‘It felt like family’
UD hotel tops chain in guest satisfaction

The Courtyard by Marriott at the University of Dayton, opened a year ago, has the highest guest satisfaction rating among the 42 Marriott hotels run by the company that co-owns it with UD.

Among all 709 Courtyard hotels worldwide, the UD site is third, with a satisfaction score of 94.7 out of 100.

UD is the hotel's second-largest client. Graduations, departmental and alumni events, and visits from students' families drive business to the hotel, particularly in the off-season, November through March.

The UD athletics department led the effort to bring the hotel to the University to complement the nearby multimillion-dollar Arena Sports Complex on Edwin C. Moses Boulevard that includes five venues used by UD sports teams, said Timothy O'Connell, UD Arena executive director.

O'Connell said plans still exist for a high-end restaurant to occupy the space next to the hotel when the timing and economic climate are right.

Philosophy prof named chair of women's, gender studies

Rebecca Whisnant, associate professor of philosophy, has been named to a four-year term as director of the College of Arts and Sciences’ women’s and gender studies program. In August, she will succeed English associate professor Sheila Hassell Hughes, who has been director since 2004 and will be chair of the English department (see story, Page 8).

Whisnant, whose research includes ethical theory and feminist social theory, has been at UD since 2003. Her latest book, released this year, is Global Feminist Ethics (Rowman and Littlefield), which she co-edited with colleague Peggy DesAutels, associate professor of philosophy.

'Beyond Brown' now online

Beyond Brown, a guide to downtown Dayton created by UD's Dayton Civic Scholars, is now available online at http://artsandsciences.udayton.edu/leadershipincommunity/beyondbrown.asp.

The 54-page color handbook features a price guide, transportation options, parking map, student-reviewed attractions, student photography, and selected restaurants, entertainment venues, cultural activities, recreation sites and retail establishments.

The 15-member 2008 class of Dayton Civic Scholars created the guide for fellow UD students; after its release, the students received requests for copies from UD staff, alumni, local media and Dayton residents.

''It surprised me that we had people who were e-mailing and contacting us from several states away asking for a copy," said Joshua Rauch, a senior political science major. "We put it online because we didn't have enough to mail out to everyone.”

The Dayton Civic Scholars, a program of the Fitz Center for Leadership in Community, teaches community leadership to students interested in urban affairs or public service.

Scholar to address role of religion in prisons

A leading scholar on comparative criminal justice will be on campus Tuesday, March 11, for the lecture "Religion in Prison: Scam or Salvation.”

Harry Dammer, a 1979 graduate of UD's criminal justice program and now professor...
and chair of the sociology and criminal justice department at the University of Scranton in Scranton, Pa., is the author of the book Religion in Corrections (American Correctional Association, 1999) and co-author of the textbook Comparative Criminal Justice Systems (Wadsworth/Thomson, 2006). The criminal justice studies program is sponsoring the lecture.

Comparative criminal justice is the study of criminal justice systems around the world, said UD criminal justice studies program chair and associate professor Art Jipson.

“It’s comparing the different agencies of criminal justice — policing, courts, corrections — in different countries so that we can learn from the practices, policies and histories of these efforts,” Jipson said. “Dr. Dammer has conducted groundbreaking research in the area of corrections — prisons, jails and punishments — in other countries, especially China.”

The lecture will be at 6:30 p.m. in the Science Center auditorium, room 114.

**PR office renamed University communications**

UD’s public relations office has been renamed University communications, announced Deborah Read, vice president for University advancement. The office will continue to provide the same services: publications, media relations, marketing and design.

**Enrollment materials earn accolades**

UD’s enrollment marketing materials received seven admissions marketing awards from Admissions Marketing Report.

For its search piece, UD received a gold award as well as Best of Show, a title reserved for the 16 best entries in each category. UD also received two silver awards for the viewbook and the Web site; a bronze award in direct mail advertising for its parent postcard; and two merit awards for its high school visit poster and the DVD virtual tour produced by UD’s Media Production Group.

“The marketing staff of Jennifer Koesters, Molly Wilson and Kimberly Lally worked diligently on all of these projects,” said Shane White, director of enrollment strategies.

UD’s entries were among 2,000 submitted to the competition. More than 1,000 institutions participated. The monthly Admissions Marketing Report is a marketing publication for higher education.

