Campus keyed up for Engineers’ Week
Last of the year: Campus Report publishes March 31

The last issue of Campus Report for the 2005-06 academic year will publish one week early on Friday, March 31, in order to preview some of the work students will present at the Stander Symposium on April 5.

Campus News Digest, the weekly e-mail newsletter, will continue to be sent on Thursdays.

First Beauregard-King History Lecture set

The history department will hold its first annual Beauregard-King History Lecture at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, March 29, in Humanities 470. Munis Faruqui, assistant professor in the South and Southeast Asian studies department at the University of California at Berkeley, is the guest speaker.

The lecture is named in honor of two recently deceased UD history professors, Erving E. Beauregard and Ed “Sandy” King. A reception will follow the lecture. All are invited.

Linda Tillery and Cultural Heritage Choir to bring African-American roots music to Boll Theatre

Grammy-nominated vocal ensemble the Cultural Heritage Choir will make its Dayton-area debut at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, March 8, in Kennedy Union Boll Theatre.

The concert is free, but tickets are required. Call 229-2545.

The percussion-driven a cappella Cultural Heritage Choir preserves and shares the traditions of African-American roots music. It performs a wide range of music, including slave songs, field hollers, spirituals and work tunes, as well as pieces rooted in the deep South and connected to the music’s West African and Caribbean origins.

Award-winning vocalist Linda Tillery, who founded the choir, calls it “survival music.”

“This music, particularly the spirituals, has kept black people alive through slavery, night riders’ raids and segregation,” Tillery writes on her Web site. “This is the music that has been used as a support for just about every political movement in this country. People take spirituals, reword them, and march together in the name of freedom and justice.”

Tillery and the Cultural Heritage Choir incorporate call-and-response, intoned sermons and repetitive verse into their performances, as well as folk tales, percussion and dance.

The group’s first collaboration with Taj Mahal and Eric Bibb, Shakin’ a Tailfeather, was nominated for a Grammy in 1997, and its second collaborative effort, Hippity Hop, was awarded a Parents’ Choice Award in 2000. In addition to Tillery, the choir includes Rhonda Benin, Elouise Burrell, Sekou Alaje, Melanie DeMore and Nicholas Beard.

Also while in Dayton, Tillery will present “From Slave Ship to Sanctuary,” which will include discussion and music, at 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 7, in Sears Recital Hall. In addition, Tillery will sing during a recital by John Wesley Wright, UD tenor artist-in-residence, and other faculty artists at 7 p.m. on Sunday, March 5, in Sears Recital Hall.
Winona LaDuke to lecture on ‘Recovering the Sacred’

Native American activist and author Winona LaDuke will address “Recovering the Sacred: Religion, Faith and the Land from a Native Woman’s Perspective” at 8 p.m., on Monday, March 6, in the Kennedy Union ballroom.

The program director of Honor the Earth and the founding director of the White Earth Land Recovery Project, LaDuke served as Green Party presidential candidate Ralph Nader’s running mate in 1996 and 2000.

LaDuke was nominated by Time as one of America’s 50 most promising leaders under 40. She also shared Ms. Woman of the Year honors with the music duo Indigo Girls in 1997 and was a winner of the Reebok Human Rights award in 1998.

LaDuke wrote the novel Last Standing Woman and the nonfiction book All our Relations: Native Struggles for Land and Life.

Her speech, free and open to the public, is co-sponsored by the Distinguished Speakers Series and Diversity Lecture Series.

UD symposium to address nanotechnology’s impact

“Science and Engineering on a Nanoscale: The Impact and Promise of Nanotechnology on Research, Teaching and Society,” a symposium presented by the College of Arts and Sciences, School of Engineering and UD Research Institute, will be held from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 22, in Kennedy Union Boll Theatre. The symposium is free and open to the public.

Nanotechnology has permeated society in many ways, extending from designing and implementing explosive detection instrumentation at airports to using nanoscale biomarkers and inducible beacons in detecting human diseases such as cancer. This symposium provides a forum to discuss the immediate and broader impacts of nanotechnology on public policy and the ethical use of this technology in the United States and abroad.

