Fond farewell

Bold and strategic, high-energy and personable, Daniel J. Curran brought meaningful change to the University of Dayton during his 14-year tenure as president. More than 700 faculty and staff gathered at Frericks Center April 28 to celebrate that legacy during a luncheon buffet in Curran’s honor. Other farewell events included a prayer service and reception with alumni and a student-focused celebration during the annual spring carnival outside Kennedy Union.

IN THE MARIANIST SPIRIT

Margaret Lisjak, executive assistant to the provost, is the 2016 recipient of the Marianist Service Award. This award honors an employee whose behavior over a number of years is congruent with all the elements that constitute both the Catholic and the Marianist character of the University.

Elizabeth Clarke is the 2016 recipient of the Maureen O’Rourke Marianist Student Award, given annually by the Rector’s Council to acknowledge the contribution of a graduating senior who exemplifies the Marianist charism on campus. Clarke is the only student on the board of trustees committee for mission and identity, a co-facilitator of President’s Emissaries, director of Marianist involvement on Student Government Association, a Campus Ministry student intern for liturgy (normally a GA position), and a member of a lay Marianist community.

AROUND THE WORLD

Beginning May 11, UD will be an affiliate of Eduroam, a service providing global Wi-Fi roaming for academics. Eduroam allows users to securely access the home network of participating universities with their UD login credentials. UD’s Marianist sister schools, St. Mary’s University in Texas and Chaminade University in Hawaii, have also joined Eduroam.

Visiting faculty and staff from affiliated institutions will enjoy the same reciprocity while at UD, and their home credentials will supply network access from UD’s connection. Faculty and staff traveling to other universities can configure their devices in advance by visiting the account setup link at go.udayton.edu/eduroam. To see a full list of universities offering Eduroam, visit eduroam.us/institutions_list. Contact the UD IT Service Center at 9-3888 with any questions.

TREATING TRAUMA

The American Academy in Rome selected history professor Dorian Borbonus as one of 31 scholars, artists, writers and composers to win its prestigious Rome Prize Fellowship. His fellowship work will build on research published in his book “The Tombs of Rome: Burial and History in the Center of Power.”

NEVER TOO LATE

Sociology professor Ruth Thompson-Miller participated in the University of Chicago’s Michael Davis Lecture Series April 26. Thompson-Miller’s lecture topic was “Intergenerational Trauma: Clinicians Trained to Diagnose and Treat Elderly African American Survivors of Jim Crow Suffering with Symptoms of Segregation Stress Syndrome (Collective PTSD).”

The Davis Lecture Series brings policy experts, researchers and commentators to the University of Chicago to explore the intersection of health policy and the broad needs of vulnerable and disadvantaged populations.

WHERE’S LARRY?

Communication major April Graham and general studies major Kissima Bojang are the 2016 recipients of the Nora Duffy Award, presented annually to adult learners who have overcome significant obstacles to achieve baccalaureate degrees. The award includes an honorarium to help winners complete their studies.

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Campus Report is printed on recyclable paper made from 10 percent post-consumer fiber.
Take a break with

MIKHAIL VORONTSOV

This electro-optics professor has taken on a “super” assignment — Vorontsov won a grant that helped UD purchase a new supercomputer to facilitate more collaborative research efforts between universities. The computer arrived at UD in early spring and is housed in the Fitz Hall Data Center, not far from where Vorontsov studies atmospheric turbulence and optical communications, among other topics.

Tell us about the process that helped UD acquire this supercomputer.

It originated from the Air Force Office of Scientific Research Multidisciplinary University Research Initiative program, which consists of six universities — UD, the Air Force Institute of Technology, Michigan Technological University, North Carolina State University, New Mexico State University and the University of Miami. The grant will enhance the research among the MURI team at these universities. It’s a big program — $7.2 million over five years for collaborative research.

What role will the supercomputer play in enhancing research?

It would be good for statistical analysis. With the computer and the new high-speed UDsciNet network connection available in some areas of campus, researchers in STEM fields and other areas can handle large data file transfers and big data analysis.

What are the first steps toward helping UD researchers and others in the MURI team take advantage of the computer’s capabilities?

We’re in the very early stage, a learning stage, of figuring out the optimal way to use this high-performance computer. The next step will be communicating within UD to develop a structure for its use. Today’s gathering (Thursday, April 28) with researchers from the other universities is actually one of the meetings to help teach us how to use it. We’ll have a full day of meetings tomorrow, and we all travel to each other’s universities to work on this.

Do you have a favorite place to visit for your work with the MURI team?

Our preference is to go to Miami — the weather conditions are much more favorable than here in Ohio! Just not in the summer. Our preference is to go to Miami — the weather conditions are much more favorable than here in Ohio! Just not in the summer. That’s not far from where Vorontsov studies atmospheric turbulence and optical communications, among other topics.

