helped narrow the choice of which antimalarial drug combinations clinicians should use in patients with a confirmed diagnosis of *Plasmodium falciparum* malaria. It also helped minimize drug resistance.

"What we are doing is essentially making drugs that work as cyanide for the malaria parasite without working as cyanide for us. We are "What we are doing is essentially making drugs that work as cyanide for the malaria parasite without working as cyanide for us."

essentially selectively poisoning mitochondria of the parasite without poisoning human mitochrondria. This is possible because the mitochondria of parasites are so very different from host mitochondria in humans," Vaidya says.

In a series of studies that build on these early findings, Vaidya's lab is working to develop new antimalarial compounds. One such venture, in collaboration with investigators at Oregon Health Sciences University, aims to disrupt the mitochondrion function of the invasive parasites. The compound has been nominated as a candidate for clinical development in humans.

Last year, the National Institutes of Health awarded Vaidya's team a \$2 million grant for a four-year project to investigate molecular pathways targeted by other promising, new antimalarial compounds identified by his group. He characterizes unpublished data from early lab experiments as "very promising," and one of the agents is slated for testing in humans beginning this year. Over the last three years, the team's drug discovery and development work also has been supported with a \$1 million grant from Medicines for Malaria Venture, a nonprofit organization based in Geneva. Switzerland.



As malaria became a major area of research emphasis in the College of Medicine's Department of Microbiology and Immunology. three existing labs came together in 2001 to form the Center for Molecular Parasitology, With seven faculty members, today it is one of the largest academic groups in the country working to understand, treat and prevent malarial disease.

Bergman's investigations chiefly are concerned with the complex molecular interactions responsible for the disease. A cellular biologist, he is interested in how the parasite manages to invade the host cell, where it lives and reproduces.

"The way the parasite gets into the cell is the same way you get in bed at night. Just as you reach out

and grab the covers and pull them over you, the parasite reaches out and grabs the cell it wants to invade and pulls itself using this actin-myosin motor," he says.

Scientists reason that if they could inhibit the motor from latching on to the host red blood cell, they could prevent disease. But the parasites have many of these actin-myosin motors and they have different functions. In fact, numerous parasite and host cell components play a role in the invasion process.

"I always say, 'The parasite is smarter than I am,'" Bergman says. "It is a difficult foe, no doubt."

By laboriously figuring out from a biological point of view what actin-myocin motors do for the parasite, Bergman's team has po-



MALARIA FACTS

In 2010, the World Health Organization estimated that 660,000 people died of malaria. Most were children in Africa.

In all, there were 219 million cases of malaria in 2010.

Overall, malaria mortality rates have fallen by 25 percent globally since 2000, and by 33 percent in Africa.

Even still, one child dies every minute from malaria in Africa.

80 percent of malaria deaths occur in just 14 countries, and 80 percent of all malaria cases occur in just 17 countries

The Democratic Republic of the Congo and Nigeria account for more than 40 percent of all malaria deaths.

"I always say, 'The parasite is smarter than I am.' It is a difficult foe, no doubt."

tentially identified small molecule inhibitors of the invasion process. The work has led to a collaboration with Sandhya Kortagere, assistant professor of microbiology and immunology, to design small molecule inhibitors that seem to block growth of Plasmodium falciparum in lab cultures. The next step is to solicit support to discover how these molecules work and develop them further as potential new antimalarials.

"The goal of any scientist is that the discovery they would make would somehow be implemented into some sort of treatment, and we continue on that quest. In many cases, this is all through an understanding of the basic biology of the parasite."

THE SEARCH FOR A VACCINE

Eradication of malaria, though, would require a vaccine capable of completely preventing infection. Vaccines against all stages of the malaria parasite life cycle are in development, but none have been approved for use in humans. "The vaccine side of the house, I have to admit, really hasn't gone as well over the years. Parasites are tough. They have multiple ways of doing things," says Burns, whose lab designs and tests vaccines.

He and his peers are closely watching the results of a Gates Foundation-sponsored Phase 3 clinical trial in humans across 10 sites in Africa, the largest of its kind and "best shot we have going." Early results showed a promising 50 percent efficacy rate. But the most recent data showed

the effectiveness dropping to 30 percent for the youngest age group—those most vulnerable to the disease because they lack any natural built up immunity.

From the glass-half-full perspective, some protection is better than no protection at all, Burns says, adding, "I think all along it's been recognized that this is a first generation vaccine and we're going to need to improve on it. But we were hoping for better numbers out of the gate."

Different vaccines act to prevent or delay a malaria attack at different stages. Burns' main interest is looking at blood-stage parasites, the point after which they reach the bloodstream and invade host red blood cells. A compound he's developed and tested in rats and rabbits induced strong antibody responses. To predict whether it would work well in humans as a vaccine, the team mixed the antibodies that they elicited in animals with blood stage parasites in vitro to see if they could inhibit growth. Parasite growth was notably suppressed.

The next step is an immunization and challenge trial with monkeys, which have been used for decades to test the safety and protective efficacy of potential vaccines and drugs for human use. Burns is collaborating with a researcher at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta to immunize Aotus monkeys so they can measure the immune responses that are elicited. The monkeys are then infected with human malaria parasite *Plasmodium falciparum* to measure the efficacy of the vaccine. If they're successful, the vaccine could be considered a candidate for human trials.

"It would be another component to a cocktail of antigens. There's pretty much a consensus in the field that the ultimate vaccine is going to have to have multiple components against each of the targets and across these development stages," he says.

While the prospects are exciting, Burns says he's learned over his 30-plus year research career to temper his expectations.

"If you look at the parasites that are circulating in those endemic areas, you'll see that with a lot of what we consider the best vaccine targets, there's a lot of variability from one strain to the next. It can switch amino acids here and there and avoid immune mediated clearance by whatever you may have been inducing by a vaccine effort," he says. "It's not the magic bullet that's going to completely prevent infection the way pre-erythrocytic stage vaccines are designed to do. But it would reduce parasite burdens in these populations and hopefully reduce some of the severe complications of malaria that lead to morbidity and mortality."

Barcode inventor and Drexel alum passes away at 91

NORMAN JOSEPH WOODLAND, a 1947 graduate, who, along with classmate Bernard Silver, created the system for instant electronic recall of product information commonly called the barcode, passed away at the age of 91 on Dec. 9, 2012. The pair's invention revolutionized the retail industry and is an



example of a technology that has stood the test of time.

"We lost a great inventor and a contributor to the world of engineering," says Dr. Joseph Hughes, dean of Drexel's College of Engineering."

neering. "Mr. Woodland was a role model and an inspiration for our students. We are greatly saddened by this loss and our condolences are with the Woodland family at this time."

Woodland's passing comes in the same year as the 60th anniversary of the barcode's invention. Woodland graduated from Drexel Institute of Technology with a degree in mechanical engineering and continued his post-graduate studies at the school. In 1948, the head of a local grocery store chain came to Drexel in hopes of tapping the institution's engineering school to develop a way to read product data during the checkout process. When the dean of the



school turned down the offer, Silver and Woodland seized the opportunity.

At the time, card-reading equipment that was used in stores was bulky and expensive. Woodland's early inspirations for the barcode came from Morse code—a system of dots and dashes used to send coded messages via the tele-

graph, which he had learned when he was a Boy Scout.

While he was staying with his grandparents in Miami in the winter of 1948, Woodland's moment of clarity struck as he sat on the beach drawing with his fingers in the sand.

"I just extended the dots and dashes downwards and made narrow lines and wide lines out of them," Woodland said in a *Wonders of Modern Technology* article.

To read the codes, Woodland came up with a way of shining light through the lines to a light sensitive tube on the other side that converted the varying brightness of the light coming through the paper into electric waves that could be processed to deliver information. Silver crafted the original coding pattern, which was in the form of a bull's eye—so that it could be scanned in any direction. The engineers received a patent for their invention, called "Classifying Apparatus and Method," on Oct. 7, 1952.

Seeking: Big Thinkers, Great Ideas. BY NIKI GIANAKARIS

Drexel has been known for years as a hot destination for students with entrepreneurial spirit. In January, the University took another huge step forward in becoming a true leader in entrepreneurship education.

Thanks to \$12.5 million in gifts from the Charles and Barbara Close Foundation, Drexel has announced that it will create the Charles D. Close School of Entrepreneurship, which when opened this fall will be among only a handful of freestanding schools of entrepreneurship in the nation and the only one in Philadelphia.

Building on an outstanding foundation of curriculum, programming and thought leadership at Drexel, the Close

In announcing plans to create the Charles D. Close School of Entrepreneurship, Drexel signals its ambitions to become a home for ambitious young entrepreneurs-and an engine for economic growth.

School will be the engine driving the expanded culture of entrepreneurship envisioned by the University's strategic plan. "With the establishment of the Charles D. Close School of Entrepreneurship, I am confident that Drexel will soon be at the very top of the list of universities creating not just entrepreneurs, but new approaches to encouraging and realizing great ideas," says President John A. Fry. "The chance to launch a new school that will help deepen the culture of innovation at Drexel comes

along rarely. I am proud of what the Foundation's support and confidence have allowed us to achieve."

The late Charles D. Close was a 1936 Drexel graduate in electrical engineering and one of the University's most distinguished alumni. His professional success as founder, leader and investor in a series of important technology companies was based on the same entrepreneurial values that will underpin the Close School. He and his wife Barbara established an equally notable legacy of philanthropy, which continues today under the guidance of the trustees of the Close Foundation.

The Close School will position entrepreneurship not just as a technical process of launching new companies, but as a set of personal and professional skills that foster the pursuit of innovation in business, personal and career contexts. Students in every college and school at Drexel will connect through the Close School to curricular, extracurricular and experiential programs that support their entrepreneurial efforts. The School will also serve the regional entrepreneurial and business community through its thought leadership in entrepreneurship research.

In fall 2013, the Close School will establish its presence with programs including an "Entrepreneurship Living-Learning Community," where like-minded students will live in a residential environment dedicated to entrepreneurship programming; "Entrepreneurship Co-ops," offering mentoring and financial support to students who spend a co-op period developing their own business idea; and a "Launch It" course that provides students with guidance and seed money to "de-risk" their own business model.

The Close School will eventually offer co-admission with other colleges and schools for entrepreneurially focused students, and ultimately build joint degree programs in entrepreneurship. The School will offer joint appointments to Drexel professors across the University whose work incorporates entrepreneurship and innovation, and will also build a "clinical faculty" of practicing entrepreneurs whose involvement will deepen Drexel's connection to the corporate and nonprofit sectors.



COMING SOON: Perelman Plaza

The dramatic makeover of Drexel's campus, which is already being reshaped with the construction of the LeBow College of Business building and the new Chestnut Square student housing development, will continue this summer—this time, with a focus on open space.

With a \$5 million gift from the Raymond and Ruth Perelman Education Foundation, Drexel will reimagine the center of its campus along the former 32nd Street between Chestnut and Market streets, creating a new hub of activity that will be called the Raymond G.

"The highest and best use of open outdoor space is critical to a vibrant urban university campus," says Drexel President John A. Fry. "I envision a day very soon when Perelman Plaza will be a destination for all members of our community almost every day, and the rest of our transformed campus and neighborhood will radiate out from its hub."

Plans for Perelman Plaza will be complete in the spring, with construction beginning in the summer. The new plaza will feature an improved flow of pedestrian traffic, well-planned seating and increased shade and natural beauty. In time, surrounding ground-level spaces will be renovated to open seamlessly onto the plaza. And the design will integrate sustainable stormwater management and rainwater usage.



BY THE NUMBERS: Drexel's Economic Impact

Last year Drexel commissioned EConsult Corporation of Philadelphia to compile a comprehensive report detailing the University's economic impact on the City of Philadelphia and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The results of that report were released last fall, and if there was one takeaway. it was this: Drexel has become a powerful engine for positive economic change in its neighborhood, its city and its state.

The total combined impact of Drexel's spending, the earning power of the University's alumni and the spending of students and visitors to campus.

MILLION

Total tax revenue alumni in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

created by Drexel

\$15

Total combined economic impact of Drexel in Philadelphia, including \$1.2 billion from operating activities, \$59 million from capital investment and \$287 million from visitor spending.

Total economic impact of Drexel's impressive and ongoing capital investment, including such projects as the renovated URBN Center and the new LeBow College of Business building.

Total combined tax revenues generated by Drexel at the state and local level.

Total revenues created by the spending of Drexel students and visitors to Drexel campuses. schools and centers.

27,40

Total number of jobs created by Drexel, both on campus and off, across a myriad of employment sectors.

An Update from Bioko

In our Fall 2012 issue, we shared with you the story of Drexel research associate Shaya Honarvar, who has been working over the past several vears to save the drill monkeys of Bioko Island, Equatorial Guinea.

In the months that have passed, we are pleased to report that Honarvar's quest has continued to move forward.

On Dec. 13, the film that Honarvar and her team produced, The Drill Project, debuted on television in Equatorial Guinea. Later this year, the film will be shown on campus at Drexel. Then, equipped with a projector, screen and generator, Honarvar will return to Bioko to take the

show on the road, traveling to remote villages, including those without electricity, to share the film's important message-that biodiversity is crucial to the long-term health of the island—and participate in discussions with the people who see it.



After Sandy, Investigating a Better Way Forward

In the wake of another destructive storm, Drexel's Franco Montalto is working with a group of experts from around the country to craft better disaster-preparedness policy.

As recovery efforts in the wake of Hurricane Sandy continue, a team of experts who study climate and impacts in urban areas are looking for ways to minimize the loss of life and livelihoods the next time an extreme weather event affects coastal cities. Among the team's members is Drexel's Dr. Franco Montalto, an assistant professor in the College of Engineering who is looking at how infrastructure can be designed to minimize flooding.

The Consortium on Climate Risk in the Urban Northeast (CCRUN), a NOAA Regional Integrated Sciences and Assessment (RISA) research group with expertise in climate science, oceanography, engineering, green infra-



structure, public health and social vulnerability is monitoring the effects of climate and climate change in the region and taking a close look at the aftermath of the storm. The group will work toward a recommendation on how community resilience and disasterresponse can be improved.

"While it's impossible to eliminate all vulnerabilities during a storm of this magnitude, one thing we can do is seek to harness new and enhanced natural green spaces including wetlands, parks and other permeable landscape features to protect people from the next extreme weather event," says Montalto, a co-investigator who is studying the interaction of the storm with regional green infrastructure networks.

Striking during high astronomical tide, Hurricane Sandy became what meteorologists termed a "superstorm" due to the combination of unusually warm temperatures in the North Atlantic and its interaction with another weather front moving through the eastern United States.

More than 100 people lost their lives during the hurricane. Initial estimates are that flooding and strong winds caused upward of \$50 billion in property damage and economic losses on the East Coast. An estimated four million people were without power in the New York metropolitan region and in New York City alone more than 20,000 people may be homeless due to property damage.

Impacts to infrastructure were crippling from New Jersey to Connecticut. Seven

"Hurricane Sandy is a wake-up call for the urban Northeast."

subway tunnels under the East River were flooded, with service out for close to a week. According to the group, the long-term impacts of the storm are still being uncovered.

CCRUN scientists at Stevens Institute of Technology used their Storm Surge Warning System to predict the storm tide to within 20 percent, aiding preparations for the flooding. The group hopes to build upon its forecasting of coastal storms and clearly identify to people living in urban areas in the northeast the flood dangers they pose.

"Hurricane Sandy is a wake-up call for the urban Northeast," says Cynthia Rosenzweig, a researcher from NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Studies and the principal investigator of CCRUN. "We need to learn from it to improve resilience as climate risks increase due to climate change."

The team will also examine ways to minimize health risks, such as polluted water sources, in the wake of storm surge flooding, and recommend infrastructure improvements that can limit the amount of flooding that occurs. -B.F.

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TIME & PLACE

1_4_2013 THE CORNER OF 32ND AND MARKET STREETS

The Paul Peck Alumni Center at 32nd and Market streets was originally designed by the great Frank Furness (1839-1912) in 1876 as the Centennial National Bank. The building today serves as the home of the Office of Alumni Relations and is used regularly for various University events. The building's central Gallery, the room where bank employees once kept the bank's records, also happens to be home to some of the finest items from the Drexel Collection—items that we'll explore in more detail here.

1 /// While Furness' original building was completed in 1876, new wings were added both in 1899 by Frank Miles Day and in 1956 by Bud Ross. Many original elements remain, however, especially here in the Gallery; the most signature Furness on display here are his use of bold colors of red and blue on the metal beam and wooden columns and the decorative brickwork below the brilliant blue ceiling.

2 /// Through the Fields, c. 1900, by Francesco Paolo Michetti (1851-1929): Francesco Paolo Michetti studied at the Academy in Naples. Abruzzo, a region in central Italy, was his inspiration. His paintings captured its people, animals and local events in luminous color and vibrant light with atmospheric effects. This scene shows a group of children marching through a field of wheat and poppies.

3 /// A Summer Day in Venice, 1880, by Rubens Santoro (1859-1942): Rubens Santoro, the son of an artist, enrolled in the Institute of Fine Arts in Naples. He traveled throughout Italy and painted from life and subjects taken from his travels. He is most well-known for his views of Venice. This canal scene in Venice, filled with light and color, shows a woman in a gondola on shimmering waters.

