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Spring 2009

ROOSEVELT UNIVERSITY

CAS Connections

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

Welcome from the Dean

Dear Friends:

I am delighted to introduce the Spring 2009 issue of the College of Arts and Sciences newsletter - ***CAS Connections***. I hope this communication will continue to strengthen our growing community of students, faculty, staff, alumni, partners and donors.

This has been a year of great achievement for our college, marked by increased enrollments, student and faculty accomplishments, fund raising success and programmatic innovations. I hope you will enjoy reading some of the highlights of this past year in the following pages. This summer, a complete annual report for the college will be posted on our website at **www.roosevelt.edu/cas** . As always, I welcome your comments and suggestions. Please contact me at lweiner@roosevelt.edu or at (312) 341-3671.

With regards,

Lynn Weiner, Dean

Recent CAS Fundraising Successes

- Lawrence J. Helstern ('63) named Roosevelt University as beneficiary to $100,000 in his will.
- The Jack Miller Center donated $50,000 to a challenge grant of $100,000 to support the Montesquieu Forum.
- The Chicago Community Trust awarded $40,000 to the Institute of Metropolitan Affairs to research drug adjudication in Cook County.
- The Max Goldenberg Foundation approved $24,000 to purchase science software.
- The CNA Foundation awarded $3,000 to support the Actuarial Science Program.
- Susan B. Rubnitz ('76) was a major sponsor of $3,000 for the Gage Gallery spring exhibition - *Homeland: Photographs by Nina Berman.*

To discuss support for the College of Arts and Sciences, contact Dolores Metzger, Senior Director of Development, at dmetzger@roosevelt.edu or at (312) 341-2252.

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CAS Students Make Headlines

Journalism graduate student Jacqueline Sanders' story *I Was 11 When My Life Changed Forever (*about the loss of her arm in an accident) was published in the *Chicago Sun-Times* in May. **Biology student Rajalekshymy Shyam** presented a poster session of her research on *WNT Signal Transduction in Trabecular Meshwork Cells* at the American Society for Cell Biology conference in December. **Sociology major Abdul-Aziz Hassan** and **Women's and Gender Studies graduate student Heidi Truax** won the Mansfield Institute Matthew Freeman Social Justice Award. **Hassan** was recognized for his work in gang violence prevention at the Little Village Lawndale High School. **Truax** was recognized for tutoring and preparing homeless LGBTQ teens for their GED, ACT and SAT exams at the Teen Living Program. **PsyD student and Second LT US Army Reserves Craig Woodworth** received a scholarship from the US Army and is completing a practicum at the Hines Veterans Hospital. **The Department of Psychology's PsyD Program** placed 100% of its internship-eligible doctoral students for 2009-10 (national match rate is 79%) for the second year in a row. Students will work throughout the United States with diverse populations including adolescents, prisoners and Native Americans. Five students in the **Department of Psychology's MA in Clinical Professional Psychology Program** took the National Counselor Exam in October. All five passed the exam and our group's average surpassed the averages for all comparison groups. A new student organization **(RU Sociological Society)** hosted a panel discussion with Iraq Veterans Against the War and a conference on *Social Justice in a Changing World* with over 30 student presenters from Chicago and as far away as Puerto Rico and Uganda. The student newspaper ***(The Torch)*** won three Illinois College Press Association Awards: **Christina Bruzek** won first place in the photo shootout competition; **Alex Hernandez** won second place for headline writing; and **Tyler Tessman** won third place for front page layout.

Profile: Assistant Professor of Biology Kelly Wentz-Hunter

Assistant Professor of Biology Kelly Wentz-Hunter exemplifies quality teaching, scholarship and community outreach. She was elected as one of twelve 2009-10 NSF/SENCER Leadership Fellows (Science Education for New Civic Engagement and Responsibilities) for her work incorporating civic engagement into the curriculum. Kelly presented a keynote address for the Education Initiative Forum at the Annual Meeting of the American Society for Cell Biology in December. *Learning Scientific Content with Research and Reflection on Life and Death Issues* referenced Wentz-Hunter's Cancer Biology course that combines cell and molecular biology of cancer, social justice advocacy and research-based creative writing. Students role-play cancer patients, research their cancers and journal the progress of the disease and their experiences as patients. To fulfill the community advocacy course goal, the class formed a student chapter of the American Cancer Society's Colleges Against Cancer. The chapter sponsored an event on cancer survivorship at Roosevelt University's Science Day and participated in the Chicago Relay for Life event. To finish a productive academic year, Kelly was awarded a Roosevelt University Employee Recognition Award for Outstanding Service. **(Pictured to the left are Professor Kelly Wentz-Hunter (center) and students Brett Calka and David Reyes at the stair-climbing *Go Vertical Chicago* event at the Sears Tower to fund cancer research.)**

CAS Faculty Achievements

Associate Professor of Computer Science Eric Berkowitz incorporated service learning into his Network Applications Program course by having his students enhance the website of Glenkirk, a Northbrook organization that provides services to the developmentally disabled. **Associate Professor of Women's and Gender Studies Ann Brigham** was selected as a member of the Chicago Domestic Violence Court Watch Program Steering Committee which promotes accountability, transparency and adherence to the Illinois Domestic Violence Act in the judicial system. **Professor of Journalism John Fountain** was selected as a Fellow of the University of California-Berkeley Multimedia Reporting and Convergence workshop in January. **Professor of Psychology Steven Meyers** received the 2009 Action Teaching Award from the Social Psychology Network for classroom activities that addressed social problems and impacted students' attitudes and behaviors in his Youth Violence Seminar. During the spring semester, **Assistant Professor of Philosophy Svetozar Minkov** served as visiting professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and **Assistant Professor of Economics Ozgur Orhangazi** served as visiting scholar at the Venezuelan Central Bank. **Professor of Economics Samuel Rosenberg** presented at the Japan Institute for Labour Policy and Training Conference in Tokyo in January and was the only invited speaker from the United States. **Associate Professor of History Margaret Rung** was interviewed by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation about FDR's and Obama's first 100 days in office. The National Science Foundation selected **Associate Professor of Chemistry Josh Telser** to participate in a workshop on computational and theoretic chemistry at the Georgia Institute of Technology in May.