Presenters and topics include:

- Symposium chair Liming Dai, Wright Brothers Institute Endowed Chair, “Nanotechnology and the Fourth Industrial Revolution”;
- Panagiotis Tsonis, Leonard A. Mann, S.M., Chair in the Sciences, “Biological Nanomachines”;
- Khalid Lahdi, resident scientist and professor in the materials engineering graduate program, “Nano and Bio Carbon Foam in Functional Biology and Thermal Management”;
- Joseph Haus, director of the graduate program in electro-optics, “Nanophotonics”;
- Tia Benson Tolle, Chief, Structural Materials Branch, Air Force Research Laboratory, “The Impact and Promise of Nanomaterials to Aerospace Applications”; and
- Richard Taber, program officer of the National Academy of Engineering, “Educating the Engineer of 2020: Adapting Engineering to the New Century.”

The symposium is part of the 115th annual meeting of the Ohio Academy of Sciences, to be hosted by the University of Dayton April 21-23. Samuel A. Wickline, M.D., professor of medicine, physics, biomedical engineering and cell biology and physiology at Washington University, St. Louis, will present the all-academy lecture, “Molecular Imaging and Targeted Therapeutics For Personalized Medicine.”

About 55 University of Dayton science and engineering students will make presentations during the statewide conference.

For more news, see http://campusreport.udayton.edu
UD invited to join major reform initiative to improve quality of teaching in nation’s classrooms

Research confirms that the most important factor in student achievement is the competence of the teacher — even in the poorest school districts and even if parents are uninvolved.

The University of Dayton has been selected to join a network of 49 colleges and universities dedicated to radically changing the way students are prepared to teach. The reform initiative, called the Teachers for a New Era Learning Network, is supported by the Carnegie Corporation of New York and the Annenberg Foundation.

Under the No Child Left Behind Act, states are required to have a high-quality teacher in every classroom. The institutions in the network will serve as national models for the way they prepare effective teachers.

The network includes such schools as Boston College, Vanderbilt University, Stanford University, Michigan State University and Teachers College, Columbia University. The University of Cincinnati is the only other university in Ohio invited to join the reform effort.

“There is grave concern nationally among policymakers and the general public about the poor achievement of children on even basic math and reading proficiency tests,” said Anne Rogers Polia Kok, senior program officer for the Academy for Educational Development that is coordinating the reform effort. “Seen through the lens of teacher quality, strengthening teacher preparation is most fundamentally a strategy intended to ensure that every school child has a teacher that can help him or her achieve and succeed.”

The network is an extension of Carnegie Corp.’s 2002 “Teachers for a New Era” program, comprising 11 schools that are focusing on three design principles: grounding all elements of the teacher education program on sound evidence, including measurement of pupil learning gains; engagement of arts and sciences disciplines in teacher education; and understanding teaching as an academically taught, clinical practice profession.

“Schools of Education nationally have failed in lots of regards,” said Thomas Lasley II, dean of the School of Education and Allied Professions at the University of Dayton. “They’ve not paid sufficient attention to teaching a more academic content, and they’ve admitted some candidates who lack the basic skills for ensuring content mastery for the students they will teach. There needs to be more rigorous preparation of teachers. Nationally, we need to attract and recruit more intellectually gifted students, and we need to better educate them with clinical experiences. These schools are on the cutting edge of making teaching a more academically rigorous endeavor.”

In a 1996 study, researchers William Sanders and June Rivers at the University of Tennessee tracked thousands of elementary students’ test scores and used them to rate the quality of teachers. The students with the better teachers scored an average 50 points higher on standardized tests.

“Teacher quality overrides family background,” Lasley said. “It’s especially true when students have multiple effective teachers.”