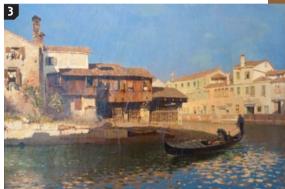
4 /// Figures in the Choir of a Cathedral, 1849, by Jules Victor Génisson: Génisson was born at St. Omer, France to Flemish parents. He received his artistic training at the Antwerp Academy and specialized in architectural subjects, especially Belgian cathedrals. He traveled throughout France, Italy, Germany and Great Britain. His architectural paintings reveal his excellent draftsmanship, his skill with unity of color and perfect perspective.

5 /// After the Wedding, 1880, by Julius LeBlanc Stewart (1855-1919): Stewart moved to Paris with his family in 1865. Since his father was an art collector, Julius studied with important artists in

Paris. His first well-known painting, After the Ball, was commissioned by A. J. Drexel. He was so pleased with the painting he commissioned Stewart for the painting, After the Wedding.

6 /// According to Drexel legend, this painting purportedly depicts the marriage of a Drexel family member. The boy at the base of the steps is wearing a Peter Thompson Sailor Suit, very popular with young girls and boys at the time, and supposedly designed by an English tailor in America for Anthony J. Drexel's son George.







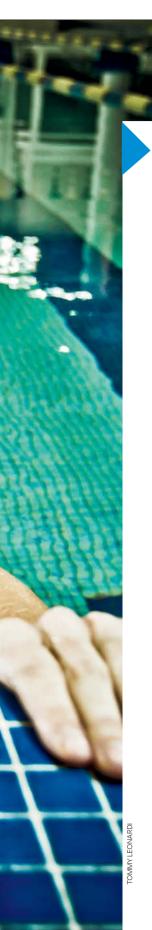






from the DAC





Despite being one of Drexel's most accomplished swimmers, negative thoughts seem to creep into Lauren Faykes' mind as she climbs onto the starting block seconds before a race.

"I tend to not be the most confident swimmer in the world," the senior co-captain says. "My nerves definitely get the best of me before a big race. Even the week before a big meet, I'm usually a mess. I know my turns are not the strongest part of my races, so before I dive in I try to focus on my turns, and I try to remember the things we've gone over in practice."

Whatever her pre-race approach, it seems to be working. In December she was named the Colonial Athletic Association's Co-Swimmer of the Week after a time trial at the AT&T Winter National Championships, where she broke a 22-year-old school record with a time of 2:05.6 in the 200 IM. She also posted a new season best in the 100 butterfly time trial, finishing at 57.19.

It was the latest positive result for a swimmer who readily admits that the mental part of the sport is not her forte. The daughter of a father who swam competitively in college, Faykes was introduced to the pool around the age of 5. But she didn't take to the water immediately.

"To be honest I actually did not like swimming at the beginning," she says. "I was the one girl who had to be carried up to the block by her mom because I would never get in the water. But after a while this one coach that I had when I was in my summer club, I just related to her very well. She was very patient with me. She made swimming fun."

Although her view of the sport was changing, success in the pool came gradually.

"I came from a really competitive club team where I was just middle of the crowd," says Faykes, a design and merchandising major. "I didn't really stand out. I was doing well, I kept improving throughout high school, but I didn't start getting my confidence until I got to Drexel. I don't think I started turning into the swimmer that I am now until my sophomore year."

Faykes is notoriously tough on herself, so it's not surprising that her head coach, Shawn Markey, views her in a different light. He first saw the Cherry Hill, N.J. native swim at a junior national meet in Florida.

"My first impression was she was an elite swimmer," he says. "It was mostly her focus, her attitude. She's very driven, and that's what I look for in a future swimmer at Drexel."

Faykes' performance quickly catapulted her into a role as a team leader. Last year she placed first on the team in the 200 fly and the 200 freestyle at the CAA Championships,

setting new school records in both events. Her 100 free at the CAAs was the second-fastest time on the team and the fourth-fastest in school history.

But speed alone does not make a leader, and it's Faykes' tireless work ethic that most impresses her coaches and teammates.

"I usually practice with Lauren, I try to keep up with her," sophomore Gizem Yali says. "She's the one who keeps me going when I fall behind. She just motivates you."

Faykes has made a point of organizing more group activities, like outings to the movies, in hopes of bringing the team together. Swimming is an individual sport, but a tight-knit team makes for more motivated swimmers in practice.

"She has such a great attitude in practice," Markey says. "She comes in and she consistently is driven and works hard every single day. You don't see that from a lot of people. It's hard to maintain that momentum, especially in swimming. It's monotonous, it's a lot of yardage, but Lauren is always pushing herself, she's always racing. If someone is next to Lauren, it's always a race."

After the CAA Championships conclude in March, Faykes' competitive swimming career will be over. A lifetime of early-morning practices and late-night jitters before a meet won't be missed, but the camaraderie of working with teammates and coaches will.

"It's bittersweet," she says. "I've been swimming for a very, very long time. There were times when I was so bitter against the sport because you have to give up so much. Your friends don't understand why you can't go out on weekends. There was a lot of back and forth, like and dislike with the sport. I'm ready mentally and emotionally to be done, but at the same time it's been the biggest part of my life. It will definitely be weird and a little difficult, but I think I'm ready."

Last year, Faykes was named the *Philadelphia Inquirer* Academic All-Area Women's Swimming and Diving Performer of the Year, and she earned the CAA Scholar-Athlete Award for women's swimming and diving.

Markey has seen his star swimmer's form, focus and results improve through the years, and he is confident she'll be successful in anything she puts her mind to.

"She's very modest when it comes to her swimming," he says. "Lauren's been probably our top point scorer in the past four years. She's got four individual records, three relay records. She's our most decorated swimmer. I just appreciate what she's given to the program. As a coach you just couldn't ask for more."

[IN THE SPOTLIGHT]

Drexel midfielder Kelli Joran on the challenges of big-time lacrosse—and the joy of the defensive stop.

NAME: Kelli Joran Position: Midfield/Attack

YEAR: Senior HOMETOWN: Downingtown, Pa. MAJOR: Elementary Education

CRED: Entering her senior season, midfielder Kelli Joran has her sights set on just one goal: bringing home the CAA crown. The 5-foot-8-inch midfielder was named Drexel's MVP last season, one in which she started all 17 games, led the team with 27 draw control wins and was third in goals, with 25.

Her most memorable performance came against William and Mary. In a game the Dragons had to have, she scored the tying goal with 27 seconds left, then the winning one in overtime. She and her teammates are hoping she has plenty more scintillating performances in store for 2013.

The Goal is Simple: The CAA Title



WHEN DID YOU START PLAYING LACROSSE? "I think I was in third grade. My mom used to play back when she was in high school. She always

wanted me to play, so I thought I would try it, and it turns out I loved it."

WHAT DID YOU LOVE ABOUT IT? "To be honest, when I was younger it was just because all my best friends played. But I kept going, and I love running up and down the field and playing offense and defense. I love the pace of the game. It just works for me."

WHAT WAS THE BIGGEST ADJUSTMENT WHEN YOU STARTED PLAYING FOR DREXEL? "At

the college level it's a lot more physical. You're allowed to use your body a lot more than you are in high school. When you're going up against big strong girls, it's kind of tough when you're a freshman. I hadn't started lifting weights much yet. That was probably the biggest shock-getting tossed around by all the big girls."

WHAT'S THE TOUGHEST PART OF BEING A

MIDFIELDER? "Trying to keep your energy up all game because you don't really ever stop, you're constantly running from offense to defense. You need to have an awareness of everything. You need to really be on top of your game for both your attack and defense."

ON A SCALE OF 1 TO 10, HOW EXCITED ARE YOU HEADING INTO YOUR SENIOR YEAR? "Oh my God, definitely like a 12. I've been talking with my friends nonstop about how excited we are for certain games. It's going to be great."

WHAT ARE YOUR PERSONAL GOALS FOR YOUR **SENIOR SEASON?** "Most of my goals are team goals. My goal is to win the CAA Championship and to make it to the NCAAs. Personally for me, it's just making sure I'm in the best shape I've ever been in. I don't have personal goals for stats and things like that, it's just really to always do my best."

WHAT GIVES YOU MORE SATISFACTION AS A MID-FIELDER: SCORING A GOAL, ASSISTING ON ONE, OR MAKING A GREAT DEFENSIVE PLAY? "Probably

coming up with a great defensive play. When it's getting toward the end of the game, and maybe you're up by one or you're tied and you have a big stop, that's the best feeling for me."

YOU'VE RECEIVED THE CAA COMMISSIONER'S ACADEMIC AWARD EVERY YEAR YOU'VE BEEN AT DREXEL. HOW DO YOU GO ABOUT BALANC-ING YOUR TIME BETWEEN LACROSSE AND THE **CLASSROOM?** "It was pretty easy to get adjusted to. Most of the time when I have assignments I get those done way early, so I don't have to worry about them. I always know what I need to get done in advance. It hasn't been a problem for me. I'm the kind of person that likes to get things done early."

YOU'RE MAJORING IN ELEMENTARY EDUCATION. DO YOU WANT TO BE A TEACHER? "I do. I student-taught kindergarten this year. I think I want to do something around that age. It was awesome. I taught in South Philly and I had a diverse group of children, which was an awesome experience for me."



Kelli Joran's teammate (and roommate) Emily Bauer and her coach, Anna Marie Vesco, chime in on what has made Joran such a huge success at Drexel.

What kind of player is she? Describe her game.

EB: "Kelli makes it look effortless. She goes out there and does what needs to be done. She's so fluid with her motions, it looks like it comes very easily to her."

AMV: "She's really progressed over the years in that each year she absorbs something new and different and adds to her game. She's one of those quiet yet ultra-confident players. She's there to do her job and she increases her level of play almost every day that she's out there."

Is she a leader?

EB: "Kelli, I've always said, leads by example. You look at her and you just know what needs to be done solely based on her actions. She's a hard worker, she's constantly going 100 percent. She may not always be the one that's speaking and yelling, but she brings it every day."

AMV: "She's more of a role model as opposed to our vocal leader. We're asking her to be a little more verbal and to communicate to the troops a little more because everyone's looking toward her to help us get to the next level, which is to win the CAAs. She and the entire senior class really want this conference title this year, and I think they 're going to pull everybody along to make it happen." —*M.U.*

Dream Season for Drexel Athletics

For the First **Time in School History, Two Drexel Teams Earn NCAA Bids** in Same Season



Men's Soccer Claims CAA Title ...

WITH A TWO-GOAL RALLY at home in early November, the Drexel men's soccer team not only clinched a 2-0 win over James Madison, but also wrapped up the Colonial Athletic Association regular season championship—the first outright championship in program history.

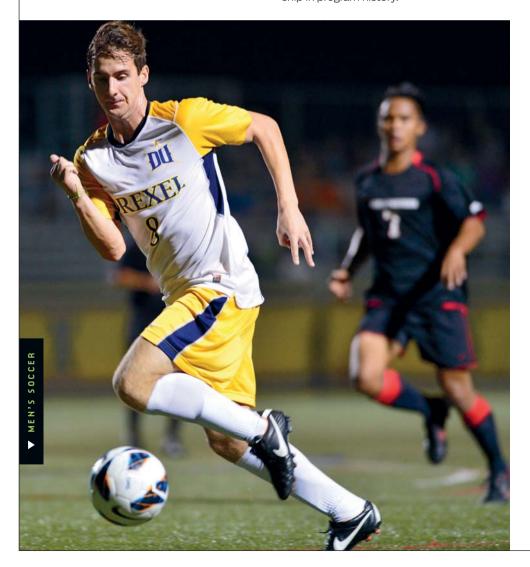
That regular season title was perhaps the greatest highlight of an historic season for the Dragons, who besides winning the CAA also became the first Drexel team in 40 years to qualify for the NCAA tournament. And though their tournament run ended in the first round with a 2-0 loss to Brown University, there's no question that the 2012 season represented a big step forward for a program that is being rebuilt under the leadership of coach Doug Hess.

In all, the Dragons went 12-4-3 in 2012, including an impressive 4-1 win over then-No. 11 Old Dominion in late September.

Given the team's great success, it was hardly a surprise when some of the Dragons were recognized with postseason honors. Midfielder Ken Tribbett, who finished the season with three goals-all of them gamewinners—was named a Third Team Academic All-American and a Third Team All-South Atlantic Region honoree. Meanwhile, striker Nathan Page, who led the Dragons with nine goals, earned Second Team All-South Atlantic Region honors.

Page also was named First Team All-CAA, with Tribbett earning Second Team honors along with goalkeeper Tim Washam.

Hess got his just due, as well: He was named co-CAA Coach of the Year, along with Northeastern's Brian Ainscough.



... And Field Hockey Team Does, Too.

HESS' CREW WASN'T THE ONLY Drexel team to claim a championship this fall.

Roughly a week after the men's soccer team raised their CAA trophy, the Dragons field hockey team did the same, claiming the CAA tournament title with a 2-1 win over rival Northeastern.

The championship was sealed in thrilling fashion, with sophomore Christina Conrad scoring in overtime thanks to an assist from senior captain Amanda Fleischut.

The Dragons had fallen behind soon after the opening whistle, allowing Northeastern to claim a 1-0 lead just four minutes into the game, but Fleischut got an equalizer just before the half. From there, it was a battle to the end, with the Dragons eventually coming out on top.

The victory over Northeastern gave Drexel an automatic bid to the NCAA tournament, where they ultimately fell 5-0 to No. 2-ranked Princeton in Charlottesville, Va.

Predictably, Fleischut was showered with postseason honors. She was named Second-Team All-America, becoming only the seventh Drexel player to receive All-American recognition. She also earned an invitation to play in the 2012 NFHCA Senior Game alongside 37 other top players from around the nation.

In all, Dragons were recognized with Division I All-Region honors, with Lindsay McArdle receiving First Team honors along with Fleischut, and Christina Conrad, Jantien Gunter and Lauren Hibsham earning Second-Team honors.





A New Home for Drexel Hall of Famers

From archery, field hockey and women's basketball legend Olga Assante to former wrestling star Paul Zarbatany, the Drexel Athletics Hall of Fame has for years honored greatest stars in Drexel sports history. The only problem was, there was no actual Hall of Fame—not a physical one, at least.

That's no longer the case.

In December, Drexel unveiled the new Janet E. and Barry C. Burkholder Athletics Hall of Fame with a gala event at the Daskalakis Athletic Center. The new hall, an interactive wall exhibit that allows visitors to learn everything there is to know about Drexel Athletics past and present, is located in the Recreation Center Gallery, between the Recreation Center and the DAC. The Hall's touch screens include a wealth of information about Hall of Fame inductees, including biographies, photos from the Lexerd, Triangle articles provided by Drexel Archives, memorable moments, all-time rosters and more. The exhibit was installed by Forty Nine Degrees of Cincinnati, Ohio.

The Hall of Fame, which is open to the public during regular building hours, was made possible thanks to a gift from the Burkholders, along with support from Clarence Andrews, Dennis Fink, Kathleen Gannon Janavel, Igor Lissy, Janice Marquart Shapiro, Bohdan Siryi, Louisa Willcox Sweeney and Frederic Woerth. Barry Burkholder is a 1962 Drexel graduate and has served as a trustee since 1998.

could sit in a classroom, always," says Sheila Vaidya from the lobby of Mastery Charter School's Lenfest Campus. She's interrupted by the ring of the school bell, and after a rumble from within the classrooms, students flood the ■ hallway, backpacks slung off of shoulders and white headphones dangling around necks.

"They can be a little loud, but that's kids," Vaidya says with a smile. "These students are good kids, and they're good learners."

But Vaidya, a Drexel assistant professor of education, says eager students are only one part of the equation when it comes to creating and sustaining successful schools. The other part, of course, comes from educators themselves.

After years of working as a school psychologist in the School District of Philadelphia, Vaidya says she's noticed that second part of the equation simply isn't there, because if there's one thing the city's school system lacks, it's effective, inspiring teachers.

"I was really surprised to visit some of the schools in Philadelphia," says Vaidya. "Kids were so disengaged. They were making fun of the teachers, making fun of math and the rest of their subjects. It wasn't good."

The disconnect she witnessed in school's throughout the city was enough to propel her into action. Seeking to make a difference in a system that badly need change, Vaidya began to write proposals for grants that could enhance the teachers' experience, with the hope that the benefits would trickle down to the students, the school district and, ultimately, the region.

So far, Vaidya's efforts have been wonderfully successful. Since 2007, she's received four grants for teacher enhancement programs, and at Mastery, the students and teachers have already felt the reverberations of her most recent National Science Foundation-funded

Sheila Vaidya has studied Philadelphia schools up close, and she knows what they lack: Great teachers. Through her new Master Teacher initiative, she is aiming to provide the city's struggling system with a much-needed boost.

How To Build a

BY MARIA ZANKEY PHOTOS BY STEVE BOYLE





Great Teacher

venture. The venture, called the Master Teacher program, aims to help teachers become masterful at their craft, inspire their students and set the foundation for lifelong learning.

It's an effort that could pay dividends for years to come.

"When you think of people who have grown up, and you think of how they've succeeded, there's always the story of a teacher there," Vaidya says.

DEFINING 'MASTERY'

The Master Teacher initiative is rooted within the Noyce Program—a scholarship opportunity for students of education to train and eventually become Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) teachers in high-need schools. Vaidya is the director of the Noyce Program and principal investigator for the Master Teacher program, which is supported by a supplemental grant to further train









teachers—and, hopefully, develop true "master teachers"—already teaching in Philadelphia schools.