CAS Faculty Research Leaves

Congratulations to the following College of Arts and Sciences faculty who were awarded one-semester research leaves for 2009-10:

Regina Buccola (English) - *Almost What You Can Desire to Know—the III Fortunes of the 17th Century English Stage (*article)

Jim Choca (Psychology) - *Modernizing the Rorschach Inkblot Test* (book and computer program)

Heather Dalmage (Sociology) - *Race and Family in Post-Apartheid South Africa* and *Housing the Conflict: Constructing and Protecting Whiteness on Chicago's Southwest Side* (articles)

Bonnie Gunzenhauser (English) - *Making Literary Critics: Coleridge, Hazlitt and the Romantic-Era Lecture* (article)

David Szpunar (Chemistry) - *Photoacoustic Spectroscopy of Model Black Carbon and Brown Carbon Aerosols: Humidity Effects* (lab research)

Kelly Wentz-Hunter (Biology) - *Characterization of Wnt Signal Transduction Factors in the Trabecular Meshwork* (lab research and article)

Janet Wondra (English) - *Dreaming California: A Collection of Creative Non-fiction* (book)

CAS Faculty Publications

Congratulations to the following College of Arts and Sciences faculty who published books during the 2008-09 academic year:

Marian Azzaro (Integrated Marketing Communication) - *Building Customer-Brand Relationships* (M.E. Sharpe, 2009)

Scott Blackwood (English) - *We Agreed to Meet Just Here* (Western Michigan University Press, 2009)

Mickey Brazeal (Integrated Marketing Communication) - *RFID: Improving the Customer Experience: One-to-One Marketing in Real Time* (Paramount Market Publishing, 2009)

James Choca (Psychology) - *Category Test (CAT): Technical Guide and Software Manual* (Multi-Health Systems, Inc., 2008)

Anne-Marie Cusac (Journalism) - *Cruel and Unusual: The Culture of Punishment in America* (Yale University Press, 2009)

Svetozar Minkov (Philosophy) - *Man and His Enemies: Essays on Carl Schmitt (University of Bialystok Press, 2008)*

CAS Faculty & Staff Awards

Congratulations to the following College of Arts and Sciences faculty and staff who received Employee Recognition Awards for 2008-09:

David Howe (Chemistry) - *Excellence in Teaching*

Jacqueline Trussell (Sociology) - *Excellence in Teaching*

Rajilekshmy Shyam (Student) - *Outstanding Service*

Kelly Wentz-Hunter (Biology) - *Outstanding Service*

PsyD Student Joanna Thome Awarded Research Grant to Study Attitudes on Adoption by Same-Sex Couples

PsyD student Joanna Thome (MA '08) won the 2009 American Psychological Foundation national grant for her dissertation that will analyze perceptions of same-sex partners who seek to adopt. Thome's project was selected for the $1,500 Roy Scrivener Memorial grant which supports research on lesbian, gay and bisexual family psychology and therapy. **Assistant Professor of Psychology Cami McBride** is Joanna's dissertation advisor and calls the project "significant in that it has policy implication in terms of gays and lesbians being able to adopt children." Thome plans to complete her doctorate in 2011 and states "I hope my project will be a catalyst for social and political change movements for the equality of all." For more information about the Department of Psychology, visit www.roosevelt.edu/cas/sp .

PsyD Student Joanna Thome in her native Whidbey Island, WA

Student Radio Station - WRBC *The Blaze* - Broadcasts Again

Ashley Mouldon and President Middleton at the January, 2009 WRBC Launch

The student-run radio station - WRBC *The Blaze* - began broadcasting live in January after 5 years off the air. The first Roosevelt University radio station was founded in 1946 and was heard only on campus. Today, listeners from around the country and world can listen to WRBC streaming live on the Internet 24 hours a day, seven days a week. In its first three months, the station reports listeners from as far away as Florida, California, Washington, Canada, Mexico, England and Singapore.

Journalism student Ashley Mouldon was the driving force behind the revival of the radio station and serves as the station manager. She is joined by twenty disc jockeys and directors who combine talk, sports and a diverse selection of music. **Jim Benes, adjunct journalism faculty member and veteran morning editor at WBBM-AM**, is the faculty advisor for the station. The launch of the radio station was covered in the February 26, 2009 issue of the *Chicago Tribune*.

The College of Arts and Sciences and the Department of Communication are proud to support the revitalized student radio station and celebrated the launch by hosting a reception for members of the RU Community at the radio station's new home on the fifth floor of the Roosevelt University Gage Building, 18 S. Michigan Avenue (also home to the Department of Communication). Listen to WRBC *The Blaze* at www.roosevelt.edu/wrbc . To contact the radio station, email wrbc@roosevelt.edu .

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

We're on the Web!

www.roosevelt.edu/cas