—Teri Rizvi

UD’s leadership in teacher reform recognized

Before selecting the additional schools to join the Teachers for a New Era Learning Network reform initiative, the Carnegie Corp. weighed such factors as “the status of teacher education reform at the institutions, their participation in reform networks and their capacity to influence other institutions,” according to Anne Rogers Polia Kok, senior program officer for the Academy for Educational Development. “The University of Dayton is widely recognized for its work in teacher education reform, including its leadership in the use of research to shape the preparation of teachers and the enhancement of clinical practice settings for prospective teachers, notably the Dayton Early College Academy (DECA), recognized by the Gates Foundation.”

All secondary education majors work with students and teachers at DECA, a nontraditional public high school for students in the Dayton Public Schools. It’s been named one of the five most innovative high schools in the country by the Gates Foundation. In addition, all early childhood education majors receive professional development experience at the Bombeck Family Learning Center, a child care and education center that serves as a demonstration school. Other reform efforts undertaken at the University of Dayton include:

■ Higher enrollment standards. College entrance test scores of education majors mirror the University’s average ACT and SAT scores, an enrollment initiative launched a decade ago.
■ Greater use of research to shape programs. The University of Dayton, University of Cincinnati and the Ohio State University are leading a multi-million dollar groundbreaking study that is examining the preparation, in-school support and effectiveness of Ohio teachers. All 50 of the state’s colleges and schools of education are involved in the study.
■ The development of specialized programs to equip teachers for diverse settings. The Urban Teacher Academy prepares teachers for urban classrooms. Students in the Lalanne Program teach for at least two years in a Catholic school, live together in a faith community and receive free tuition for master’s degree courses taken during the summers.

Rogus Lecture to address ‘Catholic Education: A Future for Everybody?’

Father Joseph O’Keefe, S.J., dean of the Lynch School of Education at Boston College, will present “Catholic Education: A Future for Everybody?” at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 29 in the Kennedy Union ballroom.

The presentation is this year’s Rogus Lecture, sponsored by UD’s Center for Catholic Education and named for the late Joseph Rogus, former Kuntz Professor of Education at UD and co-editor of Catholic Education: A Journal of Inquiry and Practice.

O’Keefe’s research has focused on the study of Catholic schools, especially those that serve low-income children in urban centers. He is leading a national study of inner-city Catholic elementary schools, with a focus on student demographics, staffing and structure.

O’Keefe is a co-author of Sustaining the Legacy: Urban Catholic Elementary Schools in the United States, published by the National Catholic Educational Association in 2004.
New fitness assessment center provides full range of services, offers new opportunities for student learning

Step inside that space-age-looking capsule and take a seat. That’s all it takes to measure your body composition in the BOD POD, one of the star attractions of UD’s new Fitness Assessment Center.

The Fitness Assessment Center, which will share space and equipment with the doctoral program in physical therapy on the second floor of College Park Center, is poised to become the only place in Dayton that can offer a full package of human performance testing.

“We can offer a whole palette of fitness tests, for everybody from high school wrestlers, to new exercisers to marathoners,” said Lloyd Laubach, associate professor of health and sport science.

The BOD POD measures body composition by using air displacement technology and is based on the same principles as hydrostatic weighing — the “dunk tank.” Compared to more commonly used tools, such as the Body Mass Index, waist circumference measurements and skin-fold or caliper testing, “the BOD POD is very precise and measures within plus or minus 2 percent how much of body composition is fat and how much is lean,” Laubach said.

Those measurements, when compared to national norms, can help to customize a fitness program and, when combined with information about other risk factors, can estimate an individual’s risk for developing obesity-associated diseases. Developed with grant funding from the National Institutes of Health and used by sports teams, the U.S. Army, hospitals and universities, the BOD POD can accommodate everyone from young children to sumo wrestlers.

A donor who prefers not to be named contributed funding for the BOD POD, valued at more than $40,000, to UD. It is just one of the available tools at the Fitness Assessment Center for measuring human performance.

A metabolic cart, which measures oxygen consumed and carbon dioxide produced, can assess an individual’s aerobic capacity. This tool can also be used to assess basal metabolic rates, an important factor in weight control.