Where were you before you came to UD?

I was a physicist at the U.S. Army Research Lab from 1993 to 2009, and a research professor at the University of Maryland. I am from Russia and earned doctorate degrees in physics and mathematics at Moscow State University.

What do you like about living in Dayton?

Well, after living around Washington, D.C., everyone’s answer is “no traffic jams.” It’s more quiet here, too.

—Shannon Shelton Miller

BENSON SELECTED AS UNIVERSITY PROVOST

After serving a two-year term as interim provost, Paul Benson will drop the interim label from his title at the beginning of July.

Benson’s appointment to a four-year term was made in full consultation with the board of trustees as well as incoming president Eric F. Spina, said University President Daniel J. Curran.

Spina opted to search internally for the position, saying he sought a provost who was already familiar with the University’s history, people, culture and governance mechanisms.

“I have been impressed by Paul Benson’s character, humility and intelligence since the day I met him,” Spina said. “His understanding of the University of Dayton and his modeling of our values and charism will serve me and the institution extremely well as I prepare to begin my presidency in July. I look forward to working with Paul to continue advancing the University.”

As the University’s chief academic officer, Benson’s responsibilities include preserving, developing and promoting the academic mission and vision of the University, plus coordinating academic and research units and their support systems.

In addition to overseeing the five major academic units and the libraries, the provost has responsibility for enrollment management and marketing, information technology and international programs, and works closely with the president and vice president for finance on the University’s strategic budget and facilities planning.

“I am deeply honored to continue to serve the University through the office of the provost,” Benson said. “UD has benefited from the leadership of a long series of talented and forward-thinking provosts. I hope I can sustain that legacy and continue to elevate the quality of our teaching, research, and local and global engagements while also extending the influence of our Catholic and Marianist mission.”

In other news, the University conducted open forums with three finalists in late April and early May for the new position of vice president for Diversity and Inclusion.

Each candidate participated in three open forums — two for faculty and staff and one for students. They were asked to make a 15-minute introductory verbal presentation and then respond to questions from the audience. Attendees were invited to complete candidate evaluation forms.

The candidates are Diane Ariza, associate vice president for academic affairs and chief diversity officer, Quinnipiac University, and adjunct faculty, sociology department, Quinnipiac University; Lawrence Burnley, chief diversity officer, associate vice president, diversity, equity and inclusion, and assistant professor of history, Whitworth University; and Staci Rucker, assistant dean of student affairs and associate professor of academic success, University of Dayton School of Law.

CAMPUS REPORT SURVEY EXTENDED THROUGH MAY

Don’t forget to complete the Office of University Marketing and Communications’ survey on internal communications, located at surveymonkey.com/r/Porches2016. What do you want to know, and how do you want to get it? Tell us in this survey, open through May 31, and share your thoughts about Campus Report, Porches and other internal communications vehicles we use to keep you informed.
The outside air felt every bit of the 35 degrees written on the temperature card posted outside the multistory house in Springfield, so visitors were happy to step inside and escape the January chill.

The house was warm, yet comfortable. From the living room to the kitchen and the bedrooms upstairs, no location felt too toasty or frigid. The flat-screen TV and comfy couch beckoned, and guests wanted to stick around for a while.

Instead, they moved on to the next laboratory.

This exercise didn’t take place in January, and the house isn’t a cozy Springfield abode — it’s a model that serves as one of five “laboratories” at The Helix Innovation Center, the state-of-the-art Emerson Climate Technologies research facility located on UD’s campus. The Helix celebrated its grand opening Wednesday, April 27, opening its doors to business and community leaders and invited UD faculty, staff and students.

“We need a place to explore ideas,” said University President Daniel J. Curran, who spoke about opportunities for cross-disciplinary collaborative experiences for UD faculty and students. “We need a place to ask the big questions.”

UD students and faculty and engineers at Emerson hope to find those answers at The Helix. The 40,000 square-foot center contains a fully functioning and furnished home, a model supermarket, a light commercial environment, a commercial kitchen and a data center. In these simulated environments, researchers can work to engineer solutions to industry-related challenges consumers might not consider when they head to the store to buy a gallon of milk or rush inside their homes on a cold winter day. In The Helix, University students and faculty will collaborate with Emerson engineers and industry leaders to gain real-world experience developing innovations in the heating, ventilation, air conditioning and refrigeration industry.

