See the World
Alumni Travel Program

As part of its commitment to lifelong learning, the Drexel University Alumni Association invites all alumni to take part in our 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 you the highest quality educational travel experience. Traveling with Drexel graduates is an experience you will not want to miss!

For trip details and to register, visit drexel.edu/alumni/travel. 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 email alumni@drexel.edu.

September 7-15
Experience the Beauty of the Italian Riviera

May 27-June 4
Apulia: Undiscovered Italy

October 7-15
Villages and Vineyards of the Mosel, Rhine and Main Rivers

July 24-30
Canadian Rockies Parks and Resorts

January 25 - February 4
Sail the Tahitian Jewels

August 13-21
Cruise the Baltic Marvels, Copenhagen to Stockholm

April 4-12
Cruise the Waterways and Canals of Holland and Belgium

September 20-28
Flavors of Northern Italy

May 15-24
Southern Culture and Civil War Steamboat Cruise, Memphis to New Orleans

November 19-30
Cerulean Celebration, Panama Canal Cruise

2013

2013

2014

2014

2014

2014

2014

2014

2014

2014
Years ago that the *Tiktaalik roseae*, a famous fossil fish species co-discovered by Dr. Ted Daeschler, an associate professor in the College of Arts and Sciences and assistant curator and vice president of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University, was able to swim. The fish species provides evidence of the evolutionary transition from lobe-finned fish to limbed animals, or tetrapods.
<table>
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<tr>
<th><strong>THE LEDGER</strong></th>
<th>[ A NUMERICAL ANALYSIS OF LIFE AT DREXEL ]</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>7</strong></td>
<td>Number of Drexel students who received prestigious Fulbright grants, the highest number of grantees in Drexel history. The students, who come from a wide variety of studies and intended areas of research, plan on studying in Nigeria, Ethiopia, Germany, Chile and South Korea. Initially, five students were granted the scholarship, which was still a university record, but two last-minute additions bumped the number up even higher.</td>
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<td><strong>0.0769</strong></td>
<td>Percentage chance of being chosen from the initial 1,300 submissions hoping to receive funding from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation’s Knight Arts Challenge—a feat Drexel’s Expressive &amp; Creative Interaction Technologies (ExCITe) Center accomplished in April. The program plans on developing and engaging new audiences for the arts by developing a series of live music concerts enhanced with audio-visual technologies spanning various musical genres. (See story, page 20)</td>
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<td><strong>2</strong></td>
<td>Number of years it will take an Earle Mack School of Law graduate to complete law school, thanks to the Fast Forward JD program that will launch in May 2014. The program requires the same number of credits and hands-on learning opportunities as the standard three-year JD, but students can spend less time in law school in order to join the work force faster. Fast Forward students will still be able to receive the same merit scholarship funds as other students at the law school.</td>
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<td><strong>43.2</strong></td>
<td>Collective miles ran or walked by adjunct professors Denise Way and Amira Clemens in the 2013 Donna Deegan National Marathon to Finish Breast Cancer in Jacksonville, Fla. Way, who was diagnosed with breast cancer, persuaded Clemens to train for the rigorous marathon.</td>
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<td><strong>550</strong></td>
<td>Number of student veterans who call Drexel home. The University, which has been the base of Philadelphia’s Armory ROTC consortium “Task Force Dragon” since 1917, hosted a series of gatherings in late May to honor men and women of the armed services who gave their lives in service to their country.</td>
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<td><strong>5</strong></td>
<td>Number of courses Drexel culinary students created for a special collaborative dinner with the legendary Philadelphia French restaurant Le Bec Fin in May. With the help of the restaurant’s Chef de Cuisine Steven Eckerd, 10 students from the Goodwin College of Professional Studies met with local purveyors, farms and markets to gather materials necessary for menu items like foie gras, pickled quail egg, cheese tarts and other delicious dishes.</td>
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<td><strong>85,360</strong></td>
<td>Number of square footage on the north-facing wall of the Cira Centre that was used by Dr. Frank Lee, an associate professor in the Antoinette Westphal College of Media Arts &amp; Design and co-founder of the Drexel Game Design Program, to play the classic arcade game Pong on the famous Philly building. (See story, page 6)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>7</strong></td>
<td>Number of colleges and universities across the country—including Drexel—that were chosen to participate in the Department of Homeland Security Campus Resilience Pilot Program. Announced by Secretary of Homeland Security Janet Napolitano during a campus visit in April, the program will allow Drexel and the other colleges to collaborate with federal, state and local organizations to work on campus safety.</td>
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Another successful Alumni Weekend in May drew Drexel graduates from around the world. As usual, they caught up with old friends and reminisced about their time here, and we took the opportunity to proudly show them some of the incredible things that are happening at today's Drexel.

But our alumni don’t limit themselves to nostalgia or updates when it comes to interacting with their alma mater. Many of Drexel’s most critical strategic initiatives rely on the guidance, support and leadership of alumni.

I had the once-in-a-lifetime experience earlier this year of traveling to Ethiopia with Dana Dornsife, class of 1983, and her husband David on a trip organized by the humanitarian organization World Vision.

Dana and David are, of course, the benefactors of our new Dornsife Center for Neighborhood Partnerships serving the Mantua and Powelton neighborhoods here in West Philadelphia.

We visited a number of World Vision projects supported by the Dornsifes and others to help improve access to clean water for Ethiopians. Joined by Dr. Shannon Marquez, associate dean and director of global health initiatives in the School of Public Health, we explored promising partnerships where Drexel can make a major impact on clean water, sanitation and hygiene in the region.

Drexel is committed to a deep civic engagement with our neighbors in Philadelphia, and to expanding the global reach of our academic, research and service programs. Dana Dornsife provides an outstanding example of how our alumni can help drive our success in both those efforts.

Sincerely,

John A. Fry
President
This was composed at high altitude in a tiny cabin alongside a trout lake in British Columbia, so forgive the fishing analogy I’m about to use.

Lake HiHium, where I recently spent five days in June before taking over as Drexel’s new executive director of publications, is home to lake birds with elegant, Egyptian profiles that on a foggy day from a distance give them a Loch Ness silhouette. If you’ve never heard a loon, they have a lovely, haunting call. And they’re master swimmers. Fisherman love them and hate them, because their presence is often a sign that fish are nearby. But they’re also notorious for following behind fishermen’s boats until a fish bites a lure—then the loon swims in underwater at the last minute and snatches the reward.

That’s pretty much what’s happening with this issue of Drexel Magazine. Owing to the timing of my hire, I’ve come in as editor in the magazine’s final stages, but I didn’t have anything to do with its creation.

This issue was conceived very capably under the previous management, so I won’t go on about how great it is as if I had a hand in it, though it is.

Instead, let me introduce myself. I fish—poorly. I’m a third-generation Oregonian, which my parents tell me is fairly rare. I studied magazine journalism at the University of Oregon and have been an editor and writer for various print, magazine and digital publications for more than 16 years. I’ve been a beer writer, a women’s issues reporter, an executive profiler and briefly an attention-deprived social media manager. Before coming to Drexel, I spent seven-and-a-half years at the Philadelphia Business Journal, where I produced weekly special reports and a short-lived but award-winning quarterly magazine.

Like a lot of people, my husband and I came to Philadelphia for graduate school. When we moved here, the IRS building at 30th Street was our post office, the Cira Centre was just a blueprint and Michael Solomonov was still several years away from making his reputation as chef at Marigold. West Philadelphia hooked us with its Victorian architecture and giant, dappled sycamores—not to mention free street parking—and we stayed.

From our vantage point as residents, we’ve watched Drexel’s progress as it gained a medical school, a law school and natural sciences academy, plus countless smaller milestones. Sometimes we’ve complained about navigating endless campus construction, but it’s been a pleasure watching our “left of center” community improve each year.

I feel fortunate to be joining Drexel right now, and from my new vantage point as a part of this university, I can’t wait to see what’s next.

Sincerely,
Sonja Sherwood / Editor
LETTERS

Thought-out and Tasteful
Just wanted to send a quick note to you guys and say how impressed and how much I enjoyed reading through the Winter/Spring edition of Drexel Magazine. The magazine’s layout, stories and photos were well thought-out and very tasteful. I especially enjoyed the “40 under 40” feature and thought that was a great way to celebrate and showcase the achievements of former dragons. I completed a master’s at Drexel and am now in the MD program, but I am also a serial entrepreneur and have former advertising experience so I appreciate not only the importance, but the need for what you guys do.

Bravo, keep up the good work!

Jonathan Richina
College of Medicine

Remembering
Lester Stradling
Thank you to Charles Connor, BSME’80, for the letter he sent in remembrance of my father, Lester Stradling. A friend gave me a copy of the alumni magazine, knowing that I would be touched to read this tribute. And indeed I was.

Dad was a proud Drexel alumnus and a dedicated member of the staff of both the Evening College and, later on, as he called it, the “day school.”

As one who did not particularly appreciate his expounding on the theory of heat transfer or living through the ups and downs of the writing of the textbook, I am grateful to hear from someone who did appreciate all his effort. I would like to thank Mr. Connor for taking the time to share his memory.

Connie Stradling Morby
Doylestown, Pa.

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

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

In our second-annual “Drexel 40 Under 40” edition—an issue that will feature profiles of 40 young alumni who are making a name for themselves and making a real impact in their industries and communities.

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

ELIGIBILITY
- Must be 40 years or younger as of January 1, 2014.
- Must have received a degree from the University.
- May be self-nominated or nominated by another person.
- Should have achieved demonstrated success in business, the public sector, the nonprofit sector, community involvement or advocacy.
- Must submit a high-resolution image of the nominee.

Nominations should be sent to magazine@drexel.edu or to the following mailing address by November 30:

DREXEL MAGAZINE
40 Under 40 Nominations
3141 Chestnut Street, Suite 309
Philadelphia, PA 19104
The science of video games,

Professor Frank Lee has pioneered gaming research at Drexel from pixels on a computer screen to scaling Philadelphia’s Cira Centre building.

As an obsessed gamer.

At Berkeley, in the basement lab. Multi-player to the nth degree at Carnegie Mellon. Like a man who couldn’t shake his past—his being one of Atari, Space Invaders, of victory.

After two years of teaching at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, he joined Drexel as an assistant professor focusing on cognitive research but, as soon as he got here, he could no longer hide his “secret” life—Lee wanted to get gaming into the academic side.

“I offered, I believe the first game class at Drexel. [I] got a grant for educational gaming, and I was on a search committee to bring in faculty. Paul Diefenbach was brought in and that’s been a huge part of this,” Lee says.

In 2008, Lee and Diefenbach formed the Drexel Game Design Program as co-founders and co-directors.
Two years later, the very first ranking of game design programs in undergrad had Drexel already third in North America.

But the top finishes were just getting started. Putting together a four-person team for the Microsoft Imagine Cup, an international game development competition, his goal was to improve upon what he saw previously as a judge for the event. “It’s supposed to be about creating something both educational and that has the fun a game should have,” he says. “What I saw either had one or the other.”

The U.S. finals saw the team take first place. Then it was time to take on the globe. The World Finals brought together 250,000 students representing nearly 200 countries. So many incredible institutions of education. So little time since Drexel opened its gaming program. Final placing?

First.

Maybe the success Lee has been a part of can be explained somewhat by his attitude toward gaming research itself.