Strength testing is available through the physical therapy doctoral program’s isokinetic dynamometer, which measures muscular torque at a constant velocity. Such measurements can be used to devise programs to strengthen injured muscles and joints.

Blood lipid profiles (cholesterol, triglycerides and blood glucose) will be evaluated by the Wellness Connection of the Miami Valley.

“Being in the same space as the doctorate in physical therapy program, we gain efficiencies between the two programs,” said Paul Vanderburgh, chair of the health and sport science department. “We get to use each other’s equipment.”

Highly conditioned athletes and sedentary but otherwise healthy adults will benefit from the services the center can provide, Vanderburgh said. “Body composition and aerobic capacity are not often discovered in a usual physical,” he said. Such information can help people make sensible decisions about nutrition and exercise.

“There are unlimited opportunities to put together a complete fitness assessment program,” said Laubach, who envisions a center that will generate income while providing needed services. The Ohio High School Athletic Association, for example, will begin this fall to mandate body composition testing for wrestlers. “We hope to market our services to them.”

Laubach, who serves on the Miami Valley Healthy Kids Task Force, sees the center’s user-friendly location and available parking as advantages that will draw clients from the community.

The Fitness Assessment Center also will become a learning laboratory for UD graduate students and undergraduates in exercise science and pre-physical therapy, who will staff the center, and for sport management majors, who will market its services to clients within and outside the University.

Katie Koch, a senior exercise student, is currently putting the BOD POD through its paces and gathering preliminary comparative data, using UD students as subjects. Laubach hopes to draft additional volunteers from UD’s faculty and staff Wellness Program after BOD POD testing receives formal institutional review board approval.

The facility gives UD students an edge, Laubach said, by honing their interest in body composition testing and exposing them to state-of-the-art technologies.

Koch, for example, who is learning to administer tests and interpret data, has already been accepted to six graduate programs.

“She’s going in with a definite skill,” Laubach said.

For more information about the BOD POD, see http://www.bodpod.com.

—Deborah McCarty Smith

Katie Koch, right, tests Cali Carpenter, a sophomore prephysical therapy major, in the BOD POD.

March 3, 2006  Campus Report  5
By stacking cans of white potatoes, mixed vegetables and sweet golden corn for structural support, computer and electrical engineering students and faculty built a better bridge to win the Engineers’ Week can-build contest Feb. 23.

“Civil’s in lead,” said professor Russ Hardie, nodding at another team’s finished Eiffel Tower topped with a box of fettuccini for the spire, “but we’re beating them at their own game.” His team connected string guy-wires between the towers and a horizontal bridge deck made of cans taped together end-to-end. They raised the road off the ground and added 10 points on to his department’s score, an attempt to win the most points during the week’s five judged events.

UD’s Engineers’ Week, part of a national celebration, is designed to create excitement about the field and encourage young people to study engineering. It included Explore Engineering Day, when Kettering Labs opened its doors to area high school juniors and seniors who talked with UD engineering students and participated in hands-on activities.

The week’s first event poked fun at engineering stereotypes, with students hiking up their pants and taping their glasses in the enginerd contest. The better-bridge-builders won that as well.

“No engineers can out-nerd electrical and computer engineers,” said professor Kevin Hallinan, who helped coordinate the week with chemical engineering instructor Beth Hart.

Other activities involved more skill, such as fashioning a parachute out of plastic and paper clips to land an egg dropped out of a third-floor window.

For the can-build competition, students helped collect more than 1,200 cans, includ-
Student Justin Polacek (left) throws caution to the wind and an egg from a third-floor window in Alumni Hall, while Mark Patterson, assistant professor of engineering technology, observes. The goal of the egg-drop contest was to land an egg safely on the ground, and judges awarded points for appearance, function, ingenuity, design and style. Polacek’s egg landed in a nearby tree.

Left, The wondrous properties of duct and packing tape were demonstrated by mechanical and aerospace engineering students, who built the Gateway Arch of St. Louis during the can-build competition.

Each took a turn on stage, receiving a stainless steel ring placed on the smallest finger of their working hand.