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**Business dean’s career takes another good turn**

The next dean of the UD School of Business Administration says his life has been blessed with a wonderful combination of opportunities, good luck and some unintentional career turns — all of which eventually led him to UD.

For St. Louis native Matt Shank, who takes office in June, the first unexpected turn came right after he earned his doctorate in experimental psychology. A good friend at a national market research firm in St. Louis told him about an opening; though it seemed an unlikely match for a psych major, Shank’s doctoral work in experimental design and statistical analysis turned out to be a perfect fit for the job: marketing, business and organizational research, corporate culture analysis, and employee wellness studies.

Then came the next turn: Shank was asked to teach an MBA marketing course at nearby Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville, where many of his colleagues taught as adjunct faculty.

He found he enjoyed interacting with students and said he came to see teaching as a calling.

So came the next turn — a visiting assistant professorship in marketing at the University of Mississippi. The next year, he started his academic career in earnest as an assistant professor of marketing at Northern Kentucky University.

When the marketing department needed to bulk up its elective offerings, Shank’s career took yet another turn, this time toward sports marketing. Shank — a pitcher for the University of Wyoming in his undergraduate years, a St. Louis Cardinals junkie and the owner of a tattered Mickey Mantle rookie card he got in a trade with his brother at 9 years old — proposed a sports marketing class.

“I thought it would be popular and that a lot of students might be interested in it,” he said. “I started with one class, and it was so popular that we developed a concentration and eventually an entire bachelor’s degree program.”

As he perused a paltry selection of textbooks on the subject, a representative from publisher Prentice Hall asked him, “Why don’t you just write your own?” So came another turn. This year, Sports Marketing: A Strategic Perspective goes into its fourth edition.

He soon became department chair and then led the MBA program on an interim basis. In this work, he’s had to call upon the mentorship he’s received.

“The people I have tried to emulate have been strong academically, but not necessarily the person who wins the Nobel prize or someone who is the top among their peers in the field,” he said. “It’s the faculty member or professor or teacher or coach who has taken the time to really make a difference in a student’s life. ... That’s the type of educator I hope I have been able to be for my students, and that’s the type of administrator I want to be at UD.”

If he wonders whether he’s succeeding, he received some evidence of it this winter when he was presented with the Northern Kentucky University Alumni Association’s Greatest Influence Award, given to one faculty member each year by alumni election.

That very day came a phone call from UD Provost Fred Pestello.

Shank’s newest turn.

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*For more news, see http://campusreport.udayton.edu*
Senate attention to endowments raises concern

In January, when the Senate Finance Committee asked 136 of the wealthiest U.S. universities to reveal how they spend their endowments, the inquiry raised red flags nationwide and at UD — particularly because its Senate sponsors were considering legislation that would require universities to spend at least 5 percent of their endowments each year.

The senators' intentions — for universities to commit more money to scholarships and financial aid — are noble, said Thomas Burkhardt, vice president for finance and administration, but unilateral legislation is not the answer.

"Different universities have different purposes for their endowments," said Burkhardt, who oversees the UD endowment. "At UD, the board of trustees is responsible for setting endowment spending policies and priorities. ... At Harvard, where the endowment is more than $20 billion, I don't know what their priorities are, but they are probably different from ours, and growing their endowment may or may not be one of them. At UD, our endowment is now just under $400 million; one of our goals is to grow the endowment so that we have greater financial strength in the future."

It's not the prospect of spending 5 percent of the endowment each year that concerns Burkhardt. Most years, UD already does: During the 10-year period from 1997 to 2007, UD spent an average of 4.9 percent of the endowment per year. But spending too much — particularly in a contracting economy — can bring an endowment uncomfortably close to zero or negative real growth, he said. The challenge faced by universities with respect to their endowments is ensuring what he called "intergenerational equity."

"We want to spend an amount that serves the current students but doesn't hurt the next ones," he said. To do that, UD uses what Burkhardt called a budgetary method, increasing the dollar level spent out of the endowment 3.5 percent each year — as long as that dollar figure is between 4 percent and 5.5 percent of the total endowment. Other universities spend a set percentage of a year-end endowment balance or spend a percentage of a three-year moving average, Burkhardt said. UD chose the budgetary method because it insulates scholarships and other endowment-funded spending units from market fluctuations, which can make planning difficult.