“You have to see it as the fusion of art and science,” he says. “Eighty percent of games released commercially won’t make their money back.”

In other words, if gaming research were as simple as doing an experiment with a control, it would have been the field’s norm long before Donkey Kong. So while “n=” may not mean as much here, polishing does. Take that Imagine Cup-winning entry Math Dash. Spending three months polishing, play-testing and advising—from improving movement to making absolutely sure the game was keeping in alignment with what a core curriculum would be—they adjusted with intuition. For Lee, maybe the biggest acknowledgement was when two students walked away from trying the game and said, “That was surprisingly fun.” It may not be the same as finding percent error, but it definitely felt like the right track to Lee and his team.

And they’re extending this create-and-polish style as far as they can. From presently working on a game for autistic children to help them learn facial recognition to even hoping to gain ground on one for ADHD, Lee clearly sees this as so much more than fun and games.

“It shouldn’t be surprising how much games can mean to human beings,” he says. “Board games go back thousands of years to Egypt…Think about how far back chess goes.”

You would think his team taking on the world would be Lee’s greatest feat to date, but it might actually be his involvement in a rather basic game. Remember Lee’s building vision? Now as an associate professor in the digital media program in the Westphal College of
President Fry leads Drexel delegation to South American universities

Media Arts & Design, he persisted with Brandywine Realty Trust, owner of the Cira Centre, to allow him to create a Pong game that could be played on a side of the building.

At first, he was dismissed. But Lee went about winning like he had with so many video games. When you initially lose what do you do? Press the reset button. So he did—countless times. Emails and phone calls over four years. Finally, it was a party with President John Fry that would get him to the final level to hearing yes. Fry happened to be friends with the owner of Brandywine, Jerry Sweeney, which led to Lee getting a meeting with him. Ultimately, Sweeney gave him the thumbs up, and it was on like Pong.

The 29-story building utilized more than 500 LED lights to create the spectacle of the world’s largest video game. “Watching it happen was almost like watching a child being born,” he says. “I’ve been trying to do it for so long—and there it finally was!”

But there’s one more incredible finish he has in mind. Lee’s goal for the Game Design Program is the same goal he has for the city of Philadelphia and its surrounding areas: to become a major player in the world of gaming.

“It’s different now,” he says. “Before, you’d need so many people to create something and then you needed someone like Electronic Arts to say you could do it. Now, with mobile games, you can create it just with a few friends and you don’t need anyone to stop you from making a business happen. This is a great time for creative people—we just need to keep at it.”

And for a man who scaled the Cira Centre—so to speak—persistence is one game he’s not likely to quit.
In an historic victory, Drexel Crew wins team championship at Dad Vail Regatta

BY BRITT FAULSTICK

In front of a roaring crowd and a worldwide audience, Drexel Rowing won the overall team title, the men’s point trophy and the Men’s Varsity 8 Gold Medal at the 2013 Aberdeen Dad Vail Regatta. The Dragons sent a program-record 12 boats to the semifinals on the final day of racing, nine advanced to the grand finals and six reached the medal podium to help Drexel make history on the Schuylkill.

Director of Rowing Paul Savell led his team to four gold medals, a silver and a bronze, which was the team’s highest medal count at the Dad Vail in history. The historic haul allowed Drexel to edge out Michigan by four points to claim the team points trophy. The men’s crew bested Grand Valley by 12 points, 45-33, to take first place in its team competition, and on the women’s side Drexel placed third with 15 points.

The men’s varsity pair was the decisive race of the day. With the men’s points title hanging in the balance, Drexel needed to finish in the top three to claim victory over Grand Valley. Drag- ons Timothy Drake and Cameron Staines put an emphatic end to the Dragons’ triumph on the river with a gold-medal perfor- mance, edging out Rochester by one-tenth of a second.

Joining Drake and Staines on the gold medal podium were the men’s novice eight and the women’s second varsity eight. The men’s varsity eight earned gold in the most prestigious event of the day with a come-from-behind victory in a final that included Michigan State, Florida Institute of Technology, Grand Valley, Michigan and Virginia. Drexel received the Lev Brett Bowl for winning the men’s varsity eight race. It was the first time since 1997.

Also contributing to the record-setting medal count were the men’s second varsity eight, with a silver, and the women’s varsity four, with a bronze.

The team victory is the culmination of a steady climb for the Drexel Rowing program. Last year, the Dragons came up just short of the ultimate prize, finishing second by a narrow margin. This year, with an unsurpassed team performance that saw all 12 of its entrants qualify for semifinal races and nine move on to grand finals, Drexel would not be deterred from its championship.
“The danger of this in light of the tragedy in Boston is that law enforcement is being so risk-averse they are in danger of crossing that line and going after what courts would ultimately deem as free speech.”

—DR. ROB D’OVIDIO, associate teaching professor in the College of Arts and Sciences, in a Christian Science Monitor article.

“I feel this would be a good time to come back. We’ll have a great team, returning a lot of players.”

—Senior basketball player CHRIS FOUCH, in a Philadelphia Daily News article about the NCAA approving a waiver to extend his eligibility after he suffered a season-ending injury in the third game of the 2012-13 season.

“It’s really, at this point, indescribable.”

—Senior basketball player HOLLIE MERSHON, in a Philadelphia Inquirer article on the women’s basketball team’s most historic WNIT championship win over Utah.

“Our goal is to become one of the healthiest colleges in the nation. We’re not going to take our foot off the accelerator until we achieve that.”

—VICTOR TRINGALI, executive director of University Wellness, on the Philadelphia Business Journal naming Drexel one of Philadelphia’s healthiest employers for the third year in a row.

“It takes a lot of work to put together that application, but it’s absolutely possible.”

—RONA BUCHALTER, director of the Drexel Fellowships Office, on the record-breaking seven Drexel students who were offered grants from the Fulbright U.S. Student Program.
With key acquisition, University moves one step closer to campus transformation  

BY NIKI GIANAKARIS

Drexel recently acquired the property located at 3161-67 Market Street, a triangular-shaped parcel on the north side of Market Street between JFK Boulevard and 32nd Street that currently houses a Firestone auto repair shop. Located at the heart of Drexel’s campus, the 26,675-square-foot parcel is key to the University’s strategic and master plans, which call for the development of a superblock along Market Street that will serve as a gateway to University City from 30th Street Station.

The University purchased the parcel for $8.9 million from Bridgestone Retail Operations, LLC. Under the lease agreement with Drexel, the Firestone auto repair shop will continue to operate at the location for up to three years.

“Drexel has had this strategically located property in its sights for many years,” says James Tucker, senior vice president for Student Life and Administrative Services. “With the adoption of a new 30-year Campus Master Plan in 2012, the time was right to acquire the parcel now and begin to connect the east and west sides of our campus along Market Street.”

Future plans for the site may include student housing, retail, academic space or a mixed-use development.

The acquisition supports Drexel President John A. Fry’s vision for the University to become one of academe’s most powerful engines for neighborhood improvement and regional economic growth. In June 2011, Drexel acquired a 3.6-acre lot on John F. Kennedy Boulevard that will become a gateway for its University City campus.

With the University’s proximity to Amtrak’s 30th Street Station, one of the nation’s best-connected transportation hubs, Drexel is uniquely positioned to anchor a new gateway to Philadelphia and a vibrant district for innovation. Plans for this “Innovation Neighborhood” are being spearheaded by Keith Orris, senior vice president for Corporate Relations and Economic Development, who is leading the way in seeking to attract corporate partners to this effort, and serve as Drexel’s main liaison to Amtrak, SEPTA and PennDOT.

Neighborhood initiatives include expanding security patrols around campus, providing financial incentives for employees to buy homes within key neighborhoods in West Philadelphia, adding more on-campus housing for students, partnering with neighborhood public schools and developing retail space on major streets to serve Drexel and its surrounding communities. Most recently, Drexel announced the establishment of the Dana and David Dornsife Center for Neighborhood Partnerships that will serve as a resource for sharing expertise and knowledge with members of the local community.
Quantifying ‘green’ efforts on a massive scale

BY BRITT FAULSTICK

In what is estimated to be one of the largest green retrofitting projects in U.S. history, a makeover of the Jacob K. Javits Convention Center is underway in New York City. The cost of the transformation is on the order of $463 million. While the effects that the green technology will have on the massive convention center and its surrounding environment are not yet known, they will, however, be closely monitored in a research study by a team of engineers from Drexel and the Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art.

The 6.75-acre green roof is the centerpiece of a series of renovations designed to make the 27-year-old building an example of retrofitting for sustainability. When it opened in 1986, the Javits Center was—according to many architects—outdated by sustainable design measures—before it even opened.

“The Javits Center green roof exemplifies the kind of environmentally sensible urban redevelopment projects that [New York] wants to encourage,” says Dr. Franco Montalto, a professor at Drexel’s College of Engineering and the lead researcher. “The retrofit building will reduce urban runoff, mitigate the urban heat island effect, and, potentially have a cooling effect on the streets and buildings that surround it. Our research will seek to quantify these benefits.”

As part of the study, four climate stations will be installed on and around the green roof; flumes, thermistors, soil sensors and a series of weighing lysimeters will be installed within the green roof itself. Together, these instruments will be used to evaluate what effect the green roof is having on its immediate microclimate, how much rainwater runs off and/or evaporates, and to what extent the roof—and the intake for the convention center’s air conditioning system—is cooler once the vegetation is in place.

Drexel researchers, in partnership with the Cooper Union, will monitor the sustainability measures of New York City’s Javits Convention Center—home of the second-largest green roof in the United States.
Drexel women’s basketball claimed a share of school and city history in early April by defeating Utah 46–43 to seize the Women’s National Invitation Championship, which is the first postseason title for Drexel and the first for any NCAA Division I women’s basketball team in Philadelphia. The Dragons finished the year with a 28-10 record, which is the program’s record for wins in a season.

Senior Taylor Wootton scored her 1,000th career point and led her team with 16 in the game. Hollie Mershon hit a go-ahead layup with 21 seconds remaining and knocked down two free throws in the final moments of the game to give her team its final margin of victory. The senior scored 12 of her 14 points in the second half while eclipsing the 1,600-point mark for her career en route to Tournament MVP honors. Their classmate Renee Johnson-Allen, who finished the game with six points and three rebounds, came up with two key defensive plays in the waning minutes of the game to help the Dragons come from behind for the victory.

The Dragons trailed for nearly the entire first half as the Utes seemed to have an answer every time Drexel got close. After seeing a five-point lead in the second half evaporate, the Dragons fought back with Mershon’s late heroics to bring home the championship and bring the Daskalakis Athletic Center crowd of 1,922 storming onto the court to celebrate with their team.

Wootton, who scored the first seven points for Drexel and played the entire 40 minutes, was named to the WNIT All-Tournament Team alongside Mershon.
As waters rise in Haiti and the Dominican Republic, a Drexel social scientist traveled to the Caribbean to find out why—and what it means for the future of the island region.

Joseph* is a truck driver from Fonds-Parisien, Haiti, who has nine children. His family has lived by Lake Azuei for generations.

In the past 10 years, the lake has risen more than 10 meters and has doubled in size, from 155 square kilometers in 2004 to 354 square kilometers today. As the waters rose and began to spill over the banks, Joseph’s land has gradually disappeared underwater, taking with it his home and those of his extended family.