Some of those questions will require exploring methods to provide efficient heating and cooling using environmentally friendly practices, topics that relate to UD’s interdisciplinary focus on sustainability and the work of the Hanley Sustainability Institute. How can a supermarket in South Florida, South America or Southeast Asia remain cool enough to keep food safe while minimizing harm to the greater environment? Can newly built homes in cold climates keep residents warm during a blizzard and keep energy consumption low at the same time?

Thanks to the engineers’ attention to detail, each simulated environment looks like it was pulled straight from the pages of a modern design magazine. Visitors joked about doing their grocery shopping before leaving, and taking their food to the simulated house to cook and eat.

If the guests had come a day earlier, they might have sweated in the outdoor heat with the laboratory exterior cranked up to 85 degrees to mimic an average July day in Miami. The engineers were testing air conditioning to make sure Emerson products worked just as well to cool off an average American home as they do to heat it.

“We’re a proud partner of this University in this endeavor,” said Dave Farr, Emerson chairman and CEO. “It’s really exciting to see where business and the community can get together to create something unique to solve the world’s problems. This is pure innovation the way it should be done, just like the great Wright brothers did in this community with the aircraft industry many years ago. Pure innovation, pure heart and soul and hard work.”

—Shannon Shelton Miller

CLIMATE SOLUTIONS, SERVED HOT OR COLD

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—Shannon Shelton Miller
Bright IDEAS

During the spring semester, the Division of Enrollment Management and Marketing convened a working team to assess and evaluate how the University engages African-American, Latino and Latina, and first-generation students from initial point of contact through graduation, with the goal of enhancing those efforts to increase enrollment, retention and student success efforts.

The Intentional Diversity Enrollment and Success (IDEAS) team met monthly to develop a list of recommendations for the University when considering initiatives to help improve student success, learning and a sense of belonging among prospective and enrolled students. The team also discussed more intentional recruitment strategies to bring diverse students, staff and faculty to campus, along with increased collaboration between administrators across divisions to facilitate those efforts. The team gathered information from interviews with students, faculty and staff from diverse backgrounds, as well as research of best practices at other institutions.

At the end of the semester, the IDEAS team presented its findings to Jason Reinoehl, interim vice president for enrollment management and marketing, who will work with members of the enrollment management and marketing team and broader campus and community constituents to enact the reviewed and approved recommendations.

Look for more information on the IDEAS team’s recommendations and the University’s recruitment and retention efforts in the September issue of Campus Report. —Shannon Shelton Miller

Best in class

Three University units received national and state awards during the last two months for excellence in education and community service.

The Marian Library, which holds the world’s largest and most comprehensive collection of printed materials on the Virgin Mary, won the Catholic Library Association’s 2016 Aggiornamento Award.

Sarah Cahalan, the library’s new director, accepted the award — given for “an outstanding contribution made by an individual or an organization for the renewal of parish and community life” in the spirit of Saint John XXIII — at the association’s annual meeting in San Diego.

“This award means so much because it recognizes the work of our wonderful team of librarians, archivists, student workers and volunteers,” she said. “It also recognizes the work of our sister unit, the International Marian Research Institute, with which we share a mission.”

The Center for Catholic Education received the national Learn. Lead. Proclaim. award for its dedication and commitment to excellence.

The National Catholic Educational Association recognized the center for demonstrating “a strong Catholic educational philosophy as well as exceptional ability, dedication and results” at its 2016 convention in San Diego.

The center, established in 1996 and housed in the School of Education and Health Sciences, supports teachers and principals with professional development, including the annual Catholic Education Summit, supports beginning teachers in under-resourced Catholic schools through the Lalanne program, and provides resources to create healthy learning environments for more than 1,750 students each year through the Urban Child Development Resource Center.

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute won a Program Excellence Award at the 2016 Ohio Continuing Higher Education Association conference in March. This award is designed to recognize individuals and their institutions that, through excellent program development, are making contributions to continuing higher education in Ohio. —Shannon Shelton Miller
PARKING PERMIT FEE TO INCREASE TO ADDRESS RISING COSTS

The University will increase its annual parking permit fee by $15 for the 2016–17 academic year to address budget shortfalls resulting from rising maintenance and operating costs.

Annual parking permits for 2016–17 will be $210 for employees and students and $175 for nighttime parking. The same permit fee is charged regardless of lot location.

Darlene Holder, director of parking services, said even with the increase there will still be a gap between the revenue generated by fees and the cost to maintain and operate the University’s more than 7,500 parking spaces. To close that gap, parking services anticipates incremental parking fee increases over the next few years.

Parking permit fees go toward the costs of operations and maintenance, which includes regular repaving, sealing, snow removal and salt application for the lots.

Even with the increase, the University’s parking permit fee is still very reasonable, providing parking areas that are convenient, easily accessible and well-maintained throughout the year, Holder said.