Burkhardt fully understands where the Senate arrived at its 5 percent target: it's the amount private foundations are required to pay out each year. The problem is, running a university is nothing like running a private foundation, Burkhardt said.

"It's interesting that the Senate may become experts in managing long-term funds," Burkhardt said, adding that a board of trustees well-versed in an institution's mission, goals and priorities is much better equipped for the task than the federal government. In line with Congress' intentions — greater accessibility and affordability in higher education — UD has good intentions of its own: The board and administration have made scholarship growth a top priority in the upcoming campaign, the public phase of which will kick off in 2009.

UD's endowment, which was more than $410 million on June 30, 2007, was the 160th-largest in the United States in the 2008 rankings of the National Association of College and University Business Officers.

$3.5 million Marycrest renovation under way

Construction began Feb. 25 on a full-scale remodel that will make the Marycrest dining room look and feel like a restaurant.

The $3.5 million redesign, inspired by collegiate dining trends and opinions offered by a cadre of UD "secret shoppers" during the past several years, will retain the Marycrest dining room's à la carte format, which features deli, grill, pizza, salad, dessert and beverage stations, adding new stations for international cuisine and specialty coffee. A new café concept will extend food service to between mealtimes and late into the evening.

The renovated dining area will be open off the building's lobby, with booths and tables available 24 hours as a study lounge and gathering space. Reopening is set for Aug. 1. To accommodate Marycrest diners, UD conducted a rapid conversion of the Virginia W. Kettering dining hall from buffet style to the more popular à la carte format, said Paula Smith, director of dining services. The VVK dining area is now open between meals and at night for study and socializing.

ArtStreet leader helps region court 'creative class'

ArtStreet Director Susan Byrnes is one of 32 area leaders selected by the Southwestern Ohio Council for Higher Education Council to lead an initiative to promote the region to "the creative class," people in technology, research and design, arts and culture, medicine, education, and professional occupations whose jobs involve "thinking for a living."

With the project, called the Creative Region Initiative, SOCHE aims to build the regional economy by targeting the needs and preferences of scientists, engineers, managers, innovators and people in research and development, as well as artists, writers and musicians. This class of workers is a key to the future of any region hoping to take advantage of the changes that are afoot across the global economy, said Richard Florida, author of The Rise of the Creative Class.

Byrnes and her fellow "community catalysts" commit to a year of service to the initiative, said Sean Creighton, SOCHE executive director.

For more information about the Creative Region Initiative, see http://www.soche.org.
Enterprise resource planning package to consolidate data, boost efficiency

On Feb. 18, UD launched the implementation of a new system that will integrate the critical business functions of the University.

During the kickoff event in the Kennedy Union Boll Theatre, UDit representatives and consultants from SunGard Higher Education provided information on the enterprise resource planning software suite, called Banner, as well as an overview of the system's implementation process.

The Banner applications will eventually replace the Colleague student records system, the IFAS accounting package and a “home-grown” human resources and payroll system — all of which now run autonomously to serve academics, registration, enrollment management, financial aid and administration.

While programmers over the years have written software that allows for some data integration and reporting, the systems — among the market leaders when UD adopted them — are not integrated. With the advancement of database technology and software, data integration is now not only possible, but a practical necessity, said Vicki Adams, UDit's director of University information systems.

The new ERP system works from a single database, Adams said. It will reduce duplication of data, improve accuracy and timeliness of data, and bring about better reporting, stronger analysis and higher efficiency.

UD selected SunGard after an evaluation process that involved more than 200 people in campus visits, demonstrations, focus groups and interviews, said UDit lead systems analyst and ERP project manager Tom Weckesser.

“It's designed for the university setting,” Adams said. “Among the three leaders in the market, SunGard was far and away preferred by the most schools in our peer group and many of the top 100 universities in the nation.”

More than 1,000 institutions use SunGard’s higher education products.

It will take about three years to phase in the system, which will cost about $6.4 million in hardware, software and consulting, Weckesser said.

As systems come online, they’ll be accessible from the Luminis portal, a configurable gateway to all the services available on the system; access privileges will be set for each user on the system. For example, a department manager will be able to view his or her department budget and all of the charges against it to date, rather than waiting for the monthly accounting reports. A student will be able to view his or her schedule or grades; an employee will be able to view his or her pay stub and check up on items such as spending accounts and vacation accrual.

“The configurability is one of the best things about it,” Adams said.