“[The floodwaters] have diminished our ability to work because we lost nearly everything we invested in this land,” Joseph says in an interview translated from his native language, Haitian Creole. “Life has become much worse because we have to find a way to build other houses. With no money, that is a tough situation. We are here with nothing now. If we had visas, we would be gone already. [But] we don’t have a choice.”

Three kilometers away, in the Dominican Republic, Lake Enriquillo is also rising with no signs of stopping, and has already engulfed farmland, houses and roads. One of the main highways linking the two countries has suffered closures and had to be reconstructed temporarily. Rising waters are now threatening entire towns. As livestock, crops and trade routes are lost, so are livelihoods.

In an effort to understand the toll that the surging waters have taken, Dr. Mimi Sheller, director of the Center for Mobilities Research and Policy (mCenter) in Drexel’s College of Arts and Sciences, joined a team studying the imperiled lakes on the border between the two countries.

“Knowing what is causing the lakes to rise—whether it’s a climate-related or geological phenomenon—will help officials in the Dominican Republic and Haiti develop effective mitigation strategies,” says Sheller. “These strategies might include relocating people by clearing new land, or slowing the rise of the water by constructing levees or channels to divert water away from the two lakes.”

The project, titled “Understanding Sudden Hydro-Climatic Changes and Exploring Sustainable Solutions in the Enriquo Water Basin (Southwest Hispaniola),” received
nearly $200,000 in funding from the National Science Foundation’s Rapid Response Research (RAPID) grant program, designed specifically to respond to unusual circumstances that need to be addressed with some urgency. The mechanism has been regularly used to enable research on unanticipated events such as earthquakes, volcanic eruptions or any other event where a timely presence is required.

“The lakes are rising rapidly and, as hurricane season is approaching, the water levels pose an even greater threat to people,” Sheller says. “We need to get answers back to the government and people in the community as soon as possible.”

In March, Sheller traveled along with a team of students and faculty members from City College of New York who were spending the week installing environmental monitoring equipment on Lake Azuei, Lake Enriquillo and three other locations in the mountain range south of the two lakes.

On the team were CCNY professor Michael Piasecki, a former associate professor in Drexel’s Department of Civil, Architectural and Environmental Engineering, and Franco Montalto, an assistant professor in the College of Engineering, both of whom Sheller had previously traveled with to Haiti on another NSF RAPID grant to mobilize local knowledge to solve water and sanitation problems following the earthquake in 2010.

Sheller’s role on the team was to investigate the community’s response to potential mitigation strategies, particularly that of relocation. Along with a professor and student from the Instituto Tecnológico de Santo Domingo (INTEC) and a student from CCNY, she conducted 35 interviews on the social and economic impact of the flooding with the local inhabitants, from farmers and fishermen to teachers, priests and even political leaders, in the affected areas.

“Many of the people had lost farmland and animals, rice fields and other types of land that were the main source of income for their entire family, so they had to find other means of making a living,” says Sheller. “People were very happy to talk to us and were interested in finding out more about why the lakes might be rising and what their options are now that this land is lost.”

Over the coming months, Sheller will transcribe and translate the interviews from Spanish and Creole, with the help of humanities fellow Niacka Carty, a student in Drexel’s international area studies program. Sheller will then analyze the results and attempt to draw conclusions from the narratives about how this environmental phenomenon has affected people as well as what that means for the future of the Caribbean as people are forced to migrate from island to island.

The team plans to return to the area in late summer or early fall to present their findings to various government officials, ministries of the environment, local political representatives and civil society groups in both countries.

“What is really interesting about this research is that Haitians and Dominicans have to solve a common environmental problem while dealing with two very different states and legal codes, two distinct languages, two very different economies, two national currencies—not to mention different telecommunications infrastructures, foreign relations and cultures,” says Sheller. “It makes it truly challenging.

“We’re hoping to turn our scientific findings into information that everyday people can understand and discuss in order to develop their own conclusions as to what’s happening and what they might be able to do about it going forward.”

Sheller’s findings have implications for her research on mobilities, especially as it intersects with infrastructure and sustainability. “To the extent that changing climate and weather patterns might be related to what’s happening, it’s indicative of many areas of the Caribbean that are environmentally vulnerable and fragile,” Sheller says.

“As climate change continues to produce dire effects, such as the dying off of coral reefs, droughts and heavy rainfall, it will lead to more instances where people will need to move in order to rebuild their lives and livelihoods. The Caribbean has a long history of people migrating between islands and countries in order to find work—this will probably increase in the future, impacting the way we govern mobility and border-crossing.”

In the meantime, as to what solutions could help people affected by the flooding, as one elderly woman from La Source put it in her native Haitian Creole: “That’s a question for the children. I’ll be under the ground.”

*Names were changed to protect the anonymity of the research
A Drexel degree, more than 30 years in the making

Roberta Scheller says her mother always dreamed that, one day, one of her daughters might earn a college degree.

Last year—years after her mother’s passing and decades after she last opened a textbook or sat in on a design studio—Scheller finally made that dream come true. And Scheller, now an official alumna of Drexel, says she could not be more proud of her accomplishment—or more pleased for her late mother.

“My mother, who was a wonderful woman, always wanted her daughters to go college,” Scheller, 81, says. “She couldn’t go herself because she was working to put her brother through medical school. But she always wanted us to go.”

As it turns out, Scheller wanted to go, too. After graduating high school, she enrolled at the University of Connecticut, where she began to study design. But after she met her husband, Ernest “Ernie” Scheller, she ultimately decided that family would come first. She and Ernie got married and both began working in the real world; Ernie went to work for Silberline Manufacturing Co., where he currently serves as chairman emeritus, while Scheller got a job in New York City, working for Condé Nast Publishing.

Later, the couple started a family. But after her youngest child left for college, Scheller decided the time had finally come for her to go back to school, too. And despite the fact that she was living in Central Pennsylvania at the time, more than two hours from University City, Scheller decided she would pursue her studies at Drexel. The reason was simple, she says: The school’s reputation in interior design was unmatched.

From 1975 through 1979, Scheller would endure that lengthy commute time and time again. She organized her class schedule to limit the back-and-forth trips, and sometimes would spend the night in Philadelphia in order to get as many classes in as possible. It wasn’t always easy, she says. But it was worth it.

“I had some wonderful courses,” she recalls. “We were working with actual architects on actual buildings in the city. We were doing design work in lofts and row houses that actually existed. You worked in the craft shop with actual tools. It was just a really interesting curriculum.”

Scheller would spend the next several years at Drexel. Ultimately, though, that tough commute—and an untimely illness—forced her to leave school behind. She left without regrets, she says. But she also left without a degree.

Decades passed, and Scheller struck up a rather fortuitous friendship with College of Medicine Dean Dr. Daniel Schidlow, whose wife is Scheller’s first cousin. After Schidlow learned of Scheller’s unique Drexel experience, he asked the staff at the College of Medicine to check Scheller’s records and find out if she had accumulated enough credits to qualify for a degree. They found that she had.

Which is how it came to be that, during a ceremony personally hosted by President John Fry last summer, Scheller was presented with a Bachelor of Science degree from Westphal, College of Media Arts & Design.

Her years of hard work had paid off. Her mother’s dream had come true.

“It was very, very nice,” Scheller says of the ceremony. “It was also very exciting. … When I got my degree, I looked up to heaven and said, ‘Finally, Mom!’”
University plans to create a Center for Jewish Life

Drexel announced plans to build a new Center for Jewish Life that would become the first Jewish center in the Philadelphia area conceived by a university rather than by the Jewish community.

A proposal for the Jewish center, which would be located in a 13,000-square-foot building at 118 N. 34th St. near Lancaster Avenue, estimates that the total cost would be $7 million. According to Rabbi Isabel de Konick, Drexel’s Hillel director, the center will be completed within 36 months once half of the funding is secured.

The Center will include a chapel, dining hall, student lounge, meeting space and a kosher café open to the public as well as a kosher kitchen for students.

“Now the Drexel Jewish community will have a place they can call home that they don’t have to pack into boxes,” says de Konick.

According to de Konick, the lack of kosher dining and a dedicated space for Jewish life has made it difficult to track Jewish events, but she says the new space should solve those problems.

The plans for the Center for Jewish Life were revealed at a mid-April dinner attended by Drexel students and alumni as well as prominent members of the Jewish community.

The initiative for the new center came from Drexel President John Fry, in response to a Jewish student body that has become more active in recent years—attending Hillel programming, Shabbat services and dinners, and traveling in greater numbers to Israel on Birthright trips.

“There’s been an enormous upgrade in energy and I think some of that can be attributed to the atmosphere President Fry implemented at Drexel,” says de Konick.

Drexel has already invested the resources to develop the initial design and is seeking funding to move forward with the project. Seed funding from the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia was used to create other Jewish community centers on Philadelphia campuses, like Steinhardt Hall at the University of Pennsylvania, which was built in 2003, and the Edward H. Rosen Hillel Center for Jewish Life at Temple University, built in 2009.

According to Hugh Chairnoff, a Drexel alumnus and the chairman of the Drexel Hillel board of overseers, about five or six percent, or between 900 and 1,200 undergraduate students, make up the Jewish population at Drexel.

For more information about the Center for Jewish Life, contact Ken Goldman at goldmankh@drexel.edu.

Great granddaughter of A.J. Drexel passes away at age 98

On April 19, 2013, the Drexel family was saddened with the loss of Lady Mary Bessborough, a great granddaughter of the University’s founder, Anthony J. Drexel, and an active member of the University community. Bessborough was the daughter of Mary Astor Paul Munn and Charles Munn. She was 98 years old.

Born Mary Munn on March 3, 1915, she became the Countess of Bessborough in 1948 when she married the late Frederick Edward Ponsonby, Viscount Duncannon, a diplomat at the Parisian British Embassy. The couple had one daughter, Charlotte Petsopoulos.

Throughout her life, Bessborough remained deeply involved in the Drexel community. Upon her death, she bequest a painting by American portrait artist Cecilia Beaux to the A.J. Drexel Picture Gallery. The painting was originally owned by her mother.
Graduates and their families packed the Daskalakis Athletic Center on June 14 and 15 to celebrate the University’s 126th annual commencement at the University City campus.

Approximately 2,542 graduate students tossed their caps—including 246 doctoral students—and approximately 3,123 undergraduates received degrees. The ceremonies were broadcast virtually for Drexel community members unable to attend the ceremonies, and alums chimed in on social media using the official commencement hashtag, #drexel13.

The commencement ceremonies for graduates of the Earle Mack School of Law and the College of Medicine took place at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts on May 17, and Drexel University Sacramento honored graduates June 22 at the Crocker Art Museum.
When you make a gift of $25 to the Drexel Magazine fund, we’ll send you a complimentary copy of our award-winning research annual, EXEL.

To make your donation, visit drexelmagazine.org/give, call 215-895-2612 or send your gift, care of the Drexel Magazine fund, to the following address: Drexel Gifts / P.O. Box 8215 / Philadelphia, PA 19101-9684
Lindsay McArdle wanted to go to college “as far away” from her Upper Darby home as possible.

Then she met Drexel field hockey coach Denise Zelenak.

