

SPRING 2016

ROOSEVELT

review



It's Easier Being Green

ALUMNUS JOEL SCHICK ON
ILLUSTRATING AMERICA'S
BELOVED MUPPETS, PAGE 50





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ROOSEVELT^{review}

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UNIVERSITY**

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You may notice a fuzzy creature dressed in white and green walking the halls of the University in the near future.

Do not fret; it isn't a pesky rodent or someone who has avoided a haircut for way too long. He's Roosevelt's new mascot here to lift your spirits and promote Roosevelt pride.

Read about Fala The Laker on page **80**

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“I was one of those students, wearing blue jeans, an army jacket and sunglasses, sitting in the back of a class with my green denim book bag and drawing in the margins of my notebooks.” **JOEL SCHICK**



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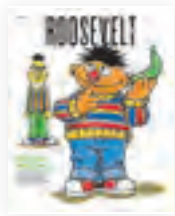
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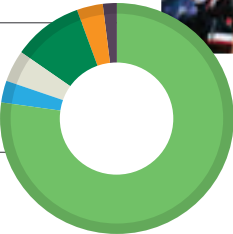
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Join The Conversation

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“What an amazing time at Working In The Schools (WITS) this past week! Thank you to Kevin for arranging and to Mayra for the tour of RU’s new building. The kids took it all in like sponges.”
@gkluvski **Apr 19**



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“My @RooseveltU class has a campaign against hunger. Visit <http://www.bit.ly/NOTAGAME> for more details #hungerisnotagame”
Mike Espiritu @JoyousDivision **Apr 20**



“Our graduating @ru_honors students presented their theses today. We are so proud of them!”
Roosevelt University @RooseveltU **Apr 22**

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“Thank you to the Canine Therapy Corps for providing the incredibly cute puppies that helped destress our students today.”
Apr 14 at 5:55pm



For a list of university events visit roosevelt.edu/calendar

Have a question? We can help.

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From the Editor by TOM KAROW

***Roosevelt Review* has evolved in many ways since it was first published in 1997.** Originally it was much shorter (32 pages) and published once a year. Now, we produce an 80-page magazine that comes out twice a year, with a circulation of over 60,000 copies.

Another thing that has changed is the magazine’s design. This issue features an entirely different look, organization and feel (even the cover paper is different), thanks to our new creative design partners, Catherine Jacobi and Debbie Holm of Ted Studios in Chicago, and our new photographer, Doug McGoldrick.

Jacobi and Holm have developed a lively, open format that is created with alumni, donors and other readers in mind. The re-design involves a new masthead and order of articles. Our loyal readers may notice that the “University News” section has been moved to the front of the magazine and contains many quick reads of interest. News is followed by a revamped feature section with each article starting with a full-page photograph or illustration. And at the end of the magazine, there is a reorganized Alumni News section and a column by President Ali Malekzadeh.

We think you’ll enjoy the articles in this issue, starting with Lynn Weiner’s fascinating profile of alumnus Joel Schick, one of only 12 “legacy artists” originally authorized to illustrate the legendary Muppets. We were delighted to receive permission to publish Schick’s colorful illustrations from Sesame Workshop, the nonprofit educational organization behind Sesame Street.

Another article, I’d like to highlight is Associate Editor Laura Janota’s intriguing piece about music instructor Frank Almond and his rare, 300-year-old *Lipiński* Stradivarius violin that was stolen and found in Milwaukee.

And finally, take a look at the article about Roosevelt’s Actuarial Science Program. This little known program is a real gem for talented students who excel in math. It has small class sizes, great professors and opportunities for well-paying jobs.

Since I edited the very first issue 19 years ago, I have always enjoyed the opportunity to highlight the very best of our University. Being editor of *Roosevelt Review* is a privilege and great fun. I hope you enjoy our new look! Please send us a note about your activities for the Where RU section and your letters to the editor, comments or ideas for the magazine.

Sincerely,

Tom Karow
Editor, Roosevelt Review
tkarow@roosevelt.edu

P.S. Be sure to take our readership quiz on page 80.

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VIVID 2016 event features jazz and theatre



VIVID 2016, Roosevelt University's biggest student performance of the year, was held in March at the Auditorium Theatre. Drawing an enthusiastic crowd, VIVID 2016 featured jazz performances by CCPA's Music Conservatory and scenes from the Broadway

"IT WAS A SPLENDID EVENING AND GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL TO SEE AND HEAR CCPA'S PROMISING YOUNG TALENT."

musical *Legally Blonde* by the college's Theatre Conservatory.


"It was a splendid evening

and great opportunity for all to see and hear CCPA's promising young talent," said Henry Fogel, who was dean of CCPA and the evening's master of ceremonies.

Highlights of the event included performances by the Music Conservatory's jazz combos and ensembles, and singing and dancing from scenes of *Legally Blonde* by the Theatre Conservatory's musical theatre and acting undergraduates.

"It was an opportunity to hear jazz through the ages, with members of our talented jazz faculty directing students," said CCPA jazz faculty member Scott Mason, who led VIVID 2016's jazz performance.

"This was a big dance show, and a wonderful opportunity for our students to perform on the Auditorium Theatre stage," added Scott Calcagno, a visiting CCPA theatre faculty member who led VIVID 2016's theatre segment.

Proceeds from the event and gala fundraising dinner will benefit CCPA's students and programs, including the new Center for Arts Leadership, a practical career preparation program offering courses, workshops and mentoring programs to all CCPA students. 



Israel Vargas Honored for Keeping College on the Radar


Roosevelt University's director of community outreach Israel Vargas was honored recently as education leader of the year by Minds Matter Chicago. Vargas has been a mentor



to the organization's teens and has been involved in growing ties between Minds Matter Chicago and the University.

"THIS PROGRAM IS HELPING THEM SEE THAT COLLEGE NOT ONLY IS IMPORTANT FOR THE FUTURE, BUT IS POSSIBLE AS AN OPTION."

"I am honored to be recognized for the work we have been doing to prepare teens for college," said Vargas, who works with about 75 youths and volunteer tutors from the corporate world who participate in the organization's college preparation program held on Saturdays at Roosevelt.

"Most of these teens come from low-income households and many don't have college role models," he said. "This program is helping them see that college not only is important for the future, but is possible as an option." 

David Axelrod: "Politics is Our Opportunity to Grab Hold of Our Destiny"

David Axelrod, the nationally-known political strategist who successfully managed campaigns of President Barack Obama, encouraged young people to become involved in politics, during a Feb. 4 speech at Roosevelt University, saying "I see politics as a way to make a difference for the community and ultimately for the world."



He was at Roosevelt to discuss and sign copies of *Believer: My Forty Years in Politics*, which was selected by Roosevelt as this year's One Book/One University book. The event was organized by the Mansfield Institute for Social Justice and Transformation.

Axelrod is widely recognized for his political campaigns, but his love for politics began at an early age. "My

"I SEE POLITICS AS A WAY TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR THE COMMUNITY AND ULTIMATELY FOR THE WORLD."

interest in politics started ridiculously early," he said, noting that he watched a speech by President John F. Kennedy at the age of 5.


He graduated from the University of Chicago with a degree in political science. He said that one of the reasons that he decided to live in

Chicago was that he considered it "a great political town." After graduation, Axelrod became the youngest political writer in the history of the *Chicago Tribune*.

His first large, successful campaign helped elect Paul Simon to the U.S. Senate in 1984. This was followed by campaigns for many Democratic candidates at local, state and federal levels.

During the talk to about 200 students, faculty and staff, Axelrod recalled the moment when Obama asked for his advice on running for the U.S. Senate in 2002. "I thought that if I could help Barack be elected to the Senate, that would really be something that I could be proud of for the rest of my life," he said.

After Obama was elected president, Axelrod served as his senior advisor from 2009 to 2011. When Obamacare became law, Axelrod thanked Obama for fighting for it. "At the end of the day, what politics is about is the opportunity to do things that can make a difference in the lives of the people, in the lives of the community," Axelrod said.

During the question-and-answer session, Axelrod also discussed the Democratic and Republican primary elections, gun violence and issues facing Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel, who is a longtime friend of Axelrod. 



Professor's Study on Music of Abraham Lincoln Wins Award


Music history professor Thomas J. Kernan has won the Hay Nicolay Prize from the Abraham Lincoln Association in Springfield, Ill. and the Abraham Lincoln Institute in Washington, D.C. for his study on the music of Abraham Lincoln.

An expert on American music of the 19th and 20th centuries, Kernan reviewed more than 1,000 pieces

"I LOOKED AT A LOT OF DIFFERENT MOMENTS WHEN MUSIC ABOUT LINCOLN WAS COMPOSED, AND I FOUND THAT THROUGH THE MUSIC, WE CAN SEE MAJOR TOPICS OF CONCERN AT SPECIFIC TIME PERIODS IN OUR NATION."

of music composed over 144 years, concluding that music made about Lincoln informs understanding about ever-changing American attitudes and priorities.

"I looked at a lot of different moments when music about Lincoln was composed, and I found that through the music, we can see major topics of concern at specific time periods in our nation," said the Roosevelt professor, who believes Lincoln has been more of a canvas and springboard for discussing the day's issues, rather than an icon who is simply being memorialized.

Kernan won this year's top Lincoln scholarship prize based on his dissertation, "Sounding the Mystic Chords of Memory: Music Memorials for Abraham Lincoln," which he wrote as a University of Cincinnati PhD candidate. He teaches survey courses and graduate seminars in music history and is currently building a large online database of music about Lincoln. 



Legal Technology Training Gives Boost to Paralegal Students

It used to be that paralegals preparing for a major trial were awash in enough paper to easily fill a law office conference room – but not anymore. Today’s paralegals increasingly use technology to collect, sort and track legal documents – and Roosevelt University’s Paralegal Studies Program is leading the way in its training of future paralegals.

“THERE HAVE BEEN RAPID CHANGES IN THE WAY LEGAL DOCUMENTS ARE HANDLED BY PARALEGALS, AND WE ARE PROUD TO BE AHEAD OF THE CURVE BY INCORPORATING LEGAL TECHNOLOGY INTO THE ROOSEVELT CURRICULA.”

above: Professor Jim Fine in the classroom.

“We are a leader in making technology part of paralegal training,” said Roosevelt Paralegal Studies professor Jim Fine, who is trained and proficient in nearly a dozen legal software programs. He believes a working knowledge of legal technology is an absolute must

for paralegal students, and was one of the first in the nation to introduce an elective Legal Technology survey course touching on the different software programs. Since then, the course has grown to be a cornerstone of the University’s 42-year-old, American Bar Association-approved program, which offers certificate and bachelor’s degrees in Paralegal Studies. Fine has also redesigned a number of the program’s other courses, including Commercial Law, Pre-trial Litigation and Trial and Post Trial Litigation, which now have their own units on technology and e-Discovery software. He currently is advising paralegal programs in Wisconsin and Minnesota on how to upgrade curricula to include technology. “There have been rapid changes in the way legal documents are handled by paralegals, and we are proud to be ahead of the curve by incorporating legal technology into the Roosevelt curricula,” said Paralegal Studies Program Director Carrie Lausen. Among software platforms taught in the Roosevelt program are: CaseMap, a program used to organize a case on a computer the way that a lawyer would organize it in his office; Relativity, which handles e-discovery methods; Concordance, which is used to analyze electronic text in court cases; and TimeMap, which helps create timelines for complex legal cases. Alumna Mirena Fontana, who learned multiple programs after graduating from the Roosevelt program in 2013, said Fine’s survey course was a great foundation. “A lot of law firms are beginning to go paperless and any kind of knowledge a paralegal has about legal technology is a big plus.” Teresa Randle, who received a post-baccalaureate certificate in Paralegal Studies from Roosevelt in 2013, said the course grounded her in her job. “I was given an understanding of how attorneys wanted documents organized on digital sites and that went a long way to making things run smoothly.” Michael Giuntoli, a recent history graduate who is taking Paralegal Studies courses at Roosevelt to enhance his job opportunities, said the program’s focus on legal technology is a bonus. “I will be able to put on my resume that I am proficient in a number of these programs,” he said. [R](#)

Fulbright for College of Education Professor

Roosevelt University professor Leslie Bloom spent the recent spring semester as a Fulbright Scholar at Ben Gurion University of the Negev in Israel. Bloom was a visiting research scholar and lecturer at Ben Gurion’s Israeli Center for Qualitative Research of People and Societies where she introduced new social justice theories into the center’s qualitative research process.

“I WENT TO LEARN AND LISTEN AND WILL BE SHARING MY EXPERIENCES WITH COLLEAGUES AND STUDENTS AT ROOSEVELT.”

It was the third Fulbright for the College of Education’s associate professor of educational leadership who in the past has also traveled to Mexico and Colombia as a Fulbright Scholar. “For me, a Fulbright is not about status. It is all about the international and cultural experience,” said Bloom. “I went to learn and listen and will be sharing my experiences with colleagues and students at Roosevelt.” Bloom is the eighth Roosevelt faculty member to receive a Fulbright award since 2010 and the 13th since 2000 to be selected for the prestigious honor. [R](#)



Donated Instrument Enhances Ambitious Opera Production

When Roosevelt alumnus Ellis Schuman (BM, ’55) donated a valuable harpsichord to the Chicago College of Performing Arts (CCPA) in 2012, he envisioned it being played primarily by Roosevelt students.

The unusual instrument that is used mainly in Renaissance and Baroque-era music took on added importance in April when it was seen and heard by the general public during CCPA’s production of one of the first operas ever written.

Not often staged locally, Claudio Monteverdi’s *The Coronation of Poppaea* was sung by CCPA graduate voice students, who were accompanied by Baroque instruments, including the cherished harpsichord that produces a sound by plucking a string when a key is pressed. It was one of CCPA’s most ambitious opera productions ever,

“I ALWAYS WANTED IT TO BE USED AND ENJOYED BY OTHERS, AND NOT TO JUST LANGUISH AS A MUSEUM PIECE.”

and the first to be staged at the newly renovated Studebaker Theater in the historic Fine Arts Building in Chicago. “It was definitely an historical sound experience,” said Roosevelt University music history professor David Schrader of the opera that drew hundreds of people, including some who had rarely, if ever, seen a harpsichord up close. Schuman long had been concerned about the instrument’s future. “I always wanted it to be used and enjoyed by others, and not to just languish as a museum piece,” said the Roosevelt alumnus who also taught harp at CCPA, formerly known as Chicago Musical College, from 1981-85. Thus, he wrote to Schrader, who not only plays harpsichord but also is a master on the pipe organ and clavichord, which was one of the world’s first keyboard instruments. Schuman also recently donated his clavichord to CCPA. “Mr. Schuman has an inquiring mind

and a great love for art, and the instruments he has given us are major donations and a beauty to behold. I’ve assured him that we will make use of them,” said Schrader, who believes classical pianists should know how to play early period keyboard instruments. [R](#)

*above: The donated harpsichord is key to CCPA’s production of *The Coronation of Poppaea*.*

Roosevelt Appoints New Vice Presidents

As Roosevelt University heads toward the 2016-17 year, two new vice presidents will be helping to guide the way.

Paul McGuinness, a 29-year veteran of higher education enrollment management, has been appointed as the University's vice president for enrollment management and student affairs. Donald E. Jones, an accomplished development executive with nearly three decades of experience in fundraising, has been named as the University's vice president for institutional advancement.



above, top and bottom:
Paul McGuinness,
Donald E. Jones

McGuinness comes to Roosevelt from Purdue University North Central in Indiana, where he was vice chancellor of enrollment management and student affairs. With extensive experience recruiting, retaining and serving students in the Chicago market, he previously had been the 15-year executive director of admissions and recruitment at Purdue University Calumet. Before that, he was director of recruitment at Moraine Valley Community College in Palos Hills, Ill.

Jones comes to Roosevelt from the New England Conservatory, a distinguished music college in Boston, where he was executive vice president for institutional advancement, heading up initiatives that raised more than \$250 million. Previously he was assistant vice president for development at the Rhode Island School of Design and before that held senior-level fundraising positions at nonprofits including WBUR, a National

Public Radio station in Boston, Bentley University in Waltham, Mass., and the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

Both vice presidents joined Roosevelt in April, as did the University's new associate vice president for marketing, Nicole Barron. Most recently, Barron was managing director at Synergis Education. Previously, she was director of enrollment marketing and communications at Loyola University Chicago. [R](#)



College of Pharmacy Opens Teaching and Research Lab

A new \$685,000 state-of-the-art laboratory for research and learning in Roosevelt University's College of Pharmacy (COP) has opened at the Schaumburg Campus.

Located near existing COP classrooms and offices, the 1,700-square-foot space paves the way for increased faculty research. New audio-visual equipment in the laboratory also increases opportunities for interactive learning.

"This new dual-purpose laboratory emphasizes Roosevelt's commitment to the pharmacy field and our pharmacy students," said Melissa Hogan, interim dean of COP.

