Step into fall
News & notes

**UD ♥ the Papa**

More than 100 students, faculty and staff drove 18 hours to attend the papal mass in Philadelphia Sept. 27. Angelica O’Brien ’17, Ben Ziegler ’17 and Josh Tovey ’16 came prepared for the bus ride with pillows and stuffed toys, including Father Chaminade.

Said Barbara Bohal ’18, “Sunday was a surreal and beautiful (but kind of chilly) day. Words can’t even begin to describe how blessed I feel to have been in the presence of Pope Francis. Thanks, UD, for this amazing opportunity!”

Photo by Zoey Xia ’15

**REGIONAL LEADER**

The Dayton Business Journal named President Daniel J. Curran Regional Leader of the Year for 2015.

Curran, the first two-time winner in the award’s 11-year history, will be honored at the Business of the Year gala Nov. 12.

“The Dayton region has been fortunate to have such an enthusiastic and devoted champion of the region as we have in Dan,” said Publisher Carol Clark in a story announcing the award.

“He’s leadership has been invaluable and helped not only boost the prominence of the region through such high-profile events as the NCAA First Four, but also helped the region’s economy recover through such things as the redevelopment of the former NCR headquarters, the expansion of the University and the successful efforts to get large companies, such as GE and Emerson, to open research facilities at UD.”

**RECORD CONTRACT**

The University of Dayton Research Institute has been awarded a $99 million contract to help the Air Force quickly integrate new or better technologies to more affordably, safely and efficiently sustain its entire fleet. The five-year contract is the largest award ever received by the Research Institute. The effort includes an initial work order for $5.4 million for the development of technologies that will monitor key aircraft components and automatically alert maintenance personnel when aircraft maintenance is needed. For more information, go to udayton.co/Cbb.

**NATIONAL HONOR**

The U.S. Department of Energy awarded the University of Dayton’s Industrial Assessment Center the 2015 Center of Excellence Award. It’s the second time the center has won the award (2003). The U.S. Department of Energy funds 24 centers nationwide to perform free energy assessments for regional mid-sized manufacturers. Reports include an analysis of clients’ energy bills, lighting, compressed air and waste streams, along with processes for savings opportunities.

For more information, contact Kelly Kissock at 937-229-2852.

**CREATING FUTURES**

The Princeton Review listed the University of Dayton among the best schools in the nation for undergraduate academics and experiential learning in its new book, Colleges That Create Futures: 50 Schools That Launch Careers by Going Beyond the Classroom.

The book highlights the University’s Common Academic Program, honors program, Center for Social Concern, Intensive English Program, China Institute, Engineers in Service, Flyer Enterprises, the Davis Center for Portfolio Management, faculty and life after Dayton. The Princeton Review editors said they looked at data from hundreds of schools during their selection process. They also conducted 200 interviews with current faculty, administrators and alumni of schools in making their choices.

“We commend these schools for the extraordinary opportunities they are giving their students for practical, hands-on learning that complements their academic experiences,” said Robert Franek, author and senior vice president and publisher at the Princeton Review.

**WHERE’S LARRY?**

No one could find where photographer Larry Burgess was in September’s Where’s Larry photo – he was in the office of 215 Miriam Hall, The L. William Crotty Center For Entrepreneurial Leadership. Take a guess where Larry is on campus this month to win a UD-themed prize. Email your answer to campusreport@udayton.edu.
Andrew Strauss started as the School of Law dean in July, enthusiastic to dive headlong into the University of Dayton community and be a Daytonian. So far, he’s found both to be welcoming places with much to offer.

Why UD?
First, I found the mission, orientation toward constant improvement and the sense of community very appealing. From the time I got into legal academia, I’ve been motivated by social justice as it relates to my expertise in international law, global democracy issues and climate change. There’s an obvious synergy with UD’s Marianist mission. I also like how the University has embraced change in many ways, especially in the last decade. I wouldn’t have wanted to go to an institution that wasn’t up for change, considering today’s climate in higher education.