Consultants will be coming to UD throughout the implementation process, Adams said, and each functional group using the new system will have a team leader responsible for facilitating the implementation of that module.

For more information about the SunGard Banner implementation, see http://quickplace.udayton.edu/banner.

New Engineer students recycling cycles for area kids

First-year students in UD’s New Engineer program are collecting new and used children’s bicycles for their eighth annual Wheels for Kids service project.

On the day of the April event, each child is matched with a UD student to make final repairs on a tuned-up, “good-as-new” bike and learn bike safety, repair and maintenance basics. Afterward, the children strap on their new helmets and ride in a bike safety rodeo. About 100 area children receive the bikes and helmets each year.

Those with bikes to donate may schedule a dropoff or pickup time. For information or to make arrangements, send an e-mail with name and contact information to wheelsforkids08@yahoo.com.

David Herrelko, Bernhard M. Schmidt Chair in Engineering Leadership, is the director of the New Engineer program. Leaders of the Wheels for Kids project are members of his Introduction to Engineering Design honors course.

The Wheels for Kids project is a service-learning application of the engineering principles students learn in the course. As part of their academic work, the students must apply principles of engineering to custom-design bicycles for six nonstandard circumstances or environments: emergency medicine, law enforcement, the terrains of Kenya and Haiti, extreme downhill use and people of short stature.

Student presents on Aboriginal representation at international conference

Senior political science major Ashley Rice was the only undergraduate to present a paper at the 2008 Australian and New Zealand Studies Association of North America Conference, held Feb. 27-March 2 at the University of Texas at Austin.

In her thesis presentation, “Indigenous Disadvantage: Liberal and Advanced Liberal Institutions in Australia,” Rice explored whether the reservation of parliamentary seats for Australia’s indigenous population is a viable policy option given the country’s political culture. She concluded that it is compatible.

“Ashley’s thesis is particularly timely,” said political science assistant professor Jason Pierce. “The government issued an official apology two weeks ago to Australia’s indigenous people for a state-sanctioned policy of forcibly removing Aboriginal children from their families. This policy, in place from the early 1900s to 1970, was responsible for removing over 100,000 indigenous children from their families, forming what is known as the ‘stolen generations.’ Having issued the apology, the government confronts the ‘What next?’ question. Reserving seats in parliament is one option.”

Rice spent her junior year in Australia at the University of Sydney. The University Honors and John W. Berry Sr. Scholars Program and the political science department supported her conference participation.
Hardships don’t diminish Dayton’s esteem for art

Eddie Landry’s Stander Symposium presentation, “Psychology of Time and Events Impacts Dayton Art and Music: A Research Project Developed Through the Psychology of the Arts Course,” focuses on how the arts have been affected by the psychological impact of Dayton’s historical events and distressed economy. In his interviews with people in the community, including the mayor of Dayton, Landry found that Dayton was the first city in the area with a ballet and opera house — the building now known as the Victoria Theatre — and that despite times of strife, the theater and the arts have always been a high priority to area citizens.

“Even though the Victoria Theatre was burned twice and flooded in the great flood of 1913, it was rebuilt each time and renamed, and it still stands today,” Landry said. “Throughout all the problems and economic troubles, the project is about how Dayton has really valued the arts.”

Landry’s poster presentation will include a 10-minute video loop of Dayton art inspired by historical events.

Unwritten rules for awkward moments

For her honors thesis, senior sociology and religious studies major Laura Loeb has been studying awkward situations and the “invisible rules that guide social interaction.”

“We are so well-socialized that we don’t even realize that we are following rules, that we are following a normal pattern of behavior,” Loeb said. “When someone makes a mistake, people realize it is wrong despite not being able to articulate what constitutes correct behavior. (The study) allows us to articulate what is right by finding out what people think should have happened.”


A common awkward situation she found was the mistaken hello. A student walking on campus is passing a friend and says hello. The passing friend, however, doesn’t hear the hello, and a student behind the friend replies with a hello even though the two students may not know each other.

“Students usually play it off and won’t say something is wrong because it’s awkward to say it out loud,” Loeb said. “That’s a breech of interaction.”

Loeb studied Erving Goffman’s theory of interaction order. The examples she found appear to support his theory.

“I liked analyzing the data and seeing how people react to breeches. First they’ll give hints, stop talking or sometimes leave the interaction.”