The space includes projectors and screens at opposite ends of the lab, enabling students to move about easily during laboratory teaching sessions. A document camera that magnifies experimentation, including the mixing of prescription drugs, also is available.

"The space will not only enhance faculty teaching and student

"THIS NEW DUAL-PURPOSE LABORATORY EMPHASIZES ROOSEVELT'S COMMITMENT TO THE PHARMACY FIELD AND OUR PHARMACY STUDENTS."

learning, but will also continue to make COP attractive to prospective students," said Moji Adeyeye, chair of biopharmaceutical sciences at Roosevelt University. [R](#)

Roosevelt Students Advocate in Springfield

Members of Roosevelt's Student Government Association (SGA) and Israel Vargas, the University's director of community engagement, joined thousands of college students from across Illinois on April 20 to advocate for higher education funding at the state capitol in Springfield.

Justin Provo, an economics major and chair of the SGA's Political Affairs and Community Outreach Committee, organized Roosevelt's participation in the student lobby day. Provo represents Roosevelt on the Illinois Board of Higher Education's Student Advisory Council and conducted trainings for students to prepare to bring their message to legislators to fund the Monetary Award Program (MAP) for low-income students.

The Roosevelt group met with members of the General Assembly and participated in a rally titled "Save Higher Education, No Future Without Funding." In addition to students, faculty and staff from colleges and universities, the rally included business and labor allies.

On April 22, just two days after the rally, both the Illinois House and Senate signed a stopgap measure to provide short-term relief for colleges and universities. The bill, signed by Governor Bruce Rauner, funds MAP at \$170 million, covering roughly one semester of MAP vouchers, retroactive to Fall 2015. [R](#)



Pat Harris Urges Graduates to Take Advantage of Opportunities

"Each of you are about to enter the exciting world of opportunity and you will be the people who will determine just how bright our nation's future will be." Those words of inspiration were the focus of graduation remarks delivered on May 13 by Pat Harris, chair of Roosevelt University's Board of Trustees and global chief diversity officer and vice president of global community engagement at McDonald's Corp.

During her Commencement address, Harris told Roosevelt's graduates that "The American Dream is not starting at the top and working your way down." She pointed out that when she started working at McDonald's she thought the company was a little hamburger company with not much future. "Little did I know that by continuing my education and working hard, I was preparing myself for when opportunity knocked."

Harris, a 1980 Roosevelt graduate, has the distinction of being one of a few African-American women currently chairing a university board. She joined Roosevelt's Board of Trustees in 2010

and served as vice chair and chair of the university's Presidential Search Committee before being elected chair in July.

Speaking to approximately 600 graduates, their families and friends at two ceremonies, Harris encouraged the new Roosevelt alumni to be adaptable. "All of us have had to adapt to different changes in the way we do things today and the pace of change will only accelerate in the years ahead," she said. "There will be jobs available to you that don't even exist today."

Her final charge to the graduates was to give back to society. Harris said that some of her most satisfying and

meaningful work was done on behalf of Ronald McDonald House Charities. "By working together, we can make our neighborhoods and our world a better place and that's what is important in life."

Harris joined McDonald's in 1976 as an administrative assistant. Determined to move ahead, she enrolled at Roosevelt on the recommendation of a friend and earned a bachelor's degree in public administration. She was subsequently promoted to human relations supervisor, responsible for recruiting the executive staff. In 1985, she was appointed as an affirmative action manager and she has been global chief diversity officer since 2006.

In addition to delivering the Commencement remarks, Harris received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree. [R](#)

"BY WORKING TOGETHER, WE CAN MAKE OUR NEIGHBORHOODS AND OUR WORLD A BETTER PLACE AND THAT'S WHAT IS IMPORTANT IN LIFE."



above, left to right:
Professor Ray Wright,
BDPA Chicago Chapter
President Reggie Rush

right, top: photo by
Bethany Barratt,
below: Bernie Sanders
at the Auditorium
Theatre,

Professor Receives Community Service Award

Roosevelt Associate Professor of Computer Science Ray Wright has won a community service award for supporting an innovative information technology program that regularly brings Chicago youths to Roosevelt for instruction.


The Chicago Chapter of the Black Data Processing Associates (BDPA) recognized the University and Wright in March for supporting its two-year-old Saturday morning program held in Roosevelt's Gage Building computer lab.

"This program is changing the lives of kids who frequently haven't been out of their own neighborhoods," said BDPA Chicago Chapter President Reggie Rush. "We know that we couldn't be successful and that our kids couldn't excel without the assistance of Roosevelt University and Professor Ray Wright."

The BPDA program trains Chicago students of all ages to navigate computer technology and provides them with opportunities to compete for college scholarships.

"IT'S A GREAT INITIATIVE THAT FITS ROOSEVELT'S MISSION OF SOCIAL JUSTICE."

The program began at Roosevelt when alumna Audra Anderson, a 2000 graduate in telecommunications and BDPA leader, broached her alma mater about the need for program space. About 16 youths are currently in the program.


"It's a great initiative that fits Roosevelt's mission of social justice," said Wright, who works on Saturdays with youths and their parents. "It's amazing to see the progress these kids are making with sophisticated computer technology. They're learning the latest programs, including things that our own college students are learning, and I predict - if they stick with it - that all of them will have jobs in the field." 



Democrat Bernie Sanders Rallies in Auditorium Theatre

Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders brought his Presidential campaign to Roosevelt University's Auditorium Theatre in March, electrifying thousands who waited hours to hear about his vision for revolutionary change.

During the rally attended by a standing-room only crowd, Sanders told supporters he would fight Wall Street greed, reform the nation's broken criminal justice system and provide a free college education for all.

Sanders' speech had young and old supporters on their feet cheering and chanting for much of the late night affair. Sanders narrowly lost the Illinois Democratic Presidential primary to Hillary Clinton. 



Roosevelt Receives National Sustainability Rating


Roosevelt University has received national recognition for its comprehensive approach to sustainability from the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE).

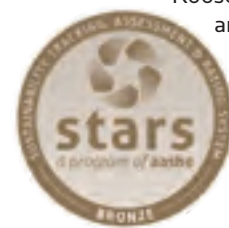
Completing its first-ever sustainability self-assessment report, Roosevelt has been given a bronze rating from

"IT IS A LONG AND IN-DEPTH PROCESS, AND DEFINITELY NOT EASY TO GET THIS KIND OF CERTIFICATION."

the world's leading higher education sustainability organization and its Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System (STARS).

"It is a long and in-depth process, and definitely not easy to get this kind of certification," said Paul Matthews, assistant vice president of campus planning and operations at Roosevelt. The bronze designation places Roosevelt among an elite group of higher education institutions - there are 274 in the Americas - that have been granted a STARS rating by AASHE.

Mike Bryson, director of the Sustainability Studies Program at Roosevelt, said collaboration among Roosevelt administrators, faculty and students made the rating possible. 



University Awards First PhD

Ben Sher, a graduate of Roosevelt's Industrial-Organizational (I-O) Psychology Program, in May became the first Roosevelt student to receive a PhD from the University.

Sher, 32, made history when he walked across the Auditorium Theatre stage for his PhD in I-O Psychology, a field focusing on organizational research, personnel testing and problem solving related to employees in the workplace.

"I wanted to be a trailblazer at Roosevelt, and I can't say enough positive things about my experiences," said Sher, who initially enrolled in 2008 in Roosevelt's Master's in I-O Psychology Program, receiving the degree in 2012, the same year the PhD program started.


When Sher joined, there were five students in the program. Today, there are 27 students.

"Roosevelt's I-O faculty takes the attitude that it is training you to be a colleague," said Sher, a native of St. Paul, Minn. "As a result, faculty and students greatly respect one another, which is a great dynamic for success."

"This is a milestone for Ben, the I-O Psychology Program, its faculty and students," said Adrian Thomas,

founding director of the program that is on track to graduate more students next year as well as grow in the future.

Sher's PhD dissertation explored discrimination that he found to be evident against individuals with obesity in the workplace. "I don't think we could have a better representative for Roosevelt's first PhD graduate," said Jacqueline Deuling, associate I-O psychology professor and Sher's dissertation advisor. "Everything he's done has to do with discrimination and selection in the workplace, which are things that fit into the University's social justice mission."

Sher can expect to find many job opportunities and an estimated \$90,000 salary to start in the field, according to U.S. occupational outlook reports. He hopes to be a PhD role model. "It's an honor to be the first," he said recently, "but I think there's a responsibility that goes with it, and that is to be a good representative for the program and the University." 

"I WANTED TO BE A TRAILBLAZER AT ROOSEVELT, AND I CAN'T SAY ENOUGH POSITIVE THINGS ABOUT MY EXPERIENCES."

Journalism Students Report on Water Crisis in Flint

Roosevelt University journalism professor John Fountain took eight journalism students to Flint, Mich., in March to create a multi-media package called “Faces of the Poisoned.”



The students in Fountain’s Convergence Journalism 392 and News Reporting 319 classes visited with families impacted by lead in the water. They met with Flint and Michigan officials, and interviewed Flint business owners.

Most had never covered a national story. Given media credentials, they

“OF ALL THE PROJECTS I’VE DONE WITH STUDENTS, I’VE NEVER SEEN ONE THAT HAS HAD A GREATER IMPACT.”



also were able to attend the Democratic Presidential debate held in Flint.

“Of all the projects I’ve done with students, I’ve never seen one that has had a greater impact,” said Fountain, who has worked with Roosevelt students on multi-media projects on everything from gun violence to homelessness.

Roosevelt students who took the trip included Elisabet Bernard, Alyson Jurgovan, Daly Tongren, Rachel Popa, Maiya Shackelford, Kurt Witteman, Joshua Hicks and Peter Rubinstein. “At first they were a little stunned by the enormity and intensity of the situation, but I saw each of them grow as reporters before my eyes. It was truly transformational,” said Fountain.

Ten narratives were developed by the students for the project that has its own website. Their written stories were also told on NBC 5 in May. [R](#)



New Program for Hospitality Executives

Beginning this fall, Roosevelt’s College of Professional Studies will launch a new master’s degree program for managers working in the hospitality and tourism industries. The Executive Master of Hospitality and Tourism Management program will include cutting edge courses focused on executive leadership, strategy and innovation, organization development, marketing, financial analysis, human resources and corporate social responsibility.

Exclusively for industry professionals with five or more years of experience or three consecutive years in a supervisory role, the 12-month program will have a flexible schedule, offering courses over three consecutive semesters in eight-week modules on Saturdays in Chicago and online.

“We’ve received feedback from professionals in Chicago’s hospitality and tourism industry. They’ve told us that they want a program that can distinguish them as leaders in the many aspects of today’s rapidly changing industry,” said Carol Brown, director of Roosevelt’s Manfred Steinfeld Hospitality and Tourism Management program.

The executive master’s concept is built on the cohort model, in which students take classes together until finishing the degree. Management professionals in the lodging, food and beverage, meeting, convention, exhibition, tourism administration, sports hospitality and club and gaming sectors are encouraged to apply. To learn more, contact cbbrown@roosevelt.edu [R](#)

“...A PROGRAM THAT CAN DISTINGUISH THEM AS LEADERS IN THE MANY ASPECTS OF TODAY’S RAPIDLY CHANGING INDUSTRY.”

Roosevelt’s PsyD Program Scores Excellence

For the fifth year, all of Roosevelt University’s PsyD students applying for competitive internships have been placed as interns. That success comes on the heels of news that the University’s PsyD program made a 2016 National top-10 list.

“These are remarkable accomplishments and a testament to the work that our students and faculty in the PsyD program are doing,” said Bonnie Gunzenhauser, dean of Roosevelt’s College of Arts and Sciences.

“OUR CURRICULUM IS RIGOROUS AND OUR STUDENTS WHO GO OUT FROM DAY ONE INTO THE FIELD ARE IN DEMAND.”

Ranked tenth out of 69 programs across the nation by www.bestcounselingdegrees.net, Roosevelt’s PsyD program was established in 1996 and has graduated nearly 100 students. This year once again, all Roosevelt PsyD students who applied were matched with internships accredited by the American Psychological Association (APA).

“Our curriculum is rigorous and our students who go out from day one into the field are in demand,” said Cami McBride, chair of Roosevelt’s Department of Psychology. “We also emphasize empirical research, which also sets our program apart.”

Orly Weltfreid, Valencia Montgomery and Sarah Fredrickson were among the 24 Roosevelt PsyD students who applied and were matched with APA-accredited internships through the Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers Internship Matching Program.

“I definitely feel this program has prepared me to be a confident psychologist and to reach my career goals,” said Weltfreid, who will be an intern starting in the fall with the counseling center at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles.

“The faculty members in Roosevelt’s Psychology Department care about students and they have supported me in reaching my goals,” added



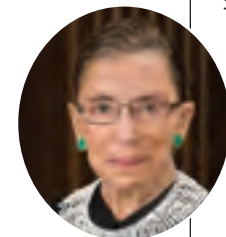
left to right: Brittney Imholte (fourth year, PsyD), Amy Kooyenga (MA, Clinical Counseling), David Gonzalez (MA, PsyD), Calandra Babey (first year, PsyD)

Montgomery, who will be an intern in geroneuropsychology at the Ann Arbor Veteran’s Administration Healthcare System in Ann Arbor, Mich.

“I’ve found the program to be fantastic in quality. It has helped me to think clinically and work with

people, and the opportunity to be involved with research here on campus has been extremely exciting,” said Fredrickson, a student researcher with Roosevelt Associate Professor of Psychology Kimberly Dienes and her groundbreaking five-year project, “The Biopsychosocial Model of Stress Sensitivity and Risk for Depression,” which is now entering the reporting phase. Fredrickson will be an intern at suburban Chicago’s Edward Hines, Jr. Veterans Hospital.

The perfect internship match rate puts Roosevelt’s PsyD program well ahead of the national average matching rate, according to Dienes, Roosevelt’s PsyD program director. “We have students from around the world applying to our program, and it is very competitive to be accepted,” she said. [R](#)



RUTH BADER GINSBURG IS COMING TO ROOSEVELT IN 2017.



SAVE THE DATE
Sept. 11, 2017

Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg is scheduled to keynote the second annual conference on The American Dream Reconsidered on Sept. 11, 2017.

1 2015 MEN'S SOCCER team ranked number one in the Chicagoland Collegiate Athletic Conference

WABASH BUILDING named best real estate project in the U.S. (2015 International Real Estate Federation)



Second MOST DIVERSE COLLEGE in Illinois (Niche College Rankings 2015)

Second BEST COLLEGE LOCATION in Illinois (Niche College Rankings 2016)

Second TALLEST UNIVERSITY BUILDING in the United States (CollegeFinder 2014)

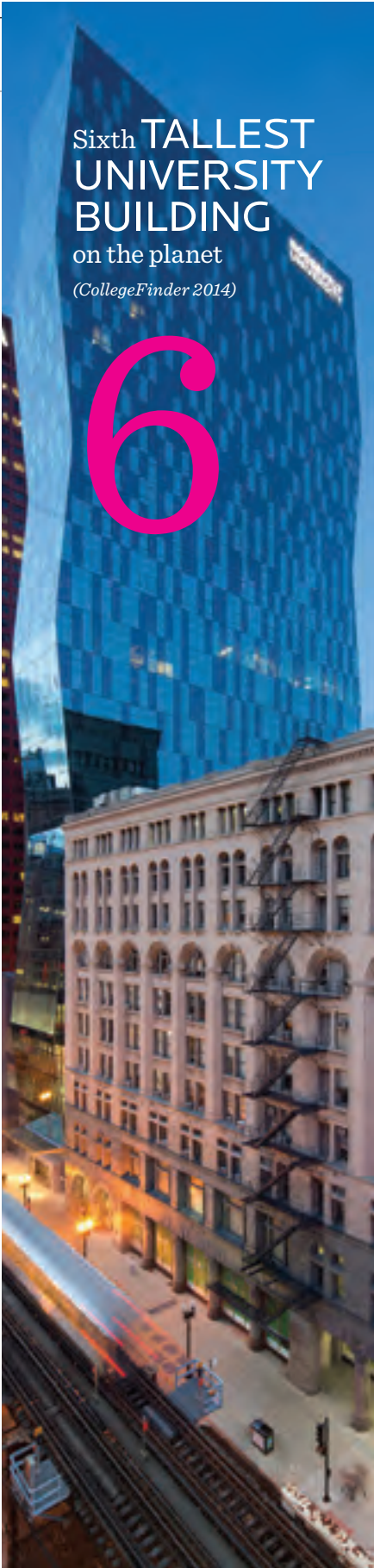
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3 Third BEST RESIDENCE HALL in Illinois (Niche College Rankings 2016)



Fourth MOST ETHNICALLY DIVERSE COLLEGE in the Midwest (U.S. News & World Report 2015)

4



Sixth TALLEST UNIVERSITY BUILDING on the planet (CollegeFinder 2014)

6

8 Eighth best college in the U.S. for STUDENT SATISFACTION (RateMyProfessors 2013)



Ninth BEST COLLEGE CAMPUS in Illinois (Niche College rankings 2016)

9

Fourteenth MOST ENVIRONMENTALLY-FRIENDLY university building in the world (BestMastersDegrees.com 2015)

10

Tenth MOST POLITE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS in the U.S. (GrubHub survey 2015)



Tenth BEST PARTY SCHOOL in Illinois (Niche College rankings 2016)

Tenth HIGHEST-RATED PsyD PROGRAM in the U.S. (Best Counseling Degrees 2016)

14



Present Past

TEACHER-SCHOLAR ERIK GELLMAN PICTURES HISTORY

by LAURA JANOTA

Most people who know Roosevelt University professor Erik Gellman will tell you that he could have joined almost any college faculty in America.