It's a huge challenge, and one that starts with the very basics: Identifying what a master teacher should be, and how they can be cultivated.

"No one has one agreed-upon definition of a 'master teacher," Vaidya explains. "That's why the NSF tasked us with developing master teachers: because their idea was that if we have a model for developing them, we could replicate that all over the country.

"We're looking at this as a career trajectory. When you look at a teacher's path, you have pre-service teachers, who are students, then in-service teachers, who are actively teaching, and then from there, where do the good teachers grow to?"

"We think that good teachers can become what we call 'master teachers,' and that eventually they should be recognized for that in the system," Vaidya adds.

But what sets an educator apart as a master teacher? Or even just a potential master teacher? Vaidya and her colleagues are still trying to define the fine print, but there's one qualification that is already agreed upon.

"It all comes down to student achievement," Vaidya says. "If students don't show learning improvement, if they're disengaged, then no one wants to be involved in this business. And that is the business that we're in—all teachers should simply want students to be able to excel."

"What I want to get across to these students is that there's *more* to science.

Scientists don't always have the right information, they don't automatically know the patterns, or have the best equipment."



BEYOND THE BASICS

In a Mastery classroom, teacher Joji Thompson preps for his third period, 11th grade physics class. Instead of doling out blue books to each student, he's handing out handmade cubes, each side containing a series of clues. As the students file in, they're instructed to work together to discern patterns among the cubes and ultimately solve the day's puzzle.

"In most science labs, we tell students what to do—measure the ramp, the speed," Thompson says. "It's not science—that's me telling students what to do, and them obeying. What I want to get across to these students is that there's *more* to science. Scientists don't always have the right information, they don't automatically know the patterns, or have the best equipment. So you have to experiment and debate—and, as students, I need them to understand that framework for scientific discourse."

Thompson is one of three master teachers-in-training working with Vaidya in the Master Teacher program. The cube logic lesson he's using is something he's picked up as part of his master teacher training—a professional development opportunity at a NASA conference in San Luis Obispo, Calif.

"That is part of the beauty of the Master Teacher program," Thompson says. "I'm offered support, feedback and professional development to get that excellence out of my students. In turn, I provide Dr. Vaidya with data based on how my students are improving."



Thompson says that as part of the program, he sets personal goals at the beginning of each school year. Every six weeks, his students are tested, and the results are compared to the scores of the other 600 students at Mastery. Each month, he submits his data to Vaidya, with the hopes of seeing improvements in each student's scoring.

"Joji was masterful before he even entered the program," Vaidya says with a laugh. "He sees the capacity of the students and then takes it to the next level."

Thompson's knack for teaching was something Vaidya noticed from afar; she jumped at the chance to harness it. As an undergraduate engineering student at Drexel, Thompson began tutoring students in Japanese and mathematics at the Drexel Learning Center, and later the Drexel Dragon Program—summer workshops for students who were accepted to Drexel but whose grades were on the lower end of the spectrum.

"Students were really struggling with completing the square, in particular, so I made a DVD that walked them through step by step using graphics," Thompson says.

"That DVD caught the eye of some people in the education department, and I was asked by Dr. Vaidva to come in for a meeting. She asked me to try out education to see if I liked it or not—and I did—so they offered to help fund my education degree through the Noyce Program."

After graduating from Drexel, Thompson moved to Japan for a year, then returned to Philadelphia to teach.

"I landed a job at Mastery," Thompson says. "Our students are chosen by a lottery system. We don't pick 'the best' kids. We take kids from all over the city whose schools say they are 'failing,' four or five grade levels behind."

To qualify for the Master Teacher program, teachers must have a master's degree in education. More importantly, they must be highly motivated, innovative, and continually striving for student achievement.

Thompson fit the bill without question, Vaidya says.

"Education sets an even playing field, and every student deserves a teacher that will open their life to opportunity."

"Joji is an example of the fact that when there is a certain amount of support—and he's getting as much as we can give teachers and students can excel," Vaidya says. "Some teachers in schools get no support. When teachers put in many hours behind the scenes, when they care about the achievement of their students, and when they have the resources to do so, it shows in the students. We've seen that here at Mastery and in Joji's classroom, and we have the data to prove it."

Vaidya says she collects testing data, grades, PSSA scores, evaluations and any other data that might be available from within the classrooms. But not every school is as vigilant in collecting data as Mastery-and Vaidya says the task of quantifying the value of a good teacher is one of the biggest challenges the program faces.

THE LEARNING CYCLE

As Thompson commands his class, Vaidya observes him—and his students, too. She's collecting information that can't exactly be tallied in an Excel spreadsheet. One student calls Thompson by first name, and he responds to her warmly. Another has a question about the semantics of a pop quiz; she raises her hand confidently, without hesitation.

"The students really respect Joji," Vaidya says. "They trust him. That's something you can't teach or train."

But Vaidya says enthusiasm is contagious—and that's something she's hoping can overpower the lack of data when developing a master teacher model.

"Having master teachers also comes down to increasing the teaching capacity in schools, so that there will be a corps of teachers in every school," Vaidya says. "We want to have more Joji's, who can inspire other teachers to learn new things. We've seen that happen in other schools. When teachers are using certain technologies or certain methods of working with their students, other teachers replicate that. Schools will develop and enhance themselves when there's a teacher-learning community. There's not much of that community in the field yet, especially in highneed schools."

To help foster a community of effective teaching within schools, master teacher candidates are required to keep a portfolio of their work—innovative teaching techniques, professional development lessons, advice from colleagues they've found useful on their quest to become masterful.

"To become 'masterful,' it's a very gradual learning process," Vaidya says. "There's no real finish line in the process. When teachers go through the program, we can say they are master teachers, but we will never say, 'That's the end for you."

Going forward, Vaidya says she hopes to establish levels of master teachers, emphasizing the importance of lifelong learning.

"We want to eventually categorize certain teachers as master teachers, partly to recognize and reward those who are putting in extra effort in teaching, and partly so they can become a role model for others. But becoming a master teacher is a lot of hard work," Vaidya says. "There are some people who may want the recognition—to become a master teacher—but who are not prepared for the hard work involved."

The goal of the program is not to attain the master teacher title and relax, Vaidya says. It's to achieve excellence, and then convince the teachers to work even harder.

"If people don't like to be studying and learning new things all the time, they shouldn't go into teaching," Vaidya says. "In physics, for example, there are labs all over the country who are doing physics research. That's why professional development is so important in education, but it's rarely stressed. Not only does Joji have to know that, but he has to be able to understand what they're doing so he can teach his students to the best of his ability."

And ultimately, that's what's at the core of the program: improving teachers who, in turn, will improve student achievement.

"When you think of your life's trajectory, if you're not highly educated, what options do you have?" Vaidya says. "There are a few people who can be Bill Gates. It is not impossible to be successful without an education, but you have to have an innate talent, and often, it depends on your life's circumstances. Education sets an even playing field, and every student deserves a teacher that will open their life to opportunity." [D]



THIS IS THE DREXEL 40 UNDER 40.

As we all know, Drexel is a university on the rise. And our amazing alumni—especially our young alumni—are a big reason why. In this, our first ever **40 Under 40** section, we'll introduce you to a few of the bright, innovative, entrepreneurial minds who are making their mark on the world—and, in so doing, helping spread the word about our great University.





Ted Oswald

Attorney and author in Philadelphia JD'11, Law

My Greatest Accomplishment: Publishing Because We Are: A Novel of Haiti. The book has been a labor of love, unlike anything I've attempted before. It's a murder mystery with a social conscience, a searing portrait of life in Haiti set against the backdrop of the 2010 quake, humanitarian aid efforts, and the outbreak of cholera ravaging the Haitian poor to this very day. Rather than focus on a genius private investigator or cunning police inspector, this mystery features a pair of unlikely detectives: two remarkable children, inspired by real kids I met in the slum.

The story is a "nonprofit novel," so the net proceeds from all its sales are donated back to development and human rights organizations in Haiti. It seemed like the natural way to give back to a community and country that gave me so much.

"It seemed like the natural way to give back to a community and country that gave me so much."

How Drexel Helped: Because We Are was born directly from my experience creating the Haiti Justice Project at Earle Mack School of Law and through a semester spent in Portau-Prince, thanks to the co-op program. Without these opportunities, this story would never have been birthed.

Where I'll Be in Five Years: Living abroad, using my legal training to work for peace and justice in the developing world—and seeing two sequels to *Because We Are* resting on fans' bookshelves everywhere.



Filmmaker and founder, Ferasha Films in Allentown, Pa. BS'11, Entertainment Arts Management, Media Management & Cinema and TV

My Greatest Accomplishment: In 2008 I started my documentary film organization, Ferasha Films. After graduating in 2010, I started working on my first full-length feature documentary, "The Backyard Philly Project." This documentary is the culmination of two years of filming, directing and producing. I was contacted in 2011 by Adam Bruckner, former soccer player of the Philadelphia Kixx, who found Ferasha Films online. At the time I was living in Philadelphia, and because my documentaries are cause-driven, I started thinking about Philadelphia as my backyard. I wanted to serve my community and impact people's lives. Adam and his organization, the Helping Hands Rescue Mission, opened those doors for me. Adam introduced me to four teenagers who live in the projects of Philadelphia. These four teens openly shared their stories and allowed me into their lives. I started filming this documentary because I desire to bring important overlooked stories to life while encouraging others to action through film. Before I graduated, Ferasha Films was a one-person job. This project inspired me to take on crew members, mold my business plan and make Ferasha Films what it is today. Currently, I am finishing up post-production and preparing to premiere the film May 10 and 11 at 6 p.m. in Drexel's URBN Center Annex.

How Drexel Helped: My education at Drexel gave me the skills to establish a business plan for Ferasha Films. It also taught me how to keep my passion alive and to always persevere. If I didn't start Ferasha Films as a Drexel student, I don't know where it would be today.

Where I'll Be in Five Years: At the moment, I am using all my extra time to build Ferasha Films. In the next five years, I would love to see it turn into a successful, independent nonprofit organization.





A high-profile project on the

Schuylkill River has given

Anthony Bracali a chance to

make a long-lasting impact

on the city he loves.

Anthony Bracali

On a once vacant lot nestled between Eakins Oval and 24th street, a huge public skate park—one of the most expensive and expansive skate parks ever built—is taking shape along the banks of the Schuylkill River.

And it is architect Anthony Bracali's sincere hope that, when that skate park is completed, passersby will stroll by or

stroll though, take in the intricacies of the design he spent years perfecting, and realize not at all that the thing they're looking at is supposed to be used almost exclusively by skateboarders.

"The whole idea here was to make this look not at all like what a skatepark is supposed to look like," says Bracali, B.Arch'99, president of Friday Architects/Planners in Philadelphia. "What we wanted to do was create a great public space that just happened to be a skatepark."

For Bracali, creating such civic-minded spaces has been the focus of his career almost from the start-and the start, it turns out, goes all the way back to his childhood. He says, only half-jokingly, that he knew he wanted to be an architect by the time he reached the fourth grade, and by the time he was ready to apply for college, he knew, too, that he only wanted to go to school in a city. As a native of Allentown, Drexel was an obvious choice, and once he was accepted, he was all in.

Like many Drexel gradates, Bracali credits the school for both helping him gain an early foothold in his field of choice as an undergrad, he co-oped with Venturi Scott Brown Architects—and allowing him to figure out what kind of work he actually wanted to do. Specifically, he realized he was never going to cut it as a "corporate architect;" he wanted to create spaces for real people in real neighborhoods, and he wanted to make an impact, especially here in Philadelphia, where he lives with his wife and three children.

With that goal in mind, he would go on to launch Anthony Bracali Architecture, his own firm, in 2002. He continued to operate independently until 2007, when he was invited to join longtime Philadelphia firm Friday Architects, with the understanding that he would eventually take

over when the previous partners stepped down.

He's since done exactly that, and now hopes to make a big splash with the skate park projectwhich, he admits, presents a unique opportunity. While Bracali has had the opportunity to work on some major projects over the years (he was on the design team that drew up plans for Citizens Bank

Park and was lead designer for the Chester Performing Arts Center), few projects have provided such a high-visibility stage for him to showcase his ideas on how architecture should contribute to the world around it.

The \$4.5-million project will cover 2.5 acres along the recently developed Schuylkill River Park, and will welcome both skaters and non-skaters with a unique blend of elements: There will be skate-friendly surfaces, yes, but plenty of seating for the public as well, including a somewhat informal amphitheater space. Every last detail, it seems, was considered during Bracali's quest to not only give the city's skateboarders a great place to play, but also build a beautiful, welcoming space along the undervalued Schuylkill.

"What we want to do is create spaces there for activities beyond skateboarding, and hopefully create a merger between those two different uses," he says. "Hopefully, that will allow the space to be more usable and sustainable over time." -T.H.



Evan Urbania

Founder, ChatterBlast in Philadelphia BS'06, Business Administration & Marketing

My Greatest Accomplishment: I take great pride in owning my own company. ChatterBlast Media started in my apartment and has grown by triple-digit percentages each year. We are proud to service clients such as Brandywine Realty Trust, Aqua America, Reading Terminal Market, AARP and marathon swimmer Diana Nyad. The groundbreaking social media campaign we created for the Philadelphia Parking Authority remains a national case study for social media customer service in government. I am proud to be a growing employer in the region.

I am honored to serve as president of the Independence Business Alliance (IBA). Founded in 2006, the IBA is Greater Philadelphia's LGBT Chamber of Commerce. As president, I have led the organization to financial security, increased memberships, doubled corporate partnerships and hired full-time staff to support the group's growing and ambitious initiatives. From an advocacy standpoint, we're really pushing the message of strength and equality for the LGBT business community. I've testified on bills focused on business policy and workplace diversity in Harrisburg on behalf of the community.

A defining moment in my life was the tragic events of 9/11—and my ability to respond to it. I co-founded The Memoria Project, a community-driven sculptural memorial in honor of all the victims and survivors. The Memoria Project gained national attention as one of the largest community-based grassroots memorials designed to help surviving families cope through participation in the memorial's creation. As executive director, I coordinated volunteers and fundraising efforts, garnering over \$500,000 in support from local and international sources in just six months.

How Drexel Helped: Drexel's entrepreneurial environment gave me the motivation and tools to succeed not only in my studies, but also in my activities outside of class. People always talk about "real world training," but Drexel's support of my business and nonprofit ventures truly let my passions run wild and my successes flourish.

Where I'll Be in Five Years: I want to continue to make Philadelphia a startup, tech and social media mecca. I think we are approaching a time when the nation and the world will recognize Philadelphia as the innovator it always has been. I see my company growing and hiring more people and I see me enjoying my passions and building more strength in the communities I'm involved in.



Brittney Gandy-Knox

Fellow, Nehemiah Emerging Leaders Program in Sacramento, Calif. MPH'13. Public Health

My Greatest Accomplishment: My proudest accomplishment so far is my acceptance into the Nehemiah Emerging Leaders Program (NELP) and my increased involvement in the community. NELP has raised my awareness and exposure to local healthcare organizations and local needs, as well as provided a platform for more enhanced leadership opportunities, all the while helping me become the health care leader I've always aspired to be.

How Drexel Helped: Drexel has been wonderful about keeping me informed about events, keeping me connected and inviting me to the professional events that have opened up my network. I am forever grateful for Drexel, and hope that others get to experience just how great it is, just like I have. Attending Drexel for graduate school was one of the best decisions I could have ever made.

Where I'll Be in Five Years: I see myself working in health care administration or health care policy. I would love to actively work in the role of enhancing health care for our nation. Ideally, this would be through practicing medicine, teaching medicine at the professoriate level, or working directly in enhancing health care policy by running programs in our community, or consulting on a national committee.

Jamie Blomquist

Business Development Manager, SEER Interactive in Philadelphia MBA'10. Business Administration

My Greatest Accomplishment: I've been so excited, grateful and proud to have the career I've had in just the few years since graduating from Drexel, especially in working with SEER Interactive, an SEO, Paid Search and Analytics agency here in Philadelphia, as part of the leadership team. Over the last year SEER has doubled its size and has had the opportunity to work with amazing clients—nationally and internation—

ally, start-ups and Fortune 20s. To be recognized by *Forbes*, the Bill Clinton Urban Initiative, Philly's Fastest Growing Companies

and the Initiative for a Competitive Inner City (ICIC)—is

deeply gratifying.

Outside of my 9 to 5 job—OK, 8 to 6 job—I've had the opportunity to work alongside people whose work I've deeply admired through PhilaMade, a collective committed to showcasing the creative work done here in Philadelphia. I also volunteer with the William Way Center, an LGBTQ community center, as a librarian. So while there may not be one moment that stands

out as the proudest, in reflecting on the last two to three years, I can only be optimistic for what the future holds.

How Drexel Helped: My education at Drexel went far beyond the class-room, enabling me to apply business class theory to in-practice co-ops, allowing me to pursue interests in community development, social responsibility and volunteerism, and connecting me to the mentors that would nurture me through graduation and beyond.

Where I'll Be in Five Years: To be honest, there is no five-year plan, no 10-year plan, not even a next-year plan. So far, embracing opportunity wherever it may present itself has worked out just fine.