“I was on my way to a clinic [at Drexel] my sophomore year [of high school], and my dad was like, ‘Why don’t you go here?’ I was like, ‘Absolutely not,’” the junior midfielder recalls. “I went to the clinic and I fell in love with Denise and the team and the environment here, and I got in the car and said to my dad, ‘I want to go to Drexel.’ As soon as you meet her you get this genuine feeling that she really cares about her players.”

When Zelenak took over the program 18 years ago, she was a fiery 25-year-old first-time head coach with sky-high expectations of herself and her players. Over the years, the program has changed—but Zelenak’s expectations haven’t.

“The program was very different, the school was very different,” she says. “It was the perfect place for me because I could keep pushing and growing, and I actually got to develop with the University itself. Getting the team to match my expectations took a lot of years of recruiting. The players that stuck with it, I give them a lot of credit.”

Zelenak deserves plenty herself. In 2009, she led Drexel to its first-ever berth in the NCAA Tournament, and last season the Dragons won the Colonial Athletic Association Tournament for the first time. Both were monumental achievements for Zelenak, who reflexively deflects praise to her players.

Tellingly, she uses the pronoun “their” instead of “our” when discussing her team, a subtle distinction that reveals much about the way she views coaching.

“Last year was not a perfect season. There were ups and downs,” she says. “But to be able to watch them win CAAs, there
“As soon as you meet [Zelenak] you get this genuine feeling that she really cares about her players.”

“I feel really positive that they learned a lot of things,” she says of her team. “We now have more players with international experience. For me that’s going to make the team more competitive, make selections a little bit tougher, but improve our game.”

Zelenak’s coaching philosophy is to instill in her players a deep knowledge of the sport so they can react on the field.

“You want to give them as much information as possible so that when they’re out there they can see it, fix it, play the game truly and wholly,” she says. “When they’re playing they shouldn’t be looking over at us, they should be looking at their opponent figuring out how to beat them.”

Coaching at both the international and collegiate levels keeps the game “fresh” for Zelenak.

“You’re always learning or seeing something from someone else’s perspective and grabbing new ideas, new processes, new skills,” she says. “The more things I see that are new and different, the more I get to bring back to my Drexel team. The biggest thing you need to learn as a coach is it all changes. You can’t do one thing for 20 years.”

Yet in many ways, Zelenak has. She’s always been a teacher. She’s always pushed her teams, demanding that they compete. And she’s always put her players first.

“She’s a real person who cares about people instead of just her job,” McArdle says. “I hear horror stories from friends of mine who play at other universities. They tell me all the time how lucky I am to play for Denise. There have been times where we go through some rough patches, and coach knows that sometimes we just need to loosen up. She’ll bring music out to practice when she knows that we’re really tense. She tries to make it a light environment and create some fun games, make it competitive at practice. She likes to invest time into her players and she’ll do whatever she can to help us through hockey, life, school.”

McArdle is thrilled with her decision to travel all of 20 minutes away to go to college. She knows that there’s no place like home, and there’s no coach like Denise Zelenak.
The Goal Scorer

**HOMETOWN:** Coquitlam, British Columbia, about 30 minutes outside of Vancouver

**CRED:** Entering his junior season with the lacrosse team, Church had already scored 59 goals in his Drexel career, along with 31 assists. His torrid scoring pace continued in 2013, as he racked up 121 goals, 73 assists and 194 points.

**NAME:** Robert Church  
**POSITION:** Attack

**FIRST LOVE:** Hockey. Being Canadian, Church learned to skate almost as soon as he started walking. But an odd thing happened on his way to the NHL. “I played hockey all year round and got kind of tired of it, so in the summers, I started playing lacrosse,” he says. “Where I’m from, hockey wasn’t our best sport. Everyone played, but we didn’t really win, whereas in lacrosse we’d win championships every year. The winning kept me coming back.”

**AN OFFENSIVE PERSONALITY:** “I like to score goals,” Church says. “I wouldn’t say I like the glory, but I like being the one the guys look to when they need something done. I honestly couldn’t tell you why I’m an offensive guy. I just always have been.”

His coach at Drexel, Brian Voelker, has a theory. “Physically there are times when you watch kids play and they jump off the page, whether it’s size or speed or quickness,” he says. “Robert doesn’t have that. He’s a normal-looking kid. His biggest thing is he just understands where to be. He understands how to score. He’s got great hands. You hear that a lot in other sports, but in our sport, having good hands is really important also. He works hard at his game and he just kind of gets how to play.”

**FROM VANCOUVER TO PHILADELPHIA:** As a high school student, Church played in several tournaments in lacrosse hotbeds Massachusetts and Maryland, where he caught the eye of former Drexel coach Chris Bates. A sport management major, Church was drawn to the school by its lacrosse program, academics and urban campus.

**FRESHMAN FIREWORKS:** Despite having to adjust from indoor lacrosse, which he played in Canada, to the outdoor variety, Church had a phenomenal rookie season. He led the team with 32 goals and tied for the team lead with 41 points, and was named to the CAA’s All-Rookie Team. His most memorable performance came against No. 8 Hofstra University, when he scored seven goals, including the game-winner. It was the most goals scored in a game by a Drexel player since 1996 and earned him CAA Player and Rookie of the Week honors.

“That was incredible,” says teammate Ben McIntosh, a fellow Coquitlam native who has known and played with Church since they were 10. “He’s always had really good hands in hockey and lacrosse. He’s not really a big body, so I don’t think he’s meant to play D. He loves to go out there and put the ball in the back of the net, that’s for sure.”

**JUNIOR ACHIEVER:** During the 2012 CAA Tournament, Church scored three goals in Drexel’s 13-11 semifinal victory over Penn State. “That was a fun game,” he says. “We went there as the underdog and pretty much ended their season, which was really nice. The offense was gelling that game. Everyone was getting open, guys were making plays, and I happened to catch a couple balls and put the ball in the back of the net.”

**SENIOR STAR:** “Going into the year, we’re trying to figure out who’s going to do what, and you can almost pencil [Church] in as a 40-, 45-, 50-point scorer, which isn’t an easy thing to do,” Voelker says. “We almost take it for granted with him. He’s a major contributor to our program and its success.”

**PERSONAL GOALS:** None. “I just want to do everything I can to help the team win, because I would love to be a member of the first-ever Drexel team to win the CAA Tournament and make the NCAA Tournament,” Church said in April. “That’s pretty much all I have individual-wise.”

The team lost in the CAA Tournament to Towson, 4-2, but Church, along with McIntosh, were later named Honorable Mention All-Americans by the U.S. Intercollegiate Lacrosse Association.

“We have a bunch of Canadian guys and we joke around that besides the fact that they talk a little bit funny, they’ve got pretty low-key personalities,” Voelker says. “[Church is] definitely not a guy that toots his own horn. He’s not a real rah-rah kind of guy. But he takes a lot of pride in his game, and he takes a lot of pride in our team.”

**AFTER LACROSSE:** “I’m a sport management major, so I’d like to try to work for a sports team,” Church says. “Ideally the Vancouver Canucks. I’d like to go back to Canada and get a job there. If any [major league lacrosse] teams do contact me, I’d definitely be interested in that.”

**A HAIRY SITUATION:** Church sports a thin mustache in his official Drexel lacrosse headshot, and dabbles with various combinations of facial hair during the season. “I live with a bunch of roommates and a bunch of us kept the mustaches for the team photo as a bit of a joke this year,” he says. “I like it—my mom doesn’t.”

McIntosh, one of those roommates, disagrees. “I love it,” he says, laughing. “He really grows some pathetic facial hair.”
All in the Family

Last fall, in the wake of one of the most successful seasons in program history, Drexel soccer star Ken Tribbett was named a second-team all-CAA performer—and the honor was more than justified.

The 6-foot-2 junior midfielder scored four goals on the season, including two game-winners, and he led the Dragons to a CAA regular-season title and, just as important, a bid to the NCAA tournament.

As the Dragons look ahead to what should be another winning season in 2013, Tribbett spoke to Drexel Magazine about how he ended up studying sport management in Drexel’s Goodwin College of Professional Studies, his memories of last season, and the long legacy of athletic success in his family.

YOU GREW UP IN SUBURBAN DENVER. WHAT ARE SOME OF THE DECISIONS THAT LED YOU TO DREXEL? It was basically due to soccer. I wanted to play Division I college soccer. Doug [Hess] recruited me kind of late, and I committed in April. I did not get a lot of offers. Doug came in the same year I was coming in, and it kind of worked out perfectly.

THERE ARE SO MANY CHANGES THESE DAYS IN COLLEGE SPORTS AND WITH MEMBERS LEAVING DIVISION I CONFERENCES, INCLUDING THE CAA. MOST OF THIS IS DRIVEN BY FOOTBALL, A SPORT DREXEL DOES NOT HAVE. WHAT IS IT LIKE BEING A STUDENT-ATHLETE AT DREXEL? I enjoy it. Not having football, I don’t really mind. We have a basketball team that drives the most fans. We are behind them and lacrosse, maybe. It gives us a little more attention (with no football team). Soccer has been my favorite sport since I was three years old. It is one I truly love. It is my passion. It is something I want to do the rest of my life. I think I want to be a coach when I am done playing.

YOU WILL BE IN YOUR SENIOR SEASON THIS COMING FALL. WHAT GOALS DO YOU HAVE FOR YOUR TEAM AND SPECIFICALLY WHAT DO YOU WANT TO ACHIEVE BEFORE YOUR COLLEGE CAREER IS OVER? Obviously we are coming off a strong year last year, making the NCAA tournament. Next year I want to take it a step further. We won the CAA regular-season last year. For me I want to win the [CAA] tournament as well. My sister went to Penn State and they won the Big 10 title. She has all of these rings. Personally I want to get one of those rings.

WHAT ARE YOUR MEMORIES OF LAST SEASON? Winning the CAA title; we clinched it at home. It was a great feeling. Unfortunately I was not able to celebrate after the game. I went to the hospital to get some stitches in my head. As soon as the final whistle blew it was pure joy. We won the CAA outright. Unfortunately we lost in the first round of the NCAA tournament.

WHEN DID YOU START PLAYING ORGANIZED SOCCER? I was born in California and lived there until I was about 5 years old. I started playing soccer almost since I could walk. I have been in sports all of my life.

His mom was a volleyball star, and his sister was a scholarship soccer player.

With his success so far at Drexel, Ken Tribbett is doing his part to uphold his family’s tradition of sporting success.

BY DAVID S. DRIVER

His mom played college volleyball and pro volleyball. As soon I was born I was in the gymnasium. Soccer was a natural for me. It took over my life.

YOUR SISTER PLAYED VARSITY SOCCER AT PENN STATE. HOW MUCH DID YOU TALK TO HER ABOUT HER EXPERIENCE THERE AND HOW DID THAT AFFECT YOUR COLLEGE CHOICE? When [my sister] came in she was behind a national team goalkeeper. She was used to playing all of the time. Coming in as a freshman, I wasn’t sure if I would be playing. Not a lot of freshmen get to play their freshman year. I asked her what it was like not to play. Luckily I was able to earn a starting spot and played right away.

YOUR MOTHER ALSO PLAYED SPORTS IN COLLEGE AND WAS A TWO-TIME NATIONAL CHAMPION IN VOLLEYBALL AT PACIFIC. DOES SHE TALK MUCH ABOUT THAT? I never saw her play professionally. It was cool to interact with her and share what she went through. When they won the national title they were underdogs. She came off the bench to spark the win.