The scholar of African American, working-class, and modern United States history interviewed with more than a dozen universities upon receiving a PhD and prize for best history dissertation from Northwestern University in 2006.

But Roosevelt isn't just another university to Gellman, whose scholarship, activism and family background reflect the social justice values that the University was founded on in 1945 and has stood for ever since.

"Erik is a signal example of a Roosevelt teacher-scholar, a true believer in the Roosevelt experience and a public intellectual in the community," said Bonnie Gunzenhauser, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences where Gellman teaches African American history, civil rights, social movements and modern U.S. history.

The winner of teaching awards and book prizes, the Roosevelt historian rejects the adage, "Those who don't know history are doomed to repeat it," preferring a more positive view of history's significance. "It is vital to understand the past if we are to change the present," said Gellman, whose aim during 10 years as a Roosevelt professor has been to be a force for racial and economic justice, using history as the vehicle.

“My family’s stories are unusual and have always made me feel like I had a different calling.”

– ERIK GELLMAN

Gellman applied his gift for linking history to the present through stories and images in two co-curated social documentary photography exhibits that drew hundreds of visitors to Roosevelt’s Gage Gallery. His activism on campus has included organizing national civil rights conferences, including one earlier this year that became a meeting ground for today’s young, leading firebrands and yesterday’s legendary 1950s and 1960s veteran activists.

Gellman is enthusiastic – and this can’t be overstated – about all things Roosevelt, including: the Mansfield Institute for Social Justice and Transformation, which gave him pointers in designing courses with social-justice-based classroom learning and field training; Roosevelt’s Murray-Green Library, which has a rare collection of oral histories of American labor leaders that he’s recommended as a resource to students and used in his own research; and the St. Clair Drake Center for African and African American Studies, where he is committed, as associate director, to keeping alive the name and furthering the scholarship and vision of the late St. Clair Drake, one of Roosevelt’s most beloved professors.

“One of the marks of citizenship is to be aware of your rights,” said the Rev. Calvin Morris, a Chicago activist, faith leader and historian who worked with Martin Luther King, Jr. in the 1960s and this past year team-taught a history course on Chicago at Roosevelt with Gellman. “Erik epitomizes what good citizenship is all about.”

“Erik has a passion for worker’s rights and preserving their history,” added Paul King, a 1974 Roosevelt alumnus who studied with Drake and also has been a pioneer in the fight for black inclusion in the nation’s construction industry. “He’s helped me get my papers in order for archiving,” said King, founder of the National Association of Minority Contractors and former leader of the United Builders Association of Chicago. “I trust and respect him as an historian and advocate.”

Gellman is a native of the suburbs of Buffalo, NY, a city that he lovingly calls an “underdog” with a reputation for “hard luck” in all things. One such example is the 1901 World’s Fair. “Buffalo was fortunate enough to hold the fair, but unfortunate in that it is remembered as the site of President William McKinley’s assassination,” he said half-jokingly.

Gellman has a great deal of pride for his hometown and upbringing. Growing up, he heard plenty of stories about family members standing up against injustices. When Gellman’s father was clerk of the U.S. Court of Appeals in Detroit, he helped write opinions favoring school bussing between city and suburban Detroit schools in order to achieve regional desegregation and a quality education for all.

When one such decision was overturned through a follow-up opinion from the appeals court, the Detroit court’s late Justice George Edwards famously called the Supreme Court’s final ruling “a formula for American apartheid,” foreshadowing further segregation and white flight from cities into suburbs that would follow. “My dad is very philosophical” and reflected often upon the poignancy of that moment in his and the nation’s past, said Gellman. “It’s one of the things that influenced me on my journey as a scholar.”

Another remarkable story is about Gellman’s grandfather, whose parents had fled poverty in Eastern Europe in the 1890s to escape mob riots, known as pogroms, which targeted Jews. After serving with distinction in the Air Force, Jack Gellman became district attorney for Niagara Falls, NY. But he cut his own political career short when he intentionally bungled a felony assault case, costing him the next election, in order to avoid convicting a black man whom the attorney was convinced had been framed.

“My family’s stories are unusual and have always made me feel like I had a different calling,” said Gellman, who remembers interviews for faculty positions where he was bluntly asked: “Why would *you* choose *this field*?”



“I’ve come to see African American history as central to understanding American history,” said Gellman, who finds the more he teaches the topic, the more he appreciates its complexity and importance. Gellman didn’t get that kind of question at Roosevelt, where the study of African and African American issues has been a tradition since Drake joined the faculty in 1946.

“Erik was very aware of who we were and was really excited to become part of our story,” said Lynn Weiner, Roosevelt’s historian and a former College of Arts and Sciences dean who hired Gellman. “He’s smart and enthusiastic, and has a way of drawing you into his work.”

Gellman was not always a stellar student. In fact, he freely admits he was mediocre at best growing up in Buffalo. He didn’t fit in at the elite high school that his mother, a Danish immigrant, and father, a Buffalo businessman and attorney, hoped would remedy his poor reading skills.

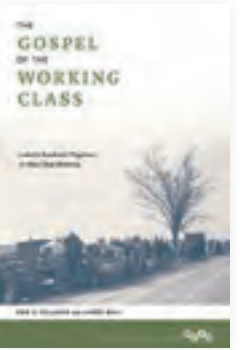
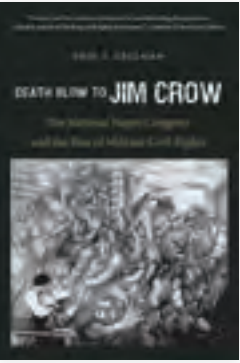
College changed the trajectory for Gellman, who took his first course in African American history at Bates College in Lewiston, Maine. In 1996, he studied abroad at Oxford University in England, an experience he called “pivotal” to his becoming intellectually curious and driven by ideas. “I couldn’t slack off. I had to be prepared,” he said.

After returning home from Oxford, he wrote a 350-page senior thesis on the comparative history of African Americans and Jews in postwar social movements and graduated from Bates in 1997. He thereafter took a job in an immigration law firm in Boston, but differed from his colleagues in wanting to apply for graduate study in history rather than the law, and moved to Chicago to attend Northwestern University in 1999. At Northwestern, he immersed himself in the history of social movements in the 1930s and 1940s, resulting in his PhD dissertation and book, *Death Blow to Jim Crow: The National Negro Congress and the Rise of Militant Civil Rights*, which won a Roosevelt University outstanding faculty scholarship award in 2012.

His first book, *The Gospel of the Working Class: Labor’s Southern Prophets in New Deal America*, co-authored by historian Jarod Roll and published in 2011, also won an award from the Southern Historical Association for parallel stories about two Southern preachers – one black and the other white – who were early civil rights leaders.

“Erik was very aware of who we were and was really excited to become part of our story.”

– LYNN WEINER
University Historian



left: Two books by Erik Gellman have won awards.

“The deeper he gets into it, the more valuable he’ll be as a Chicago activist and scholar. This is something that’s still emerging.”

– JACK METZGAR
Roosevelt Emeritus Professor

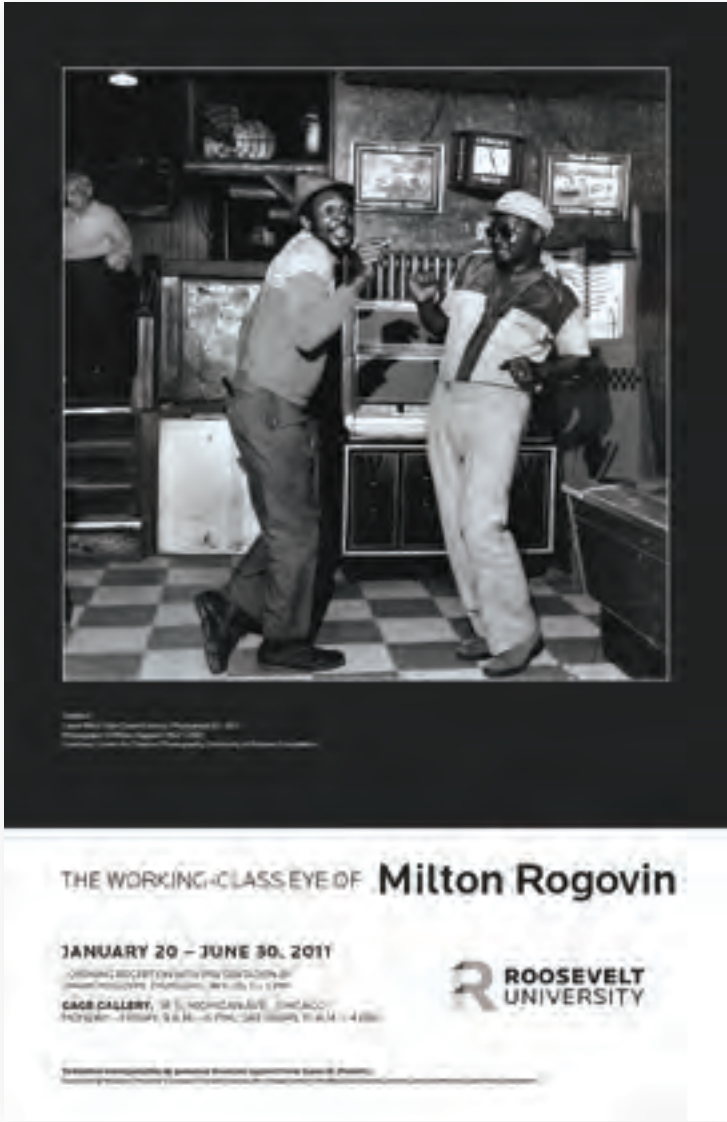
right: A poster from the Gage Gallery show, “The Working Class Eye of Milton Rogovin.”

“What Erik has been able to do, in no small terms, is make history come alive,” said Roosevelt Emeritus Professor of History Christopher Reed. “He is a great storyteller and has been creative in expanding the academy’s as well as the general public’s appreciation for African American and civil rights history.”

Gellman’s interest in the African American experience flourished as a 1997 Benjamin E. Mays fellow at the largely black Morehouse/Spelman Colleges in Atlanta, where colleagues pushed him beyond his comfort zone, introducing him to neighborhoods, arts, food and culture unlike his own. It also piqued his interest in returning to Buffalo to seek out unfamiliar neighborhoods and working-class people that he’d only seen growing up in photographs mounted behind plexiglass on the walls of Buffalo’s subway stations.

“I had heard of Milton Rogovin (Buffalo photographer) and knew of his talent for taking photos of people,” remarked Michael Ensdorf, professor of photography and Roosevelt’s Gage Gallery director who collaborated with Gellman on *The Working Class Eye of Milton Rogovin*. “What I didn’t know, and gained, was an appreciation and understanding for the dignity and joy that Rogovin captured in his subjects.”

Gellman visited with the 101-year-old Rogovin in his modest Buffalo home in preparing the exhibit, which garnered national media attention and burnished Rogovin’s legacy as a working class artist. Rogovin died immediately prior to the exhibit opening in 2011.




The experience led Gellman this past year to curate a second Gage Gallery exhibit of never-before-seen photos of Chicago street protests taken by Deerfield, Ill. photographer Art Shay during the 1940s through 1970s.

“Erik helped whittle about 50,000 of Shay’s civil rights images to a few thousand, from which we selected for the show,” said Erica DeGlopper, Shay’s archivist who worked with Gellman on the project. “He didn’t think of this as just a gallery show,” she said. “He helped create a moving and complex narrative. Erik connected the dots on story lines and helped identify many people,” such as the late national civil rights activist and Roosevelt graduate James Forman.

With 400-plus photos, *Troublemakers: Chicago Freedom Struggles through the Lens of Art Shay* was the Gage Gallery’s largest exhibit ever. It also spawned a new book project that will feature Shay’s photos and Gellman’s analysis of Chicago protest movements.

“There are a number of young faculty members at Roosevelt who are really stellar, and Erik is one of them,” remarked Roosevelt Emeritus Professor Jack Metzgar, a leading Working-Class Studies scholar and activist. “He has a lot of contacts in the community and real interest in our social justice history, and the deeper he gets into it, the more valuable he’ll be as a Chicago activist and scholar. This is something that’s still emerging,” said Metzgar.

Gellman believes there is no better place to come into his own as an authority on Chicago’s contemporary struggles for justice than Roosevelt University. “It was my first choice 10 years ago, and it is still my dream job today,” he said. When asked to elaborate on why, Gellman mentioned Roosevelt’s social justice history, his colleagues, but most of all, “many of the students here whose intellectual curiosity and hunger for social justice, cultivated at Roosevelt, make them unique.” 



above top: Late civil rights activist and Roosevelt University alumnus James Forman (center) was identified by Erik Gellman in the photo taken by Art Shay.

above bottom: A poster from the Gage Gallery show “Troublemakers: Chicago Freedom Struggles through the Lens of Art Shay.”

Passing the Torch

by LAURA JANOTA

UNCOVERING CHICAGO'S COMPLEX URBAN HISTORY IS IMPORTANT TO SIMON BALTO, DORIA JOHNSON AND JOSH EVANS, WHO ALL HAVE SOMETHING ELSE IN COMMON: ROOSEVELT UNIVERSITY HISTORY PROFESSOR ERIK GELLMAN HAS BEEN THEIR MENTOR.

A tenure-track history professor at Ball State University, Balto credits Gellman with encouraging him to set his sights on a career as a historian while taking courses with the Roosevelt professor in 2007 and 2008. "I don't think I would have stuck to this path without Erik's show of support and belief in my abilities," he said.

A PhD candidate in U.S. history at the University of Wisconsin at Madison, Johnson still uses notes that Gellman wrote up after seeing a presentation about her proposed dissertation. "I just adore him. I can't think of a nicer, more generous person. He's really helped me all along the way," said Johnson, who received a bachelor's in history at Roosevelt in 2007.

Also graduating from the University with a bachelor's in history in 2014, Evans points to Gellman as the chief reason he decided to get a master's degree at Roosevelt. "I had been looking at other schools," said Evans, who hopes to graduate in December. "Erik has always been accessible, interested and helpful. He's a great resource to have and really has been instrumental in my staying at Roosevelt."

All three compliment Gellman on his teaching style, which is driven by student discussion about readings and ideas, rather than lectures. All three also believe Gellman stands out as a teacher who encourages their activism.

"I recall one of the first classes I had with him where we got out of the building and went to the South Side for a walking tour

of Chicago's Bronzeville neighborhood. He wanted us to see the ways that history functions as a usable past in the community," said Balto. Today, the Roosevelt alumnus is at work on a book about the history of the Chicago Police Department and the African American community, which, given recent tensions, will likely receive significant attention.

"Erik encouraged us to find places where we could do activism in labor, the arts and other areas, and his efforts have definitely been an inspiration," said Johnson, who has become an activist for Palestinian independence and worked to address challenges blacks face in South Africa.

The Roosevelt alumna is currently finishing her dissertation about African American women's labor in Evanston, Ill., which is based on her interviews with 25 black women whose race delimited their job opportunities. Most performed housework in the suburb between 1910 and 1945.

"Erik has let me do classroom teaching and has encouraged me to give him feedback about the way he teaches," said Evans, who has been Gellman's teaching assistant. "I know of no other place where I could get this kind of hands-on experience."

The Roosevelt alumnus is currently doing a master's thesis about the Appalachian migration to Chicago's Uptown neighborhood during the 1950s-1970s. The thesis includes evidence of a brief moment when white, African American and Puerto Rican gangs in the area were allies. ■



right, left to right:
Roosevelt alumnus
Josh Evans has
decided to pursue a
master's in history
at Roosevelt because
of Erik Gellman's
support.

Zindaba Nyirenda

ZAMBIAN PRINCESS AND ROOSEVELT ALUMNA ON AFRICAN REPRESENTATION AND RETURNING HOME

by ALBA ORTIZ

Zindaba Nyirenda, a 2010 Roosevelt University graduate and princess in Zambia, has dedicated most of her career to the recognition of equality in Africa, and fighting for the rights of women and children in Zambia and around the world.