“Wear these rings with pride,” said Tony Saliba, the Wilke Distinguished Professor and chair of the department of chemical and materials engineering, “and do so with that smile of reason that in accepting the order’s call to a sense of obligation as engineers, your understanding of that call is deep, rich and true by virtue of having been educated at UD, no ordinary school of engineering.”

—Michelle Tedford

‘We need more engineers as good as UD engineers’

At his installation as the Bernhard M. Schmidt Chair in Engineering Leadership on Feb. 16, David Herrelko told those attending that engineering advisory council members “repeatedly comment how they can spot a UD grad coming down the hall — head up, smiling, scanning the horizon for possibilities and for people.” UD engineering grads, he said, “are not just able to work in multidisciplinary teams, but seek them out and form them to solve the right problems, the right way. We need more engineers as good as UD engineers.”

Herrelko took note of the UD programs, collaborations “and the countless, subtle signals sent by our faculty in the classrooms and interacting with students informally (that) all contribute to our goal of producing distinguished graduates, ready for life and work. Even more, we hope our students will discover for themselves the true end and real purpose of living. As we work along the way, it’s a delight to see the world through their eyes, as they increasingly realize that engineering can be a calling, can be their vocation on this Earth.”
UD’s Marianist Educational Associates

Catholic and Marianist universities face the challenge of retaining their distinct heritage and traditions at a time when the number of vowed religious on campuses is declining, and the number of lay faculty and administrators is increasing.

“When there are fewer vowed religious, how do you stay a Marianist institution?” asked Father Paul Marshall, S.M., rector, and facilitator for UD’s new Marianist Educational Associates program designed by the Association of Marianist Universities to address this concern.

“There can’t just be someone in leadership saying that we’re Marianist. A lot of people need to be committed to that vision,” he said.

Last June, 10 UD faculty, staff and administrators committed themselves to that vision, along with representatives from St. Mary’s University and Chaminade University, by participating in the intense four-day Marianist Educational Associates pilot formation program held on UD’s campus.

“The religious have committed themselves to a way of life — here are lay people saying that [they] will make the same commitment,” Marshall said.

As the associates learned during their training, lay leadership has always been an important part of the Marianist tradition.

“The foundation of the Marianists didn’t start with priests or religious,” Marshall said. “It started with lay people making the commitment to Christianize France when the Church was oppressed during the French Revolution. That’s the Marianist spirit, and the MEAs make the commitment to live and promote the Marianist way of life.”

Jessica Gonzalez, assistant director of admission, completed the Marianist Educational Associates training.

“This was a great way to officially bring my commitment to the Marianist tradition and history of the University to a higher level,” she said. “This is a wonderful opportunity for lay people to almost be in partnership with the order in maintaining the values, identity and mission of UD as a Catholic and Marianist university.”

The program didn’t end with the end of training. The associates meet together every five to six weeks to discuss common readings about Catholic higher education and to ask themselves hard questions about the future of the University.

“We’re all busy people and finding time is difficult, but we’ve been very good,” Marshall said. “If you are Marianist that means you are going to be a community and that means you’ve got to get together.”

Though busy, Paul Benson, associate dean for integrated learning and curriculum in the College of Arts and Sciences and a Marianist Educational Associate, is glad to take the time to meet together.

“Thinking about the special challenges in
higher education and Catholic and Marianist universities is a valuable thing to do, and we don't usually have the time," he said. "We challenge each other to think critically about where UD is headed and should be headed. The sessions are very honest and very probing.

The challenge now facing the associates, as a group and individually, is what their role should be on campus.

"We've got the big picture figured out," Marshall said. "The question is how do you assert yourself. The other universities are figuring this out as well."

Individually, Gonzalez has found ways to apply her training. She encourages her staff to attend Marianist events on campus and arranges informal staff lunches with vowed Marianists. In the recruiting cycle, she has strengthened the University's ties to Marianist high schools.

"I see [these activities] as reminding us that in our day-to-day work, let's remember we're working in a Marianist institution and be inspired by the tradition," she said.