SO WHO IS THE BEST ATHLETE IN THE FAMILY? That is a tough one. My mom used to be. They won a couple of national championships. My sister has accomplished more than I have. She won some national titles at the youth level. I want to say it is me, but I think my family would fight me on that one.

IF YOU HAD TO DRAW UP A PERFECT POST-GRADUATION TRANSITION WHAT WOULD IT LOOK LIKE? Perfection for me would be after this year to go to [major league soccer] and play in the league. That has been my dream since I was a little kid. I know you can’t play soccer forever. When I am done I would like to be a coach. I would like to finish up working at the college level [as a coach].

WHO DO YOU SEE AS THE MEN’S SOCCER TEAM TO BEAT IN THE CAA THIS COMING FALL IN MEN’S SOCCER? Probably Northeastern and JMU. They are the two top programs in our league. Hofstra did very well last year. It should be good competition. Everyone is so good. You can’t take anything for granted. I think last year we were picked near the bottom and we won the whole thing.

DOUG HESS WAS NAMED THE DREXEL COACH IN JANUARY 2010, A FEW MONTHS BEFORE YOU CAME TO DREXEL. WHAT HAS IT BEEN LIKE TO PLAY FOR HIM? He stresses possession and going forward and playing with speed. He is not [saying], "Kick the ball long and go chase." I am not the biggest, the fastest or the strongest. I like to get the ball and go and play. It worked out for me.
THE ROARING CROWD AT A CONCERT’S FINALE IS OFTEN JUST THE CRESCEndo OF MANY MONTHS OF HARD WORK AND PLANNING. FOR THE PAST 10 YEARS, MUCH OF THAT BEHIND-THE-SCENES ACTION HAS TAKEN PLACE AT DREXEL, WHERE EXECS FROM THE STUDENT-RUN LABEL, MAD DRAGON RECORDS, WORK AROUND THE CLOCK TO ENSURE THE SUCCESS OF THEIR ARTISTS. AS THE LABEL CELEBRATES ITS 10TH ANNIVERSARY, DREXEL MAGAZINE LOOKS AT WHAT’S MADE MAD DRAGON THE BLOCKBUSTER IT’S BECOME TODAY—AND HOW IT’S EVOLVED TO THRIVE IN THE CHANGING TIMES.

By John Paul Titlow & Photos by Colin Kerrigan
MAD about music: Cyrille Taillandier, Ryan Schwabe, Darren Walters and Lucy Stone.
NOT EVERY MUSIC-OBSESSED COLLEGE JUNIOR GETS TO RUN A RECORD LABEL. Fortunately for Michael Rodino, he enrolled in one of the nation’s preeminent music industry-focused academic programs. As a music industry major at Drexel’s Westphal College of Media Arts & Design, the 21-year-old junior has the unique opportunity of working for MAD Dragon Records, a fully functional independent label that recently celebrated a decade of existence.

“My job is just to make sure that everything stays organized,” says Rodino, who has been serving as MAD Dragon’s label manager for the past eight months. Together with faculty advisor Terry Tompkins, Rodino oversees a staff of 15, who are responsible for finding talent, booking shows, managing artists, reaching out to the press, planning new releases and much, much more.

Dozens of schools offer music industry programs, but very few run a record label of MAD Dragon’s caliber. The label has won several Independent Music Awards and was named by Rolling Stone as “one of the most inventive music programs around.” Over the years, MAD Dragon has helped launch the careers of Philadelphia-based artists like Hoots & Hellmouth and has worked with notable acts such as Motion City Soundtrack and The Redwalls, which signed with MAD Dragon after the band’s contract with Capitol Records ended.

Participation in the label’s operation is a requirement for all of the school’s business-focused music industry majors. Every student takes the MAD Dragon capstone course for a required two semesters. Many of them wind up staying involved with MAD Dragon beyond that, eagerly sopping up the uniquely comprehensive real-world experience the label provides. Unlike off-campus internships, MAD Dragon lets students get their hands dirty in various aspects of the business instead of just one.

“There isn’t anything that they can’t get their hands on,” says Tompkins, who has been overseeing MAD Dragon for nine years. “Everything is accessible. You go on your internship and the company might be more guarded about the type of work you can do. Here, we want to provide a platform for students to be able to fail and learn from their mistakes.”

Twice a week, the class meets not in a lecture hall but in a conference room at the label’s headquarters. For the students, it feels less like another course and more like a morning team meeting at a subdivision of EMI Records or
any other major label. In these hour-and-a-half-long sessions, students report their progress on whatever project or artist they’ve taken on for the semester and work with Tompkins, Rodino and other managers to determine where to focus their energy next.

“It’s really a self-determined class,” Rodino says. “Everyone is expected to run themselves. We want them to be in direct contact with the artists and with everyone they need to be, whether they need to order merchandise, order CDs or whatever it is.”

In mid-May, MAD Dragon celebrated its 10th anniversary by hosting a concert at the Trocadero featuring a genre-spanning array of artists who have worked with the label over the years, including Philly’s beloved psychedelic pop rock outfit Cheers Elephant. Planning the show was a months-long effort divided among several students.

Haley Holmes, a 2013 graduate of Westphal’s music industry program, was one of those staffers. Leading up to the show, Holmes was heavily involved in courting press coverage, ultimately scoring publicity from NPR, Fox, NBC and a host of local music blogs and publications. In her first stint at MAD Dragon during her freshman year, Holmes was responsible for putting together Unleashed, the label’s annual compilation CD. This included everything from sending and receiving artist contracts to art-directing the album cover and scheduling the studio mastering sessions. It was a large, multi-faceted project, but it’s emblematic of the variety of work students get to do with MAD Dragon.
“To be able to do all of that as a freshman was a truly invaluable experience,” says Holmes, who was 18 years old when she first started working with MAD Dragon. “Plus, it was amazing to have my name in the album credits more than five times.”

For 10 years, MAD Dragon has shaped the budding careers of more than 280 graduates from the program. In that time, it has released 32 titles from 17 artists and received 35 nominations from the Independent Music Awards. In 2004, the label signed its first artist, Jules Shear, a singer-songwriter who is credited with launching MTV’s famous Unplugged series. Two years later, Shear was profiled by the New York Times, coverage that played a role in propelling MAD Dragon toward a type of legitimacy not typically enjoyed by university-based record labels.

Crucial seed money to launch MAD Dragon Records came from long-time University benefactor Dr. Marcia Robbins-Wilf. In 2002, then Westphal College Dean Jonathan Estrin approached her about supporting a new direction for music in the college, and she quickly responded with a generous gift. A recording studio was named in her honor.
AS IMPORTANT AS NEW TALENT and press coverage are, they weren’t enough. To truly be taken seriously by artists and peers, MAD Dragon needed something more. That something came in 2005 when the label inked a distribution deal with Rykodisc Records, a successful independent record label that was later acquired by Warner Music Group and folded into the Alternative Distribution Alliance. Suddenly, this scrappy college label based in West Philadelphia had major label distribution.

It was this widespread reach into online music retailers that made MAD Dragon an attractive destination for up-and-coming artists. Indeed, it was the centerpiece of the pitch made to The Redwalls, an Illinois-based indie rock duo that signed with MAD Dragon in 2007.

Around the same time, MAD Dragon was named the College Label of the Year by the Independent Music Awards, which doled out the distinction to MAD Dragon once more in 2008.

“When we launched the label, we were literally doing consignment deals with record stores in the Philadelphia area,” Tompkins says. “When we got a distribution deal, it became really important for artists to look at us seriously as a player in the marketplace, because we were partnering with Warner Music and had the resources to distribute the records all over the country and all over the world.”

The label’s newfound prestige also grabbed the attention of Hoots & Hellmouth, a Philadelphia-based Americana band that released its first album on MAD Dragon in 2007. The band received laudable national press and enjoyed success as a touring band before releasing its 2009 follow-up, The Holy Open Secret.

Over the course of two MAD Dragon-released records, Hoots & Hellmouth had amassed quite a following. At the same time, the industry was evolving and along with it changed the role of labels like MAD Dragon. In late 2010, Hoots & Hellmouth decided it didn’t need a label at all. The band turned to the crowd-funding site Kickstarter and launched a campaign to fund the release of a six-song EP. The response was overwhelming. Ten thousand dollars later, the band decided to aim for the production of a full-length LP and asked for a grand total of $15,000. By the time the campaign ended, the band had amassed more than $23,000 in contributions from fans and landed in Kickstarter’s own hall of fame.
the removal of the industry’s barriers to entry has also resulted in a more-crowded marketplace. In the super-saturated online marketplace of today, artists could still use a hand navigating the social-fueled channels and ever-evolving business realities. For labels like MAD Dragon, this is where the opportunity lies.

MAD Dragon offers social media consultation to its artists, Rondino says. For most bands, understanding the ins and outs of Twitter etiquette and the psychology of posting on Facebook is beyond the scope of their expertise. That’s where MAD Dragon, with its Internet-savvy staff of mostly 18- to 21-year-old students, can be a priceless asset.

As valuable as social media is for artists, it’s even more useful to the label itself.

“What’s awesome is that I can post a song on Facebook and I can have 20 of my friends comment back and say, ‘This sucks’ or ‘This is awesome,’” says Rodino. “I can get that instant reaction and gauge it. It’s a nice testing tool.” He also regularly uses technology like Skype to keep in touch with artists and even had one band use Apple’s FaceTime video calling feature to allow him to virtually attend a concert.

To stay on top of a rapidly changing marketplace, the MAD Dragon leadership and staff need to keep their fingers on the pulse of what’s happening online. Rodino swears by Next Big Sound, a service that aggregates data about social media activity around specific artists. He also routinely turns to BandCamp, a do-it-yourself music hosting and e-commerce platform for artists. Today, there’s SoundCloud, YouTube and a growing raft of streaming services. In another five years, the landscape will undoubtedly look even more different.

“We’ve seen a shift in the culture,” says Tompkins. “We’ve had to learn to be fluid in our transition and allow for us to be able to change and grow. You need to have an understanding of the marketplace and determine what your niche is and fill that niche. That can be fulfilled in many different ways.”

One recent example of that experimentation is MAD Dragon’s “Making Moves” series, in which the label partnered with pop punk band Motion City Soundtrack to hand-select six up-and-coming artists and release seven-inch records by each of them. The artist-curated series culminated in a boxed set and student-produced documentary film about the project. One of the bands, Bricks + Mortar, will expand its seven-inch into a full-length album to be released via a partnership with Island Def Jam/Photo Finish later this year.

The role of the record label may be changing, but it’s not going away, Rodino says. Certainly, not all those that fail to adapt to the shifting landscape will go out of business, but the labels that most diligently pay attention to the latest trends and come up with creative solutions and business models will be well-positioned to play a vital role for both artists and consumers.

Rodino recently completed a co-op at Sire Records, a subdivision of Warner Music Group cofounded by music industry entrepreneur Seymour Stein. The experience was decidedly less hands-on and expansive as his role at MAD Dragon, but it was nonetheless an enlightening one. One day, he observed Stein, now 74 years old, critiquing a new track from a dubstep electronic artist.