Cars, culture and civil rights

Peter Cajka, a senior history major, spent his holiday breaks studying the automobile in African-American culture in postwar America.


Nanoscale solids boost liquid’s cooling capacity

Senior mechanical engineering major Dan DeBrosse has spent the academic year testing the heat properties of lightweight nanofluids — mixtures of a carbon solid in an oil liquid — for use in the cooling systems of high-performance avionics.

Once a mixture produces the desired properties, the fluid can be produced in larger amounts and used in the field.

Liquid alone is not a good heat conductor and therefore not an effective coolant, said DeBrosse, who will present “Thermal Properties of Suspensions of Nano-Scale Carbon-based Particles (Nanofluids).” Variations in nanocarbons’ molecular arrangements influence a nanofluid’s conductive properties.

“The best way to enhance the cooling properties of the liquid is to increase its ability to take heat,” DeBrosse said. “I am trying to take the liquid and add small amounts of carbon particles to increase conductivity.” The combination produces a new model for the liquid mixture, different from typical liquid properties.

His work has presented some challenges. While adding carbon solids increases conductivity, incorrect proportions can have undesirable effects such as reduced fluidity and increased weight. DeBrosse tests small amounts of the mixture to examine the properties. He is looking at particles 1,000 times smaller than the human eye can see.
“This machine changed the way people lived their lives,” he said. “Essentially, the American government couldn’t control the freedom it gave people. ... With this technology, there’s no way to segregate the open road.”

The paper is being considered for publication in *The Historian*, a national undergraduate journal published by Phi Alpha Theta, a history honor society.

Rocks of ages: Fossils mark time in Ordovician period

Senior biology and geology major Gary Motz has spent most of his undergraduate career studying the fossils of extinct marine organisms whose evolutionary changes are used to determine the ages of rocks.

Graptolites are extinct marine organisms that once lived all over the world, said Motz, who will present “A Revised Graptolite Biostratigraphy of the Phi Kappa Formation in the Trail Creek Region of Central Idaho.”

To paleontologists, graptolites, whose fossils resemble pencil scratchings, are “one of the most important species from the Ordovician period,” Motz said. Paleontologists can use the graptolite fossils as age indices. About 460 million years ago, during the Ordovician period, graptolites were common and geographically dispersed until a sudden, severe extinction event nearly wiped them out. By tracking the evolution of the graptolites in their fossil form, Motz can define distinct time periods for the fossils. His research “gives paleontologists and scientists a better understanding of the age and timing constraints of the order of species in the Ordovician,” he said.

This is the third Stander presentation for Motz, who has presented at several other conferences.

Feedback falls short

In the research she conducted for her thesis, “Investigating Teacher Feedback on Student Writing,” senior adolescent to young adult education major Janet D’Souza discovered that teachers often don’t give students the kind of feedback they need to improve their writing.

D’Souza conducted classroom observations and studied samples of feedback by teachers of various subjects in pre-kindergarten through eighth grade at a local Catholic school. She noted marked differences in the feedback the teachers gave to academically stronger students and weaker ones.

“The weak students received more improvement-oriented feedback,” she said — but neither group received an abundance of it. Both groups received evaluative feedback — praise and criticism — though this is not the type of feedback that brings about changes in writing.

D’Souza focused her research on whether teacher feedback related to the writing expectations spelled out in the Archdiocesan graded course of study, which is used to ensure introduction, development and mastery of competencies at each grade level. In the graded course of study, for example, students in younger grades are expected to master basic writing components such as punctuation and spelling. Older students work on more complex aspects of writing such as fluency and voice.

Despite the expectations shown in the graded course of study, D’Souza found that teachers gave students at all grade levels feedback on only the basic traits, not the complex ones. This has the potential to limit students’ ability to fully develop the higher skills to a mastery level.

D’Souza said she hopes her research will help teachers see the importance of giving improvement-oriented feedback to all students.

**Standerevents**

**Tuesday, April 8**

**Evening at the Stander: A Celebration of the Arts**

Reception and exhibition 5 to 7:30 p.m., Rike Center art gallery; performance 8 p.m., Frericks Convocation Center. Admission is free; tickets required from Kennedy Union box office.

**Wednesday, April 9**

**Keynote Address**

Jody Olsen, deputy director of the Peace Corps; 9 a.m., Frericks Center. Admission is free; tickets required from Kennedy Union box office.