What do you think of Dayton, so far?
I like Dayton a lot. It’s an overlooked gem. There’s an unbelievable amount happening — arts, culture, sports, the river. There’s a real sense of community, and it’s been very welcoming. I’m very pleased with Dayton. It’s a great place to live.

What do you like to do outside of work?
Dayton has been wonderful to me, because I’m an avid cycler. I’ve been exploring the bike trails three or four times a week. I grew up in Colorado, so I’m a big skier. I do yoga. I have an eclectic taste in travel, especially to places unexplored. I’ve been to a lot of interesting places — the Philippines during the contentious Ferdinand Marcos-Aquino election. I was in Egypt during the Arab Spring. The places with the greatest impacts on me were Ecuador when I was there on a Fulbright scholarship before going to law school and when I taught in Singapore before working at New York law firms.

Why did you go into law and then into academia?
Law seemed to combine my interests in social justice and the structures of systems. I wanted to deal with international issues and work at the intersection of law and global governance. I also saw law school as the juncture of theory and practice. After law school, I worked at a couple of law firms in New York City. My turn into academia was more of getting back to my roots of how I could contribute to governance issues, which has defined my scholarship for the last quarter century, and getting back to tying together theory and practice. Teaching is tremendously rewarding, especially helping show students how to bring the rule of law to the international system.

What are the benefits of legal education in America?
American legal education is second-to-none. Schools have started all types of specialized programs. In terms of knowledge dissemination, American law schools have been the leaders. In my area of international law, the U.S. produces more scholarly journals than the rest of the world combined.

What’s next in legal education?
I expect law schools will develop innovative ways to not only educate law students, but prepare students who will need a legal background to do their jobs, like human resources and corporate compliance, among others. It’s about envisioning a broader role we can play in training people, disseminating legal knowledge and providing legal services more affordably.

—Shawn Robinson
A legacy of leadership

The University of Dayton may have the deepest bench in the country — and we’re not talking hoops.

When Eric F. Spina, former vice chancellor and provost at Syracuse University, becomes the school’s 19th president July 1, 2016, two former University presidents will serve on the faculty. (Watch the WDTN-TV clip about the foundation set by Daniel J. Curran and Brother Raymond Fitz, S.M. at bit.ly/1VdT5SZ.)

“Welcome to our family,” Curran said as he introduced Spina to a standing-room-only crowd Sept. 15 in the Kennedy Union ballroom.

“When I was named president, Claire and I were overwhelmed by the hospitality and generosity of the Marianists, the campus community, our alumni and the Dayton community. Brother Ray made me feel welcome from the moment I walked onto campus. I want you to feel that same way,” he said. “You’re doubly lucky because Brother Ray is still here, too.”

Pausing, he quipped, “We will remain silent and wait for your call.”

Spina, a Roman Catholic, said the mission of the University aligns with the personal values he learned from his parents — both teachers — and in 12 years of Catholic education, including four years at Canisius High School, in Buffalo, New York.

The Rev. Martin Solma, S.M., provincial for the Marianist Province of the United States, said, “From my first meeting with Eric, he impressed me as a smart, engaging, collaborative and respectful leader. His genuineness, integrity and sense of inclusiveness were quite impressive. These are just the qualities we value in the president of this Catholic and Marianist university. He will build on a strong foundation of the past three presidents, all for the good of our mission.”

Curran assured Spina and his family of the support of the campus community.

“The warmth of the welcome today is just a preview of how this campus will embrace you,” he said. “You will soon find that the entire University community is committed to your success and will help you in countless ways. On behalf of that community, I welcome you to the Flyer family.”

Spina joined the Syracuse faculty in 1988 as an assistant professor and rose through the ranks as department chair, dean, and vice chancellor and provost, the university’s chief academic officer. He also briefly served as interim chancellor and president in 2013.