As executive director of the Association of Marianist Universities, Brother Raymond Fitz, S.M., develops the content for the formation program and works with the directors of the three universities' programs to facilitate dialogue and share ideas.

For Benson this dialogue among the Marianist universities was the highlight of the training.

"The single most valuable element [of the program] is a better appreciation for what holds Marianist universities together and appreciation for the interesting ways we are different," he said.

The training allowed the associates from all three universities to form relationships, and Benson hopes that the original group will have the chance to meet again.

"We serve very different sorts of students, but we were able to think about our common values and where we're all headed in an intense setting. That's really powerful," he said.

Benson's participation in the program as a non-Catholic represents another important change facing Marianist universities — the increasing religious diversity of the faculty and staff.

"The question for the Catholic and Marianist identity of UD, as the faculty becomes increasingly diverse in religious background, is how do you maintain a clear sense of the University's mission in a way that includes everyone and appreciates their contributions?" he asked. "I'm grateful to think about these things with people who are willing to listen to me though I'm not a Catholic myself."

Benson's fellow associate Amy Lopez, director of Kennedy Union, said she finds it helpful to have non-Catholics in the group. "The variety of the people involved make it so interesting," she added. "We always seem to come up with more questions about what's next for us as a group and individuals."

UD's Marianist Educational Associates were nominated last year by Marianists, administrators and members of the rector's council. Each was asked to apply, and 10 were chosen from approximately 70 applications. This year's associates will be selected from the remaining applicants to attend the formation program at Chaminade University in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Reflecting on the program's success so far, Fitz is pleased.

"It's going very well. With any kind of new enterprise, it's easy to put it down on paper and much more difficult to make it happen," he said. "It is important to continue on the track that we have. We will be refining next year what we did in the first year."

It still hasn't been decided what the relationship between the new associates and this year's associates will be but Gonzalez, Benson and Lopez are sure that they want to stay involved with the program.

"For as long as I'm here I don't want this to end," Gonzalez said.

—Jessica Gibson-James

Staff retreat offers opportunity to consider UD’s Catholic, Marianist mission

Several of last year's participants in the first Mission-Based Staff Retreat, sponsored by the rector's office, enjoyed the experience so much they volunteered to help organize the retreat this year.

"They had such a great time they wanted to help continue it," said Kathleen Norman, director of Marianist strategies, who helps oversee the retreat.

The purpose of the overnight retreat to be held at Mt. St. John-Bergamo in June is to help University administrators and staff members become more familiar with the Catholic and Marianist mission of the University.

"It's educational," Norman said. "We want people to consider what it means to be a Catholic and Marianist university in more specific terms than maybe they've experienced before."

The retreat brings together four representatives from five different areas on campus to strengthen relationships within departments and across the University.

Last year, representatives from finance and administration, student development, enrollment management, athletics and the School of Business Administration were invited to attend.

Representatives of other divisions will be invited to participate this year and will have the opportunity to learn more about the retreat at a lunch in March.

Before the retreat, each department will be assigned "pre-retreat work" to start them thinking about the Marianist charism and how it applies to their department.

Last year's participants used disposable cameras to make collages they presented at the retreat.

The collages depicted where they saw the Marianist spirit in evidence among their colleagues and in their daily work.

"When we got together before the retreat and did our pre-work we were able to get to know our colleagues better outside of our work setting," said Kathy Harmon, associate director of scholarships and financial aid. Harmon attended the retreat last year and is currently on the planning committee.

"[The retreat] was such a wonderful opportunity to meet people on campus and to learn about the things they do," she added.

The retreat incorporates group discussions, presentations, nature walks and prayer times as well as social time.

"We have big discussions but we're not just sitting in a room," Norman said. "It's fun and social and really helps build the community."

Julie Banks, manager of the bookstore, attended last year and volunteered to help this year.

"It's relaxing and casual and a great way to recharge your batteries," she said. "Coming away from the retreat I felt really good about working at the University and the work that I am doing."