“There was a girl who played dubstep for him. He was tearing it down, being like, ‘No no no, that’s not right. That’s not good,’” Rodino recounts. “And it wasn’t because he didn’t like it. He was telling you why that particular track was not as good as other dubstep tracks he had heard. He’s 74, and the guy still has ears. There are people in those positions who are still capable of doing that. That’s what a label is good for.”
MAD DRAGON COULD NOT have launched at a more transformative moment in the industry’s history. When the label started in 2003, Apple had just unveiled iTunes, the first viable online music marketplace to emerge from the post-Napster chaos of the early 2000s. Four years into being ravaged by peer-to-peer filesharing, the industry finally found hope for monetizing digital music, but by then the Internet had irreversibly handicapped the model upon which the major labels had long relied. Between 1999 and 2009, overall revenue from the sale of recorded music in the United States declined by 57 percent, according to Forrester Research. In 2011, digital music sales would see their first year-over-year increase and physical formats continued to slowly fall out of favor with consumers.

That same year, the all-you-can-stream music subscription model got a major boost when Spotify launched in the United States. In 2013, these streaming services are proliferating, with Google having launched its own Spotify competitor in May and at least two more players expected to launch before the end of the year. These services might be growing in both number and usage, but the economics behind them are even murkier than the digital download model that was born a decade ago.

For record labels, the last decade has been an interesting time, to say the least. The digital revolution in how music is created, discovered, promoted and consumed has done a number on the bottom line of many a label. For MAD Dragon, whose University-supported position minimizes many of the typical business pressures labels face, the digital overhaul of the industry has changed the way it operates.

It’s not just the economics of the industry that have been upended by the Internet. Today’s platforms and networks offer a previously unimaginable ability for artists to reach audiences directly. To say that the role of the record label has changed would be a massive understatement. In the case of Hoots & Hellmouth—and many bands like it—that means record labels are optional.

Yet while the Internet empowers artists like never before,
For the first time in the history of the University, art and archival relics that encapsulate the core values on which Anthony J. Drexel founded the University were brought together under one roof this past spring. *Drexel Magazine* visited the exhibit, “A Legacy of Art, Science & Industry: Highlights from the Collections of Drexel University,” and captured the stunning details and intriguing artifacts that defined this historic exhibit.

PHOTOS BY TOMMY LEONARDI

The URBN Center Annex, located at 3401 Filbert St., celebrated its grand opening in April with the new Leonard Pearlstein Gallery, featuring the University’s most treasured works of art and archival artifacts. About 90 objects—dating from the 15th through 20th centuries—were exhibited together for the first time.

[pictured left] The Drexel Historic Costume Collection currently has more than 12,000 objects. It includes articles of fashionable dress and accessories, folk costume and traditional dress, textiles, photos, illustrations and more.
The Leonard Pearlstein Gallery, part of Drexel’s Antoinette Westphal College of Media Arts & Design, exposed paintings, sculptures, prints and drawings, rare books, historical documents, political posters, costume collections and even a surgical amputation kit to the public free of charge.
[Pictured above] This selection of insects dates back to 1934 when James A. G. Rehn, a former Academy of Natural Sciences curator of entomology, served as the zoologist on the Vanderbilt African Expedition. Rehn contributed 14,000 insects to the Academy’s Entomology Collection after his 10-month journey.

[Pictured right] Sigma Sound Studios, the predominant site of music production in Philadelphia throughout the ’70s and ’80s, was in operation for 35 years. It drove Philadelphia to be one of the elite music cities in the world. Located in the Westphal College of Media Arts & Design, the Sigma Sound Studios Collection consists of 6,119 magnetic tape sound recordings.
A printed version of the speech to the 1861 graduating class of the Homeopathic Medical College of Pennsylvania, later Hahnemann Medical College, and one of the predecessor institutions of Drexel’s College of Medicine. The speech was delivered by Dr. Thomas Moore, a professor of midwifery and diseases of women and children. The transcript was donated along with a homeopathic medicine case and other items donated by Thomas and Harry Ullmann, descendants of Moore.

A design movement flourished after Nazi forces left Poland in 1945, giving the people of Warsaw a colorful and visual way to communicate. With 2,000 unique examples, Drexel’s Polish Poster Collection is one of the most extensive in the world.
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Through a selection of documents, photos and objects from the collection of the University Archives and Special Collections—including everything from a collection of Virginia Carter Castleman photographs of an early Main Building to a letter to A.J. Drexel from Ulysses S. Grant—the exhibition offered a glimpse into the social and academic history of the University.

The Drexel Historic Costume Collection’s earliest documented objects—a group of late Renaissance velvets—date back to the late 16th century. Its most recent addition from 2012 is a pair of wedge booties by Italian designer Giuseppe Zanotti.
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Since opening in late 2012, Drexel’s Expressive and Creative Interaction Technologies (ExCiTe) Center and its main players have worked to demonstrate how the conversion of many technologies—whether humanoid robots, video games, and in the case of the center’s Shima Seiki Haute Technology Laboratory, digital knitting machines—can encourage innovation across multiple fields. In its own corner of the center, the Shima Seiki lab and its cutting-edge technology are enabling Drexel researchers to explore the capacity of knit structures and novel materials to push the development of technology that can be worn on your sleeve.

1 /// Stop by the Shima Seiki lab and there’s a good chance you’ll run into Genevieve Dion, the lab’s director and founder, and an assistant professor in the Westphal College of Media Arts & Design. Dion is an award-winning designer—and celebrities such as Tina Turner and Elvis Costello have an eye for her work. Her interdisciplinary research focuses on identifying production methods that advance the field of wearable technology, or “smart garments,” which can potentially be used in numerous applications, varying from medical to military uses.

2 /// Yes, that’s a pregnant mannequin, and no, it’s not sporting the latest style in maternity wear. The garment Dion is adjusting is a Belly Band, a monitoring machine for high-risk pregnant women made possible through the collaboration of the lab and the College of Engineering and School of Biomedical Engineering, Science and Health Systems. The Belly Band is able to transmit radio signals via the conductive yarn from a pregnant woman to the patient’s physician, indicating any changes in the uterus.

3 /// Kara Lindstrom, enabler for the ExCiTe Center, gets her hands dirty in all aspects of the center—including the Shima Seiki lab. As a coordinator across all of the center’s platforms, Lindstrom helps to foster the center’s goal: to provide both an open work area for inter-college collaboration and a place to showcase multidisciplinary activities and projects.

4 /// This seamless knit dress—often one of the space’s most admired pieces—was created using one of the Shima Seiki knitting machines and was donated to the laboratory by Dr. Masahiro Shima, CEO and president of Shima Seiki in Wakayama, Japan. As part of the growing partnership between the world leader in 3D knitting systems and Drexel, Shima Seiki donated 16 SDS-ONE APEX3 workstations, three state-of-the-art knitting machines and R&D support—a total aggregate value of more than $1 million.

5 /// Perhaps the most eye-popping fixtures of the lab, the four state-of-the-art digital knitting machines—including this one, manned by Chelsea Knittel, an undergraduate in Pennoni Honors College studying sustainable materials and design—can produce an individual garment in approximately 30 minutes. The machines are capable of producing everything from seamless dresses to “knitbots,” knitted robots that are able to move thanks to their shape and use of a nickel titanium wire.
When David Dornsife picked out the perfect spot to build his new home in the hill country of San Ramon Valley, Calif., just east of San Francisco, he wanted to help cool it with breezes that streamed down through a mountain pass nearby. Knowing which way the prevailing winds blew would tell him how to orient the house so cooler air would flow into the back windows and out the front. To
make sure the job was done right, he pitched a tent on the property, listening to coyotes and sleeping under the stars while monitoring the winds himself.

The story points up traits that Dave and his wife, Dana Dornsife, ’83, bring to their philanthropy. In 2011, Forbes put them at No. 7 on its annual list of the “Most Generous People in America.” That was the year they gave $200 million to name the Dana and David Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences at the University of Southern California, where Dave is a trustee and alumnus. But their generosity goes well beyond writing checks, reaching to a readiness to sweat the details and get their hands dirty.

“They’d better do it right, or they’re going to have a very unhappy donor,” Dave says of the water-drilling projects that he and Dana fund in remote African villages.

The Dornsifes understand how to use the power that big donors wield, but they also know it’s not enough to throw big money at big problems, especially when people’s lives are in the balance. Doing it right is what drives them to master the nuts and bolts and technical details that go into their giving, as well as the social ramifications that flow out. It’s not enough to mean well. Establishing relationships, planning carefully, integrating what worked and dismissing what didn’t, holding partners accountable and monitoring outcomes are, to them, part of a hard-nosed business plan for changing the world through philanthropy.

“We get rewarded by changing lives,” observes Dana, “but you really don’t know what people need, and you really don’t understand if your giving is having an impact unless you roll up your sleeves and go into the trenches.”

Dana Dornsife, a LeBow College alumna, is the president and founder of the Lazarex Cancer Foundation, which provides logistical and financial assistance to end-stage cancer patients seeking hope in clinical trials. Dave is chair of the Herrick Corporation, the largest steel manufacturer on the West Coast, whose products have gone into the skylines of San Francisco, Los Angeles and other cities. Together, they have given away enormous sums to higher education, medical research, environmental preservation and more. Their philanthropy in Africa, through the international humanitarian agency World Vision, encompasses microeconomic enterprises, agriculture and literacy, but their major contributions have gone toward water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) projects. They travel frequently to Africa and visit villagers preparing for the water wells their philanthropy pays for. They also monitor new wells going in and later return to witness the new life that water brings to villagers struggling for survival in arid climates. In the spring, they invited President John Fry and Dr. Shannon Marquez, associate dean in the School of Public Health, to travel with them to Ethiopia and see for themselves.

In 2011, the couple pledged $2.5 million to establish the Dana and David Dornsife Office of Experiential Learning at the LeBow College of Business. Last year, they gave $10 million to Drexel to create the Dana and David Dornsife Center for Neighborhood Partnerships. The center is already open in the nearby neighborhoods of Mantua and Powelton Village, and is gearing up to offer much-needed programs and services to the community, drawing on Drexel connections, faculty expertise and student energy.

“In the tradition of the cooperative extension programs that brought university education and services to rural areas, we’re thrilled that the Dornsife Center will allow Drexel to teach and partner with our neighbors right where they live,” says Fry. The center is a giant step forward in realizing his vision for making Drexel the nation’s “most civically engaged university.”

“Dave likes to use the word catalyst,” Dana notes, underscoring how their investment has set in motion a new momentum toward a more promising future for Drexel and its neighbors. “The Dornsife Center is a catalyst for change. And you know what? We really believe in John’s vision.”
How did you become involved with World Vision?

David: My church sponsored 400 kids in about ’82—you pay $24 a month, and World Vision supports a child in a Third World country. The church asked for volunteers to go over and report back about how these kids, who were in a Nairobi slum, were being helped. I went with three other guys, and then the next year I went back. After the second year, I went to World Vision and said, “Is there something more we can do? I can see the need—people are starving and dying—and I want to change that.”

About 15 years ago, after sponsoring a number of projects in Africa with World Vision, they asked Dana and me to work with the Hilton Foundation on water projects. Basically, we purchased the drill rigs, and the Hiltons provided the operating funds. We worked in Ghana, Mali, Niger and eventually Ethiopia. In 2010, Dana and I approached World Vision about a major new WASH initiative with the intention of becoming the lead donor. As a result, we’re currently working in 10 countries in Africa and affecting millions of lives. It’s an exciting program, and it’s getting bigger. Our last trip with John Fry was my 32nd to Africa.
When someone looks you in the eye and says, ‘I just want to live long enough to see my first grandchild,’ and you are the vehicle that allows a person to achieve that goal, that’s a miracle.”