**Symposium**

10:30 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4:30 p.m., Kennedy Union and various campus locations

‘The Natural and the Artificial’

Students share their impressions and artwork from a collaborative art project with a Chinese art school; ArtStreet Studio D
Black in the academy:
Panelists share stories on surviving, striving

In a Black History Month program to share stories of surviving and striving in the academy, a longtime black staff member said perseverance and unity are not options but obligations for advancing UD’s diversity goals and improving the climate for minorities in academia.

“It is our responsibility,” said Kathleen Henderson, director of first-year engagement, who came to work at UD in 1982. “It’s our responsibility as a university that is predominantly white, it’s our responsibility as educators, and it’s a responsibility for those who care about one another.”

That responsibility is what led Henderson and former career services center director Gregory Hayes, now an executive-in-residence in the Learning Teaching Center, to organize the panel discussion. Hayes, who oversees University mentoring programs, said his goals for the session were to help build and sustain an environment that is inviting and supportive for black staff to work, learn and succeed; to promote diversity dialogue; and to solicit ideas for developing mentoring as an avenue for black staff advancement. Hayes’ office co-sponsored the program along with the diversity subcommittee on recruitment and retention of staff and the UD Black Professionals Association. Troy Washington, director of employee relations, moderated.

In her talk, Henderson recounted an October 2007 interview by public television talk show host Tavis Smiley with actress and Emmy nominee Ruby Dee about the role she and her late husband, Ossie Davis, played in the civil rights movement.

“She talked about dream carriers in a way that spoke strongly to me,” Henderson said, likening herself and the other panelists to carriers of Martin Luther King Jr’s dream. Henderson read from the interview: “There are the dream carriers,” Dee said. “There are the people who pass on the dream for you to carry, and you can’t back away from it. You have to accept it, and you have to pass it on, and you have to be the elder. … You have to be an example, and you have to make things work, so there’s no such thing as backing down. … If you’re too old to fight, then just walk back there and pick up one of them children and walk as far as you can to give it to somebody else. Your assignment is never through, so don’t use that as an excuse.”

All of the panelists — Melvin Andrews, a maintenance technician in facilities management and a UD employee since 1980; James “Trey” Coleman, a UDRI research engineer in his 18th year at UD; Henderson; Dayton City Commissioner Dean Lovelace, director of UD’s Dayton Civic Scholars program; and Billy Mayo, director of recreation and a 37-year UD employee — noted the importance of mentorship, both intentional and incidental, in their success at UD, and they entreated those in attendance to both seek it for themselves and provide it to those who follow.

“We’re all here to help each other. Don’t be shy with the people in this room or the people on campus. If Melvin says to call him, call him. Melvin will be there for you, as will everyone in this room. That is what we’re trying to do.’

—Greg Hayes

LAUREN TOMASELLA
take a break with…

Sheila Hassell Hughes

New English chair has ‘big dreams, big ideas’

In July, associate English professor Sheila Hassell Hughes completes her term as director of the women’s and gender studies program and starts a term as chair of the English department. Hughes sat down with Campus Report to talk about her achievements and plans.

What path led you to UD? “I was one of the first handful of people in the country to earn a Ph.D. in women’s studies. ... It was a challenge to find the right fit because of the set of things that I was interested in working on, and UD just seemed to be the right place. ... There was a lot of interest in interdisciplinarity ... and adding teachers of women’s literature and women’s studies courses.”

What have been some of your biggest accomplishments as director of the women’s and gender studies program? “I’m really proud, with help from some other key people, of having ushered through the new women’s and gender studies major and having recruited students. ... We have done a pretty good job of raising the profile of the program.” In four years, faculty affiliated with women’s studies grew from 15 to 50.

What are some of your goals for the English department? “I’m kind of a dreamer, and I get big ideas, big visions, but I don’t tend to come up with those big ideas on my own. I’ll talk with people, and as a result of those conversations, I’ll begin to put the pieces together. ... I’m very much a peacemaker but also trying to move things forward and to get people excited.” She said she hopes to lead her department in defining the role of writing in the curriculum and build consensus around adjusting the writing program to meet the evolving field. Another challenge is addressing diversity in the curriculum: “(The current curriculum) includes women’s literature, African-American literature, American Indian literature, ethnic literature, global literatures in English. We have courses in a lot of those areas, but not all of them. We have no requirement or articulated expectations for extant courses within the major for any of that. ... We will engage in long, extended, intense conversation about the issues and figure out where we want to go.”