Now working as an instructional designer for AbbVie in Mettawa, Ill., she plans to go back to Zambia this year to run for election and be part of the next cabinet in the National Assembly, trying to represent women and children and help them through education based on technology.

Nyirenda thinks one of the most important problems for the African people is the brain drain that men and women like her represent. The dispersion, all over the world, of well-trained students and workers from Africa makes the situation comparable to a diaspora phenomenon. She said “Africa is missing leadership because of this, and we need to have a voice.”

Born as an Nkhosikazi princess of sixth generation Shaka Zulu ancestry in Zambia, she said that “the title there really doesn’t give you anything. It’s a symbol. It’s a status. It just indicates that I come from a royal family.” Despite that, she is trying to use her title to help change her country through the Parliament, using the knowledge she acquired during her education.



Nyirenda studied Public Administration at the University of Zambia in the early 1980s. At that time, she noticed the differences between men and women in her country: just 10 percent of the students were girls, and less than a tenth of them were in engineering schools.

Later, when she lost her two younger brothers, Nyirenda realized that her first-born sister was deprived of her right to being the leader of her tribesmen and didn’t enjoy the same access to power afforded men. “Just because we are women, doesn’t mean we cannot be leaders recognized as capable in our country. Women, too, are just as capable,” she stated.

She graduated from the University of Zambia in 1985, the same year that she moved to the U.S. to follow her husband, who had an opportunity to further his education in this country. For 20 years, she dedicated herself to raising her three children and did not work outside her home, though she did establish a non-profit organization she ran from home and managed her own bridal shop, a small retail business that afforded her the flexibility to be with her school toddlers for all of their school functions. However, when her youngest child got to high school, Nyirenda recognized the great timing and the opportunity she had put on hold to attain her master’s degree.

“After the kids grew up, time opened up for me to go back to having the career I had put on hold,” she recalled. She chose Roosevelt University to advance her education and specialized in the field of Training and Development.

She enrolled at Roosevelt not only for its social justice mission, but also because the program offered courses relevant to her real life quest for knowledge. Another advantage was taking courses online at her pace and the flexibility of studying anywhere, anytime, and not being limited by time or space was the ultimate freedom. This was a trendy new way of learning as she discovered the technological trends incorporated in the delivery of her courses. This opened her eyes to the digital era and the possibilities technology affords.

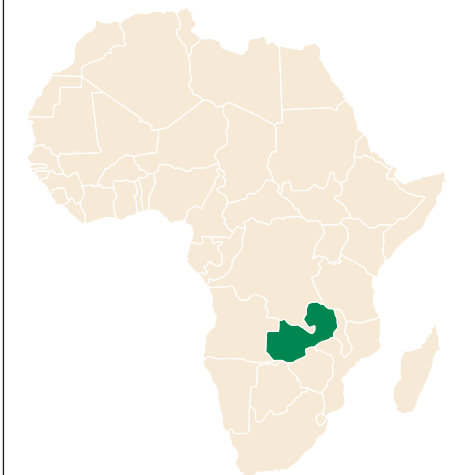
Critical thinking was one of the main attributes of the program for her personal development and the online teaching and application offered learning technologies and possibilities to educate the world beyond borders. “Why then are some countries still lagging behind in education?” she pondered. “Roosevelt raised my quest to the next level, creating a world of possibilities where no child needs to be left behind.”

It was during these years of “training” that she wrote a book about the “inequality issues” that are prominent in the world economies, and Africa suffers the most in comparison to the rest of the world.

In *Ta-Lakata, The Tears of Africa*, Nyirenda describes her life as a princess in Zambia and how, despite her wealthy upbringing, that wasn’t enough to avoid the tragedies that impacted her family as well; tragedies that she sees as having been perpetuated by poverty-stricken economies with poor or inadequate healthcare systems. Both her father and mother died of illnesses that could have been prevented, and through these hard experiences Nyirenda tried to make the case for what it will take to make a difference and improve lives in Africa.

“Being in the U.S., I realized how poor our economies were and how far behind we lagged,” she said. That is why she was interested in attaining a higher degree that would help her understand how to solve these complex problems of needless poverty, given that most of Africa’s countries were very rich in natural resources. “We are truly *not* that poor. We have diamonds, gold, copper, uranium, oil and animals. Why, though, do we have such immense poverty? We must find practical solutions together to alleviate immense poverty and suffering,” she said. “I have to use everything I have learned to make a difference for all people.”

Roosevelt has supplied her with the training. **R**



“I have to use everything I have learned to make a difference for all people.”

– ZINDABA NYIRENDA

POSTSCRIPT

Zindaba traveled to Zambia on Sunday, April 17, 2016. She noted that besides being an aspiring candidate for nomination as a member of Parliament to represent the Munalu Constituency, her name has been mentioned as a possible vice presidential candidate. Her website, Zindie2016.com, explains her candidacy. General elections will be held in Zambia on Aug. 11, 2016 to elect the president and National Assembly.



Heart Strings Attached

AFTER THE HEIST OF HIS RARE VIOLIN, CCPA INSTRUCTOR FRANK ALMOND CAN'T BE TOO CAREFUL

by LAURA JANOTA

Leaving a rehearsal recently at Roosevelt University's Ganz Hall, student cellist Miles Link couldn't help but wonder about the instrument inside the violin case slung over artist faculty member Frank Almond's shoulder.

A member of Roosevelt's Chicago College of Performing Arts (CCPA) Chamber Orchestra, Link knew the case held a violin: Almond had been playing one at a rehearsal.

Was it the rare and celebrated 300-year-old *Lipinski* Stradivarius worth millions of dollars? Or did the case with the police memento contain one of Almond's more modern, yet less notorious violins? Link thought he knew the answer, but didn't immediately ask.

He had heard about the Jan. 27, 2014 theft of the *Lipinski* Stradivarius, taken from

Almond as he walked to his car after a Milwaukee performance, and he also knew of the violin's recovery by police from a frigid Milwaukee attic nine days later.

"He (Almond) is a great violinist and someone who I knew I should be making conversation with if given the chance," recalled the aspiring sophomore cello performance major and second chair with Roosevelt's Chamber Orchestra. Like many in the tight-knit classical music community, however, Link was reluctant. It was a delicate matter, Link knew, and not something to be bandied about or taken

“Frank (Almond) is someone who can do a lot of things very well, including teaching.”

– STEFAN HERSH
CCPA Artist Faculty Member

lightly, as Almond is the only musician on record as the victim of an armed robbery targeting a specific musical instrument.

“Frank (Almond) is a terrific violinist with a beautiful sounding instrument and a very dramatic story,” remarked CCPA Dean Henry Fogel, who welcomed the internationally acclaimed soloist to CCPA’s string faculty in the fall of 2014.

“All of us are gratified that the violin was recovered and that the story had a happy ending,” he said, “but none of us wants to pry into something so senseless. We’re just happy and excited to have him on our faculty.”

The decision to invite Almond to join CCPA’s music faculty, which is comprised largely of orchestra professionals, including nearly 30 musicians alone from the Chicago Symphony and Lyric Opera orchestras, wasn’t difficult.

A concertmaster and 20-year veteran of the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, Almond has two degrees from the Juilliard School in New York City. At 17 years of age, he was one of the youngest prizewinners ever in Italy’s internationally watched Nicolo Paganini competition.

At 22, he was a laureate in Moscow’s International Tchaikovsky Competition, the so-called “Olympics of music,” where he gave a prize-winning performance that is part of a celebrated PBS documentary about the contest’s East vs. West rivalry.

Since then, he has regularly toured as a guest concertmaster, soloist and chamber musician at venues around the globe – sometimes, but not always, performing on the *Lipinski* Stradivarius.

Last fall at Roosevelt’s Ganz Hall, for instance, Almond was a soloist with the CCPA Chamber Orchestra performing *Soul of a Nation*, a concerto for violin and string orchestra about Thomas Jefferson that was written for Almond by American composer Victoria Bond. Also in the fall, he and Roosevelt’s student musicians recorded the piece for a commercial CD of Bond’s music about U.S. presidents that will showcase CCPA student musicianship and will be released in 2017.

opposite: Frank Almond
and the 300-year-old
Lipinski Stradivarius

Still dealing with the aftermath of a crime that has changed his life, Almond refused to reveal prior to these appearances whether he would perform on the *Lipinski* that evening and didn’t want media alerted to the possibility. “We’ve all had to rethink various security measures because of what happened,” said Almond, who was Tazed and briefly knocked unconscious in the attack. “That means not always playing or carrying around the instrument. A lot of times, it’s not even close to where I am.”

The violinist was encouraged to join Roosevelt’s faculty by CCPA artist faculty member and fellow violinist Stefan Hersh, who leads CCPA’s Chamber Music Program.

“Frank (Almond) is among a rare breed of musicians who can cross boundaries,” Hersh said. “He can do a lot of things very well, including teaching.” Colleagues and friends for 20 years, both Roosevelt violin instructors have been inextricably involved with the *Lipinski* Stradivarius – Almond as its keeper and Hersh as its chief expert.

“It’s a high-end tool that allows you to maximize your capabilities once you know how to play it,” said Almond, who has learned much about the instrument’s temperamental nature and how to best adapt in the eight years he’s had it.

“It is one of the finest of violins that Antonio Stradivari ever produced,” added Hersh, who has examined about 200 of an estimated 500 still-existing so-called Strads, selling approximately 20 of the rare instruments during his lifetime.

Almond took Hersh with him to a Milwaukee bank vault in 2008 to authenticate that the *Lipinski* was actually the real thing before eventually being offered the instrument on loan from an anonymous owner. Its comprehensive lineage, including previous ownership by Italian “Devil’s Trill” composer Giuseppe Tartini and Polish soloist Karol *Lipinski*, as well as a 12-year gap from 1996 to 2008 when the instrument was not seen publicly.

Hersh was the first one Almond phoned from the police squad car following the theft. Hersh also was called to assess the violin’s condition, taking it to his Chicago



“Only a handful of people in the world have the knowledge and expertise to sell a Stradivarius.”

– DAVID BASS
FBI Special Agent

above: The story of the Lipiński Stradivarius is being made into a movie, “The King of Strings.” opposite: String appraiser and CCPA artist faculty member Stefan Hersh is in the movie.



shop for adjustments, after the Stradivarius was found safe, wrapped in a baby blanket in a suitcase in an unheated Milwaukee attic.

“I knew from the get-go that the violin wasn’t going anywhere,” said Hersh, though, he did briefly entertain the theory that an Eastern European gang with ties to the black market could be to blame. “Stefan is one of the few people in the world who knows all there is to know about these instruments,” added Almond. “I trust him (Hersh) more than anyone with this violin.”

Now, the two Roosevelt professors are to be part of a new documentary movie, whose working title is “The King of Strings,” which is currently being filmed about the infamous heist.

Special Agent David Bass, a member of the FBI’s art-theft team who was interviewed for the film, stresses that the crime that made world-wide headlines was irrational, an anomaly and the work of someone who didn’t understand the slightest about the rare-instrument field.

“Only a handful of people in the world have the knowledge and expertise to sell a multi-million-dollar Stradivarius,” said Bass, who counts Hersh as one of the few. “If you look at high-end instruments that have disappeared, it’s usually because they were left in a taxi, a train or parked car,” he added. “These are crimes of opportunity, but an armed robbery? I know of only one incident, and that’s Frank’s case.”

While he has instructed Almond to keep the violin’s whereabouts secret, Bass doesn’t believe the violinist should be blamed for not doing so previously. “It’s what musicians do. They carry instruments around, and there are a lot of them out there who have rare ones,” said Bass, who believes the real impetus for the armed robbery may have been an ill-thought-out plan to collect a reward at some point after attention to the case died down.

Because of non-stop media interest, the case didn’t go away quickly. In fact, Almond was entangled for months in criminal proceedings, which finally ended with sentencing of Universal Knowledge Allah to three-and-a-half years in prison and Salah Salahadyn to seven years behind bars in late 2014.

“Many of my days, even after I started at Roosevelt, were spent talking to cops, insurance people, FBI agents, taking lie detector tests and giving witness statements,” said Almond. “It’s quite a bit different than giving a concert, and as a musician it’s not something I expected to be involved in.” he said.

Through it all, Almond has learned to be vigilant, attaching to his violin case a memento that was given to him by police, and which serves as a constant reminder.

“Seeing him with that case was a bit uncomfortable at first,” said Link. The Roosevelt student decided he had to say something as the two entered a University elevator.

“Is that the Stradivarius?” the student cellist asked after the doors shut.

Cautiously, Almond looked at Link. “Maybe,” he said automatically.

Then, Almond broke the ice by pointing out the police memento he had attached to the violin case. Link listened with interest as Almond shared his story about the heist and all that the violin had been through.

“I really think Professor Almond had the Stradivarius with him,” Link recalled.

Maybe, but only Almond knows for sure. 🎻



The Rare Breeds

by LAURA JANOTA

Roosevelt University violin instructor Frank Almond isn’t the only member of the Chicago College of Performing Arts (CCPA) string faculty with a rare instrument.

John Sharp, a CCPA artist faculty member, principal cellist with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra (CSO) and also a prize winner in the Tchaikovsky competition, plays a rare Joseph Guarnerius cello built in Cremona, Italy in 1694.

Stefan Hersh, a Roosevelt violin instructor, head of CCPA’s Chamber Music Program and a rare string instrument expert, performs on a Giuseppe Guarneri del Gesu, a rival to the Stradivarius, that was built in Cremona in 1732.

And CCPA viola instructor Roger Chase plays a celebrated Montagnana viola that was made in Venice, Italy, and was previously performed on by the legendary internationally known violist Lionel Tertis.

“Many of us have instruments that cost much more than our houses are worth,” remarked Richard Hirschl, the head of Roosevelt’s String Program and a member of the CSO’s cello section.

“Most of us initially were shocked and threatened by what happened to Frank (Almond),” added Hirschl, who, performs on a 316-year-old cello built in Venice by Matteo Goffriller.

In fact, nearly all of the members of CCPA’s string faculty from time to time perform on and carry around rare and valuable instruments.

That shouldn’t be cause for alarm, according to FBI Special Agent David Bass, who has called the *Lipiński* Stradivarius theft an anomaly.

“There are many more musicians out there besides Frank (Almond) with million-dollar-plus instruments,” he said. “Are they in more danger than Frank? I doubt it. Carrying around and performing on these beautiful sounding instruments is part of our cultural heritage and I would expect them to continue doing what they’re doing.” 🎻

by LAURA JANOTA

BEFORE STARTING LAST FALL AT ROOSEVELT UNIVERSITY'S MUSIC CONSERVATORY, 18-YEAR-OLD JOSEPH DEANGELO WAS STUCK IN A RUT WITH HIS VIOLIN TECHNIQUE.

Playing violin since seven years of age, the Pennsylvania native repeatedly was told that, to be more effective, he needed to play more slowly on his instrument.

Upon mastering the skill of playing slowly, however, progress stalled for DeAngelo, who began thinking he just wasn't learning anything new.

Then, the teen met violinist Frank Almond at a summer violin institute in Chicago, a city where DeAngelo thought he might like to attend college.

"I really like the way Professor Almond breaks things down into simple principles," said DeAngelo, who began taking private lessons with Almond last fall as a freshman at Roosevelt's Chicago College of Performing Arts (CCPA).

Almond immediately introduced a metronome, a tool that clicks in regular beats to practice by. He also focused on DeAngelo's posture, encouraging him to straighten up instead of leaning forward, making DeAngelo stronger yet more relaxed while performing. The violin instructor also suggested weekly readings from *The Bulletproof Musician*, a newsletter by well-known performance psychologist Noa Kageyama, who offers tips and ideas for best performance.

"I want to prepare these kids for what's really happening out there," said Almond, who acknowledges embracing as a child prodigy a pipe dream that misled him about life as a professional classical musician."

"It comes down to the performance itself," said Almond, who, in addition to a strict curriculum, stresses breathing exercises and mental acuity as regular

parts of his lessons. "You have to be trained to do the best at the moment, and that means re-enacting prize-winning auditions and incredible performances in your mind and in your practice," he said.

The techniques have helped DeAngelo break his plateau. "In just a few months, my intonation has improved dramatically and my mental concentration is better than it's ever been," said the Roosevelt student musician, who has learned from Almond that creative visualization can be powerful.

"It wasn't on the radar when I was winning contests," said Almond of the technique that athletes, musicians and other successful people use to achieve their dreams. "I believe it can be incredibly useful to see yourself winning before you actually compete," he said.

DeAngelo acknowledges using the technique: Not surprisingly, his vision includes a Stradivarius, similar to the one Almond sometimes plays during their private lessons. The difference is that in the vision, DeAngelo isn't playing the rare instrument or even carrying it around.

"From what I've seen and heard, it seems like too much pressure," said the student, who has fretted on several occasions when he carried the violin case without the instrument that he had forgotten at home.