He earned his doctorate and master’s degree from Princeton University in mechanical and aerospace engineering. A prolific researcher and author with a 20-year research focus on experimental high-speed fluid mechanics, he has worked on multi-million dollar grants from NASA, the National Science Foundation and the Environmental Protection Agency. He holds two U.S. patents and has authored, co-authored or edited dozens of academic publications.

—Cilla Shindell
In remarks spoken from the heart and filled with humility, Spina described Curran and Fitz as transformational leaders widely respected in higher education and the Dayton community. “I look forward to taking the torch.”

Calling the University of Dayton’s presidency “simply a dream come true,” Spina said, “I’m excited about working with people who want to move Dayton forward. People here collaborate well together. They’re really focused on making Dayton better as a research university, better as a moral beacon in challenging times, better as a place where we can make students’ dreams come true.”

(View his videotaped message at bit.ly/1YFUj8B.)

Curran called the University of Dayton “an extraordinary place” and said, “Our aspirations are high. “Yet we are guided by faith,” he told Spina. “We know if we work together in a common mission, we can build an even greater university for generations to come. When you become president next summer, you will become a steward of this remarkable legacy.”

— Teri Rizvi

In remarks spoken from the heart and filled with humility, Spina welcomed Spina and his family across Twitter and Instagram.

@nanwhaley
Welcome Dr. Eric Spina #UDNewPrez! I look forward to the @cityofdayton & @univofdayton continuing our partnership to move Dayton forward!

@PrezOno
President Spina. Welcome back home to Ohio and UD. Let me know if there is anything I or UC can do to help you @efspina @univofdayton

@kelly_geers
Why Dayton? “Because I’m coming home.” #UDNewPrez

@CoryDDMiller
I am loving the new @univofdayton president. Could not have picked a better person for this pivotal #Dayton position!

@JojoCerra
Bienvenido a la familia! #UDNewPrez @univofdayton @UDaytonAlumni

@Emmagosshh
#UDNewPrez WELCOME HOME❤❤

@elaux94
So excited to announce the new UD president tomorrow!! It has been an honor to serve on the search committee as the student rep! #UDnewppez

@CJ_Carden
All the best to #UDnewppez May UD be home to you as it is to us and may you continue to take Dayton to new heights

@efspina
Loved the day walking @univofdayton, meeting with wonderful students, great faculty, & dedicated staff! Can’t wait to get back! #UDNewPrez
Good food, good music, good times: Such was the scene for many gathered on the Central Mall Sept. 16 for this year’s Culture Fest. Hosted by the Center for International Programs, Office of Multicultural Affairs and Dining Services, Culture Fest included food, drinks and entertainment — from swing to salsa dancing — from many cultures.

Senior Katie Norman volunteered at this year’s Culture Fest, helping students sign in and offering T-shirts for the occasion. “It’s more than just a PATH point,” Norman said, referring to the University’s housing assignment system. While points did encourage students to participate in something they may not have considered before, Norman wanted students to get involved in the whole experience and possibly take note for future events to come.

“I just hope Culture Fest keeps them coming back for more events hosted by CIP,” she said.

For some, heading to the event was an impulse decision. Sophomore Jack Needles decided to stop by simply because of “the smell of delicious food and the upbeat music.”

The event was more than just good eats, though. Culture Fest focused on the intersection of culture and community. Scattered students were asked by volunteers, “What does culture mean to you?” A variety of responses were offered: “tradition,” “community,” “diversity,” and “sharing your different ways of living.”

Near or far, Culture Fest had a way of bringing everyone together.

— Caroline McCormack ‘16

Open dialogue

The Educational Leadership Council continues to undergo revitalization to strengthen communications and consultation between faculty and senior administrators.

Meeting monthly during the academic year and during the summer as needed, the ELC is co-chaired by University President Daniel J. Curran and Academic Senate President Carissa Krane, who together set the agendas for the forum.

“It’s a mechanism to engage in dialogue about University initiatives when they are in the idea stage and before they move too far down the path,” Curran said. “We discuss substantive issues raised by faculty and staff as well as projects and plans brought to the forum by senior administrators.”