Kathleen Mandziuk

Senior Scientfic Affairs Specialist, PRA International in Blue Bell, Pa. MPH'06 Public Health

My Greatest Accomplishment: Soon after graduation, I took over as lead of the Late Phase Scientific Affairs team at PRA International, a clinical research organization that has supported more than 3.100 trials in more than 80 different countries. Considering I was the first person in my position at PRA, it has been rewarding to lead the team and see it expand in numbers and on a global basis. This new role allows me to help pharmaceutical and biotechnology sponsors design and advise on the execution of post-marketing and observational research in an optimized manner, without compromising scientific integrity. Recently, I have been increasingly involved in the development of non-invasive diagnostic tests to support regulatory approval and marketing across a variety of indications including fetal medicine, oncology, traumatic brain injury and infectious disease. This growing facet of the identification of disease and personalized treatment is shaping the future of medicine and public health.

Lastly, I am extremely proud to have collaborated with the FDA, along with other industry experts, on a presentation for the Drug Information Association (DIA) annual conference held in Philadelphia in 2012. It was extremely rewarding to be recognized as an industry e xpert and collaborate with the FDA on this compelling topic.

How Drexel Helped: The Executive MPH program exposed me to a variety of disciplines that impact health care, including the importance of advocacy groups, appropriate patient education and the integration of scientific concepts such as epidemiology and biostatistics. This experience has allowed me to build from my background in operational execution of research, to a scientific affairs role designing protocols, advising sponsors and collaborating with regulatory agencies on the optimization of post-marketing and observational research.

Where I'll Be in Five Years: I see myself continuing to work with sponsors and regulatory agencies to simplify and streamline observational and post-marketing research, as well as working to optimize patient information and education about the risk-benefit of marketing pharmaceutical and biotechnology products.



Ranjan Dash

Founder and CEO, Y-Carbon in Norristown, Pa. PhD'06 Materials Science and Engineering

My Greatest Accomplishment: Since 2007. I have been involved in starting and building Y-Carbon, a company that was initiated during my graduate studies at Drexel. Y-Carbon develops and manufactures specialty activated carbons for various applications, including energy storage, water purification, chromatography, and blood purification. I was involved in transforming a University-originated technology to commercial manufacturing and sales, and we have enjoyed great success in building the firm over the past five years. The company today has more than 50 customers including several Fortune 500 companies and produces annual revenue of \$1 million. Y-Carbon received several awards in the past five years including the R&D 100 Award, MIT TR35 Award and Frost & Sullivan Technology Award.

How Drexel Helped: Drexel allowed me to pursue both my Ph.D. and MBA simultaneously, which helped me to pursue a techno-commercial career that I envisioned.

Where I'll Be in Five Years: In the next five years, I would like to be involved in leading a manufacturing enterprise with sales revenue of more than \$10 million

Josh Batushansky

Vice President, The Barclay Group in Mount Laurel N. I. MBA'11. Business Administration

My Greatest Accomplishment: One of my most proud accomplishments post-graduation was being promoted to Vice President of Operations & Marketing for The Barclay Group in Riverton, N.J., at the age of 28. Today, I'm proud to say that I oversee the operations and marketing for nine offices, 100-plus employees and

spend much of each day observing and addressing operational issues within the firm. With such a wide scope of responsibility, no day is "routine." Every day brings something new and exciting. How Drexel Helped: Without Drexel (specifically the LeBow College of Business) its professors,

staff and administrators, I would have never gotten the promotion nor been able to implement programs at such a high level of success. Where I'll Be in Five Years: In five years, I envision

myself with The Barclay Group, still utilizing my MBA to streamline operations, advance and implement both marketing and tech initiatives, and generally continuing to work and study hard to improve upon our prior successes and pave the way for the future.

Lilliam Ambroggio

Post-doctoral fellow, Cincinnati Children's Hospital in Cincinnati, Ohio PhD'12, Epidemiology

My Greatest Accomplishment: I have been involved in various projects relating to childhood pneumonia. I applied for and received a grant from the Thrasher's Research Fund to determine if chest ultrasounds are a valid alternative to chest X-rays in detecting pneumonia in children. An additional project that I have been working on is to increase the proportion of appropriate first-line antibiotic therapy and appropriate diagnostic testing, according to recently published national guidelines, for children hospitalized at CCHMC with pneumonia. The response to our team's success has been incredibly positive, and we have been asked to modify the methods we have used in the hospital and implement them in community practices within Cincinnati.

How Drexel Helped: I learned how to teach from some phenomenal professors at Drexel, and I was trained to do significant and quality research by some incredible research mentors.

Where I'll Be in Five Years: I have accepted an assistant professor position within the Division of Hospital Medicine at CCHMC and the College of Medicine at the University of Cincinnati. I hope to continue doing quality research in the field of pediatric infectious diseases and disseminate the findings from this research to the overall academic and public community.

Autumn Kietponglert

Clothes hangers clash as fashion design alumna Autumn Kietponglert sifts through a rack of some of her latest garments. Many of them are fresh off the sewing machine, some still waiting to receive a final embellishment or accompanying accessory. She's searching for a piece that might best exemplify her Spring 2013 collection.

"Maybe I should just show you some of the fabrics," Kietponglert says dashing across the studio space—also known as the Philadelphia Fashion Incubator at Macy's Center City, where she represents Drexel as one of four designers just finishing a year-long stint as designers-in-residence.

"It's still very avant-garde, very much about shadow and reflection, edge," she says of her newest collection, spreading out samples of meshed, metal fabric and iridescent, plastic cloth.

Kietponglert, MS'07, Fashion Design, has already established herself as a prominent designer-to-watch in the industry. Her work has been shown at major fashion events around the world, including Philadelphia Fashion Week, Couture Fashion Week and Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week in New York City, and the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art. In 2009, she launched her labels, Autumn Atelier and Heartless Revival, and her work has appeared in *Italian Vogue, Marie Claire* and *Zink* magazines.

In the fashion community, Kietponglert is known for designing haute couture that uses zippers, silks and leathers to combine historically inspired silhouettes with intense textile construction. Her work is dark, yet dreamlike.

"I had no idea I was gothic," Kietponglert says. "People started saying that to me, and I had never perceived myself in that way. Alexander McQueen—no one would describe his work as being gothic, but it has that very dramatic, historical, often dark flair to it. I don't market myself as goth—it's just that other people have called me that, and I no longer disagree with them."



"But this new collection will also be soft," Kietponglert adds. "I'm experimenting with new materials but also sticking with what I'm known for."

The evolution of aesthetic among the designers-in-residence is just one aspect of the highly competitive Philadelphia Fashion Incubator. Designers are challenged to grow creatively, but also entrepreneurially—tasks Kietponglert says her years at Drexel have poised her to tackle with both ferocity and grace.

"Without the business aspect, collection development can only go so far. I have to think about meetings with buyers, how much it costs to produce [garments], who my target customer it is," Kietponglert says. "I think [markets are] always evolving for every designer. I don't feel like any customer stays stagnant the way any one human being stays stagnant."

Kietponglert says her vision as a designer hasn't changed since she entered the industry, but she has found more creative ways of executing that vision to make it more attainable to people. "Zippers [are my] signature, but I'm always moving forward," Kietponglert says. "I'm always looking for the new thing. That's what fashion is, and I don't want to get too comfortable. I'm very inspired by zippers and I'll always have that, but there's got to always be something different."

Though her time at the Incubator nears its end, Kietponglert's days won't be getting any shorter. She says she hopes to continue to put in long hours, show her collections and do something "amazingly blockbuster"—all to create a legendary label.

"Every day is a secret challenge because there's a lot of stuff going on, and you are just learning to keep up with the pace," Kietponglert says. "This business is all about connections, becoming connected to very important people every week, to the point where it becomes a blur. I know once it's over I'll be able to meditate and process it, but for now it's like, what incredible thing is going to happen today when I wake up?"—M.Z.



Planning Technical Lead, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Jacksonville, Fla. BS'01, Business Administration

My Greatest Accomplishment: After graduating from Drexel, I was accepted (thanks to the support from Drexel Economics) to the University of Oregon for my M.S. in Economics. After completing my M.S. at Oregon, I moved to Jacksonville, Fla., where I have the privilege of working as a federal employee doing deep draft navigation studies for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Through my job, I have worked with many of the major ports in the tate of Florida, but the projects I work on provide benefits not only to Florida but to the nation as a whole

How Drexel Helped: Drexel has always treated me as a person—not simply an applicant, or a test score. I am one of those people that excel in school and in work, though I struggle with standardized tests. Still, Drexel did not put up a road block when I applied; rather, they interviewed me and accepted me based on my overall accomplishments. I would not be where I am or who I am without Drexel giving me this opportunity.

Where I'll Be in Five Years: The older I get, the harder I find it is to answer this question. The last five years have been unpredictable and exciting. I look forward to the next five years and to the many challenges and opportunities that they will bring.

Ilya Braude

Founder, CloudMine in Philadelphia MS'05, Computer Science



My Greatest Accomplishment: After graduation, I moved on to a mid-sized company, and then led development functions at a technology startup. That put me directly on a path to eventually starting my own technology company—CloudMine—in 2011, and I've been on that wild ride ever since. Through it all, I've had the opportunity to work with some truly amazing people and have grown tremendously personally and professionally in the process. However, my proudest accomplishment has been the ability to contribute to the community that made me who I am. I have been fortunate enough to be invited to speak on panels, to mentor budding entrepreneurs and emerging technologists and, most rewardingly, to encourage others to overcome their apprehensions of the unknown and to pursue their passions.

At CloudMine, we have also given back. We built a platform that allows other software developers to do their jobs easier and to reach their goals faster than before. I strongly believe in a sense of community—whether it's a team working toward a common goal or a city working to foster collaboration and excel in a particular domain, it's never the effort of any one individual that makes a difference.

How Drexel Helped: Drexel put me on the path to success, starting with my freshman year, by providing ample opportunities to excel. I took advantage of them by joining a research lab in my first summer, choosing diverse co-op experiences, and participating in student clubs, including the Drexel Karate Club, where I still help train students today.

Where I'll Be in Five Years: I'll be on my second startup. I really enjoy what I do, and I plan on staying in the startup world for the foreseeable future.

Michael Brennan

Michael Brennan says three or four years ago, his job wouldn't have existed. As a principal technologist and project manager at SecondMuse, Brennan works to bring together volunteers that can program and design software to solve problems for social impact.

"We take a humble approach to technology," says Brennan, PhD'12, Computer Science. "We don't believe technology can solve every problem we face, but many organizations are resource-strapped and don't have the ability to hire technologists or programmers or computer scientists to help them with problems that are really solvable by software or other kinds of technology."

Brennan first got involved in the civic hacker community by volunteering to organize a Random Hacks of Kindness event. Random Hacks of Kindness coordinates events around the world for volunteers to connect with nonprofits and NGOs to solve problems such as disaster relief, poverty, food security and open government through the use of technology. He ran the event in Philadelphia with the help of Drexel's computer science department and members of Philadelphia's burgeoning tech community.

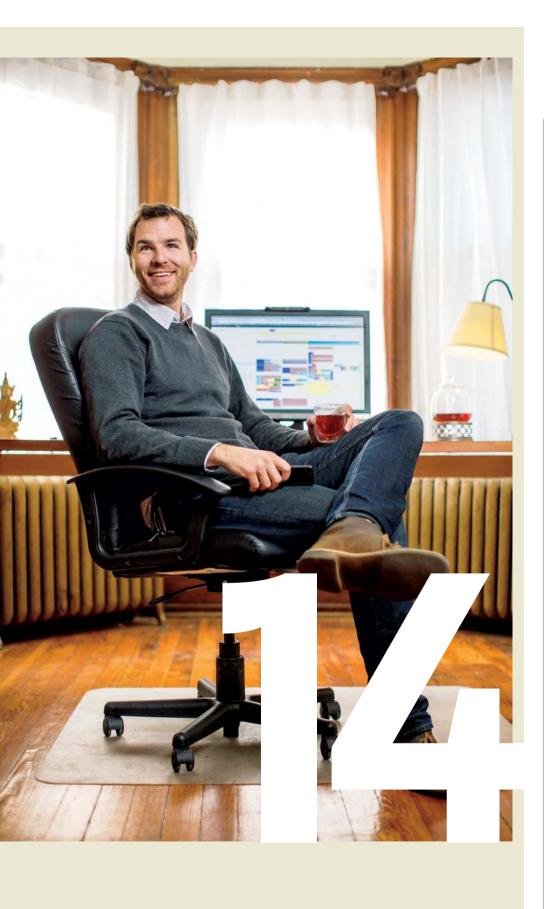
"We had a really successful event, and we created some projects that are still in use today in Philadelphia that help with things like access to healthy food and access to homeless shelters," Brennan says. "[Philadelphia has] a very active civic hacker community and civic programmer community looking at city infrastructure in new ways and trying to reduce the cost of making our city a better place through things like green infrastructure and technology."

The Philadelphia events were so successful that Second-Muse reached out to him to help organize Random Hacks of Kindness at the global level. Since then, Brennan has traveled the world meeting with government and community leaders to discuss how technology can add value to and solve issues in their communities. Most recently, Brennan and Second-Muse have been organizing a domestic violence hackathon in Central America.

"We went around to six different countries in Central America and worked with organizations to try and understand the problems that could be solved through software."

And though he says he loves the traveling aspect of his position, Brennan says what initially drew him to Drexel and Philadelphia is what has led him to stay permanently involved in the University and city communities-unlimited potential. "Drexel has allowed me to be flexible in my idea of what a computer scientist is, and in using my skills in computer science to make the world a better place," Brennan says. "Things like Random Hacks of Kindness are relatively new in the realm of computer science—especially academic computer science. I was looking for that, and I found that at Drexel." -M.Z.





Ajamu Johnson

Senior Director, Comcast in Philadelphia BS'02, Commerce and Engineering

Greatest Accomplishment: One of the accomplishments for which I am most proud was being part of the project team responsible for the development and construction of the Comcast Center in Philadelphia.

Specifically, I contributed to the diversity and inclusion efforts for laborers and construction companies.

The Comcast project was unlike any other corporate development in Philadelphia. The largest corporation in the region decided to make a significant long-term investment in the city of Philadelphia and the local economy. It brought together elected officials, labor unions, nonprofit organizations and corporations. Additionally, a primary focus for the new Comcast headquarters was implementing a best-inclass process that maximized participation for locally based diverse individuals and companies. All aspects of the project were specifically designed to encourage maximum opportunities for minorities and women. As a result of our efforts, more than \$12 million in local tax revenues were generated, 2,300 construction jobs were created, and nearly \$100 million in contracts went to minority- and women-owned vendors.

How Drexel Helped: Drexel's Commerce and Engineering program provided a unique offering of broad-based skills and experiences focused on science, math, engineering, finance, marketing, operations and management, all of which helped prepare me for my involvement on the development team for the Comcast Center. Additionally, my current role in procurement for Comcast focuses on many of the technological areas of our business and industry.

Where I'll Be in Five Years: I can see myself continuing to gain experience across various areas within the telecommunications and entertainment industry. Additionally, I've always had a passion for real estate, so I hope to be engaged in an entrepreneurial venture in the Philadelphia real estate market.



Chip Roman, much-acclaimed chef and owner of three hugely successful restaurants in and around Philadelphia, says he's content.

For now.

But then again, his track record says that he's never content for long. So one can only wonder where the future might take him.

Roman, BS'02, Culinary Arts, established himself as one of the young rising stars of the Philadelphia dining scene back in 2006, when he opened the much-celebrated Blackfish Restaurant in Conshohocken, Pa. That restaurant quickly became a favorite of both locals and critics—*Philadelphia Inquirer* critic Craig LaBan raved that Blackfish was "anything but the next run-of-the-mill BYOB," while Philadelphia Magazine proclaimed it as the best new restaurant in the suburbs that year—and made Roman a name-brand commodity in a town that boasts an increasingly renowned dining scene.

Blackfish, which Roman opened after previously operating a catering service out of the space, kept him more than busy. That's what restaurants do, after all—especially very good ones. But a half-decade later, he got the itch to create something from scratch once more; he did precisely that with Mica, the high-end, tasting-menu-themed restaurant he opened (again, to rave reviews) in March of 2011 in Chestnut Hill.

"I think at some point, most chefs just get bored," Roman says. "Or maybe not bored, but at least just looking for something else. When I decided to open Mica, I was in a position where I had a really good staff at Blackfish, I trusted them, and I felt free enough to try something elsewhere."

At Mica, Roman and partner Jason Cichonski broke free from the Blackfish blueprint, opting for playful, creative food in a decidedly more intimate space. Mica, tucked away in small storefront in Chestnut Hill, makes every meal feel like a special one. Critics were blown away not only by the food itself, but the ambition of the place, and to hear Roman tell it, the project helped him rediscover the joys of the restaurant business. "It was like starting all over again," Roman says.

It's a process he went through yet again last year, when he opened his latest restaurant, Ela, in Philadelphia's Queen Village neighborhood. Roman again partnered with Cichonski at Ella, and though Roman has taken more of a behind-the-scenes role there, allowing Cichonski to serve as the face of the restaurant, the results—and reviews—have been, as usual, positively glowing. He's three for three in the restaurant business, and especially in a tough foodie town like Philly, that's no small feat.

Which, of course, leads to the obvious question: What comes next?

To hear Roman tell it, the answer to that question, at least for now, is "nothing."

But he's not ruling anything out.