"What I do see are people coming to me and saying 'I like your violin playing so much that I want to give you a Strad,'" said DeAngelo. "To me, that would be success."

De Angelo is the youngest of 90 musicians selectively chosen by audition to receive a scholarship and participate in this summer's prestigious Round Top Festival in Texas. **R**



Count1ng on the Future

A LOOK AT THE PROFESSION AND THE ACTUARIAL SCIENCE PROGRAM AT ROOSEVELT

by TOM KAROW

Why is the actuarial profession such a mystery? That question was posed a short time ago by a woman who has been an actuary for more than 20 years.

“One would think,” she wrote in a magazine article published by the Society of Actuaries, “that reporting of actuary as the No. 1 job of 2015 by *Forbes* magazine might have given us a popularity boost.”

The truth is, she lamented to her colleagues, few people know what actuaries do and those who think they know often confuse actuaries with Certified Public Accountants (CPAs).

There’s nothing mysterious about actuarial science at Roosevelt University. In existence for more than 20 years, the actuarial science program is one of Roosevelt’s hidden gems and one of the top programs in Illinois. The rigorous program currently has about 40 undergraduate majors and 40 graduate students, and many of them will have a high probability of getting a great job when they graduate.



above: Actuarial science graduate student Anthony Urgena

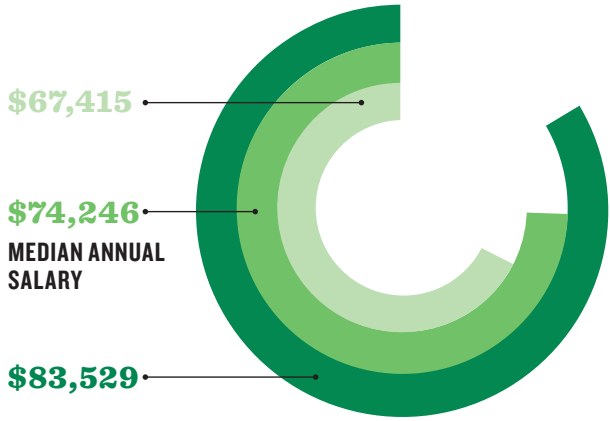
“The combination of healthy compensation, job satisfaction, manageable stress levels and robust growth land actuary in the No. 1 spot.”

– SUSAN ADAMS
Forbes Magazine

Around the world, there are 169 colleges and universities with programs approved by the Schaumburg-based Society of Actuaries, including 11 in Illinois. Roosevelt is one of them and has plans to obtain the society’s coveted “Center of Actuarial Excellence” designation. Roosevelt’s program currently is ranked 24th in the nation by College Values Online based on tuition, financial aid, return on investment and exam preparation.

“We have a more strongly tailored program than other schools in the Chicago area,” said Melanie Pivarski, chair of the Department of Mathematics and Actuarial Science. “Some schools only offer a couple of actuarial science courses, but we have many, including courses students need for Validation by Educational Experience credits, which are a requirement for becoming an associate of the Society of Actuaries.”

Actuary II salary range



In her article on the best and worst jobs in 2015, *Forbes* reporter Susan Adams wrote: “The combination of healthy compensation, job satisfaction, manageable stress levels and robust growth land actuary in the No. 1 spot.” That assessment is bolstered by this impressive statistic: the median annual Actuary II salary is \$74,246 with a range usually between \$67,415 and \$83,529.

MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS

“Managing risk” is the quickest and easiest way to describe what actuaries do, said

Wanwan Huang, a full-time actuarial science professor at Roosevelt. “Actuarial science takes mathematics and statistics and applies them to finance and insurance. The insurance industry hires the most actuaries, but they are also employed in many other industries including investment firms, banks, the federal government, including Social Security, accounting firms, and consulting organizations.”

She explained that actuaries at insurance companies, for example, use large data sets of people, hospital statistics and accident reports to create mortality tables. “This helps the companies calculate how long people will live and how much money is needed to provide for them.”

But the profession is much more than “crunching numbers.” All actuarial students take advanced courses in economics, finance and statistics, in addition to calculus, probability and computer science.

THE CREDENTIALS

Like doctors and lawyers, actuaries are credentialed by a series of professional exams that students begin taking in college and continue to take while working. To become an actuarial associate, individuals must pass five exams and to become a fellow they must complete 10 exams, which is roughly equivalent to earning a PhD.

Typically students with undergraduate degrees in actuarial science have already passed two exams before being hired as entry level actuaries. They will then often work four-and-a-half days at their firm and study the remaining half day for their next exam. For each exam they pass, they’re usually rewarded with a pay increase.

However, passing exams is not easy. Huang estimates that people need to study 300 hours for each three-hour exam and the pass rate is only 40 percent nationally.

“Anecdotally our students do better than that,” Pivarski said with a smile. “It’s because of our wonderful teachers! From 2010 through 2014, our students and alumni passed more than 140 actuarial exams, an average of 28 per year. We have

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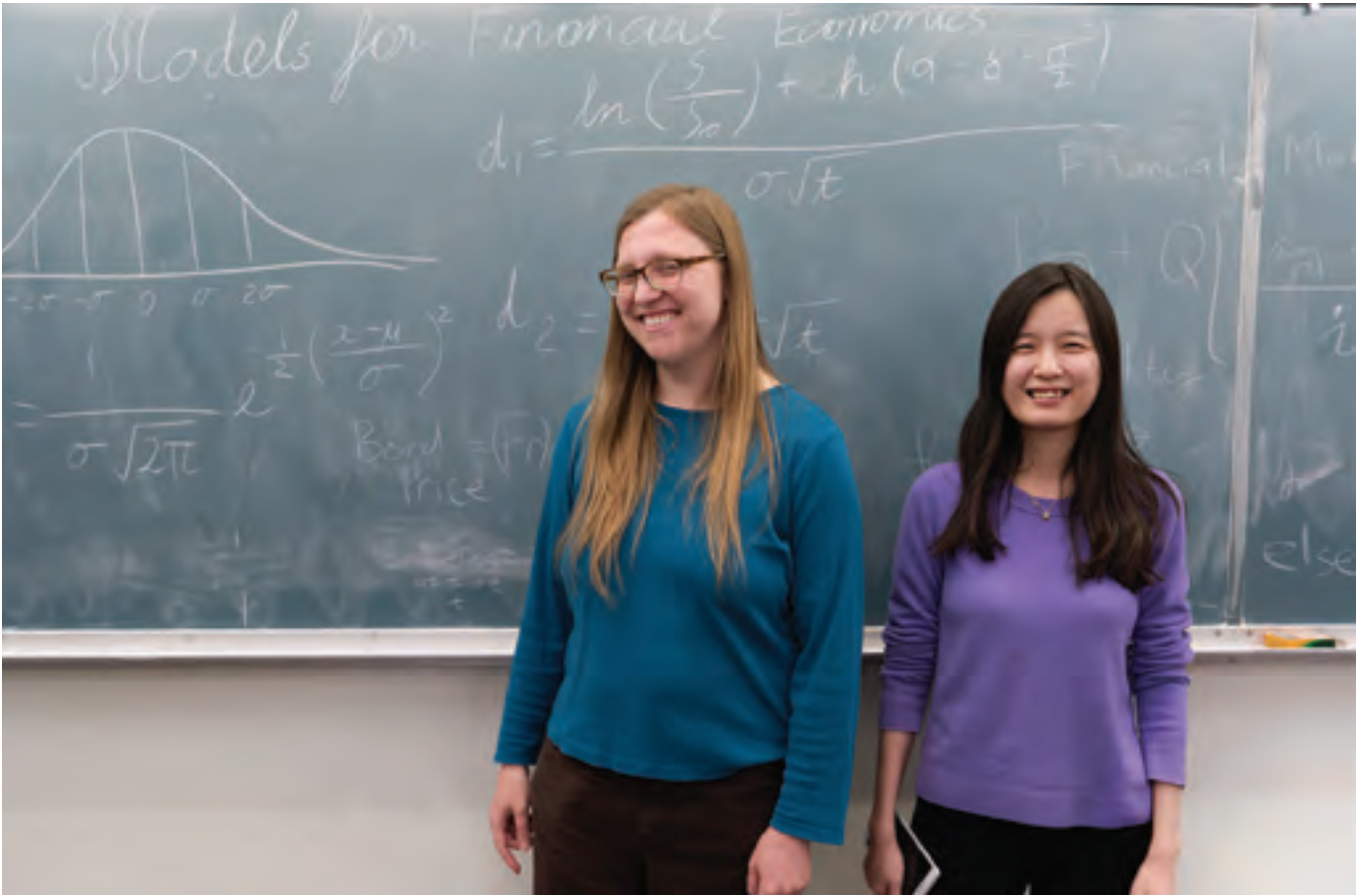
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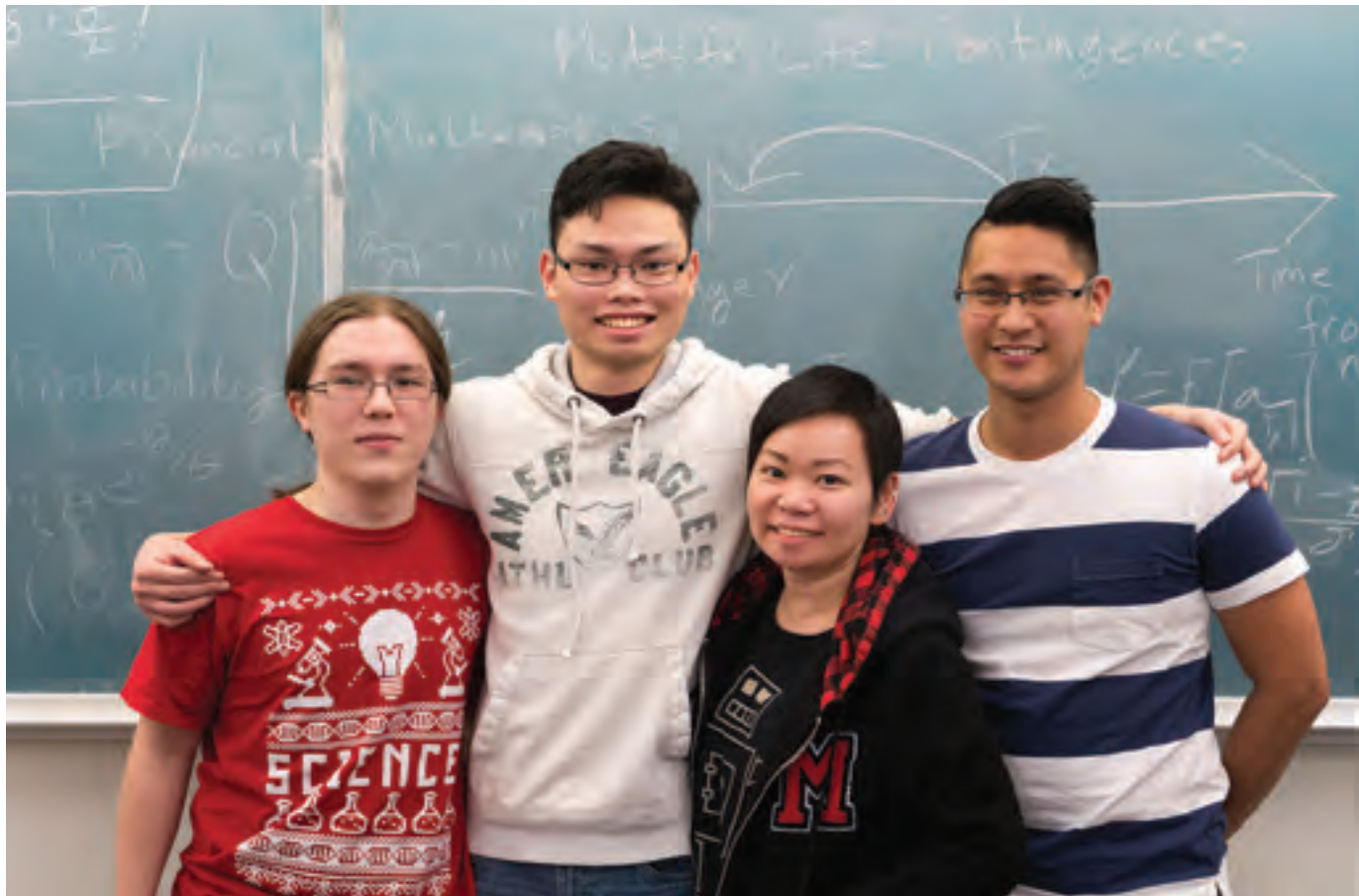
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$$u|\ddot{a}_x = {}_uE_x \ddot{a}_{x+u}$$

left: These formulas describe the values of different insurance policies.

below, left to right: Melanie Pivarski, chair of the Department of Mathematics and Actuarial Science and actuarial science professor Wanwan Huang.





“You have to be willing to put in extra time and extra effort. You can’t just go to classes and expect to turn out as an actuary.”

– MELANIE PIVARSKI
Roosevelt Faculty Member

study groups and provide a lot of support and resources. Wanwan has passed five exams, so she can tell students first-hand what they need to do to pass. Our students know the concepts; speed is the main thing they need to practice — how to complete the problems in the time frame they’re given.”

DEDICATED STUDENTS & FRIENDS

“Since the actuarial major was small, I found myself in a lot of classes with the same people, many of whom I still keep in contact with today,” said Elizabeth Staszal (BS, ’13), a quantitative analyst with Milliman Financial Risk Management in Chicago. “A fond memory I have was that during junior year, two other students and I would come to the university on Saturdays, either in a classroom or the library, and study for Exam P. We had some memorable, productive study sessions. Professors in the Math and Actuarial Science Department were familiar with all of their students and were interested in what you were up to. Peers and faculty at Roosevelt

created a great support system for me.”

Pivarski has a one word answer when describing what type of individual makes a good actuarial student: “Dedicated.”

“You have to be really dedicated,” she said. “You have to be willing to put in extra time and extra effort. You can’t just go to classes and expect to turn out as an actuary. You have to actually spend extra time on your own studying. Plus, you should really enjoy math. If you don’t then you should do something different.”

Carina Balan, who has an undergraduate degree in actuarial science from Roosevelt and is currently in the graduate program, wanted to be an actuary since high school. “Math has always been the one subject that I looked forward to throughout my educational career,” she said. “During my junior year of high school at Hersey High School in Arlington Heights, I took the AP Statistics course and realized that ideally I would like to apply my knowledge of various mathematical, statistical and economical concepts to the real world. I



“The world changes so much that actuaries are constantly considering how ongoing external and societal forces affect a situation.”

– MELANIE PIVARSKI

began reading about actuarial careers, and I felt like this was the right choice for me.”

Vincent Dang, a 2014 a master’s degree recipient and now an actuary for Blue Cross/Blue Shield, said he came to Roosevelt on the recommendation of a friend. “I was born and raised in Florida and never had the opportunity to live in a big city. The program was great when I was there and has even gotten better.”


THE CHANGING WORLD

After working on projects that involved risk for water companies, William Torres Amesty, an undergraduate physics major, decided to switch fields and become an actuary. Currently a graduate student in Roosevelt’s program, he already knows about the important roles actuaries perform in the industry. “Actuaries are business professionals and are expected to interact with clients and explain very technical concepts to those who might not have a good understanding of what you do, but they need to make business decisions

based upon your opinion,” he said.

That belief is echoed by both Pivarski and Huang. “The world changes so much that actuaries are constantly considering how ongoing external and societal forces affect a situation,” Pivarski said. “Once you determine that, you have to be a good communicator and be able to convince people that what you predict will happen.”

ROOSEVELT LOOKS AHEAD

Obtaining the “Center of Actuarial Excellence” designation from the Society of Actuaries is the next step for Roosevelt’s Actuarial Science Program. There are currently no programs with this distinction in Chicago and only one in Illinois. To earn that label, the University plans to hire more full-time professors, publish faculty work in actuarial science journals, track student exam pass rates and continue connecting with its many alumni already working in the field. 

above, left to right: Professor Huang working with senior Nathan Gregory.

opposite page, left to right: senior Nathan Gregory (actuarial science), senior Cuong Pham (actuarial science), graduate student Gigi Hoang (math), graduate student Anthony Urgena (math with actuarial science concentration)

Telling the Tale

CREATIVE WRITING STUDENT ARCHY JAMJUN HAS ALWAYS LIVED TO TELL STORIES, A PURSUIT THAT IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE IS GIVING HIM A *RAISON D'ETRE*.

by LAURA JANOTA



As the 2015 winner of the Moth Grand slam and a judge in this year's headline storytelling competition, Archy Jamjun knows how to move audiences.

But teaching someone who had been homeless how to tell his story? That's not something Jamjun, who grew up in a middle-class home in suburban Lincolnwood, Ill. imagined he'd be doing.

"I've been listening a lot and learning," said Jamjun, 36, a volunteer for the nonprofit Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH) Speak Up Illinois project that pairs those who know how to tell stories with those who have a story but need to be empowered to tell it.