The ELC membership includes the president, provost, vice president for finance and administrative services, deans of academic units serving on the academic senate, all members of the academic senate’s executive committee, and the chairs of each standing committee of the senate. The president of the faculty board and a representative from the Office for Mission and Rector are standing guests.

“Our intention is to have broad and wide-ranging conversations about issues that arise,” Krane said. “It’s a mechanism for the president to get feedback and consultation with the faculty quickly.”

Krane said the ELC also affords the deans a forum to hear the faculty perspective in a way that fosters dialogue and offers confidentiality.

While meetings are open only to members and invited guests, a new website has been launched for the ELC, udayton.edu/provost/elc. Agendas and meeting notes are posted there, along with the group’s new statement of purpose and procedures, and a list of the current membership.

“I think we all recognized we have a mutual desire and a mutual responsibility for consultation,” Curran said. “The ELC is an important avenue for input and discussion, bringing a wider variety of voices into the conversation at an early stage and adding their valuable perspectives to our decision-making.”

—Cilla Shindell

CULTURE TO COMMUNITY

Photos by Grace Poppe ’16
ArtStreet’s White Box Gallery offers a new perspective on the meaning of want with its newest installation, THIRST. Initiating a six-part series, this installation is a collaboration between the members of the Institute for Arts Nexus (IAN) Collective and Andrew Hendrixson. An Ohio-based artist and writer, Hendrixson acted as creative lead to develop an evocative space based on curriculum created by faculty and staff members of the Collective.

Brian LaDuca, director of ArtStreet, explains the collaborative process for this series as an inversion of the typical model.

“Usually, the artist will come in and the teacher lectures about the artist. Here, the pedagogy is flipped,” he explained.

In this case, the artist takes the lead and translates a group of IAN faculty members’ ideas on the concept of “want” into an immersive environment.

Students involved in ArtStreet’s IAN mini-course will be working closely with this White Box Gallery series. LaDuca describes their involvement as a “catalyst for new learning,” centered around “provocative discussions, contemplations and exploration of the space.”

Participation in the current installation included an exercise in which students chose locations in the room based on emotional responses and then discussed the causes of such responses.

LaDuca emphasizes this exhibit as the first step in the series’ thematic progression, extending next to the idea of consumption, then fear, upheaval and reflection. Each step has a new creative lead and a new group of IAN members to lead the conceptual development.

Dominating the gallery space in this exhibit is a wooden shelter covered in red plastic cups, surrounded at its base by a layer of sand. A single lightbulb hangs from the ceiling inside the structure, through which visitors can walk to reach the opposite wall. Two projectors display video reels of pop culture scenes on this wall, flanking the structure: commercials, athletic event coverage and movie trailers play silently as visitors explore the space.

Posing questions such as “What do I want?” and “What do I really want?” the exhibition invites the visitor to contribute his or her responses via pencil on three outlined wall spaces. The answers vary — on the two walls presenting the first question, responses range from “to be needed” to “to be closer to God.” On the main wall addressing the second question the words “happiness” and “success” appear repeatedly.

Speakers inside the shelter project an audio track of additional answers to the question of want, providing a soundtrack as visitors experience the space. The voices of men, women and children outline a variety of responses, similar to the viewer-generated responses on the walls. Material things are juxtaposed beside less tangible concepts — a voice shouting “an Xbox!” is followed by a brief expression of hope for “a healthy delivery.”

According to the THIRST exhibit description, these real-world responses are part of the installation “encouraging viewers to consider the desires that are so deeply embedded — that they can be difficult to access.” Exposing visitors to provocative questions and to responses from a variety of perspectives does just that: interacting with THIRST leaves the viewer looking inward long after the experience is over.

CONSUMPTION is set to open Oct. 5, followed by FEAR, UPHEAVAL and REFLECTION to close out the season.