"We're always looking for opportunities," he says. "I guess it kind of depends on how much my wife wants to keep me out of the house." -T.H.

Karlo Young Director of Advisory, KPMG in Baltimore BS'02, Information Systems

My Greatest Accomplishment: I would have to say my proudest accomplishment is the opportunity I've had to mentor and give back to the hundreds of students and young professionals I've worked with as part of the Gilman Black Alumni Leadership Institute (GBALI) and the National Association of Black Accountants, as well as during my career at Deloitte & Touche LLP and now KPMG LLP. I've made it a priority to "pay it forward" to the next person. I feel like I've been blessed with many mentors and also an ability to absorb knowledge, apply it in my own life, and then find

unique ways to share it with others. Passing this on to others ties to a deeper mission or purpose for me, and continues to be one of the things for which I am most proud.

How Drexel Helped: Drexel, and especially the Drexel co-op program, provided me with a recipe for

success across many facets of life. The opportunity to gain practical real-life work experience at such a young age has been instrumental in my career and given me insights on the types of skills that would be helpful for others at that age.

Where I'll Be in Five Years: In five years I hope to be a Principal at KPMG in Baltimore, enjoying my family and friends, and still finding time to work with our young people.



Elizabeth Archer

Vice President, Anne Klein Communications Group in Philadelphia BS'03, Communications

My Greatest Accomplishment: My husband, father, sister, brother and several friends are teachers or coaches. Somehow, I missed catching the education bug. What I did catch is the satisfaction a teacher receives when the proverbial light bulb goes off in a student's mind as a new concept

In my chosen field of public relations, I teach leaders of organizations how to communicate news to reporters, employees, regulators and elected officials, among other influencers. And anytime I see a leader or executive of an organization I counseled communicate effectively, I am personally proud. One project in particular stands out. In 2006, I was communications manager for Exelon Nuclear's Limerick Generating Station in Pottstown, Pa., and part of a team who successfully planned and hosted a visit from President George W. Bush to our nuclear energy facility. The event was an overwhelming success, and those of us who were part of the day have a memory to last a lifetime.

How Drexel Helped: Whenever someone asks about my education I tell them, "If you want a job when you graduate, go to Drexel." The co-op-based education provided a foundation for early success in my career.

Where I'll Be in Five Years: Fortunately I work in an industry I am passionate about and love. I expect I will achieve the highest level of counseling, as I help organizations strategically communicate to their key audiences.

Christopher Cera

Chief Technology Officer, ArcWeb in Philadelphia

MS'04, Computer Science

My Greatest Accomplishment: I'm most proud of the impact I've had on the lives of others. I've volunteered hundreds of hours to teaching entrepreneurship and empowering people to create new possibilities for themselves. The majority of these efforts were done through my involvement in Philly Startup Leaders (PSL), a nonprofit corporation I co-founded in 2007. I am amazed by the frequent expressions of gratitude I receive from friends, colleagues and even people I've never met who say the PSL community helped create value in their life.

How Drexel Helped: Drexel introduced me to Sunny Hung, Dr. George Seibel and Dr. William C. Regli, all of whom presented me with amazing growth opportunities for my career. I also consulted the help of Mark Loschiavo, from Drexel's Laurence A. Baiada Institute for Entrepreneurship, who helped advise me on my first business..

Where I'll Be in Five Years: Running a growing

business where everybody loves where they work, loves their job and gives back to their community.

Steve Ward

CEO, Master Matchmakers in Los Angeles

BS'03, Business Administration

My Greatest Accomplishment: I've accomplished guite a bit in my career since graduating from Drexel, but my greatest professional achievement so far would have to be authoring and publishing my first book, Crash Course in Love, through Simon and Shuster. Although this would not have been possible without the success of my reality show, VH1's Tough Love, I feel it has added more legitimacy and credibility to my career than anything else. It has allowed me to lecture at colleges and universities across the country (including Drexel) as well as serve as a pundit on various talk shows when discussing dating and relationship-oriented topics.

How Drexel Helped: In almost every course I took at Drexel, there was emphasis on writing. Whether I was arguing a point of view in philosophy, conveying my understanding of the humanities or forming a thesis in economics or finance, expressing myself with words was always an area of concentration.

Where I'll Be in Five Years: I hope to be recognized by mainstream media and the general public as a foremost expert and respected authority on love, dating and relationships of all kinds.



Chris McPherson

Whenever news breaks for the Philadelphia Eagles-day, night, weekend or weekday-Chris McPherson has to be there to cover it. He's not complaining.

There isn't a day that passes without Chris McPherson reminding himself how lucky he is to show up for work every morning-and how much he owes to Drexel for helping him get there in the first place.

"You can ask my wife," says McPherson, an on-air talent and host for PhiladelphiaEagles.com. "I don't ever complain."

McPherson, BS'03, Communications, grew up in the Philly suburbs and always knew he wanted a career in sports. When one of his high school guidance counselors mentioned that Drexel's co-op program might provide precisely the kind of boost he'd need to get a leg up in the fiercely competitive professional sports job market, McPherson was sold. His plan was simple:

He would go to Drexel, he would outwork pretty much everybody, and he'd get the job he always wanted. In the end, that's pretty much how things worked out.

While at Drexel, McPherson served as sports editor of The Triangle, where he worked out his sportswriting jobs. He also worked with the Drexel network, and after reaching out to Drexel basketball play-by-play man Dan Baker for advice, landed a co-op with the Eagles in 1999. Though his first job with the team had absolutely nothing to do with media, it was the all-important "foot in the door," and after a brief time covering sports for the Chester County Daily Local News after graduation, McPherson got the call he wanted—a call from the Eagles—in July of 2004. He's been with the team ever since, working as everything from a staff writer for Eagles publications to on-air talent to host of the team's official pre- and post-game shows. "We essentially want to be a real TV station, covering the team," says McPherson.

The experience has given McPherson quite literally a front-row seat to some of the biggest on-the-field (and off-the-field) moments in recent Eagles history. It's also allowed him to experience first hand the changing face of modern media.

"The job has basically stayed the same, in that you're covering the team, but it's how you do it that has changed—the intensity of it," he says. "It's a competitive marketplace, it's a rabid fan base, and there's always a rush to get fans the information they want, as quickly as possible." -T.H.



Lauren Van Scoy

Author and Fellow, Drexel University College of Medicine in Philadelphia MD'06. Medicine

Greatest Accomplishment: Besides being a physician with strong roots in bedside clinical medicine, the publication of my book, Last Wish: Stories to Inspire a Peaceful Passing, along with the creation of KnowYourWishes.com has been my most cherished accomplishment to date. My writings in the area of endof-life and advanced illness awareness have enabled me to partner with the Coalition to Transform Advanced Care (CTAC) in Washington, D.C.

How Drexel Helped: My writing and research would not be possible without the strong foundation in clinical medicine that I received from my training at Drexel. In the realm of end-of-life care, being a well-rounded and strong clinician with outstanding pulmonary critical care training is paramount to my writing and research success. The skills and mentorship that I obtained through my years at Drexel are the foundations I draw upon for my work.





Ajarat Bada

We live in one world, and Ajarat Bada is a citizen of it. The 27-year-old now resides in the Los Angeles area. It was in Philadelphia, as an undergraduate at Drexel, where her aptitude for nursing developed. But Bada's true passion is her desire to change the way people relate to one another and to begin to solve staggeringly difficult problems of global conflict and development inequity.

The youngest of nine children, Bada, BSN'09, Nursing, grew up in the Nigerian city of Lagos. Her interest in health stems from her participation in a high school organization that educated people in small Nigerian villages about issues such as female genitalia mutilation.

"The reason I came to Drexel was the co-op program," she says.

After graduation she worked as a nurse at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Beverly Hills before continuing her education. She then started her own organization, the Missing Millennium Development Goal, in response to the one initiative she felt was absent

from the United Nations' Millennium Development Goals (MDG): ensuring interfaith collaboration for peace. The organization's aim is simple in theory, yet difficult in reality: ending violence in the name of religion.

"We're working on a platform to bring together the most influential representatives from the fields of business, media, academia, religion, politics...to develop a blueprint, a call to action to promote understanding between followers of different faiths."



Katie Loftus and Abby Kessler

Katie Loftus and Abby Kessler first meet in the bathroom of their high school: leaning into a mirror, applying black eyeliner. "We bonded over fashion and became best friends," says Kessler, BS'01, Design & Merchandising. "It was 1995, and mom jeans definitely ruled the school. We used to go shopping together constantly but had a really hard time finding what we liked."

Their friendship—and their refusal to settle for mainstream '90s fashion—guided their educational and career paths through adolescence and into adulthood. In 2005, Loftus and Kessler set up shop in Old City, with Smak Parlour, a boutique the pair calls a "glittery dollhouse" featuring "girly yet rock 'n' roll" jewelry, gifts and apparel—many of which are designed by the owners themselves. "It was a lot of work, and we did it all ourselves. We had to use all the skills we learned at [Drexel] to make sure we could do everything," Kessler says. "We had to be relentless."

That tenacity dates back to their high school grunge days.

"We would go to flea markets and thrift shops, fabric stores," says Loftus, BS'01, Fashion Design. "We definitely did the combat boots and dresses. I put inserts in jeans and safety pinned them the whole way down. We started making them for everybody in high school, and then in college."

"We had to use all the skills we learned at Drexel to make sure we could do everything. We had to be relentless." Loftus and Kessler attended Shippensburg University for a year before transferring to Drexel, where Kessler says Smak Parlour was born. "We came up with the name of our store in one of our classes at Drexel," Kessler says. "It was a performance arts class, and we had to come up with a word that had a lot of meaning, and we picked 'smack."

The word, which the pair associated with smacking lipstick and popping bubblegum, stuck. After a brief stint living in New York, Kessler and Loftus moved back to Philly, where they started Smak, a wholesale line that sold the duo's designs to boutiques all over the country.

After plenty of re-orders and a flood of fan mail, Kessler and Loftus began to hunt for the perfect boutique location, and after two years, they found just that at Second and Market streets. They painted the storefront's molding in their signature pink, and continue to design about half of the apparel offered at the parlour. They said they design what they love to wear, and have no plans to stop selling at their Old City shop or online at their website, smakparlour.com.

"Smak Parlour is all about fun. I think when you have something good to sell, then people will buy it." -M.Z.

Colleen Wolfe

Sports reporter, FOX Sports in Philadephia BA'08, Communications

Greatest Accomplishment: To land a job broadcasting in Philadelphia, covering the teams I grew up following, was always my goal. Just four months after graduating I started booking guests for a local sports network, and decided to set my aspirations on a job in front of the camera rather than behind it. I took a lot of chances, worked a lot of hours. and convinced a lot of people to give me a shot, and now I'm doing exactly what I always wanted: anchoring, reporting and producing sports in the city I love, for the most passionate and proud fans I've ever met. It's been an amazing experience, and I'm beyond thankful for the opportunities I've been given.

How Drexel Helped: There's no question Drexel helped jumpstart my career. The reason I chose this university was the co-op program, and by my senior year I was already working full time. Drexel put me in the position to work my way from intern, to production assistant, to full-time associate producer over three years in college—an invaluable experience.

Where I'll Be in Five Years: Hopefully still employed, doing exactly what I'm doing, for a major network.

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Michael Hagan

Founder, LevelUp in Boston BS'03 Information Systems

Greatest Accomplishment: I'm still working on winning, so my accomplishment is still a work in progress, but it's got to be building my company, LevelUp. We are revolutionizing mobile payments in the U.S. We will be crowned the winner by the end of 2013 and will continue to solidify our position as the market leader in 2014. It's been incredibly exhausting and satisfying at the same time for the past four years. I work with the smartest and hardest working people in the world and I am lucky to have created a life where I have the pleasure

of being surrounded by excellence every day.

Being an entrepreneur is truly my calling, and I learned that about myself at Drexel. I still have a ton of work and success is not vet inevitable. but I'm getting very, very close. I'll invite John Fry to the bell ringing ceremony when LevelUp

Where I'll Be in Five Years: IPO'ing. Investing in early stage tech. Travelling extensively. Beating John Fry and Eric Zilmer in squash.



Bashir Mason

Bashir Mason more than held his own in his initial season as a point guard for Drexel. He became the first freshman in the history of the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) to win Defensive Player of the Year following the 2003-04 season, and he led the Dragons to 18 wins and a secondplace finish in the CAA.

But while several of his Drexel teammates would go on to play pro ball overseas, and as Mason, BS'07, Sport Management, was at the outset of a college career that would see him become a four-year starter, the self-described "homebody" from Jersey City was already charting another career path that ran counter to his peers.

Mason approached James "Bruiser" Flint, the veteran head coach of the Dragons, during his sophomore year and let it be known that he

> wanted to get into coaching when his college playing days were over. Soon after that revelation Flint, a point guard himself while playing at Saint Joseph's, made sure to have Mason serve as one of the player hosts when perspective high school recruits came to visit Drexel. "He was probably the best host I ever had for kids," Flint says. "He always has been a leader.

Bashir Mason, who made an early impact as a player during his time with the Dragons, is making an early impact in his chosen profession, too.

That comes with being a point guard. A lot of point guards became coaches."

And that is what happened—though perhaps a lot faster than many in the cut-throat, competitive world of Division I college basketball could have imagined. Last March, after just two seasons as an assistant coach at Wagner College, Mason was named the head men's basketball coach of the Staten Island school, replacing Dan Hurley and becoming the youngest Division I head coach in the country. To hear Mason tell it, he was as surprised as anyone by the hire.

"I was all set and ready to go to Rhode Island [with Hurley]," Mason says. "Danny made his decision on Tuesday and on Wednesday the athletic director reached out to me. We met up for dinner at a restaurant on Staten Island. He asked me if I would be interested."

Of course, the answer was yes. In the year since, he's been busy trying to prove that being young is no impediment to success. As of this writing, Mason's Seahawks boasted a 13-10 overall record, including a 7-5 record in the





Jeffrey Stockbridge

Photographer and Founder, Kensington Blues in Philadelphia BS'05. Photography

Greatest Accomplishment: In 2010, I was awarded third place in the Taylor Wessing Photographic Portrait Prize at The National Portrait Gallery in London. The photograph that caught the juror's eyes was "Tic Tac and Tootsie," [pictured left] a portrait of 20-year-old twin sisters who work as prostitutes. This photograph, from the series Kensington Blues, is part of a multi-year project I have been working on about addiction and survival along Kensington Avenue in North Philadelphia.

My nomination for the prize generated a tremendous amount of press and my photograph was widely distributed across the Internet and published in various magazines and newspapers. As a result, I landed a gallery in London and had a solo show the next year.

Overall, I have had an influx of support for Kensington Blues from both the media and members of the community in Kensington.

How Drexel Helped: I am forever indebted to the photography department faculty at Drexel. Under the guidance of Paul Runyon and Stuart Rome, I learned the importance of believing in myself and committing myself to my work. Without their support as teachers and fellow photographers I would not be the person I am today.

Where I'll Be in Five Years: I'll be doing the exact same thing I'm doing now. Photographing, exhibiting, learning and maybe even teaching. I hope to see Kensington Blues published as a book and to have a major exhibition of the work in Philadelphia.

Northeast Conference. Among the season highlights was a thrilling overtime win over Princeton in November.

"Anytime someone is the youngest in something, whether it is a CEO or principal or in this case a head coach, the natural question is: 'Is that surprising?' In all honesty I am not surprised," says Will Lanier, former head of basketball operations at Wagner. "Age is all relative: he spent four years as an assistant coach and was a head coach at the prep school. As a point guard you have to grow up faster than the other players. You are an extension of the head coach out there on the floor."

So how will Mason put his stamp on the Wagner program? "I would be a fool to try and change a lot of what we did," he said. "I don't see myself changing a lot. I believe in what we did. We were successful."

Flint said that he and Mason, always asking questions as a student of the game, frequently clashed as player and coach on just about "everything." Flint joked to his young guard at the time "I hope you end up having to coach a player that is like you."

Now Mason has gotten his chance. -D. D.





James Langel

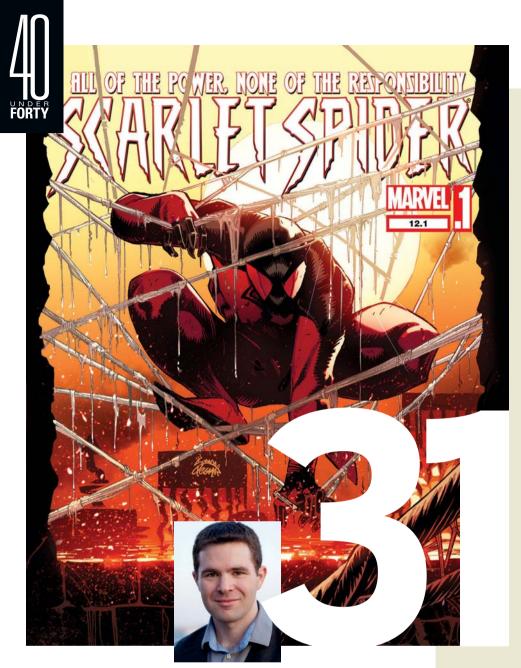
Business Navigator, IKEA in Helsingborg, Sweden

MBA'07, International Business

Greatest Accomplishment: Since leaving Drexel I have had quite a few proud accomplishments: Joining IKEA post-MBA and climbing quickly to their U.S. headquarters; opening an award-winning small business, Duross & Langel: Soapmakers, in Center City Philadelphia that has seen double digit growth since its conception in 2004; having IKEA select me out of a pool of 130 candidates for a year-long training program to work first with the Austrian organization in marketing and then Global Food Services in Sweden; and receiving permanent job offers from both Austria and Sweden. In general, though, I am most proud that I can say that I love what I do, I love where I do it, my opportunities are endless and my happiness is abundant. Life just keeps getting better and better.