What is your management and administrative style? “Very people-oriented. I’m a highly social animal. In fact, I’m working on a book, and I have to go to Starbucks to write because if I’m here, I get too distracted by other people. ... I try to be highly accessible. For me, that means I’m also a slave to responding to e-mail.”

What are you researching right now? “I’m working on a book about Louise Erdrich. She’s an American Indian, mixed-blood author, novelist, poet, memoirist, children’s book author. Very prolific.” Hughes also is working with educational leadership professor Carolyn Ridenour on a 2007-09 Humanities Fellows grant to guide undergraduates in field research for a project called “Voices of Girls in Urban Schools.”

—Yvonne Teens

In four years, faculty affiliated with women’s studies grew from 15 to 50.

Those interested in being a mentor or mentoree may contact Gregory Hayes in the Learning Teaching Center via e-mail or by telephone, 229-2075.

March 7, 2008

Campus Report
A Marian Library exhibit is giving life to texts about the Blessed Virgin Mother through calligraphy, elegant colors and historical inspiration. Using several calligraphic styles in each piece, Dayton-area artist Ann Bain layers text, colors, symbols and even surprises. The hidden surprises in each piece are scattered gold letters that make up one of the many names given to Mary, such as “tree of life.”

Father Johann Roten, S.M., director of the Marian Library/International Marian Research Institute, commissioned the work. “It was our intent to collect and present all passages of Scripture dealing directly with Fine art professor Jeffrey Jones gathered works from 14 friends and colleagues from around the country for “Considerable,” a new ArtStreet exhibit of what Jones calls individualistic and approachable pieces. The exhibit, which opened March 3, is on display through April 4 in ArtStreet’s Studio O in the ArtStreet office. It’s free and open to the public. Gallery hours are 8 a.m. to midnight Monday through Friday and noon to midnight Saturday and Sunday. “Considerable” allows viewers “the chance to see how artists of similar mindsets solve artistic problems no matter where the artists are located,” Jones said. None of the pieces has a dimension larger than 14 inches. All of the artists have a connection to Jones. Ron

Mary texts come alive in calligraphy exhibit

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‘Considerable’ exhibit called individualistic, approachable; open through April 4

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‘Marigold,’ by Douglas Witmer
Shaheen shares music, language with distance-learning Arabic class

Using the videoconferencing technology of the Learning Teaching Center studio Feb. 13, Palestinian musician Simon Shaheen shared lessons on language and cultural arts with students at UD and two other U.S. universities.

The Arabic language course, offered by the languages department as a videoconferencing distance learning course, is one of several “strategic languages” available this year. UD also offers Russian and Mandarin Chinese.

Students at San Francisco State University and the University of Montana at Missoula joined UD students online for the session with Shaheen, an 11-time Grammy nominee and artist-in-residence at UD for a week. The night after the class, Shaheen played to a full house in the Kennedy Union Boll Theatre as part of the World Rhythms Series sponsored by Cityfolk and the UD Arts Series.

UDit’s Shawna Collins coordinated the technology for the Shaheen videoconferencing event with the support of David Wright, director of curriculum innovation and e-learning.

“I think the message here is how technology can help students be exposed to a transformational experience that otherwise would not happen — and that the learning experience is not restricted to a traditional curriculum but can embrace cultural and artistic expressions,” Wright said. “In an increasingly globalized world, broadcasting Simon’s music from Dayton to others in the United States as part of an Arabic language class should not surprise us, but be an ongoing part of our everyday world as we strive to learn more about other cultures.”

Rector seeks stewards of Catholic, Marianist traditions

The rector’s office is accepting applications for the 2008 cohort of Marianist Educational Associates — a campus community of lay people dedicated to strengthening and developing UD’s Catholic and Marianist character and mission.

The MEA concept, developed by the Association of Marianist Universities, is a strategy for ensuring that the three Marianist universities will sustain and strengthen the Catholic and Marianist traditions of education on each of the campuses. By building, educating and spiritually nourishing a community of lay people who value these traditions of education, UD is not only sustaining its Catholic and Marianist character and mission, but making sure it has resources to adapt to future challenges, said Joan McGuinness Wagner, director of Marianist strategies.

MEA becomes stewards of the Marianist charism by incorporating the charism in their work and personal life and communicating the message to others through their words and actions, Wagner said.