—Maddie Beban ’18

Student Success Network

The University’s Student Success Network, which replaced the Banner Early Alert/Faculty Feedback system, launched earlier this term to provide a more interactive process for faculty, staff and students to contribute to student academic success.

With just a few clicks, faculty can send alerts to support offices, receive referrals to additional support services and send “kudos” for positive student performance through the Student Success Network. The system also allows users to receive feedback that a submitted concern has been addressed, gives students the opportunity to make online appointments for office hours and tracks student attendance.

“More effective support is expected to lead to increased student success, which in turn is ultimately expected to lead to improved retention and graduation rates,” says Becki Lawhorn, director, Office of Student Success and Parent Engagement. The Student Success Network, powered by Starfish, completed the pilot stages during the summer in preparation for the fall launch. The first progress survey closed Sept. 14, and the second one will be sent in October. Instructors will receive an email announcing that the survey is available, and can click a link that connects to a secure login to the Student Success Network homepage. Instructors will then see what surveys are available to complete for their courses.

Instructors can also access the network through Porches.

The network is a collaboration between UDit and the Office of Student Success and Parent Engagement. For more information, visit udayton.co/CbM or contact Lawhorn at rlawhorn@udayton.edu or Aaron Witherspoon at awitherspoon@udayton.edu.

—Shannon Shelton Miller
**To-do list**

**To View**
- **Oct. 3 – Nov. 8:** God’s Word Received. Exhibition of 20 Bibles from the University of Dayton’s collections.

**To Remember**
- **Friday, Oct. 9:** Fall Break. University offices closed.
- **Monday, Oct. 16:** Academic Senate meeting, 3:30 p.m., Kennedy Union ballroom.

**To Worship**
- **Sunday, Oct. 18:** Bilingual Mass, 6 p.m., Chapel of the Immaculate Conception. Mass will be presented in both English and Spanish. For more information, visit udayton.edu/ministry.

**To Enjoy**
- **Saturday, Oct. 3:** Rocktoberfest, 6:30 p.m., ArtStreet Amphitheatre. Listen to on-campus performers and participate in themed events at this free fall festival.

**To Experience**
- **Oct. 1 – 3:** The Social Practice of Human Rights: Charting the Frontiers of Research and Advocacy, River Campus. For more information and to register, visit: udayton.co/Cbi.

**To Attend**
- **Tuesday, Oct. 6:** CONSUMPTION opening reception, 5:30 – 6:30 p.m., ArtStreet White Box Gallery. CONSUMPTION invites us to explore how the process of consumption manifests as action, stemming from the desire of thirst and building to the fear that resources might run out. Creative lead Sean Foster attempts to bridge gaps between commercial and the fine arts, incorporating the tenets of mass production and communication through sensory experiences.

- **Friday, Oct. 16:** “Seeing the Word”, 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m., Roesch Library’s first-floor collab. Brown-bag lunch program: Discussion of The Saint John’s Bible illuminations and their connection to spirituality.

- **Tuesday, Oct. 17:** Fall student leadership conference, 10 a.m., Kennedy Union. Learn about leadership at this free conference featuring general and breakout sessions focused on specific leadership interests. Register at udayton.co/Cbl.

- **Wednesday, Oct. 28:** Faculty assessment sessions with Linda Suskie, internationally recognized assessment and accreditation speaker.
  - **Keynote:** “How Good is Good Enough: Principles for Setting Assessment Benchmarks”, 9:05 – 10 a.m., Mathias H. Heck Courtroom in the Keller School of Law.
  - **Luncheon:** “The State of Assessment in Higher Education”, 12:20 – 2 p.m., Kennedy Union 222.

- **Wednesday, Oct. 28:** Dinner in the desert kitchen, 7 p.m., ArtStreet Creator Space. Come with an appetite for the unexpected as we investigate the social realities of food access. Hosted by Glenna Jennings and Issa Randall. RSVP to artstreet@udayton.edu.

For more events, visit udayton.edu/calendar.