How Drexel Helped: Beyond a great education, Drexel instills a strong sense of drive and ambition noticeable by many HR representatives.

Where I'll Be in Five Years: Life is a journey, not a destination, so I am just going to continue enjoying the ride. In five years I hope to still be in Europe, possibly in one of the many IKEA Country Headquarters, or maybe at the IKEA Global Organization, or even quite possibly an IKEA store manager. We will see where life takes me.



Tom Brennan

TENDING TO HIS CORNER OF THE 'UNIVERSE' As an editor at Marvel Comics. Tom Brennan serves as caretaker to some of the publisher's biggest and most popular titles.

For Tom Brennan, an associate editor at Marvel Comics—one of the world's renowned publishers of comic books chronicling the adventures of many famous pop culture icons Spider-Man, the Hulk, Wolverine, Captain America, Iron Man, among many others—there is no such thing as a boring day.

"An average day's nonexistent," explains Brennan, BS'05, Screenwriting & Playwriting.

Brennan, who started his professional career as a page for CBS—it's a job, he says, that isn't nearly as glamorous as NBC's 30 Rock might suggest—has worked for Marvel since 2007, and spent time with the company during a co-op stint while still at Drexel. In 2010, he was promoted to associate editor, overseeing such high-profile titles as Scarlet Spider, Venom, Dark Avengers, Marvel Universe: Avengers-Earth's Mightiest Heroes, and Marvel Universe: Ultimate Spider-Man. He is also assisting on *Daredevil: End of Days*.

Taking on these books, Brennan says, is a huge responsibility—and it's one that he takes seriously.

"When working as an editor in comics, the best description I give to my friends working in a corporate environment is that you're the project manager of the books. You hire the writers and the artists, set their deadlines, work with them creatively on the feel of the book, and give them feedback on their work," explains Brennan. "As an editor, you're seeing (a story) from a little idea scribbled down in a notebook to the



Travis Mohr

Project Manager, Kiewit Infrastructure Co. in Franklin Park, N.J. BS'04, Civil Engineering

My Greatest Accomplishment: I have worked for Kiewit Infrastructure Co. since graduation and worked for them for two of my three co-ops. At Kiewit, I have advanced from a field engineer to project manager. In the last five years, I was general superintendent on the new construction of the \$620 million Willis Ave. Bridge in New York City and also project manager of the \$10 million National Park Service Ductbank project in Washington, D.C. The NPS Ductbank job won the "2012 Project of the Year" for Kiewit Infrastructure's Eastern District. In 2008, I also received the prestigious Mike Daly award from Kiewit Infrastructure's Eastern District for my field engineering performance.

I was also a member of the 1996 Atlanta, 2000 Sydney and

2004 Athens U.S. Paralympic Swim teams. I won Gold (100m Breaststroke) and Bronze (100m Backstroke) in Sydney and Gold (100m Backstroke) and Silver (100m Breaststroke) in Athens. Throughout my Paralympic career I won numerous awards including the Drexel President's Medal in 2004 along with an ESPN ESPY award nomination. I have also performed motiviational speaking at schools, companies and organizations. In 2007 I retired from Paralympic swimming but still continue to do open water swimming competitions.

How Drexel Helped: Civil Engineering professor Dr. Joseph Martin guided me on choosing Kiewit Construction for my second co-op. He had a wealth of knowledge of the company and knew of career advancements of other Drexel alumni who work for Kiewit.

final book. We at Marvel believe these books are best when we stay out of the way and let the creative team tell their stories. We just step in to make sure everything lines up with the rest of the creative

Marvel Universe."

Brennan has known he wanted a career in publishing ever since his days at the Loyola School, a private Catholic school on the Upper West Side of New York City. While there, his advisor informed him about a high school screenwriting contest being offered by Drexel. Though Brennan's work didn't win the contest, it did catch the eye of Ian Abrams, a Drexel associate professor and director of the screenwriting/playwriting program, who encouraged him to keep honing his craft, and to keep pursuing his dream.

"Drexel spoke about studying for a degree in the arts that would teach you both about the craft and how to get a job in the field, so you would have skills towards gainful employment," Brennan recalls. "I've not been dissuaded to pursue a career in the arts, but I had a number of teachers remind me that it's one thing to take film classes, yet it's another thing to make a major around them because you're putting your entire college career in a very challenging field. Drexel had a co-op program and a staff of professors and administrators who had been working in the field of arts and entertainment. Having professors such as Ian Abrams, who had succeeded [in the business], who knew what to do and what not to do-that meant a lot to me."-K.K.

33 Matt Hilbush

In 2002, Matt Hilbush was a 28-year-old entrepreneur who had just started Mainstay Engineering Group. Though he was smart, eager and driven, his youth caused some potential clients pause. Ironically, it was what was on top of his head, not in it, that alleviated customers' fears. "I was fortunate, in a way, in that I grayed early," the salt-and-pepper Hilbush, 38, says. "I always looked older than I was."

His company has grown up fast. What started as a one-man operation near his Ambler, Pa., home has grown to a 20-person firm with revenues last year of \$2.3 million. Plus, Hilbush, BS'97, Civil Engineering, still can walk to work.

A third generation engineer, Hilbush always excelled in math and science. He chose Drexel for undergrad largely because of its co-op program. "I was sold on the ability to work while getting an education," he says.

Mainstay "assists in the design of research and development and manufacturing facilities for the pharmaceutical industry," Hilbush says. "So the building that makes children's Tylenol or Advil, we design the columns, the beams, the support for all the equipment. Platforms inside the space, which are stainless steel, need to be cleanable flat surfaces. That's always been our bread and butter."

The company's biggest project to date was in 2006, when it worked on a global supply center in Summit, New Jersey, for what was then Schering-Plough (it's since merged with Merck). "For us at the time, we were eight people," he recalls. "We had no business doing a project of that size, but we got it done."

Hilbush, who played on the golf team at Drexel, has stayed connected to the university. In 2007, he designed and managed construction for the seating section in the president's suite at the Daskalakis Athletic Center.

"It's reinforced concrete, a 32-seat area," he says. "We designed it and built it and did the whole thing in five months. It showed what we could do."

OVERCOMING THE
PERILS OF YOUTH
When Matt Hilbush launched
his engineering firm at age
28, his biggest hurdle was his
age. Gray hair—and plenty
of persistence—helped him
overcome the challenge.





Founder, Migraine.com in Chapel Hill, N.C. MPH'10. Public Health

My Greatest Accomplishment: I was fortunate to have the opportunity to join Health Union at its inception soon after graduation. Our goal was to develop a highly engaged, condition-specific health community by leveraging current and emerging technologies. The experience of building our first Web-based platform, Migraine.com, from scratch has been both exciting and challenging. It has been incredibly rewarding to see how the platform can help community members improve their health while building a virtual support network. In just the two years since its launch, Migraine.com has grown to play an important supporting role in advocacy efforts. The

site has been utilized to increase patient engagement, publish original research, and conduct one of the largest studies focusing on the social impact of migraines.

How Drexel Helped: My role incorporates both my business management and marketing and public health skills. Having an understanding of community members' current health behavior, motivations and perceived barriers is critical for the platform's success.

Where I'll Be in Five Years: I look forward to using what we learn from our current experience to help patients suffering from other conditions. Our mission is to expand patient engagement and access to health information through social networking and other evolving technology.



Drew Ginsburg

Designer, Urban Outfitters in Philadelphia BS'09, Fashion Design

My Greatest Accomplishment: My proudest accomplishment is that I continue to do every day what I always dreamt I would. Since I was a little girl people would ask me what I wanted to be, and I would confidently answer "a fashion designer." Time and time again I would hear, "A fashion designer? Awww, that would be fun wouldn't it?" It was as if I said something absurd—something aspirational but not achievable. I despised that patronizing response. I knew though, that if I worked hard enough, went to the right school, and didn't give up, I would one day be in a position to both pay my bills and do what I love. That is what I am most proud of-that I didn't settle for the easier or safer career path, and that I didn't just go for the big paycheck either. Milestones and promotions come and go, but what means the most to me is that what others treated as my "silly long-shot dream job," fashion design, is my life. They say, "Do what you love," but unfortunately, many people don't have the courage or the resources to allow them to. I am lucky—I listened, I truly love what I do, and that fact is what I am most proud of.

How Drexel Helped: Without Drexel I could never have made a living out of an art. The world of fashion is as competitive as it gets. Design demands such a well-rounded and demanding set of skills, an eye for trends and a sense of profitability, as well as the technical fortitude to bring your vision to life. From the co-op program, to studying abroad in London, to the spectacular professors and coursework that spanned the gamut from practical to theoretical skills, I was molded into the designer I am today. Drexel turns long-shots into realities, and I could not be more grateful.

Mikhail Kogan

As an undergrad at Temple University, Mikhail Kogan thought he might like to pursue veterinary medicine. But that dream came to an abrupt halt ... when he discovered a severe allergy to cats.

After a bit of soul searching, he decided to pursue medicine. Choosing Drexel for his medical education was an easy choice, says Kogan, MD'04, Medicine, because of the College of Medicine's Program for Integrated Learning (PIL), with its hands-on, case-based learning style. "The PIL program really fit me perfectly," he says. "I was older than most of the other students at that time and I felt that sitting in lectures all day was going to kill me-I don't learn well that way. I learn much better doing things on my own, with my own style."

By the end of his second year, Kogan, a native of Russia, felt that conventional Western medicine was missing something—the integration of alternative medicines such as massage, voga and acupuncture. It was then that he chose his path. He decided to pursue integrative medicine, which combines the practices and methods of alternative medicine with Western or evidence-based medicine.

It's a practice of medicine that faces some criticism, Kogan says, but one that's gaining momentum and becoming more widely used. That's evident in the establishment of a new Department of Integrative Health currently in the works at George Washington University in Washington, D.C., which will be the first university in the country to have a formal department of integrative medicine.

And then there is Kogan's recent appointment to serve as a founding board member of American Board of Integrative Medicine, which will begin certifying physicians in 2014. This latest appointment will be "a huge amount of work but it's extremely prestigious," he says. "The board consists of leaders in integrative medicine from across the country and I'm excited to be a part of that." -K.C.



Legislative Assistant, ACLU in Washington, D.C. JD'10. Law

My Greatest Accomplishment: For nearly two years, I have had the immense privilege to work as a legislative assistant at the American Civil Liberties Union Washington Legislative Office, where I primarily focus on reproductive and women's rights. It has been a dream come true to work for an organization that I have long respected and supported.

This past year, I was heavily involved in a successful legislative campaign to extend abortion coverage to U.S. servicewomen and female military dependents who become pregnant as a result of rape or incest. Under the prior law, these women would instead have to pay out-ofpocket if they chose to end their pregnancy. The law was particularly unjust considering the fact that other women who rely on the federal government for their health insurance received this coverage.

To support the campaign, I worked with my boss and our coalition partners to create and refine an overall strategy and message that would resonate both on the Hill and in the public. We also worked closely with retired military leaders to advocate and move our message in a way that had never

been done before and was vital to our success.

The work was grueling, and we faced many obstacles along the way, including a challenging political climate, but these hurdles made the victory all the more rewarding and remarkable.

How Drexel Helped: I am so thankful that I had professors in law school that encouraged me in my pursuit of a somewhat unconventional career path and didn't push me towards settling for work in a more traditional legal field.

Where I'll Be in Five Years: I would love to move back to Philadelphia (it's definitely where my heart is) and continue my advocacy work either with an organization or with local government.





Henry Fairfax remembers the precise moment he realized life at the Haverford School was going to be wildly different than what he was used to.

Fairfax, a West Philly kid and local hoops star, started his high school career at St. John Neumann—a good school that, unfortunately, required him to undertake a grueling commute combining four different modes of transportation. But after being discovered by a Haverford School basketball coach during a pickup game at a public court on the Main Line, Fairfax, BS'04, Business Administration, found a new home, and a fresh start, at a school that would challenge him more than he ever could have imagined.

"I remember the first time I saw the campus—it was just incredible," says Fairfax, who now serves as the school's director of admissions. "I remember the hardwood floors, the carpeting, the nice new whiteboards. Like any 14-year-old, I guess, I decided to transfer just based on the physical plant. But then there was the day when I had my first test—and it was a 42-page physics test. I mean, at Neumann, I was taking 'physical science,' and at Haverford, as a freshman, we were doing physics."

The years that followed were often difficult, but extremely rewarding, and Fairfax's Haverford experience—he remains the school's all-time scoring leader—helped him earn a basketball scholarship at Drexel, where after some early coaching changes, he eventually settled into a secure situation with coach Bruiser Flint.

By the time he was a senior, he had not only matured on the basketball court—he was named First Team All-Philadelphia by

the *Philadelphia Daily News*—but also in the classroom. He graduated from LeBow School of Business in 2003, and later added to his academic credentials by earning a master's degree in school leadership from Penn. He credits his experiences at both Haverford and Drexel for pushing him to excel in his studies—something, he admits, that didn't always come naturally to him. "When you're young, you don't realize that all schools aren't created equal—that there's a difference, for instance, between Drexel and other schools," Fairfax says. "I was just so blessed and fortunate to go there. It lit a fire under me."

Perhaps not surprisingly, given the opportunities it's opened for him, basketball has remained close to Fairfax's heart—and central to his career, too.

After serving as a coach and teacher at the McDonough School in Owings Mills, Md., for five years, Fairfax returned to his roots when he was hired by Haverford as director of admissions in 2008; in 2011, he was officially named the school's new head basketball coach as well.

At Haverford, he has found joy not only on the court, but also in the admissions office, where he works to open doors for local youth who, in some ways, are just like he was—diamonds in the rough, just waiting to be discovered.

His only wish, he says, is that he could provide opportunity for them all. "It's incredibly rewarding," he says. "It's a wonderful experience to be back here and rewarding these kids and their families with a pretty remarkable and pretty transformative learning experience, just like I had. It's absolutely incredible." -T.H.



Christian Birch

Christian Birch entered Drexel's M.S. in Engineering Management program with the idea that an advanced degree would help his standing at the consulting company he was working for. When he graduated in 2011, he had a new plan: starting a company of his own.

"I've always had an entrepreneurial spirit," says Birch, MS'12, Engineering. "Taking classes [at Drexel] really started churning that drive in me. The curriculum not only gave me the technical background that I wanted and needed, but it helped spur getting me out of the shell of being an employee and [inspired] me to go after my dream, which was to own a company."

Map Decisions, the culmination of that dream, was born in early 2012. The company's mobile management system software "provides organizations with innovative tools to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of mobile data collection and reporting."

Birch took a circuitous path to business ownership. He earned a bachelor's degree in landscape architecture at Delaware Valley College before working for an engineering firm that did consulting work with local governments.

"I knew that the increasing number of federal regulations had created a need for additional operation transparency in the public," he says.

Birch began attending EPA training sessions and speaking with officials from local governments. In June 2012, he was accepted into Ben Franklin TechVentures, a Lehigh University-based high-tech workspace and community for early-stage companies. He met Michael Hawkins, a software developer (now Map Decisions' chief technology officer), with whom he began developing an information management system specifically for the MS4 program.

"We allow municipalities to go out, using mobile devices such as tablet PCs, and to very efficiently collect information in the field tied to their location." Birch says.

Birch found that the people in local governments were excited about the company's technology not only for its use with MS4, but for other applications as well.

"We've found it to be a great solution not just for MS4, but for things like building code compliance," he says. "We've been able to help municipalities improve workflow. ... I'm designing and developing tools to help municipalities reduce their costs and become more informed, so they can make better decisions." -M.U.

Maria Papadakis

Energetic, outgoing and ambitious. Those are just some of the words that begin to describe the super-sized personality of Maria Papadakis—a young woman with big ideas, big ambitions and big plans for the future.



"My dad always used to say to me, 'If you come up with something and you think it's a good idea, you have to act on it right away," says Papadakis, MBA'12, Business Administration. "Sometimes I'll wake up at 3 in the morning with a new idea, and that's why I always have my phone next me-I can write my idea down into my phone, and then go back to sleep. ... Things just kind of come up and I'll jump on them, because I believe reaction time is just as important as the idea itself."

There simply isn't any getting around it: Papadakis has certainly taken after her late father, former Drexel President Constantine N. Papadakis. Papadakis, who passed away in 2009 after a battle with cancer, remains a huge influence on his daughter, as she'll readily admit.

The most striking similarity? Mostly, it's this: Just like her father, Maria seems afraid of nothing, and is willing to try almost anything.

Currently, Papadakis is splitting her time between any number of ventures: She is the host of both RAW, a Philadelphia-based arts and entertainment show that she once described as "America's Got Talent on arts steroids," and the "Out & About" segment for Philly.com, where she also writes a bridal column (it's a subject she knows well; she was married in November and enjoyed a glamorous reception at the Academy of Music). She also recently started her own production company, CNP Productions (the initials, as you might guess, honor her dad; "Hopefully," she says, "he'll bring me some style and magic."), and has stayed busy with philanthropic works as well, serving on the young friends boards of such institutions as the Opera Company of Philadelphia, the Academy of Music, the local chapter of the American Heart Association and the Philadelphia Zoo.