As a fiction and memoir writer, the Roosevelt graduate student has had winning stories about being kidnapped and raised by drag queens, the time his mother insisted he sing Whitney Houston's "The Greatest Love of All" publicly and the death of his Siamese cat named JJ.

"He's dedicated, funny and always willing to put in the work it takes to make his stories as good as they can be," said Christian Tebordo, director of the Creative Writing Program at Roosevelt University.

"Storytelling is the framework for my writing," added Jamjun, who won the Moth Grand slam with "JJ," which was published last year by Roosevelt's award-winning literary magazine, *The Oyez Review*.

The Moth is a non profit organization promoting story telling across the nation.

Jamjun had no idea of the depth of loss and confusion that someone down on his luck experiences, until he met Ronald T. Ecklund of Woodstock, Ill. Ecklund spent about a dozen years sleeping on strangers' couches and wandering across parts of the South before pulling his life together in a CSH-sponsored supportive housing apartment in Woodstock. "It's been a phenomenal experience," said Ecklund of his weekly storytelling and writing sessions that began in February with Jamjun.

"I've always deferred to people who know things," said the community activist who volunteers with the Woodstock Bible Soup Kitchen, McHenry County Bicycle Advocates, Revolution Youth Center and the McHenry County Continuum of Care Against Homelessness, to name just a few of his activities. "Archy is intuitive, curious and a kindred spirit in terms of having a sense of artistic emotionalism – and I have to say, he really knows storytelling," said Ecklund.

The aim is to craft a story so moving that it sways legislators, congressmen,

foundations, grant writers, donors, etc. to expand affordable housing with access to support services.

"Supportive housing funding in Illinois hasn't been good, and we hope by getting these two together that there will be a powerful story brought to the forefront that demonstrates the vital role that housing plays in overcoming homelessness," said Samantha Michaels, project coordinator for CSH's Speak Up Illinois.



"I never really thought what I knew how to do would be a way of giving back to the community, but I am learning it is possible."

– ARCHY JAMJUN
Roosevelt Student

"Something amazing happened when I told that part of the story to Archy," said Ecklund. "It was like a light bulb went on. He looked at me and said: 'That's your turning point.' It's really been empowering."

"I always thought I would just tell my own story," added Jamjun. "I never really thought what I knew how to do would be a way of giving back to the community, but I am learning it is possible."

Jamjun is currently writing a book of short stories for his Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing degree. He expects to graduate from Roosevelt in 2017. **R**

*opposite page:
Graduate student
Archy Jamjun
above, left to right:
Ronald T. Ecklund
in a writing session
with Jamjun*

Living in Denmark

LAWRENCE HOWE'S FULBRIGHT FELLOWSHIP

by LAWRENCE HOWE

In 2013, finally heeding the advice of experienced friends and colleagues, I decided to apply for a Fulbright fellowship.

Named for its founder, Senator William Fulbright, this 70-year program has fostered educational exchanges between the United States and countries around the world. Its goals have remained true to Senator Fulbright's vision: to promote mutual understanding and international co-operation.

As I scrolled through the surprising number and variety of opportunities on the Fulbright website, the position of Distinguished Chair in American Studies at the University of Southern Denmark in Odense stood out as an attractive match. Having taught American literature from an interdisciplinary perspective for a long time, I saw this position as my way to help achieve the Fulbright goals.

I wasted no time in assembling the application materials and my three recommenders promptly submitted letters of support. Then the waiting began. Seven months later, I was thrilled when the acceptance letter from the Danish-American Fulbright Commission arrived.

In addition to expressing congratulations, the letter also detailed how much I had to do. First, I had to request leave from Roosevelt, which was generously granted. In addition to complying with visa requirements and addressing all of the practical considerations of living away, I had a lot to learn about Denmark. Scandinavia had never been on my itinerary in the handful of times I'd been to Europe.

A quick search turned up many references to the Danes as the "happiest people on earth," countered by occasional criticism that cast them as cold and unwelcoming. I decided to keep an open mind. Fortunately, the Danes I met were the happy ones. Thanks to their genuine friendliness and the vital culture I came to appreciate, I had a fantastic year. At nearly every step along the way, there was something new to learn and to experience, all of which has subtly re-focused my perspective.

With only 5.5 million people, Denmark realized that maintaining a Danish-only policy could lead to isolation. So throughout their formal education, students learn English.



For Americans contemplating living in a foreign country, language can be a barrier to making the leap. Denmark minimizes the obstacle. Although it’s not officially a bilingual culture, most Danes speak English very well. With only 5.5 million people, Denmark realized that maintaining a Danish-only policy could lead to isolation. So throughout their formal education, students learn English.

To be sure, I had moments of uncertainty. I couldn’t read a local newspaper or follow a television broadcast, signs were often a mystery and on early trips to the grocery store I returned home with something other than what I thought I had purchased. But Danes are very approachable and easily shift to English for those who need help.

I started off with the best intentions of learning the language. So I was surprised when some people discouraged the idea. There’s a common riddle in Denmark that suggests their reason:

Q: Why is Danish the language spoken in heaven?

A: Because it takes an eternity to learn it.

Granted, to American ears, Danish is a challenge. The vowel sounds are subtly complex and Danes drop consonants seemingly indiscriminately. On more than one occasion I had to ask someone to write out the name of a street because I simply couldn’t match what I was hearing to the names on the map. Forget about trying to understand directions on the telephone. This aural difficulty and the unlikelihood of reinforcing what little I might learn upon returning to the U.S. persuaded me to take the easy way out. Although I have a shadow of regret, I think those who advised me had my best interests in mind. In the end, I think that the time I would have dedicated to puzzling over foreign sounds was better spent encountering the culture face to face.

Danes from across the political spectrum staunchly defend their cradle-to-grave social welfare system. Although high tax rates add significantly to the cost of living, Danes accept taxes as a worthwhile social investment. The nation’s middle-class stability is founded on shared responsibility for life-long education, universal health care, generous parental support, unemployment assistance and secure retirement income.

These cultural attitudes are reinforced by a practical approach to solving problems. Take, for example, their bicycle culture. In the 1970s, increased reliance on cars was causing extreme congestion, choking off the quality of life. As a result, they instituted high taxes on cars – adding as much as 180% to the sticker price – as a disincentive. Simultaneously, they committed to building and maintaining safe bicycle routes both in cities and in the countryside. Today, while many still own cars, a solid majority of Danes ride bicycles. It’s common to see even elderly people pedaling around, promoting health and fitness as well as relieving traffic congestion.

Because my wife and I ride bikes a fair amount, it seemed a good idea to make our first acquaintance with Denmark on two wheels. We mapped out a leisurely eight-day tour of several islands. The largest of these, Funen, where we would be living in the city of Odense, is centrally located between the Jutland peninsula to the west and Zealand, site of Copenhagen, to the east. We rode through quaint villages with traditional, white-washed, step-gabled churches, and across rolling farmlands with thatched-roof houses and stone barns. And then from the modest landscape rose Egeskov Slot (pronounced Áy - us - coh Sluh –see what I mean?), a sixteenth-century castle with world-class gardens.

After this close-up introduction to the Danish countryside, we headed to Copenhagen for the Fulbright orientation. The two-day meeting focused on useful information about Danish life and educational culture, but it also provided an opportunity to meet my Fulbright cohort.

The six Fulbright faculty or professional fellows and seven Fulbright students were accomplished in a wide array of fields – health-care policy, law, engineering, ceramics, finance, mineralogy, mathematics, bio-medical research, public art focused on sustainability education, and off-shore wind energy. After a tour of one of the world’s most picturesque cities, we scattered to our postings around the country.

My teaching experience afforded an easy transition. My professional responsibilities were quite familiar: two courses each semester – an American literature survey in each



term, a Mark Twain seminar for seniors in the fall, and a graduate seminar on the literature of American race relations in the spring. My experience in the classroom was not markedly dissimilar to teaching in the U.S. But there are notable differences in the structure and expectations of Danish education. The most significant structural difference is that all five of the national universities are public. And not only is tuition free, but students also receive a stipend for enrolling. Each university has a different emphasis, with very little competition among them. For example, USD has the only American Studies program. Students who want to study that subject area must commute or move to Odense.

While faculty determine the specific content of their courses, a national educational body determines the volume of work to be assigned across the curriculum. Reading requirements are roughly 30-40% less than what I typically assign in a course at Roosevelt. Students are free to do as much or as little of the assigned reading as they choose, or to attend class meetings or not.

Student success is based solely on the final exam. Although the final exam is a high-stakes performance, students have multiple opportunities to succeed. Anyone not earning a passing grade may sit for a follow-up exam two months later. If needed, an additional opportunity is available six months after that.

My Danish colleagues see shortcomings in the system and would prefer to have more authority over academic protocols. For example, they contend that students would benefit from a more rigorous volume of reading and writing assignments throughout the semester, something closer to the practices at U.S. universities.

While I agree with their call for more writing, my Danish experience has prompted me to reconsider the volume of reading I typically assign. Danish faculty also criticize students’ irregular attendance, with concern that a few may enroll simply to take advantage of the stipend benefit. Although this may be true in some cases, attendance in my courses was consistent and regular, about what I see at Roosevelt. In fact, I was impressed by the turnout for 8 a.m. class meetings, especially because some students commuted as much as two hours by train and bus.

Denmark’s population is much more homogeneous than in the U.S., and this was reflected in the students I met. The large majority of them were Danes, though some were either immigrants or born in Denmark to immigrant parents, mostly from the Middle East. Although the current political climate has led to a closed-border policy, Denmark has traditionally welcomed refugees. Still, those who arrived under the more liberal policy and even their Danish-born children have experienced

above: A “Passing Grave” (c.3,500 BCE) on the island of Aero in Denmark. Photo by Judy Frei



Regardless of the outcome, it was a refreshing change to be in a country where the publicly-funded national campaign is compressed into three weeks.

above, left: Egeskov Slot built in 1554 on Funen in Denmark; above, right: Larry Howe touring on one of nearly 2,000 bike trails in Denmark. Photos by Judy Frei

a social divide, an indication that the egalitarianism has not been fully achieved.

A few of my students were from other European countries, enrolled through the EU-sponsored Erasmus exchange program. Four Chinese students studied with me throughout the year. Like me, they were enjoying the opportunity to live abroad and to learn about another culture.

Danish students have very informal relationships with their faculty and are curious about them. At receptions and social events that bring faculty and students together, I had many conversations with students about different aspects of American life. They know a lot about the U.S. and are eager to know more.

I’ve maintained contact with quite a number of the students. Some have asked me to write letters of recommendation for applications to graduate school, internships or to study in the U.S. One of my Danish students is studying at Roosevelt this spring. I sponsored one of my students to conduct field research in the U.S. for her bachelor’s thesis on Native American language preservation. Before heading off to interview educators in South Dakota and Wisconsin, we hosted her for a few days and showed her Chicago sites. These personal contacts and correspondence with students continue to remind me of the value of my time in Denmark.

At a meeting of the American Studies student organization on the eve of the 2014 U.S. mid-term elections, I was invited to explain this phase of the political process. Both the turnout and the volume of questions were impressive. In return, students were an educational resource for me. Six months later, they explained to me how their 2015 parliamentary election had realigned their government.

Regardless of the outcome, it was a refreshing change to be in a country where the publicly-funded national campaign is compressed into three weeks. Political advertising is limited to uniform-sized placards posted on light poles – no robo-calls, mass mailings or television ad blitzes. The main outlets of the campaign are two televised debates, during which candidates from the 10 parties (yes, 10 parties) highlight the differences in their platforms. Voter turnout is quite high – almost 86 percent. And on the day after the election, the new government is installed while the various parties continue to negotiate over coalitions that will optimize leverage.

As much as I was able to learn on campus, I was even more enriched by the community emphasis on the arts as necessary to their quality of life. Communities both large and small support their local Kulturhus, where lectures, workshops, exhibits of a variety of arts and crafts, and musical performances take place.

Denmark’s music scene is diverse in ways that I had not anticipated. While Scandinavian folk holds its own among the more dominant forms of contemporary pop, Danes are jazz enthusiasts, which is more popular there than in the U.S. In the 1960s and ’70s, a number of African-American jazz musicians—Dexter Gordon, Ed Thigpen, Thad Jones, among others—emigrated to Denmark, finding both a community of Danish jazz players with whom they collaborated and a society more musically and socially accepting. In addition to hearing accomplished players at weekly sessions at a jazz club in Odense, I attended a concert of avant-garde jazz at the Nordic cultural center, featuring musicians from the Faroe Islands.

My year in Denmark coincided with the 150th anniversary of the birth of Carl Nielsen, Denmark’s most revered composer. An American Studies colleague and another Danish friend sing in choirs that performed concerts during this year-long celebration. One memorable performance was in Nørre Lyndelse, Nielsen’s childhood hometown. Listening to his music in the small church where his musical career began was a memorable authentic moment.

The other admired cultural figure of the region is Hans Christian Andersen. The author of famous tales like “The Emperor’s New Clothes,” “The Ugly Duckling,” and “The Little Mermaid,” Anderson was born in Odense. The city capitalizes on his celebrity much like Oak Park, Ill., promotes itself as Ernest Hemingway’s birthplace or Hannibal, Mo. claims Mark Twain. And like those two American figures, Andersen left his hometown in his teens.

As fulfilling as it was to learn so much about the history, society and culture of Denmark, the most gratifying aspect of my Fulbright experience, by far, was the friendship. My American Studies colleagues are extremely interesting and generous people. Their wealth of world experience, cross-cultural knowledge and good humor made for engaging and informative conversations and seamless connections among us.


I was frequently surprised at how current they are with American popular culture and contemporary issues in politics, business and sociology. A few root for one or another NFL team. The most dedicated fan and I had adjacent offices and he was eager to talk on Mondays about the weekend’s results. He even followed the NFL Draft and was thrilled to discover that it was held at Roosevelt University.

Another colleague invited us to see her roller derby team skate against a team from Aalborg. In addition to events like this, Danish friends welcomed us into their homes. There was always food and drink – *smørbrød* and beer, or coffee and *wienerbrød* (ironically, “Danish” pastry is an imported delicacy, as the name “Vienna bread” suggests). Try as I might, I never acquired the taste for pickled herring or a chaser of schnapps.

In winter, Danes light their homes with the glow of candles. Although the climate is not as severe as it is in Chicago, winter daylight hours are short. As a point of comparison, a Chicagoan would have to travel north almost 1,000 miles to match the latitude of southern Denmark. While the candles soften the darkness of the season, potted orchids on the window sills of nearly every house are a reminder of sunnier days ahead. Offsetting the darkness of winter, the midsummer sky begins to brighten at around 3:30 a.m., and remains light as late as 10:30 p.m. So the social life moves outdoors and also lasts longer during those summer months.

The opportunity to live in Denmark for a year was fascinating in more ways than I had imagined. I grew so accustomed to the rhythm of life there that my return date crept up on me without much notice. Short-term vacations to visit new places have their benefits, but only an extended stay provides sustained cultural exposure and a durable connection to people.

The Fulbright goals of mutual understanding and international co-operation were certainly fulfilled for me. I hope that my Danish friends feel that I reciprocated. For the many opportunities of that year, I’m grateful to more than a few people and institutions – to my Danish friends, to the American Studies program at USD, to the Danish-American Fulbright Commission and especially to Roosevelt University for granting me the leave time that made this rewarding experience possible.