Each year, the MEAs attend a formation program. This year it will be held on campus May 27-31 and facilitated by Brother Raymond L. Fitz, S.M., and Brother Tom Giardino, S.M. Each person also commits to a year of educational formation ending with a public proclamation of the commitment to integrate and promote the Marianist mission of UD. MEAs renew this public proclamation each year. Throughout the academic year, MEAs meet on a regular schedule for discussion, education and continued formation.

Applications are being accepted through March 11 and should be sent to Wagner at campus ZIP 0322. The application is available on the rector’s Web site at http://rector.udayton.edu. For more information, contact Wagner at 229-3094 or via e-mail.

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March and April
Center for Social Concern’s
JIVE film and dialogue series
This series, short for “justice involving the voices of everyone,” is at 6:15 p.m. in ArtStreet Studio B; Monday, March 10 — I Know I’m Not Alone, a documentary from the Middle East on the human cost of war; Tuesday, March 25 — Romero, a biographical drama on the life of Salvadoran Archbishop Oscar Romero; Monday, March 31 — Forrest Gump; Monday, April 7 — The Power of Community: How Cuba Survived Peak Oil; Monday, April 14 — Hillbilly: The Real Story, a History Channel production on Appalachia; Monday, April 21 — An Inconvenient Truth, the documentary on former Vice President Al Gore’s campaign to raise awareness about global warming.

Tuesday, March 11
‘The Triumph of Evangelical Catholicism’ 4:30 p.m., Sears Recital Hall; panel includes John Allen, senior correspondent for the National Catholic Reporter; David J. O’Brien from the College of the Holy Cross, historian of U.S. Catholicism and 2005 Marianist Award winner; and William Portier, Mary Ann Spearin Chair in Catholic Theology in the UD religious studies department; attendees are encouraged to prepare for the event by reading the article of the same title in the National Catholic Reporter; see http://ncronline.org/NCR_Online/archives2/2007c/083107/083107a.php.

‘You the Man’ 7 p.m., Virginia W. Kettering main meeting room; part of the Women’s History Month events, this one-man show addresses unhealthy relationships, dating violence and sexual assault in an original, creative and even entertaining way; it has been useful for promoting dialogue between women and men on college campuses.

Friday, March 14
Last day of classes before midterm break Regular classes resume Tuesday, March 25.

Tuesday, March 18
Food for the Soul: Living the Paschal Mystery Marianist-Style Noon to 1 p.m., Kennedy Union; with the sacred days of the Easter Triduum approaching, participants can anticipate the mysteries of Christ’s passion, death and resurrection and ponder how Marianist spirituality can frame prayer, fasting, and worship during the Paschal events.

Friday-Monday, March 21-24
Easter celebration
University closed Good Friday through the day after Easter.

Wednesday, March 26
Miryam Award prayer service and award reception
Prayer service 4 p.m., Marianist Hall chapel; reception follows on the second floor; award will be presented to the student organization AWE — Advocating Women’s Equality; R.S.V.P. by Monday at 229-2516 or via e-mail.

Thursday, March 27
Take Back the Night march
6:30 to 7:45 p.m., ArtStreet to Humanities Plaza; a demonstration to raise community awareness about rape and other forms of violence against women.

Thursday-Saturday, March 27-29
RISE VIII Global Student Investment Forum
Keynote panels 8:15 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Thursday, UD Arena; NASDAQ remote closing bell ceremony — the first to take place on a college campus — 4 p.m. Thursday, UD Arena; breakout sessions 8 to 11 a.m. Friday, various campus locations; workshops 1:45 to 4:15 p.m. Friday, various campus locations; networking reception 4:15 to 5:15 p.m. Friday; career strategies forum and academic program development 8 to 11:30 a.m. Saturday.

Thursday-Sunday, March 27-30
‘UD Monologues’ 8 p.m., Black Box Theatre, Music/Theatre building; 15 UD students perform original monologues with comic and dramatic themes; admission is free, but reservations are recommended; call the studio theater reservation line at 229-3685.

Saturday, March 29
‘Kampaign for Karonga’ 5K race
10 a.m. registration, 11 a.m. start, ArtStreet amphitheater; registration $10 in advance at registration tables in Kennedy Union or $15 on day of race; event sponsored by the student organization AWE — Advocating Women’s Equality.