"I pack as much as I can into a 24-hour day," she says. "That's the Papadakis way. I definitely learned that from my father."

So, too, did she learn from her father the notion that no dream is impossible. In a sense, that lesson is what drove her to launch the production company, and what informs her vision for the future. She loves being in front the camera, she says, and she doesn't intend to leave; it's just that she'd like to be both the personality in front of the camera and the creative

force behind.

It's a lofty goal. But she knows it's achievable. Because somebody elseanother ambitious, energetic, woman-has already made

"I'd like to be able to tell great stories in any capacity-whether it's through the news, or something entertainment-related, or helped other people their story," she says. "As I like to joke, I'd like to be the Greek Oprah." -T.H.



CLASS NOTES

1960s

Juel Pate Borders-Benson, MD'60, Medicine, was honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award from the *Black Health Magazine* at the National Black Women's Health Awards Banquet.

Eugene J. Boyle, Jr., BS'60, Electrical Engineering, authored the book, "Within Earshot of Freedom's Ring," under the penname Finley St. George.

Wilma Bulkin-Siegel, MD'62, Medicine, Hon'06, was named president of the Board of the Foundation for the History of Women in Medicine, an internationally recognized organization whose mission is to promote the history of women in medicine and the medical sciences on a national and international level.

Donna H. Mansfield Mueller, BS'65, Dietetics, MS'70, and Suzanne H. Michel, BS'72 Home Economics, authored the article Nutrition for Pregnant Women Who Have Cystic Fibrosis which was published in the *Journal of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics*.

H. Theresa Selena Wright, BS'68, Home Economics, MS'80, co-wrote the chapter From the Front Lines: The Impact of Refined Food Addiction on Well-Being in the book "Food and Addiction: A Comprehensive Handbook."

Edward N. Zissman, MD'69, Medicine, was awarded the Charles "Buzzy" Vanchiere Award which recognizes outstanding contributions toward the education of pediatricians in administration, practice management and payment.

1970s

Richard J. Cohen, PhD'78, Biomedical Graduate Studies, was one of the recipients of the 2012 MANNA Nourish Awards which recognized him for his more than 30 years of innovative leadership in the public health management arena.

Samuel P. DeBow, Jr., BS'76, Commerce and Engineering, was elected to the board of directors of the Military Officers Associa-

tion of America, the nation's largest and most influential officers' association.

Keith H. Fleury, BS'79, Accounting, will serve as co-president of the Delaware Chapter of the Institute of Management Accountants.

Jonathan A. Liss, BS'79, Accounting, is an adjunct professor at Drexel University's LeBow College of Business.

George R. Mills, BS'78, Mechanical Engineering, was a 2012 recipient of the Chime Bell Award which is awarded annually to a foreigner who has made outstanding contributions to the social and economic growth of Central China.

Matthew E. Naythons, MD'72, Medicine, an award-winning *TIME Magazine* photojournalist, had his archives acquired by The Dolph Briscoe Center for American History.

John J. Peirce, Jr., BS'73, Civil Engineering, MS '78, updated chapter 7 of Robert T. Ratay's book titled "Temporary Structures in Construction, Third Edition." Peirce Engineering, Inc., the company that he owns with his daughter, Jennifer L. Peirce Brandt, BS'95, Architectural Engineering, BS'95, Civil Engineering, and son, John J. Peirce, III, BS'11, Civil Engineering, celebrated its 20th year in business in 2012.

Beth M. Piraino Holley, MD'77, Medicine, was appointed president of the National Kidney Foundation.

Dennis F. Saver, MD'77, Medicine, was one of 82 physicians invited to the White House in June to be recognized as a leader in health information technology and to attend two national Information Technology events, the HealthIT Vanguard Conference and the White House Health IT Town Hall, hosted by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

C. Richard Schott, MD'70, Medicine, was installed as the 163rd president of the Pennsylvania Medical Society.

Roseann B. Termini, BS'75, Human Behavior and Development, presented a program to food professionals from Latin America focusing on United States federal food laws including the Food Safety Modernization Act.



To submit your Class Note for the next issue of *Drexel Magazine*, email Lara Geragi at lec36@drexel.edu.

She also presented on food law issues in Widener University's program, Food Day.

Kyle B. Wescoat, BS'74, Finance, was the recipient of the Hoag Hospital Foundation Peter Siracusa Award for outstanding contribution for developing and chairing the Hoag Hospital Foundation Forum on Healthcare. He was also named senior vice president and CFO of Skullcandy.

Robert J. Wicks, PsyD'77, Clinical Psychology, authored the book "Riding the Dragon—10 Lessons for Inner Strength in Challenging Times."

1980s

Stephen A. Chidyllo, MD'87, Medicine, was chosen for Top Doctors by *US News and World Report*, Castle Connolly Top Doctors of New York Metropolitan Area, and New Jersey Top Docs. He is a member of the faculty of AO North American, Craniomaxillofacial Surgery, and a member of Voluntary Editorial Staff: Craniomaxillofacial Trauma and Reconstruction.

Frank M. Chmielewski, BS'81, Marketing, wrote Reserving 101: An Introduction for Defense Attorneys and Adjusters for the August 2012 issue of *Counter Point*, the official publication of the Pennsylvania Defense Institute.

Nasirali A. Emadi, ME'88, Mechanical Engineering, purchased Harrisburg Scuba Center in Harrisburg, Pa., and is a founding partner of Harrisburg's West Shore Scuba in Summerdale. Pa.

WEDDINGS

Kimberly J. Myers, BS'05, Biological Science, and Matthew Arkebauer were married on Nov. 3, 2012.

Roger D. Gibboni, BS'81, Electrical Engineering, MS'83, formed Rogers High Fidelity in 2009, which designs and builds Home Entertainment music amplifiers. Rogers High Fidelity was reviewed in the November



issue of Stereophile Magazine and received a "highly recommended" result.

Dawn M. Grasso, AS'88, Nursing, BS'93, was named the new chief nursing officer at Mercy Philadelphia Hospital.



Rebecca Jaffe, MD'80, Medicine Executive MPH'10, was elected to the Board of Directors of The American Academy of Family Physicians.

Michael J. Kline, BS'86, Accounting, with Citrin Cooperman in Philadelphia, was named among the region's top practitioners by readers of the business magazine SmartCEO.

BABY DRAGONS

Andrew C. Brandt, BS'93, Marketing, and his wife, Jennifer L. Peirce Brandt, BS'95, Architectural Engineering and Civil Engineering, had daughter Ava Elizabeth on April 28, 2012.

Jamie A. Calverley Carroll, BS'06, Biomedical Engineering, and her husband, Stephen Carroll, BS'06, Electrical Engineering, had son Lucas Patrick on March 20, 2012.

Christopher R. Garchinsky, PhD'09, Educational Leadership and Learning Technology, and his wife, Janet, had son Charlton James on August 23, 2012. He joins his sisters, Caroline Vail and Maria Christine.

Mark C. Schneider, BS'02, Information Systems, and his wife, Casey Schneider, had twins Alex and Emily on August 3, 2012.

Beth R. Nalitt. MD'85. Medicine. was elected to serve as governor-elect designee of the New Jersey Northern Chapter of the American College of Physicians.

Richard D. Roberts, BS'84, Civil Engineering, was appointed as a member of Pennsylvania's Uniform Construction Code Review and Advisory Council by Governor Tom Corbett. He serves as vice president and chief engineer for structural at Pennoni Associates.

Leslie A. Roesler, BS'81. Human Behavior and Development, MS'88, Human Services Management, was presented with the MELC Impact Award at the inaugural fundraising benefit at the Please Touch Museum.

Alan I. Rosenblatt, MD'84, Medicine, specialist in neurodevelopmental pediatrics. co-wrote and co-edited "Autism Spectrum Disorders: What Every Parent Needs to Know."

Bryan K. Sherman, BS'86, Management Information Systems, joined UMT Consulting Group as vice president, consulting in their mid-Atlantic region.

Thomas M. Sibson, BS'89, Business Administration, received the New Jersey Chief Financial Officer of the Year Award from NJBiz for his work at BAYADA Home Health.

Kirk W. Simmet, BS'84, Finance, was elected president of the Southeastern Pennsylvania chapter of the American Payroll Association.

Nora Sovferman Maidansky. BS'84. Electrical Engineering, founded The Human Aspect, LLC, an organizational consulting firm specializing in leadership development, coaching, and organizational consulting based in Wyomissing, Pa.

Douglas E. Steele, BA'85, Architecture, principal of the design firm H2L2 Architects/

Planners, designed Global Commons for The Hun School of Princeton. He also presented his work on the topic Liquid Schools: Pools of Creativity at the annual conference of The Association of Boarding Schools in Washington D.C.



1990s

Syed R. Ashraf, MS'94, Electrical Engineering, joined Gannett Fleming's Mt. Laurel, N.J. office as the director of power services.

Gina Furia Rubel, BS'91, Corporate Communications. president of Furia Rubel Communications, was placed #1 on The Legal Intelligencer's Best of Survey for the second consecutive year.



Robyn M. Gershenoff Judelsohn, BS'93, History and

Politics, joined BBYO International as senior director of Immersive Experiences with oversight of its entire camp and leadership programs.

Laura A. Grubb Baldwin, BS'91, Graphic Design, was appointed to the position of chief marketing and communications officer at Arcadia University.

Nicholas J. Intintolo, BS'90, Information Systems, serves as IBM's national criminal justice specialist. He devised and launched IBM's Juvenile Delinguency Assessment Framework to help the public sector identify cost-effective, successful outcome paths for kids. He also serves on the Advisory Board at LPS Associates, a video communications company.

Alexander C. Lawrence, Jr., BS'92, Electrical Engineering, was promoted to assistant dean, director of MBA admissions at UCLA Anderson in Los Angeles, CA.

Sonia D. McKelvy Trivic. BS'93. Chemical Engineering, was appointed to the position of associate director of regulatory affairs at McNeil Consumer Healthcare.

Rajendra A. Morey, MD'97, Medicine, and his colleagues had their research on combat veterans diagnosed with PTSD published in the Nov. 5 edition of the Archives of General Psychiatry.

John Natsis, BA'96, Architecture, was promoted to associate principal of Johnsrud Architects, an award-winning laboratory design firm in Bucks County.

Christopher P. Pinto, BS'98, Architectural Engineering, BS'98, Civil Engineering, MS'98, was promoted to vice president in the Philadelphia office of the international engineering firm, Thornton Tomasetti.

Peter E. Pisasale, BS'99, Electrical Engineering, was named the 2012 Young Engineer of the Year by the National Society of Professional Engineers at the 2012 Annual Meeting in San Diego.

John D. Rink, BS'92, Architectural Engineering, was promoted to general manager at PATCO.

S. Joshua Szabo, MD'98, Medicine, of Tri Rivers Surgical Associates, was recently honored by the Arthroscopy Association of North America with the Stephen J. Snyder Excellence in Teaching Award.

2000s

Sally M. Andersen, BA'06, Communications, was announced as one of the Top 16 Health Heroes for the City of Philadelphia by UHC, *Philadelphia Magazine* and *Be Well Philly*, for her commitment to motivating and inspiring Philadelphians to lead healthier, more active lifestyles.

Thomas F. Backof, BS'08, Environmental Science, received the Young Adult Fight Award from the Ulman Cancer Fund.

Nicole C. Dirato Engard, MS'07, Library and Information Science, co-authored the book "The Accidental Systems Librarian, Second Edition" with Rachel Singer Gordon, MS'11, Library and Information Science.

Timothy J. Ericson, BS'09, Business Administration, chief executive officer and co-founder of Zagster, Inc., wrote the article Entrepreneurs Need to Go Back to High School, which was published on the website bostinno.com.

Alberto Garibi-Cabral, MS'05, Environmental Engineering, was hired at FMC Environmental Solutions for the position of director of wastewater treatment, exploration and production.

Elizabeth S. Glines, BS'04, Dramatic Writing, authored the children's book "Jasmin's Summer Wish."

Matthew D. Malkie, BS'01, Mechanical Engineering, was presented with the 40 Under 40 Award by *Central Penn Business Journal.*

Charles M. Reynolds, MD'08,

Medicine, graduated from Denver Health Residency in emergency medicine and is currently practicing emergency medicine in Santa Fe, NM.

Lara Rhodes, BS'09, Business Administration, joined the national law firm of Quarles & Brady LLP as an associate in the Real Estate Practice Group.



Natasha A. Sandy, MD'05, Medicine, was recognized by *The Network Journal* as one of its annual 40 Under 40 honorees.

2010s

John E. Frick, EdD'12, Education Leadership and Management, accepted a position at Western Governors University in Salt Lake City, UT, as evaluator-research in education, curriculum.

Robert C. Masters, MS'10, Library and Information Science, was named the library director for The Bermuda College Library.

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FRIENDS WE'LL MISS

1930s

Elizabeth Adams Ward '37 Winifred Lacy Foltz '35 Fredrick Lamb '39 A. Perry Mackee Evans '33 Frances Sellers Gable '38 Theodore Shmanda '39 Peter Short '37 Marjorie Stickler Reeves '33

1940s

Archangelo Acierno '48 Nancy Balderston Conrad '49 Virginia Bearinger Swartz '45 Edward Beck '46 Elmer Becky '48 Marguerite Bitzer '42 Wilma Blaetz Russell '43 Pamela Boring Lyons '43 Irene Campbell Moulder '47 Joan Carnes Nahrgang '49 Mary Lou Davies '45 Demitra Davis Stevens '45 Clare Deakyne Higginson '44 Albert DiFelice '43 John Donahoe '46 Ralph Eberly '42 Robert Evans '48 Flaine Farmakis '46 Joseph Foremny '45 Richard Gordon '48 Wendell Gulick '45 Carrol Guth '48 Elinor Haigh Snyder '40 Pauline Hays Taliaferro '46 Marvlizbeth Heagev Grefe '45 Gerard Hofstaedter '47 David Hughes '42 Ruby Inouye Shu '48 Edward Kraus '42 Eugene Labowskie '45

John Leonard '47 Norman Lewis '49 Elizabeth Lippincott Dyas '49 George Lorenz '42 lay Lord '48 Elaine Lotman Weiner '48 Thomas MacWilliams '48 Virginia Mallen '49 Thomas Martino '48 John Mellinger Burnett '49 DeForest Metcalf '45 Walter Mitchell '49 Theodore Munkacsy '42 Richard Nelson '45 C. David Saulsbury Perry '40 Doris Sayre Sollami '41 George Schneider '42 Frank Serena '40 Arthur Silk '47 Christian Snavely '49 Henry Steinmann '40 Herbert Tindall '42 Teofila Tokarczyk Krzywicki '43 Miriam Vreeland Michaels '47 Roy Waxler '48 Emma Weissinger Slotterback'46 Thelma Wilson Kephart '42 Norman Woodland '47

Philip Zink '41 1950s

William Altmann '59 Alexander Amadio '54 Janet Belzer Fairo '57 Carol Berk '55 Allen Braid '59 Morton Braun '50 George Brooke '51 Ruth Brown Carson '54 Judith Carroll Kallas '59

David Cohn '58 Donald Coover '56 Thomas Cowgill '50 Barbara Daebeler '57 Lewis Daniels '50 Reimar Duerr '59 Donald Eddy '55 Sidney Elgart '51 Frank Fiorilla '52 Frank Gastner '53 Jov Grawemever '55 Pamela Haviland Haskell '55 Elizabeth Havman Jacobs '53 George Heimberger '51 Donald Hofmann '50 Paula Holmes Watts '54 Alva Hom '57 Russell Houston '54 Robert Jenkins '52 Robert Jenkins '59 Werner Kirmse '55 Forrest Kramer '53 William Kruckenberger '59 Gloria Laino '52 Arlene Laubach '50 Paul Lehnig '57 Florence Lewis '50 Raymond Lindquist '53 Dorothea Lockard '54 Laurence Lundy '54 Patricia Lutz'55 Martin Madden '53 Irwin Marill '54 William Martin '52 Arthur Maynard '58 Daniel Miller '54 Dorson Mills '54 Virginia Morgenroth Knecht '58 David Norris '58 I Norris '56 Deon Patten Patten '52 James Peteritas '58 George Ream '52

George Reynolds '52

Charles Rumsey '57

Derle Riordan '56

Charles Santaguida '59 Joseph Savastio '59 William Schisler '59 Colleen Seabright Irvin '51 John Segletes '57 Gordon Sevold '58 James Shaver '59 Joan Snyder Strickler '56 Paul Stempko '50 George Sykes '55 Rudolph Szabo '54 Francis Thomas '54 Miriam Thomas Noussair '52 Armond Tomassetti '57 George Tootelian '55 Charles Tyler '54 Elizabeth Wagner Chase '50 Edward Webb '58 Charles Wert '52 Marie Wolf Tursi '59 John Yorganjian '58 Stanley Zocholl '58