The University’s parking fees compare favorably to peer institutions and other local schools, she said. For the 2015–16 academic year, employees at Sinclair Community College paid $1–$5 per day for parking, resulting in a $260–$1,300 annual cost. University of Cincinnati employees paid $176–$1,284 per year for parking. Wright State University employees paid between $175–$461 for the 2015–16 academic year.

Policy changes to affect driving for University business, gifts, student accounts

The University, in consultation with the University Policy Coordinating Committee, has changed several policies governing driver certification, student accounts and gift reporting requirements as part of the University’s ongoing efforts to centralize and update University policies.

These categories of employees must complete an annual 15-minute online driving certification course plus maintain a valid driver’s license and low-risk driving record:

- anyone driving any University-insured vehicle, including rentals, for any University business
- anyone driving a personal vehicle for any University business and receiving reimbursement or an allowance for driving that vehicle.

The committee also updated the policy for awards, gifts and prizes valued at $100 or more purchased with University funds. Anyone using University funds for such purchases must report the purchase to human resources. This also applies to items purchased for people leaving the University. The previous limit was $40. Per IRS regulations, gift cards and cash gifts of any amount provided with University funds are taxable and must be reported to Tony Linz, compensation manager, at 9-1440.

The University also will standardize the way students are charged for departmental programs, intersessions and classroom materials. Departments and instructors no longer will have the ability to approve those charges and bill students. Now, only the provost and vice president for finance and administrative services can approve fees.

“Because we have become more transparent and have locked in tuition for our undergraduate students, we want to make sure they are not surprised by any rates different than our published credit hour rates or charges once they sign up for a class,” said Andy Horner, vice president for finance and administrative services.

All current University policies can be viewed at udayton.edu/policies; a link to the policies home page also is available at the bottom of all University web pages. Finance and administrative services (9-2890) and environmental health and safety/risk management (9-4803) staff also are available to answer any questions.

—Cilla Shindell

Get ready to take off on Runway

“Runway” is the name for the new campuswide procurement system the University will launch later this year as a one-stop shop to streamline and centralize all of the processes by which the University shops, purchases and pays for goods and services.

Three employees submitted the winning name — Margaret Lisjak from the provost’s office, Peg Mount from engineering technology and one anonymous user. Lisjak and Mount will receive Flyer gear for their winning suggestion.

“We were really pleased with the creativity of the suggestions,” said Andy Horner, vice president for finance and administrative services and the sponsor of the project. “Runway captures the system’s speed and convenience, and the name is tailor-made for a campus community known as the Flyers.”

Some of the advantages are:

- Bringing ordering and payment processes together in a central system
-Eliminating paper purchase orders and requests for payment
-Allowing for purchases and payments to be approved online and remotely
-Helping everyone comply with federal regulations and University policies
-Expanding access to discounted pricing to stretch the University’s dollars further

“We’re especially happy about the opportunities to offer discounted pricing on a wide variety of items through contracts negotiated by the University,” he said.

Runway is geared toward making it easier to shop, create purchase requests, fill out check requests, sign purchase and check requests, approve invoices and submit packing slips, he added.

Horner said the new system will be implemented during the fall semester, and campus users will have many opportunities to learn about the system and how to use it through classroom and online training along with substantial user support.

For more information and updates, visit the Runway site at go.udayton.edu/eprocurement or send your questions to runway@udayton.edu.
TO ATTEND
- Friday, May 13: Faculty meeting, 3:30 p.m., Kennedy Union ballroom.
- Monday, May 16: Spring staff meeting, 3 p.m., Kennedy Union ballroom.

TO ENJOY

TO REMEMBER
- Monday, May 30: Memorial Day – University offices closed, no classes.
- Monday, July 4: Independence Day – University offices closed, no classes.
- Monday, Aug. 15: Feast of the Assumption – University offices closed.

TO PLAY
- May 12-13: Baseball vs. Fordham, Woerner Field. Thursday, noon; Friday, 11 a.m. (doubleheader)

TO LEARN
- Friday, June 3: 26th Annual Program in Law and Technology Seminar, 8:30 – 4:30 p.m., Keller Hall. The 2016 seminar chair is Tracy Reilly, NCR Professor of Law and Technology and director of the Program in Law and Technology, University of Dayton School of Law. For more information, including parking, accommodations and ways to register, please visit go.udayton.edu/pilt.
- Friday, June 24: 2016 Catholic Education Summit, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m., River Campus. This conference will discuss issues related to Catholic education — Catholic school educators; archdiocesan/diocesan personnel; community partners and philanthropic organizations are invited to attend. For more information and registration, visit go.udayton.edu/ccc/summit. Registration is $25 per person, $100 per team.

For more events, visit udayton.edu/calendar.