—Jessica Gibson-James
Student actors’ work to be presented at John Steinbeck conference

When theater instructor Kay Bosse heads to a conference on Steinbeck and His Contemporaries in Sun Valley, Idaho, March 22-25, she’ll take along something her colleagues have never seen.

Bosse, whose panel presentation highlights connections between John Steinbeck and Sam Shepard, plans to show video clips of her University of Dayton students taking on the roles in Shepard’s unpublished one-act play, California Heart Attack, which has been performed only twice. The students’ exploration will illustrate some of the commonalities between the two Pulitzer Prize-winning writers that Bosse discusses in her conference paper, “John Steinbeck and Sam Shepard: Identity and Eden in the Evolving American Dream.”

Steinbeck’s influence on Shepard has not been widely discussed, Bosse noted. Both share concerns about the loss of respect for land’s agricultural value and the increase of consumerism and its effect upon the American family. Separated by a 40-year age gap, the writers have in common an Episcopalian upbringing, fascination with Mexico, a deep love of agriculture and the natural world, regard for male friendship and a reverence for mythological imagery, Bosse writes. Both “create hope out of hopelessness.”

During her research at the Howard Gotlieb Archival Research Center at Boston University, Bosse also had access to the rough draft of another unpublished Shepard play, The Last American Gas Station. The play, she said, is built on the foundations of Steinbeck’s novel The Grapes of Wrath and contains the seeds of Shepard’s Buried Child, which won the Pulitzer Prize, and Curse of the Starving Class.

UD colleagues may be more familiar with

Two UD students named finalists for Truman Scholarship

University of Dayton juniors Emily Nohner and Andrea Smith-Rippeon have been named as finalists for the highly competitive Harry S. Truman Scholarship. The national scholarships recognize college juniors with exceptional leadership potential who are committed to making a difference through public service and provide financial support for graduate study and leadership training.

Each year, the Truman Scholarship Foundation reviews more than 600 applications for 70 to 75 scholarships awarded. These 600 applications do not include the students who compete on their own campus for one of a school’s four nominations.

UD juniors Jacqueline Chura and Erin Moosbrugger also earned University of Dayton nominations. “The nomination for this scholarship is in-and-of-itself an honor,” said Chris Duncan, chair of the political science department and UD’s faculty representative for the scholarship. “Students who apply to compete nationally for this scholarship all demonstrate strong communication skills, high academic standing, leadership abilities and potential and a commitment to public service. To be selected as a finalist is a tremendous achievement.”

Smith-Rippeon and Nohner are both majoring in political science and international studies and human rights. They will attend regional interviews next week: Smith-Rippeon in Washington, D.C., on March 8 and Nohner in Kansas City, Mo., on March 10.
Campus community using Stop Hate Web site to report unacceptable behavior

Since August 2004, when the University of Dayton launched its Stop Hate Web site, 39 incidents of prejudice, hatred or intolerance have been reported.

The Web site (http://stophate.udayton.edu) serves as a tool where faculty, staff and students can report such acts and be assured that action will be taken, if they so desire. The site also enables the University to track such incidents and to raise awareness about the need to make the campus a safer and more inclusive community.

Of those reports, 18 were considered actionable bias-related incidents. Incidents that are motivated by the offender’s bias against a race, religion, ethnic group, sexual orientation or prejudice against a person with a disability are considered actionable. The incidents have included physical abuse, harassment by various means (phone, verbal, e-mail abuse), and graffiti and property damage.

So far in the 2005-06 academic year, a total of 19 incidents have been reported, 32 percent related to sexual orientation and 53 percent related to race or ethnicity.

The Bias-Related Incident Team takes action to resolve the issues, reviewing the Web-based report or UD police report, contacting victims and helping them through the process, and making referrals to public safety, human resources and student development where appropriate. Disciplinary action and education on inclusion and diversity issues are among the outcomes that have resulted. The Bias-Related Incident Team also sometimes takes action when the incidents are classified as “information only,” where the evidence is conflicting, incomplete or insufficient to classify as verified.

Of those reports, 10 were racism-related, 6 sexual orientation-related, 2 other and 1 graffiti/property damage.