1960s

Raymond Arner '60 Laurance Baccini '68 Suzanne Bender Trifiletti '68 Mary Blake '62 Everett Cahall '67 Herman Chmel '68 John Clune '68 Douglas Culpon '62 Ronald Daniele '68 A Debus '61 Siegfried Dierk '62 Grace Fischer '64 Robert Fister '64 Daniel Frank '63 Robert Forsten '64 Clifford Ingram '63 John Krauss '61 Walter Kunkel '61 Chester Leonowich '63 Rosalie Levin '66 Alan Levine '69 William Logan '63 James Malloy '60 Frieda Menzer Quinlan '66 Gordon Mitchell '68 Thomas Niciforo '62 Peyton Peebles '63 Wayne Perry '66 William Pfaff '61 Patricia Raub Carev '68 Michael Reed '63 Ann Rehmeyer Kietzman '69 Steven Richardson Mead '67 John Robinson '63 George Rodgers '60 Jeanne Schwam Mazur '66 Joseph Schwartz '67 G. Alan Shoemaker '65 Donald Stouffer '61 Wilbur Trautman '69 John Walsh '60 Joseph Young '60

1970s

Steven Altman '76 Paul Blaetz '70 Grace Bohr '79 Frederick Braithwood '77 Frederick Brown '79

John Cleaveland '70 William Craig '70 John Degnan '73 Charles Delp '71 William Denny '75 Raymond Endreny '73 Cherie Evans '72 William Garber '76 Farl Gillman '71 Leopold Graupera '78 Victor Golowash '71 Susan Harris Wilbur '76 Stenhen Hirsch '74 Melvin Jackson '76 William Jester '70 Samuel Kades '72 Lee Kleinfelter '78 Glenn Lau '73 Charles Lomax '77 Sandra Loperfido Lepo '70 Wilford McNeill '73 Carol Patterson Patterson '71 Charles Porter '71 Barbara Robinson Stevens '73 Marguerite Ryan '78 Robert Rybicki '71 Milo Schaefer '71 Pearl Sommers Woodnick '70 Sturks Taylor '72 James Thomas '79

Dehhie Chesen '78

1980s

Joseph Anderson '88 Gregory Bauer '89 Lionel Barnes '80 William Breece '85 Christopher Conners '85 William Hatch '86 Phyllis Hefner '87 George Kocyan '84 Anthony Nottingham '82 Stella Peterson '82 David Roller '80 Otto Weiss '81

1990s

Thomas Duggan '92 Karen Johnson '92 Antony Joseph '90 Alexander Kolibabek '98 Charles Litty '90 Peter Mayer '93 Courtney Reed '91 Anthony Stein '92

2000s

Danny Angeline '07 Anne-Michele Bivona-Gossett Jessica Bongiovanni '09 Akili Gordon '05 Colleen Kenney '03 Alexander Rand '09

CORRECTION: In the fall 2012 issue of the Drexel Magazine, Winifred Susan Foltz Pruitt '71 was incorrectly listed in the Friends We'll Miss section. Instead it was her mother, Winifred Lacy Foltz '35, who passed away.

Connect with Dragons Online

With the Drexel University Alumni Association's online networks it's easy to stay in touch with your Drexel classmates and friends, no matter where you are.

More than 10,700 alumni are already connecting with one another on The Drexel University Alumni Association Networking Group on LinkedIn. Join us on Facebook for University news, updates and photographs from campus. The Online Alumni Directory is an exclusive online network where Drexel alumni can update contact information, search the Directory's job board, share class notes, and more!

Check out videos on the official YouTube channel for the Drexel University Alumni Association, youtube.com/drexelunivalumni, and get the latest news and announcement from our official Twitter feed. @drexelalumni.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW TO GET CONNECTED, VISIT

drexel.edu/alumni/socialnetworks.asp.









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 and 2014. 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!

CHECK OUT OUR EXCITING TRIPS:

June 13-22, 2013

SOLD OUT! 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

January 25-February 4, 2014

NEW! Tahitian Jewels



For trip details and to register, visit 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.

Year of the Dragon Grand Prize Winners

The Drexel University Alumni Association would like to congratulate **Joy Springer, BS'02, Architectural Engineering,** and **Carvon Johnson, BS'85, Commerce and Engineering, MS'85, Engineering Management,** who each won the Year of the Dragon grand prize, an Amazon Kindle Fire! Thank you to everyone who joined us on our journey through the Year of the Dragon by participating in events or by following along online. We're already looking forward to the next Year of the Dragon—in 2024!



ALUMNI WEEKEND 2013

Every year, Alumni Weekend is the biggest, most exciting on-campus event hosted by the Drexel University Alumni Association. With a schedule featuring old favorites and new additions, we know that this year won't disappoint! Take a look at what's in store for Alumni Weekend on May 3 and 4, 2013.

Friday, May 3 Class of 1963 50th Reunion Celebration

Class of 1963 Welcome Breakfast

GREAT COURT, MAIN BUILDING Catch up with classmates and friends from the Class of 1963 while enjoying breakfast

fare, bloody marys, mimosas, coffee, tea, and soft drinks.

Class of 1963 Golden Dragon Society **Induction and Awards Ceremony**

MAIN BUILDING AUDITORIUM

Members of the Class of 1963 will be officially inducted into the Golden Dragon Society and presented with Society pins at this special reunion ceremony. The Class will also join the Alumni Association in recognizing the 2013

recipient of the Golden Dragon Society Award.

Class of 1963 Photograph

MAIN BUILDING STAIRCASE

Gather with classmates to commemorate the Class of 1963's reunion with a group photograph. Photos will be sent to attendees after the reunion as a memento of this special milestone.

Golden Dragon Society Annual Luncheon

BEHRAKIS GRAND HALL. CREESE STUDENT CENTER

Chat, laugh and dine as you catch up on 50 or more years of memories over lunch in Drexel's Student Center. You will enjoy a three-course meal with wine, beer and

soft drinks. Current members of the Golden Dragon Society from the Class of 1962 and prior are also invited to join the Class of 1963 for this annual Society luncheon.

Campus Bus Tour

OUTSIDE BEHRAKIS GRAND HALL. CREESE STUDENT CENTER

Hop aboard a Drexel shuttle bus for a guided tour of the University City campus led by current students. Check out all of the changes that have taken place since your last visit to campus.

Friday, May 3 All Alumni

NEW EVENT: The Dragon's Lair Alumni Lounge and Buffet

PAUL PECK ALUMNI CENTER

Sit back and relax as you enjoy an evening just for you - our Drexel graduates! We're transforming the Paul Peck Alumni Center into an alumni lounge open for all alumni and complete with games, drinks and a buffet dinner. Stop by anytime between 5 and 8 p.m.!

Annual Alumni Wine Pairing Dinner

THE ACADEMIC BISTRO, PAUL PECK PROBLEM SOLVING AND RESEARCH CENTER

You won't want to miss reserving a spot at this popular annual

dinner, where guests will enjoy a farm-to-table, three-course menu fully-prepared and served by Drexel students. Each course will be paired with carefully-selected local wines, described in detail by our experienced wine instructor.

Saturday, May 4 All Alumni

21st Annual University City 5K Run benefitting the Pipino **Memorial Scholarship**

33RD STREET AND LANCASTER WALK

For the past 21 years, the University City 5K Run has been dedicated to the memory of Nick Pipino, a Drexel student who was killed in 1992 while working to finance his education. Proceeds directly support the memorial scholarship established in his name, which benefits Drexel students.

NEW EVENT:

Alumni Scavenger Hunt and Lunch

NORTH GYM, DASKALAKIS ATHLETIC CENTER The Alumni Association hosted its first-ever scavenger hunt in September, and it was such a

hit, we decided to have another one at Alumni Weekend! Teams of up to six people will work together to scour campus, answering questions and gathering clues from Drexel's colleges, schools and departments. Great prizes will be awarded to the top teams including a Nintendo Wii U Gaming System for the first place in the Family Team category. Four \$50 Amazon gift



cards will be awarded to the top adult team. Even if you don't participate in the Hunt, all alumni are invited to join in the post-hunt excitement at our lunch, which will feature music and food, along with fun and games for kids ages 12 and under.

Alumni Association Awards Ceremony

PAUL PECK ALUMNI CENTER

Celebrate the achievements of your fellow graduates and current Drexel students as the Alumni Association Board of Governors presents its 2013 Alumni Association Awards, Scholarships and Outstanding Student Awards. Many of the University's colleges and schools will also honor alumni of their programs with awards.

Class of 1988 Silver Dragon Reunion Reception

PAPADAKIS INTEGRATED SCIENCES BUILDING

Members of the Class of 1988 are invited to this cocktail reception on campus where you can catch up with your classmates and friends! The Alumni Association will commemorate your 25th reunion as you and your classmates are officially inducted into the Silver Dragon Society. Then head over to the University Gala for dinner and dancing to close out the weekend.

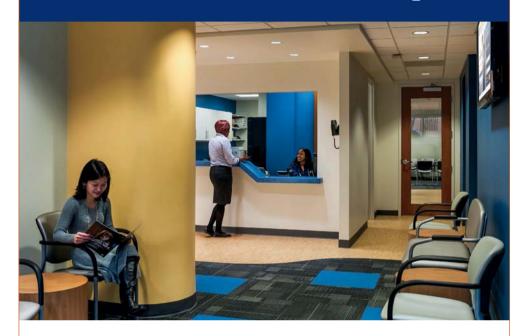
NEW AND IMPROVED: University Gala

BEHRAKIS GRAND HALL, CREESE STUDENT CENTER

You spoke, and we listened! In response to your feedback, we're excited to announce that we've made some changes to this year's Vegas-themed University Gala. We're bringing back the Pre-Gala Cocktail Reception which will feature appetizers. a host beer and wine bar, and music from "the big dance band," Midnight Hour. The band will start much earlier this year which means more time to dance! Dancing will begin at the Cocktail Reception at 6 p.m. and continue throughout the evening, breaking only for a delicious threecourse dinner at 7 p.m. The Gala is one of the most anticipated events of Alumni Weekend—we hope to see you there!



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Alumni Attitudinal Survey Update

The Drexel University Alumni Association recently joined a consortium of peer alumni associations from the Private College and University Alumni Directors Association to conduct an Alumni Attitudinal Survey which was emailed to a randomly-selected pool of Drexel graduates. The results of the survey were compiled and analyzed by the Alumni Survey Committee of the Board of Governors. Vice Chair of the Alumni Association Board of Governors and Chair of the Alumni Survey Committee, Ira Taffer PhD'83, BS'79, Chemistry, explains the survey project in more detail, and highlights some key findings and future plans for the Alumni Association.



Why did the Alumni Association decide to do the survey?

We undertook the survey so that we could learn how Drexel alumni feel about their student experience, their alumni experience, and about Drexel University in general. Many universities use the same survey questions, allowing us to compare our findings with those of our peer institutions. It is important that we regularly measure ourselves against our peers so we can evaluate how we are doing as an organization.

What kind of information did the survey collect?

The survey questions covered three main areas: student experience, alumni experience, and overall University experience. Within these areas we examined how we communicate with alumni, how loyal they are to the University (both in recommending Drexel to potential students, as well as philanthropic support), and their participation in Alumni Association programs and events. We also collected information on the expectations that our graduates have for the Alumni Association and what is most important to them.

Were there any trends that you were able to identify based on the information collected?

First and foremost is equity of degree. Alumni want to know that the University is well thought of in the community, and as Drexel moves up in national rankings, so does the value of a Drexel degree. Second, we learned that the top three reasons alumni do not participate in Alumni Association events are lack of time, geographic distance and a concern that they will not know anyone at the event. The survey showed us that this same trend is found by our peer institutions. The third trend is that career development programs, along with lifelong learning and networking opportunities are very important to our alumni.

What does the Alumni Association plan to do with the information gleaned from the survey?

Understanding how alumni think and feel is important for developing programs and events that will benefit our graduates. The Alumni Survey Committee of the Board of Governors has reviewed the survey findings and has made recommendations which will help shape the Board's future strategic plan. We have also shared the results of the survey with University administration, as well as the various colleges, schools and departments within Drexel. Much of the data collected by the survey will benefit these groups as they work to better serve their student and alumni communities.

What can alumni expect to see in the future, in response to the information collected from the survey?

The Alumni Survey Committee has gath-

ered several strong messages from alumni through the survey. We will be strengthening those areas that are important to alumni, such as career development services. Additionally we have learned the barriers to Alumni participation in our myriad of events. We will look at ways to decrease these barriers. We have also learned a lot about how the Alumni Association communicates with our alumni and we will be improving our methods and messages accordingly. In a few years' time we will repeat the survey so that we can measure the effectiveness of the changes we made in response to the survey. We need to make sure we are listening to our fellow graduates and constantly improving their alumni experience.

To those of you who completed the survey, I can't thank you enough. We care how our alumni think and feel about the University and the Alumni Association. And with your input, we know how to better fulfill our responsibility of serving and supporting our alumni. Please feel free to contact us at any time if we can be of help to you. Thank you again.

Sincerely,

Ira Taffer

PhD'83, BS'79, Chemistry



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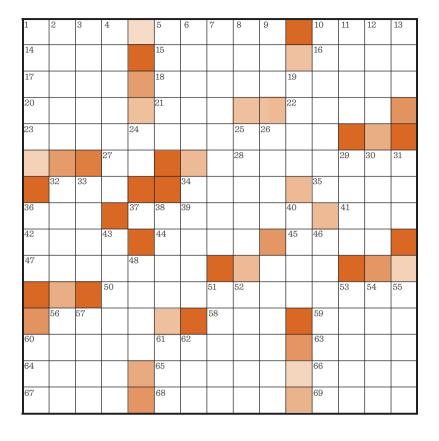
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THE BACK PAGE PUZZLE

rom outreach programs like the Community Alumni Network at Drexel (CAN DU) to resources like 11th Street Family Health Services, Drexel Dragons are civically engaged, socially responsible leaders. This edition of the Back Page Puzzle explores the many ways the University gives back to its community.

ACROSS

- 1 Phillie's swing
- 5 Medium for congressional grandstanding
- 10 Con's cons
- 14 Alternative to check or charge
- 15 Arcade game pioneer
- 16 Indian export
- 17 Iowa native
- 18 Mural Arts initiative that Drexel is assisting help behavioral health through public art
- 20 Ward (off)
- 21 It comes before quattro
- 22 Cuban monetary unit
- 23 Partnership that Drexel is helping bring the Internet to Philadelphia, with "The"
- 27 Act human
- 28 All that a ship can carry
- 32 Scotch
- 34 Chunky, and more
- 35 Fully satisfy
- 36 "It's to die ____"
- 37 Drexel University's Biomedical Engineering program
- 41 Virago
- 42 Have in tow
- 44 Revolutionary Guevara
- 45 Imminent
- 47 Drexel's Freshman Writing Program Director Ingalls
- 49 Mongrel
- 50 Drexel's on-line mentoring program that assists in number theory
- 56 Like a restaurant that serves panang curry
- 58 That miss
- 59 Family nickname
- 60 St. Christopher's Hospital for Children/Drexel program that helps young families, with "The"
- 63 Burned and backed-up, in a way
- 64 Poet Angelou
- 65 Wee spot
- 66 Heather Headley's role in "The Lion King"
- 67 Fix a hot dog?
- 68 Blackens
- 69 Supporter of the cosmos?



DOWN

- 1 Speak derisively, and a hint to how this puzzle's long answers were created
- 2 The ___ Boy (bronze statue in Drexel's Main Building)
- 3 Shoulder to shoulder
- 4 Peter Benchley novel
- Polyphemus, to Odysseus
- Blizzard or hurricane
- Potato whittler
- Semicircle path 8
- 9 Medical research org.
- 10 Catholic clerics
- 11 Drawn carriages
- 12 Quatro y quatro
- 13 Arrange type

- 19 Women's links gp.
- 24 Doodled, e.g.
- 25 Construction site crosspiece
- 26 Less harsh alternative to grounding
- 29 Canine
- 30 Home of the Jazz
- 31 Hose filler?
- 32 Put a rip in
- 33 Typical Al Jazeera viewer
- 34 Cabbage forked over
- 36 New Deal inits.
- 38 "___homo" ("behold the man")
- 39 Dog and pony show
- 40 Plenty, informally

- 43 Vacation spot
- 46 Some T-shirt designs
- 48 Hot, fashionwise
- 49 Restraints
- 51 "Up" actor Ed
- 52 Like molasses
- 53 Barreled toward
- 54 "I've had enough!"
- 55 "___ Butterfly"
- 56 Win at cat-and-mouse
- 57 Georgetown hoopster
- 60 Baseball heads, for short
- 61 Drug that can cause flashbacks
- 62 Copper-colored beer

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:

Drexel Magazine Office of University Communications 3141 Chestnut Street Main Building, Suite 309 Philadelphia, PA 19104-2875



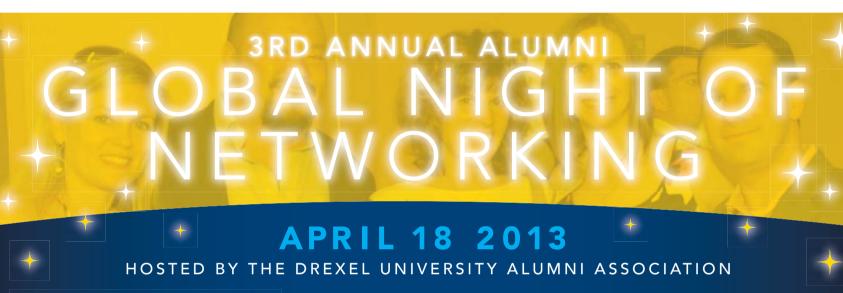


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