Why is clean water an important issue in these villages?

DAVID: The average distance a woman has to walk to get water is 4.2 miles round trip. Most often, the only water she can bring back is contaminated. It causes her and her children to go blind with trachoma, and it gives her family diarrhea and parasites.

DANA: And it’s not just the women who have to walk; they have to take all their kids with them. So the kids aren’t in school. She fetches water and then goes back and gets another bucketful—40 pounds that she carries on her head along with the child strapped to her back and the others in tow. Her only choice is to literally spend the entire day walking in very bad conditions to bring back contaminated water for her family to drink.

What change do you see in villages after a well has been drilled?

DANA: It’s miraculous. You don’t even have to get out of the jeep, and you know it’s a different village. There’s a sense of energy and vibrancy that wasn’t there before. In this one village we visited, a woman was so animated—she was standing up and yelling and pointing, and Dave said, “Oh man, she’s really mad about something. We’re in trouble.” And then the interpreter told us that she was saying the water had changed her life completely. Her children aren’t sick anymore and are going to school, and she is learning how to read because she has time to do that now. Her family has a garden where they are growing food, so the children aren’t hungry, and she can clean their clothes. Many villages thrive because the women now have time to start microeconomic enterprises, taking chickens, eggs and extra produce to the market.

How did you come to found the Lazarex Cancer Foundation?

DANA: I had sold my business, and Dave made me promise not to do anything for a year. About eight months into that year, my sister called and said that her husband, Mike, had been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. He was given a one-half of 1 percent chance of survival. So I started looking into alternative treatments through FDA clinical trials. MedicalDictionary.com became my best friend because I’d read two sentences on a protocol, and I’d have to look up 15 words—and then I’d have to look up 10 of those. It was a huge learning curve. I didn’t have cancer, and I wasn’t taking care of someone with cancer. It took me 30 days of full-time research. And I just thought, “How many people would actually be able to complete this process? Not many.”

I got Mike into a clinical trial, and he responded well. Other patients saw him and said, “What are you doing, Mike?” He told them, “Just call my sister-in-law; she’ll help you.” So I started getting all these phone calls from cancer patients, and I would tell them exactly the process that I went through. You could just feel this buildup of hope, but when I started talking about the logistics and the costs, it was like sucking all the air out of the room. They would say, “Oh, I can’t do that. I can’t afford it.” And I just thought, “You know, it’s fundamentally and morally wrong to put someone in that position.”

Mike’s loss was terrible. He had three young children. My little niece was four, and my whole goal had been to keep him alive long enough for her to remember her dad. He coached her T-ball team for two summers while he was sick. She was six when he passed away, and she still has his coach’s T-shirt. And so, I could have turned a blind eye and said, “Oh, that’s a horrible chapter in our lives, and gee, somebody should do something about that someday.” Or I could be the one who did something about it and have his death not be in vain.

You said you have witnessed miracles at Lazarex. Can you tell me some of them?

DANA: Remission is a huge miracle. On a smaller basis, when someone looks you in the eye and says, “I just want to live long enough to see my first grandchild,” or “I just want to live long enough to walk my daughter down the aisle,” and you are the vehicle that allows a person to achieve that goal, that’s a miracle. Cancer is a tough business because we get to know our patients and their families. It’s those little things that really make you keep your head down and lead with your heart, because you really have to lead with your heart in this business in order to keep going.

In Africa, you’re transforming whole communities in sustainable ways, and with Lazarex, you’re providing resources to prolong the life of one person. What’s the connection?

DANA: I think it’s just human need and empathy. One of the things we really try to do philanthropically is provide a basis for change. Four-and-a-half million: that’s the number of lives we’ve changed on the continent of Africa in 15 years. We’ve been able to impact the lives of
thousands of people suffering from cancer, and we’re certainly trying to do that with the Dornsife Center for Neighborhood Partnerships at Drexel. Generations of people to come will be positively influenced by what happens there.

Tell me about that.

DAVID: We’re quite religious. Biblically, we’re asked to serve the poor. In Africa, believe me, it’s the poorest of the poor, but the median income in the Powelton Village and Mantua neighborhoods near Drexel is stunningly low. We wanted to help, but you’ve got to find good people and then back them. If you don’t have good people, it’s not going to happen. At Drexel—with John Fry and Lucy Kerman—they get it. And all the deans and the faculty and students—and the community, the city, the churches and politicians—are all behind it. Working with Drexel, we can be a catalyst for change in that neighborhood and have exciting things happen.

What’s different about your approach to philanthropy?

DANA: People always talk about time, talent and treasure in philanthropy. We like to add a fourth T, and that’s “trenches.” In Africa, we have seen over and over again NGOs come in and say, “This is what we are going to do for you.” They never engage the people in conversation about what they really need. For example, in Kenya we saw a huge diesel-generator project that pumped water uphill into a holding tank. The people really needed water and were excited about the project. What the donors failed to realize is that the villagers didn’t have access to diesel fuel or the money to pay for it, and they didn’t know how to maintain the engine. It was a $50,000 project that lasted for 28 days.

DAVID: Now those Kenyans are back to fetching contaminated water. The people who donated the money had a big party and went home and felt good about themselves. They were trying to do the right thing, but they will never know the truth. In the trenches, you find out whether your giving is doing any good or what needs to be changed.

How has philanthropy changed your lives?

DANA: Once you begin to understand the effect that you can have on human life, you really start to develop an insatiable appetite for it. We tend to measure everything now in relation to the cost of what we could do from a philanthropic standpoint. Spending $50,000 on something could drill a lot of wells, or it could support many cancer patients.

DAVID: I think we also look for niches where we can affect people. In many cases, these are projects where others may not be inclined to give. We want to see transformation now. We appreciate projects like the Dornsife Center for Neighborhood Partnerships. We have a true partnership with Drexel and the community, and we can advance President Fry’s vision at the same time.

How do you want to be remembered?

DANA: We want people to know that it was really important for us to do the right thing, that God has blessed us with financial resources, and we used them to make the world a better place. That’s what makes us happy. [D]
1950s
Francis A. Bird, BS Business Administration ’59, published through Amazon, a book titled “Understanding Accounting Fundamentals: The Logic of Debit/Credit.”

1970s
Scott Bailey, MBA Business Administration ’72, wrote a book titled “Vacations and Libations: Enjoy France and Europe ‘Our Way.’”

Celeste Martins, BS Design ’74, wrote and published a management book titled “Be a Manager! 15 Simple Rules to Management Success.”

Norman R. Smith, BS Business Administration ’69, MBA ’71, president emeritus of Wagner College, was named president at Dowling College in Oakdale, N.Y.

Roseann B. Termini, BS Human Behavior and Development ’75, published a 12-volume series of Food and Drug Law e-Books, which emanate from the new print edition of “Federal Regulation of Drugs, Biologics, Medical Devices, Foods, Dietary Supplements, Cosmetics, Veterinary and Tobacco Products.”

1980s
Gary A. Burlingame, BS Environmental Engineering ’81, MS ’83, was appointed director of the Bureau of Laboratory Services for the Philadelphia Water Department.

Karen Jehanian, BS Civil Engineering ’82, MBA Business Administration ’00, participated in a panel discussion for Drexel’s College of Engineering’s Alumni Connections Program. She is president and owner of KMJ Consulting, Inc.

Michael J. Kline, BS Accounting ’86, a partner with the tax, accounting, and business consulting firm Citrin Cooperman, has been elected treasurer of the nonprofit organization Quilts for Kids.

David M. O’Malley, BS Economics ’87, was appointed chief operating officer to Penn Mutual Life Insurance Company’s Board of Trustees.

Richard F. Stipa, MBA Business Administration ’83, was appointed chief executive officer to TruMark Financial Credit Union’s Board of Directors.

1990s
Hugh Connelly, MS Finance ’94, published his first book on investments called “401K Tune-up: Do You Really Want to Work ’til 80?”

Richard Liu, BS Corporate Communication ’94, joined Pharmacare Management, LLC as director of Viral Hepatitis and HIV Programs. He was also named to the Board of Directors of the American Liver Foundation (Mid-Atlantic Division).

Carol Schnell Gershon, BS Marketing ’92, joined the Blank Rome Firm as an associate in the Real Estate Group based in the Philadelphia office.

2000s
Rahat Babar, BS International Area Studies ’03, joined the Bayne Law Group LLC as an attorney with the firm’s litigation and commercial transactions practice areas. He was also elected President for the Asian Pacific American Bar Association of Pennsylvania for 2014 and was selected as a 2013 Diverse Attorney of the Year by the Legal Intelligencer.

Michael Kissinger, BS Civil Engineering ’02, was promoted to land development division manager in Pennoni Associates’ West Chester office.

Crystal McGee, BS Computer Engineering ’03, received a Master of Science in Technology Management degree in 2008.

Charles Vincent O’Connor, BS Information Systems ’04, was honored with the Emerging Leadership Award at an Armed Forces Communications & Electronics Association international conference held in San Diego last month.

Glenn Stambo, MD Medicine ’91, published an article titled “Flouroscopically-guided transheptatic puncture for difficult TIPS re-do procedures utilizing the En Snare retrieval device: A new approach to occluded TIPS in patients with recurrent ascites.”

Thomas G. Zink, BS Architectural Engineering ’90, BS Civil Engineering ’94, was named a stockholder of Gannett Fleming.

WEDDINGS
Melanie D. Zucker, MS Higher Education ’12, and Peter Schauster were married on September 15, 2012.

BABY DRAGONS
Danielle Jones-Kresge, BS Nutrition and Food Science ’98, and her husband, Christopher, welcomed their daughter, Maci Rose Kresge, on May 12, 2011.

Kevin Turcotte, MBA Business Administration ’08, his wife and Andriana Katherine Turcotte, MS Educational Administration ’12, had a daughter, Katherine Elizabeth, on March 27, 2013.

To submit your Class Note for the next issue of Drexel Magazine, email Lara Geragi at lec36@drexel.edu.
Robert P. Raymond, BS
Business Administration ’05, accepted a position at HUB International located in Blue Bell, PA as Assistant Vice President of Business Development.

Gregory T. Smith, MS Civil Engineering ’06, was promoted to Vice President and Regional Preconstruction Manager for the PA/NJ/MD region for Turner Construction Company.

Christopher M. Thompson, BS, Civil Engineering ’01, was named a senior associate with Gannett Fleming.

2010s

Alyssa Woodman, BS Design and Merchandising ’11, works as a Product Manager at CloudOn in Palo Alto, CA.

Melanie D. Zucker, MS Higher Education ’12, is the Gear Up director of the after-school program for Manchester Community College in correlation with East Hartford Middle School.

Roger Lee, MS Arts Administration ’12, owner and creative director of Roger Lee Dance, was featured as a special dance guest on 6 ABC’s “FYI Philly” with Melissa Magee.