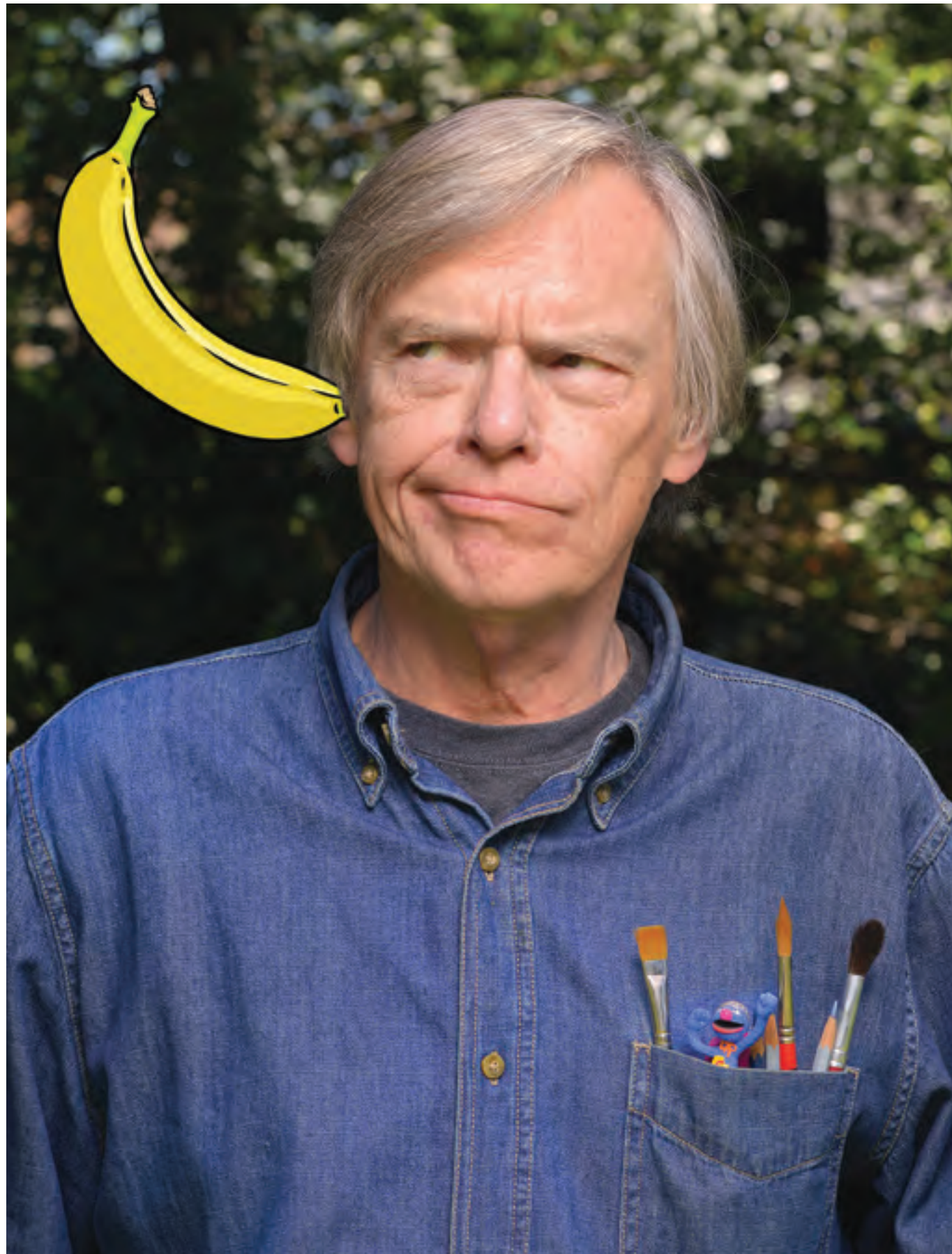
Of course, I’m grateful also to those colleagues who encouraged me to apply for a Fulbright in the first place. I’d be happy to play a similar role for Roosevelt colleagues, alumni, and students. Like I did, they might find it the opportunity of a lifetime. 

Larry Howe recently celebrated his 20th year on the Roosevelt faculty. A native of Boston, he completed his bachelor’s degree and his doctorate at The University of California at Berkeley. He is the author of *Mark Twain and the Novel: The Double-Cross of Authority* (Cambridge University Press), and is co-editor of and contributor to two essay collections—*Refocusing Chaplin: A Screen Icon Through Critical Lenses* (Scarecrow Press) and *Mark Twain and Money* (University of Alabama Press, forthcoming 2016.) When he’s not teaching or researching a wide range of topics in American culture and film, he plays mandolin in Compass Rose Sextet, a world folk and gypsy jazz ensemble. He and his wife, Judy Frei, live in Oak Park, Ill.

Illustrating America's Childhood

THE ART OF ROOSEVELT ALUMNUS JOEL SCHICK

by LYNN WEINER



Millions of Americans recognize the work of Joel Schick (BA,'68). But like many illustrators, his name is not as well-known as his art – renderings of Cookie Monster, Big Bird and hundreds of other whimsical figures in nearly 80 children's books, including Muppet and Sesame Street stories and illustrations for the beloved *Wayside School* and *Magic School Bus* series.

Schick's first publication resulted from doodles created in Roosevelt University classrooms in the mid-1960s. "I was one of those students," he remembered, "wearing blue jeans, an army jacket and sunglasses, sitting in the back of a class with my green denim book bag and drawing in the margins of my notebooks."

Schick applied to Roosevelt in 1965 after leaving Northwestern University and Augustana College due to disciplinary issues. Roosevelt's admissions officer told him his test scores were good but he had poor grades and a record as a troublemaker. "There's not a college in this country that would accept you with a record like this. Luckily for you we are running a special for draft-age men," the admissions officer said and admitted Schick on the spot.



“I was given a second chance by Roosevelt . . . a school that gave me a break when I was down, and it very likely saved my life.”

– JOEL SCHICK



above: Schick’s cover design for Kurt Vonnegut, Jr.’s 1976 novel, “Slapstick.”

“I was given a second chance by Roosevelt . . . a school that gave me a break when I was down, and it very likely saved my life,” he said.

Schick had always been interested in art, remarking that “as a kid I was crazy about Donald Duck and Little Lulu, Disney animation and *MAD Magazine*.” But his high school art teacher told him, “Forget it, you don’t have enough talent to be an artist.” So Schick turned instead toward music and played in a band; while at Roosevelt, he was offered a job in New York City as a songwriter. However, not willing to lose his student draft deferment, he remained at Roosevelt until graduation.

Like many Roosevelt students, he worked while going to school – loading planes at O’Hare, working as an auditor/night clerk at an Oak Brook hotel and counseling in a home for emotionally disturbed children in Evanston. He assumed he would enter a career in social services. But then he found work at a print shop, where he learned how art made its way from a client’s notion to publication. There he found his vocation.

His schedule was busy – attending morning classes, going to work and studying in the middle of the night. He was rarely on campus except for class, though he recalled reading the *Torch* and attending campus film festivals. After nearly half a century, he still can remember several of his professors, including Aurora Biamonte in psychology, Morris Springer in French (“I remember him better than I do French!”), and especially English professor Marilyn Levy, who taught public speaking and invited Schick to meet her husband, a graphic designer, at her home in Evanston, Ill.

GRADUATES IN 1968

While earning a BA in psychology, Schick married Northwestern University student Alice Raffer, who became an editor and writer and a collaborator on many projects. In 1968 he graduated. “I am deeply grateful to Roosevelt,” he said. “I felt that it actually cared about my wellbeing. And I came out a lot better than I went in.”

Joel and Alice moved to New York with a

portfolio of cartoon marginalia from his Roosevelt notebooks. There he sought design work with book publishers and began a career with such publishing houses as Holt Reinhart and Winston, Random House, Delacorte, and Dell. During those years, he designed hundreds of books and book jackets. He was especially excited to design several Kurt Vonnegut books, including *Breakfast of Champions*, and *Arctic Dreams* by Barry Lopez. Both books won the National Book Award. He also remembers spending afternoons at Vonnegut’s house, discussing projects, watching the Nixon impeachment hearings and meeting a new young author – John Irving.

DRAWING FOR CHILDREN

“Designing books was great fun, but I wanted to draw, to illustrate for children,” he said. In the mid 1970s the Schicks moved to western Massachusetts where they created books together and raised their son Morgan. Joel also became art director for the Bank Street College of Education, developing board games, pre-school text programs, retail marketing and corporate branding.

His first children’s trade book illustration came out in 1974 and embellished an 1885 poem by James Whitcomb Riley, published as *The Gobble Uns’ll Git You, Ef You Don’t Watch Out!* It was an award-winning hit. He then began getting calls to illustrate other children’s books. “I became the go-to guy when publishers wanted someone to bring a little humor to a manuscript,” he said.

In the 1980s he and Alice created a newspaper comic strip, which, while it didn’t make it into print, caught the eye of Muppet illustrator Tom Leigh. Leigh had collaborated on previous projects with Joel and Alice and when he began working for Sesame Street introduced Joel to his contacts. “It was a match made in heaven,” Leigh remembered.

Although Schick had no formal art training, Leigh said, “He drew and



painted very well, and understood form and spatial relationships, which helped him easily assimilate how the characters were built and how they moved.” What really set Joel’s work apart, Leigh added, “was the sense of joy and animation he drew from these characters.”

Artist James Mahon, the former creative director for Henson Associates and Sesame Street, said that Schick’s illustrations “reflected the bright, cheerful enthusiasm of the Muppets and also the human foibles of many of them. An artist puts ideas into form and working with Joel allowed us to explore more complex things.”

MUPPETS AND MORE

For 15 years Schick created images of Kermit, Miss Piggy, Gonzo, Elmo, Big

Bird, Cookie Monster and Grover. He illustrated Muppet books, Sesame Street magazines, products and packaging. “I loved this work,” he said, “because it required that I learn how every product was manufactured, what limitations the manufacturers faced and how to work within and around those limitations.”

At that time Muppet creator Jim Henson insisted that every Muppet product feature a new piece of art, and there were hundreds of products requiring hundreds of pieces of art – and only about a dozen artists in the world were permitted to draw the characters.

While working with the Muppets, Joel continued to collaborate with Alice on picture books, comic strips, a public school reading program and a website. “And all along,” he said, “I kept doing design, not just books, but advertising, packaging, posters,



above: detail and cover from the award-winning book “The Gobble Uns’ll Git You, Ef You Don’t Watch Out!”



above: Edward Hopper: *Nighthawks on Sesame Street*
opposite page: Schick in his music studio

toys. All sorts of fun projects for paying clients and also pro bono work for animal causes, schools and a public theater.”

His trade book illustrations have been honored with many awards, including a Wisconsin Golden Archer Award (voted on by middle school students), a New Jersey Book Award, and a Caldecott Honor award. His career was also recognized in 2012 by the W.E.B. Du Bois Center in Great Barrington, Mass., with a show titled “Bein’ Green: Why Every Color is Beautiful: An Exhibition of Original Muppets Artwork by Illustrator Joel Schick.” He also created a series of popular art parodies, featuring Muppets at the center of well-known paintings, including Grover as Thomas Gainsborough’s *Blue Boy*, Elmo and Zoe in Jan Van Eyck’s *Arnolfini Marriage*, and Telly in Edvard Munch’s *The Scream*.

Just as satisfying have been the numerous letters from young readers. “One of the joys of illustrating children’s book is the

contact with kids,” said Schick. Six-year-old Randy Cecil in 1975 created a puzzle based on one of Schick’s illustrations. The two corresponded several times through the years and Cecil grew up to become an artist who has now illustrated over 20 children’s books.

Other fans included Michael, who wrote in 1981 that “I thought my brother was a good artist but he’s nothing compared to you.” Christian liked the pictures in Schick’s adaptation of the monster in *Frankenstein*, but believed that Schick missed something crucial – there was supposed to be “a steal piece stuck threw his head!” (Christian still had to learn some spelling techniques), and Devin, who wanted to emulate one of the *Wayside School* book characters with a tattoo, which Joel was happy to draw for him.



“The Roosevelt University Archives is thrilled to house Joel Schick’s collection, especially since the artwork will enhance our collection of award-winning children’s books.”

– LAURA MILLS
Roosevelt Archivist

above: Pablo Picasso:
Old Guitarist (Furry
Blue Period)

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Schick no longer illustrates books but has returned to music – writing songs, singing, playing harmonica and guitar, and producing CDs. He has written almost 400 songs and finds a connection between art and music. According to Joel, both art and music are “about a desire to entertain, to communicate with an audience.” Samples of his songs and art are available on the website he and Alice established to make their work available: FamilyGorilla.com.

And he hasn’t forgotten the university that took him in. “I love Roosevelt . . . they treated me like an adult,” he said. “They allowed me to decide how much I would or could integrate into the RU community . . . they offered me everything I needed for a college education.”

ROOSEVELT ARCHIVES 2015

In November 2015 Schick visited Roosevelt and donated his papers, books and original artwork to the library. “The Roosevelt University Archives is thrilled to house Joel Schick’s collection,” said archivist Laura Mills, “especially since the artwork will enhance our collection of award-winning children’s books.” Among the items donated are sketches, correspondence, original art and even some of Schick’s old Roosevelt notebooks complete with doodles.

The Joel Schick Collection, Schick hopes, will show how people really produce art: by refining, redrawing, re-imagining, editing and discarding. And, he suggests, the collection “is important because I’m *not* famous. I’m a good illustrator, but not a famous one. Millions of kids have read the *Wayside School* books I illustrated, millions of people have seen my Sesame Street art. But nobody knows the artist.”

Schick believes there are three kinds of illustrators. On the top are a few celebrities, like Maurice Sendak or Robert McCloskey, who had the financial resources to spend long periods of time on single projects and make each book an important publishing event. At the other end of the spectrum are a great number of artists who draw a book or two and then leave the business when they can’t make a living at it.

And in the middle, Schick suggests, “there are the people like me, journeymen illustrators, who work at it all their careers.” They have to work on several books at one time to make a living, draw in many styles and media, realize other people’s ideas and negotiate artistic visions with the client. “We have the soul of an artist, yes,” Schick said, “but also the soul of a tradesman, a cabinetmaker, perhaps or machinist – the soul of a tinkerer and the soul of a hunter-gatherer.”

This last group creates, he said, “a lot of the art we see in children’s books – the art we all grow up on, the art that helps us learn to read, the art that illustrates our fantasies.”

This art is created by successful, talented, familiar, but largely anonymous artisans. Like Joel Schick. 🐼



SELECTED CHILDREN’S BOOKS
ILLUSTRATED BY JOEL SCHICK

Undertoe at Dawn
(Roosevelt University scribbles)

The Gobble Uns’ll Git You, Ef You Don’t Watch Out!

Joel Schick’s Christmas Present

Dracula (Graphic novel adaptation)

Frankenstein (Graphic novel adaptation)

Doggy Dramas

Just This Once

The Remarkable Ride of Israel Bissell

Santaberry and the Snard

Serengeti Cats

The Siamang Gibbons

Elmo’s Sounds Around Town

Zoo Year

Sesame Street Fairy Tales

Friendly, Frosty Monsters

How to Eat Fried Worms

The Jungle Book

Babar: Snapshots from Celesteville

Little Stevie Wonder: Places Under the Sun

Muppet Time

The Magic School Bus at the Haunted Museum

Scream Cheese and Jelly

A Trip to the Sesame Street Aquarium

Viola Hates Music

Wayside School is Falling Down

Wayside School Gets a Little Stronger

by Joel Schick

Faculty Authors/Books

SOCIAL MEDIA IN IRAN: Politics and Society after 2009

by DAVID FARIS



David Faris, associate professor of political science and chair of Roosevelt’s Department of Political Science and Public Administration, is one of the editors of

the book *Social Media in Iran: Politics and Society after 2009*.

The first book to tell the complex story of how and why Iranians use social media, *Social Media in Iran* includes 14 chapters written by emerging and established scholars in Middle Eastern and Media Studies.

“The book shows us how digital media contributed to the mobilization of uprisings, particularly after Iran’s controversial presidential election in 2009,” said Faris, who co-edited the book with University of California at San Diego Professor Babak Rahini.

“It looks at the role that the Internet has played in different facets of Iranian society, including the arts, cinema and across genders,” he said. “It also presents a cross-section of lived experiences by Iranians who have integrated social media into their lives.”

Faris co-wrote the introduction to the book with Rahini. The Roosevelt professor also authored one of the book’s chapters entitled “Architectures of Control and Mobilization in Egypt and Iran.”

(SUNY Press)

NO PLACE FOR ME and SON OF THE TIMES: Life, Laughter, Love and Coffee

by JOHN FOUNTAIN

John Fountain, professor of journalism, published *No Place for Me*, a book about faith and the difficulties involved in the religious journey, and *Son of The Times: Life, Laughter, Love and Coffee*, a compilation of stories and commentary penned by Fountain during 25 years as a newspaper columnist and journalist.



No Place for Me looks at Fountain’s personal experience growing up on Chicago’s West Side in a grandparent’s storefront church that he came to love and then grew to

hate so much that he eventually stopped attending church.

“It’s more than just a narrative of one man’s religious journey. Rather, it is reflective of the quandary facing thousands of men and women who love God but can no longer bring themselves to go to church on Sundays,” said Fountain of the book that grew out of his 2005 *Washington Post* essay, “No Place for Me.”

Featuring pieces on everything from everyday life and homicide to poverty and hope, *Son of the Times* captures a mix of the best of the Roosevelt professor’s columns that essentially tell stories about the human experience.

Fountain also recently released an updated paperback version of *Dear Dad: Reflections on Fatherhood*, a 2011 book of narrative essays by some of the nation’s finest journalists and writers who tell stories about relationships, or lack thereof, with their fathers. The updated book includes two new essays.

(West Side Press)

LIKE A DOG: A Memoir

by VINCENT FRANCONÉ

Vincent Francone, lecturer in English composition, published *Like a Dog: A Memoir* in November 2015. The book focuses on the Roosevelt professor’s early years as an autodidact who intentionally drops out of community college in order to read as many books as possible to become self-taught.



Along the way, this pursuit requires Francone to work a number of crazy jobs. The memoir documents his experiences as a U.S. Postal Service mail sorter in Chicago’s

southwest suburbs and as a clerk in the legendary Aspidistra bookstore on Chicago’s North Side.