‘We are committed to the dignity of every person.’

University President Daniel J. Curran has encouraged the campus community to use the Stop Hate Web site to challenge any unacceptable behavior. “We are committed to the dignity of every person. We are dedicated to building a strong, diverse educational community where no one feels marginalized. That is our calling as a Catholic, Marianist university,” he said. “With your help, we can work together to build an inclusive community. This is our responsibility. More importantly, this is our mission.”

Anyone who believes he or she is the victim of bias-related conduct should tell someone as soon as possible. Incident reports can be submitted online, or complaints may be filed with the UD public safety department.

Supervisors and directors are expected to be familiar with the procedures outlined on the Stop Hate Web site and to help employees who have experienced a bias-related incident to report it.

UD’s affirmative action and legal affairs office records all reported incidents and maintains a database that can be used to help improve campus climate.
Friday, March 3
Lecture: “Feminism in the Heartland”
4:30 p.m., Roesch Library lobby

International Fair
6 to 8:30 p.m., Kennedy Union ballroom
Event features a variety of entertainment with an international flavor. Information: 229-3514.

Baby
8 p.m., Boll Theatre
The theater department’s presentation of this lighthearted musical about three couples in a college environment confronting the experience of pregnancy continues its run at 8 p.m. on Friday, March 3, and Saturday, March 4. Tickets are $6 for UD students, faculty and staff and $10 for the public. Call the Kennedy Union box office at 229-2545.

Saturday, March 4
Annie T. Thornton Women’s Leadership Conference
9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Kennedy Union ballroom
Registration: $10 for students; $50 for all others. To register, visit http://www.udayton.edu/~udwlc or call 229-3351.

Sunday, March 5
Concert: Choral Union
3 p.m., Kennedy Union Boll Theatre
Conducted by Robert Jones.

Faculty Artist Series: “Collaborations”
7 p.m., Sears Recital Hall

Tuesday, March 7
World Rhythms Series
8 p.m., Kennedy Union Boll Theatre
Soprano Cristina Branco, who reintroduced the soulful sound of Portuguese fado music for the new millennium, performs. Tickets are $9 for students, $16 for seniors and $18 for the public. Call the Kennedy Union box office at 229-2545.

Wednesday, March 8
Linda Tillery and the Cultural Heritage Choir
Featuring John Wesley Wright, Lee Hoffman, Andrew Lipian, David Sievers, Phil Farris, Gabriel Dobner, James Arthur Williams and guest artist Linda Tillery.

Monday, March 6
Lecture: Winona LaDuke
8 p.m., Kennedy Union ballroom
The Native-American activist and author will speak on “Recovering the Sacred: Religion, Faith and the Land from a Native Woman’s Perspective.” Sponsored by the Distinguished Speakers Series and Diversity Lecture Series.

Tuesday, March 7
Midterm break begins after last class.
Saturday classes meet March 11 and 18.

Academic senate meeting
3 p.m., Kennedy Union west ballroom

Sunday, March 12
Dayton Christian Jewish Dialogue
7:30 p.m., Alumni Hall 101
Selections from Verdi’s opera Nabucco will be performed by Agnes Hannahs. Information: 229-3694.

Monday, March 20
Classes resume at 8 a.m.

Wednesday, March 22
University Orchestra Winter Concert
8 p.m., Kennedy Union Boll Theatre
Conducted by Jiang Liu.

Tuesday, March 28
Robert Post Comedy Theatre
8 p.m., Kennedy Union Boll Theatre
Arts Series presentation. Physical comedian Robert Post uses mime, juggling and more to present multiple characters. Tickets are $5 for students, $8 for faculty and staff and $14 for the public. Call the Kennedy Union box office at 229-2545.

“The Body Monologues: What’s it Like to Live in Your Body?”
Monologues written by members of the UD community will be on display in the Kennedy Union Torch Lounge through March 15.

“Dark and Beautiful”
Paintings by Father Jim Hasse, S.J., are on exhibit in the Marian Library through March 20.