FRIENDS WE’LL MISS

1930s
Lillian Barefa Simonds ’36
Eleanor Bucher Hutton ’39
Ferry Byrne ’38
George Fischer ’36
Ann Florek Reinhardt ’34
Anna Koblinsky Stern ’38
Charlotte Lewis Carter ’34
Aaron Manoff ’37
Gerald McClure Marley ’35
Jean Mckay LaWall ’36
Sylvia Reiter Freedland ’39
Kathryn Schweitzer Ulmer ’38
Elsie Watsonner ’34
Harold Williams ’36
Katherine Wood Kneas ’38

1940s
Sidney Abrams ’48
John Alker ’41
Christine Appar Coburn ’49
Ruth Appler Bressi ’42
Willard Arentzen ’46
Elizabeth Arzet ’41
Suzanne Austin Ott ’47
Dorothy Barnes Pruitt ’47
Robert Brearly ’44
Robert Bond ’40
Kathryn Bowman Reinert ’46
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Chiuling Chi ’57
O. Chesney ’53
Marilyn Creasy Ivins ’52
Peter Corey ’55
Joseph Cosentino ’54
Barry Croll ’53
William Duff ’57
Jean Egoff Kohl ’54
John Eldenberg ’59
John Erickson ’51
A. Ever ’51
Henry Ewall ’53
Werner Fehlauer ’56
Robert Fell ’58
Grace Fraser Wilens ’53
Gene Fries ’55
Alysane Gallagher Bauhaus ’59
James Gildie ’59
Joseph Gilles ’51
Gary Ginsberg ’52
George Glenn ’53
Charles Lindemuth ’56
Cisley Lindholm Fletcher ’53
Beverly Little ’53
Frances Malley ’56
Peter Marcolina ’57
Pierre Marcolina ’52
Louis Marloe ’52
Margaret McBreary ’56
Charles McGehee ’56
Thomas McKinley ’50
Merton Mclean ’55
John Mentzle ’54
Claude Nickerson ’53
Carol Orluske Hager ’56

1950s
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Harry Bader ’51
Richard Bettis ’51
Daniel Boworsky ’56
Edward Bradley ’56
Alice Callaway Rotkin ’50
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O. Chesney ’53
Marilyn Creasy Ivins ’52
Peter Corey ’55
Joseph Cosentino ’54
Barry Croll ’53
William Duff ’57
Jean Egoff Kohl ’54
John Eldenberg ’59
John Erickson ’51
A. Etter ’51
Henry Ewall ’53
Werner Fehlauer ’56
Robert Fell ’58
Grace Fraser Wilens ’53
Gene Fries ’55
Alysane Gallagher Bauhaus ’59
James Gildie ’59
Joseph Gilles ’51
Gary Ginsberg ’52
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Cisley Lindholm Fletcher ’53
Beverly Little ’53
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Peter Marcolina ’57
Pierre Marcolina ’52
Louis Marloe ’52
Margaret McBreary ’56
Charles McGehee ’56
Thomas McKinley ’50
Merton Mclean ’55
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Claude Nickerson ’53
Carol Orluske Hager ’56

1960s
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Joseph Anastasi ’65
Edita Baradi ’67
Carla Benito Gibbons ’66
Bryce Blair ’66
William Blank ’64
Patricia Borman Keeley ’60
William Brand ’64
George Carly ’63
William Connors ’67
Rollin Cowperthwaite ’65
Betty Crocker Smith ’61
Thomas Dabney ’68
Daniel Dansak ’66
Richard De Francesco ’66
Sally Dym Solomon ’63
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Edward Breslin ’78
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Dennis Conway ’70
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Russell Even ’72
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Virginia Hetman King ’77
Edward Leonard ’74
Thomas Mackay ’77
Thomas McCue ’71
Jacqueline McCabe Cohen ’76
Denis McCinley ’70
Walter McGugan ’73
Jessie Milberg Richard ’70
Michael Miles ’71
Elizabeth Moses Thomas ’76
Patrick O’Donnell ’72
John O’Rangers ’72
Stephen Pagep ’77
Madeline Pearson ’72
Frederick Price ’75
Nancy Pringle ’71
Susan Ranney ’71
Stanley Skol ’76
John Weiman ’79
Michael Wheelock ’70
Robert Zickwolf ’71

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Susan Boudwin-Pitcher ’81
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Lawrence Koval ’80
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Lester Ray ’84
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Denise Venanzi ’88

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Deborah Appleton ’98
Jacqueline Cohen ’95
Bonnie Davis ’96
Wei J. Huang ’97
Denise Major ’97
Steven Malone ’91
Merinda Pietrafitta Thompson ’95
Ruth Savitz ’97
Phuc Tran ’91

2000s
Hal Mueller ’05
Julene Ricks-Ngwayah ’00
David Taundi ’08
The Alumni Association’s Alumni Career Services Program Highlight: Skills Workshops

Since 2008, the Alumni Association’s Alumni Career Services program has been providing Drexel graduates with opportunities for professional growth and development. The program fosters alumni-to-alumni connections, and features workshops, seminars, industry panels and networking receptions. One aspect of the Alumni Career Services program is a partnership with the Steinbright Career Development Center, which provides a series of skills workshops for experienced professionals presented by career counseling experts.

These workshops cover a wide variety of topics, such as résumé writing, interviewing, leveraging LinkedIn and making the most of a career fair.

One such workshop, titled “Successful Tips for Preparing Your Résumé,” featured Arnie Kohen, a career counselor in the Steinbright Career Development Center.

Kohen provided alumni with expert tips on résumé formats; content and sections; correcting common mistakes; rules and guidelines; language and grammar; as well as writing a cover letter that gets you noticed.

Tom Dougherty ’78, interested in a career change, attended the workshop.

“I hadn’t updated my résumé in 14 years and I quickly found out that things had changed a lot,” he says.

For example, Kohen talked about strategically posting résumés online which is something Dougherty never even considered doing 14 years ago.

“Something else he taught us was to put key words in our résumés to attract recruiters who scan them online,” he says. “That was a concept that was entirely new to me. Fourteen years ago, they just didn’t do that.”

Dougherty applied Kohen’s tips and tools to both his résumé and to his job search strategy, and by the end of May he had a job offer.

A recruiter saw his résumé on ladder.com and recommended him for his current position as a senior client executive at Verizon.

In June, Dougherty celebrated one year at the company.

Something else he notes, “At the workshop, Kohen also discussed the importance of LinkedIn and making our LinkedIn pages richer and more appealing to recruiters. During my interviews with Verizon, two separate people mentioned that they had looked at my LinkedIn page prior to meeting with me.”

Like Dougherty, Tim Catinella ’11 attended an Alumni Career Services workshop, this one hosted by Ken Bohrer and titled “How to Access the Hidden Job Market.”

After serving with the United States Marine Corps in Korea, Catinella returned home and graduated from Drexel’s LeBow College of Business in 2011. After several months of searching, Catinella landed a job at a small firm but knew that he wanted to transition to a larger company.

“I was in the market for a new job and I met with Ken to go over my résumé,” says Catinella. “He suggested I go to his Alumni Career Services workshop on the hidden job market to help me with my job search.”

Catinella says that he attended the program and learned about the different ways to look for job openings, as well as tips on networking and how to conduct himself on interviews.

“In addition to the speaker, the other alumni who came were also very helpful,” says Catinella. “They all came with their own ideas and we talked about things as a group.”

Catinella explains that he learned how to gain access to numerous jobs posted in less traditional places online. Shortly after the program, Catinella applied online for his current job as an audit associate at Grant Thornton. A recruiter contacted him for an interview, and the rest is history.

In addition to skills workshops, the Alumni Career Services program also provides seminars, industry panels and career columns written by alumni experts. The Alumni Association hosts these programs year-round in locations across the country, and they cover a wide variety of topics that are relevant to alumni in various life stages and careers. Alumni are also encouraged to join the more than 11,500 graduates who are already members of the Drexel University Alumni Association Networking Group on LinkedIn. This online network provides a way for Drexel alumni to connect with each other and discuss career opportunities and professional development. In addition, the Alumni Association will post information about Alumni Career Service events and services.

Your feedback is always welcome and appreciated, as our goal is to meet your career-development needs and provide you with resources that could lead to that valuable next step. Please send feedback or suggestions for upcoming program topics to the Office of Alumni Relations at alumni@drexel.edu or 1-888-DU-GRADS.

More information about the entire Alumni Career Services program can be found online at http://drexel.edu/alumni/career_services.asp.
Celebrating Dragon Pride at the 2013 Global Night of Networking

A huge thank you goes out to everyone who made the third annual alumni Global Night of Networking a success.

“April 18 was a special day for Drexel alumni as 1,024 graduates came together at networking receptions across the globe and on the 24-hour Virtual Site,” says Cristina Geso, associate vice president of alumni relations. “It was exciting to see so many faces at the Global Night of Networking receptions worldwide, and we’re especially thrilled to report an 86.18 percent increase in attendance from last year.”

Social media participation exceeded 700 posts, clicks, comments and shares, including an impressive 64 photos shared by alumni during the Global Night of Networking. The Global Night of Networking site was accessed via social media 372 times from alumni in 10 countries.

Thank you to all the alumni volunteers who hosted Global Night of Networking receptions. We truly could not have done it without you! And congratulations to Dean O’Brien, MBA ’12, in Sacramento, Calif., who won the HD Amazon Kindle Fire.

If you weren’t able to join your classmates for the Global Night of Networking in person or online, you can still relive some of the fun. Photos from the alumni receptions held around the world are available on the Alumni Association website. You can also check out some of the presentations from the Virtual Site that have been posted to the Alumni Association YouTube channel.

“We hope you enjoyed celebrating your Drexel pride with the Alumni Association at the Global Night of Networking,” Geso says. “This was the biggest and best one yet, and we’re already excited to do it again in 2014!”
When A.J. Drexel founded the Drexel Institute of Art, Science and Industry, he did so with the belief that education should be both practical and cultural. That philosophy is perhaps best exemplified in the many art collections housed at the University—collections that are represented here in this issue’s crossword puzzle.

**ACROSS**
1. Parodize
2. More, to Mexicans
3. Coin inscription
4. Varlets
5. Like a ballet dancer
6. Female reproductive gland
7. Van supplier
8. Female
9. Astronomical Musical Clock maker
10. Van supplier
11. Wall-E’s love in “Wall-E”
12. Astronomical Musical Clock maker
13. Van supplier
14. Female reproductive gland
15. Musical finish
16. Campus nameake whose portrait was done by Josef Bergenthal
17. Female
18. Female
19. Musical finish
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**DOWN**
1. 180° from norte
2. Homophone for fie
3. Granola bit
4. Available for purchase
5. Peach’s pulpy portion
6. Lindsay in the news
7. Off-white shade
8. Plato’s T
10. Center of a daisy, e.g.
11. First step in addicts’ treatment
12. Are stealthy
13. Unbroken
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**Think you’ve got all the answers?**

If so, send us your completed puzzle to Drexel prize. Puzzles can be mailed to:
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We know you care about the impact your gifts make and we treat them responsibly in order to maximize their benefit to our students. Every time you give, you’re making an investment in our future and our students. Thank you for your ongoing support.
As part of its commitment to lifelong learning, the Drexel University Alumni Association invites all alumni to take part in our 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 you the highest quality educational travel experience. Traveling with Drexel graduates is an experience you will not want to miss!

For trip details and to register, visit drexel.edu/alumni/travel. 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 email alumni@drexel.edu.