Deciding a college education offered more opportunity, Francone received a bachelor’s degree in English from Roosevelt in 2006 and a master’s degree in Creative Writing from Northwestern University in 2008. He was an adjunct English instructor at Roosevelt and three other area colleges before landing a full-time teaching position at Roosevelt in 2011.

“I always knew Roosevelt would be the place I would land,” said Francone, who teaches English composition and a smattering of literature classes. He is currently working on a book about his experiences collecting books, (he’s got more than 6,000), and the process of having to sell some of them every time he’s moved, which has been about 16 times in the last 20 years!

(Blue Heron Book Works)

CRITICAL VIEWS ON TEACHING AND LEARNING ENGLISH AROUND THE GLOBE: Qualitative Research Approaches

by ERIN MACKINNEY

Erin Mackinney, assistant professor of English as a Second Language (ESL)/Bilingual Education, is co-editor of *Critical Views on Teaching and Learning English Around the Globe: Qualitative Research Approaches* (2016).



Providing new perspectives on the daily practice of teaching and learning English, the book features the voices and experiences of students, teachers

and specialists from both core and non-core English-speaking countries.

Designed for use in college classrooms, *Critical Views on Teaching and Learning English Around the Globe* is based on original qualitative studies conducted by scholars from different parts of the world including Europe, the Middle East, Asia and the Americas.

Mackinney edited the book with José Aldemar Álvarez of the Universidad del Valle in Colombia, Cathy Amanti of Georgia State University and Shireen Keyl of Utah State University. She also wrote a chapter for the book, “‘I Translate Everything in My Head’: Maintaining Bilingualism in a U.S. Middle School,” which grew from a dissertation at the University of Arizona focused on her experiences as a teacher and researcher in a dual-language school in Miami.

(Information Age Publishing)

LIBERTY LANDING

by GAIL VIDA HAMBURG



Gail Vida Hamburg, an adjunct professor in Roosevelt’s Manfred Steinfeld School of Hospitality and Tourism Management, was a finalist for the 2016 PEN/Bellwether Prize for Socially

Engaged Fiction for her forthcoming novel, *Liberty Landing*.

A multicultural, literary, historical and social novel about the American experience of the 21st Century, *Liberty Landing* tells the story of a group of immigrants, refugees, a descendant of slaves and one of the nation’s founding fathers, Alexander Hamilton, who, himself, was an immigrant.

“This is a novel about family and loss, finding new love and a new home, about history and America, and about this country that we have all made together,” said Hamburg, who will teach a course in multicultural communications in the fall.

Inspired by John Dos Passos’ *U.S.A.*, the novel manuscript for *Liberty Landing* was among 10 finalists for the \$25,000 prize that is supported by writer Barbara Kingsolver, and which recognizes a new work of fiction addressing social justice issues and the impact of culture and politics on human relationships.

Liberty Landing is expected to be released in 2017.

“On the one hand, nostalgia has helped whites hold on to concepts like whiteness, white privilege and white identity.”

– HEATHER DALMAGE

VANISHING EDEN: White Construction of Memory, Meaning and Identity in a Racially Changing City

by MICHAEL MALY and HEATHER DALMAGE

Michael Maly and Heather Dalmage, professors of sociology, published *Vanishing Eden: White Construction of Memory, Meaning and Identity in a Racially Changing City*. The two interviewed 53 people who grew up in neighborhoods on Chicago’s Southwest and West sides between 1955 and the late



1980s when white flight to the suburbs was the norm. Focusing on how whites made sense of their experiences and memories, Maly and Dalmage encountered many who talked of declining property values, loss of their biggest investment, influx of realtors encouraging flight, and a sense of feeling victimized by loss of community when blacks began moving in.

More significant, however, was the discovery that whites, in telling their stories, waxed nostalgic for a place and way of life they would not find again.

“On the one hand, nostalgia has helped whites hold on to concepts like whiteness, white privilege and white identity,” said Dalmage. “At the same time, nostalgia has prevented them from moving beyond these constructs which they must do if they are to empathize with all of humanity,” added Maly.

Neighborhoods where interviewees came from included Chicago’s Gage Park, Chicago Lawn, West Lawn, West Elsdon, East Beverly, Auburn Gresham, West Englewood and Humboldt Park.

(Temple University Press)

LIVING LITERACY AT HOME: A Parent’s Guide

by MARGARET POLICASTRO

Margaret PolICASTRO, professor of language and literacy in Roosevelt’s College of Education, published *Living Literacy at Home: A Parent’s Guide*.



Chock full of tips on effective ways for making every-day reading a joy for parents and their children, the book grew out of PolICASTRO’s own experiences teaching four sons to appreciate reading as well as her 28 years of directing Roosevelt’s successful Summer Reading Clinic for children.

“There has been a lot of concern about our current state of literacy,” said PolICASTRO, whose book outlines many simple ways in which parents can engage their children in reading. Some of the book’s proposals involve creative use of space at home while other suggestions center on family outings.

“I want to help parents get more involved in their child’s or children’s reading. *Living Literacy at Home* will give them plenty of options for making literacy come alive every day,” she said.

For instance, the Roosevelt professor believes children should be encouraged to keep a daily journal at home. She proposes setting up a homework center where kids can work quietly in the same space every day, as well as creation of a literacy-rich environment where books, newspapers and magazines always are within reach. Other possible tools could be songs or games involving literacy, according to the book.

(Capstone Classroom)

PERSIAN LETTERS by Charles Louis de Secondat, Baron de Montesquieu

translation by STUART WARNER

Stuart Warner, associate professor of philosophy, has translated French philosopher Charles Louis de Secondat, Baron de Montesquieu’s 1721 masterpiece entitled *Persian Letters* into English.



A monumental work, the book is the first translation of Montesquieu’s unsurpassed epistolary novel to be published in 30 years. Journeying across an unending landscape of all things human, the book touches on a number of themes regarding the human condition including: mastery and slavery; jealousy; philosophy and tyranny; self-deception; commerce; nature and convention; the best life for a human being; vanity; glory; and human sexuality.

“This is a book about tyranny, oppression and the inequality of women,” said Warner who co-translated the book with his former student, Stéphane Douard.

Allowing Montesquieu to speak for himself, the book lends new meaning to both the philosopher’s serious and playful intentions, and it is expected to be the standard translation of *Persian Letters* for years to come.

“I’ve translated a number of texts, but Montesquieu is one of those figures whose writings about human beings are deep, profound and complex,” said Warner. *Persian Letters* is expected to be released later this year.

(St. Augustine’s Press)

HOW GREAT SCIENCE FICTION WORKS

by GARY WOLFE

Gary Wolfe, professor of humanities, has produced a series of 24 lectures on *How Great Science Fiction Works*, which is available through The Great Courses series at www.thegreatcourses.com

Available on 12 CDs or four DVDs, or simply by downloading from www.audible.com, the lectures by Wolfe take an unparalleled look at the influence, history and greatest works of science fiction, revealing the qualities that make science fiction an enduring phenomenon and increasingly popular genre.



Lecture topics include: “Mary Shelley and the Birth of Science Fiction;” “Science Fiction in the 19th Century;” “Utopian Dreams and Dystopian Nightmares;” “The Rise of the Science Fiction Pulp;” “The Robot: From Capek to Asimov;” “Invasions, Space Wars and Xenocide;” “Religion in Science Fiction;” “Gender Questions and Feminist Science Fiction;” “Science Fiction in the 21st Century;” and “The Future of Science Fiction;” to name just a few.

“With this project, we are taking science fiction to the general public,” said Wolfe, who taped the series last fall at the Great Courses headquarters in Virginia. “As a result, I expect that a lot of people who are interested in the series will listen to these CDs while commuting or jogging, or will watch the DVDs on TV,” said Wolfe, who has been a five-time nominee for the prestigious Hugo Award.

(The Great Courses)

“I’ve translated a number of texts, but Montesquieu is one of those figures whose writings about human beings are deep, profound and complex.”

– STUART WARNER

| WOMEN'S BASKETBALL |

A NEWELL DAY

ROOSEVELT'S WOMEN'S BASKETBALL PROGRAM GOES FORWARD
WITH NEW HEAD COACH KEISHA NEWELL

BY JOHN JARAMILLO



nusual circumstances affected the Roosevelt women's basketball team two weeks before the start of the 2015-16 academic year.

Robyn Scherr-Wells, the head coach of the Lakers for the previous five seasons, left to take the same position at Davenport University in Grand Rapids, Mich. That left the Lakers without a head coach for the first time since 2009 and it forced Athletic Director Mike Cassidy to quickly find a replacement.

Fortunately, he found a woman with a passion for basketball that was balanced with a life perspective molded by some time away from the game.

Just 28 years old when she was named head coach last September, Keisha Newell had established herself as a gritty leader and hard-working offensive catalyst while playing point guard for Loyola University Chicago from 2007-10. After graduating, her leadership and nose-to-the-grindstone work ethic immediately landed her a position on Loyola's coaching staff, where she helped recruit top-tier talent locally and across the country in an effort that led the Ramblers to one of their best finishes in program history in 2013.

In 2014, Newell stepped away from the NCAA Division I coaching grind and became a student-athlete recruiter in the admissions office at North Park University on Chicago's northwest side. While at North Park, Newell (née Collins) started a family after marrying former Simeon and Ball State standout Anthony Newell and giving birth to the couple's first child, a son named Kamryn.

It was during this time away from coaching that Newell sharpened her approach to using basketball as an opportunity to teach "big picture" lessons, and it made the Roosevelt job an attractive position when she was ready to get back into coaching.

"I definitely learned a lot from my experience on the outside," Newell said. "It's more than just basketball. It's about sticking to basic principles, being good women and good citizens." Don't get her



"IT'S MORE THAN JUST BASKETBALL. IT'S ABOUT STICKING TO BASIC PRINCIPLES, BEING GOOD WOMEN AND GOOD CITIZENS."

— KEISHA NEWELL

Roosevelt Women's Basketball Coach



wrong. Newell likes to win. But winning is a bit broader in her mind. Winning involves getting results and achieving them with two bedrocks on display: respect and hard work.

Fortunately for Newell, the cupboard wasn't bare in terms of good players and good people to instill such values when she arrived on campus.

Roosevelt's student-athletes had trained on their own until the hiring of Newell was made official. They played pickup ball, lifted in the weight room and stayed close during the summer to make sure they didn't miss a beat when their new coach took over. Led by senior point guard Becky Williford, a captain who has earned many accolades for her work

on and off the court, this year's Lakers were ready to prove to Newell and themselves that last year's rough 8-win campaign was a confluence of difficult circumstances.

"They stayed in shape and they were motivated, even with not having a coach for a few months," Newell observed. "Becky set the tone. I thought they faced a lot of adversity, and they really bought into the culture we wanted to build."

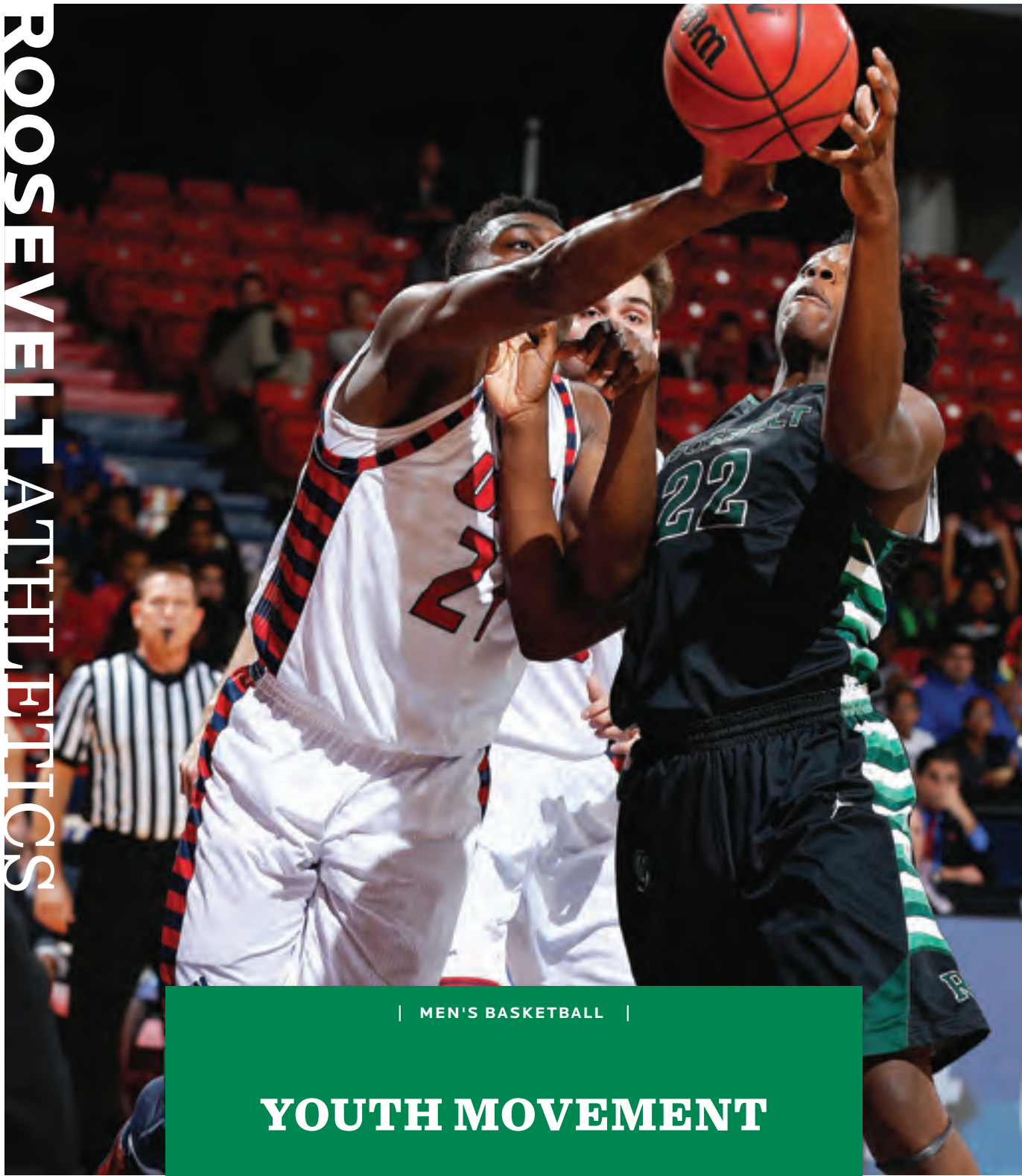
With that buy-in and trust in a new staff, things clicked early for the Lakers. Roosevelt won its first three games and won nine, more than last season's total all year, before Christmas. Wins became tougher to come by near the start of a new calendar year due to a grueling schedule, as seven Top 25 opponents provided stern test after stern test.

In the end Roosevelt qualified for the eight-team CCAC Tournament with 15 victories, nearly double that of 2014-15, before bowing out to regular season champion St. Francis (Ill.). Those accomplishments were "unbelievable" in the context of how the school year began, and Newell was even prouder with how the group achieved them.

"We emphasize that the spotlight is on them, that they are not just representing themselves, but their team and University as well," Newell said. "Body language on and off the court is a big deal. We want them to think about how they would act in a professional setting and make sure that, just because they are on the court, they don't lose sight of that. Everyone followed that, and everyone respected each other."

Now that Newell will have her first off-season to prepare for year two, she is focused on reinforcing the foundation set this past year while restocking the roster to help her returning players. "Roosevelt is a gold mine," Newell proclaimed. "When people get to know the tradition, the tight-knit community, and the campus, they want to be a part of this." **R**

opposite page: Head coach Keisha Newell. top: Becky Williford showed leadership on and off the court. bottom: Paige Gallimore averaged a team-leading 16 points per game.



| MEN'S BASKETBALL |

YOUTH MOVEMENT

ROOSEVELT'S MEN'S BASKETBALL PROGRAM REBUILDS

BY JOHN JARAMILLO

T

he Roosevelt men's basketball team had some rebuilding to do after losing veteran leaders Tyree York, Joe Harks and Jeremiah Jackson to graduation the year before. With nearly 60 percent of their previous year's offense graduating, the Lakers took their lumps during a 12-15 season this past winter.

However, the short-term pain should result in long-term gain. That's because head coach Joe Griffin's team features young talent who played crucial roles in 2015-16, and those roles will only expand as they gain more experience.

Freshman guard Jake Ludwig proved to be a quick adaptor to the college game. The St. Charles, Ill. native burst onto the scene as an offensive catalyst and finished the year leading the Lakers in scoring with 17.9 points per game. Wielding a propensity to get to the rim and make big shots, the 6-foot-1 rookie was named the 2015-16 Chicagoland Collegiate Athletic Conference Freshman of the Year, marking the first time a Roosevelt player has won that award, and an All-CCAC Second Team selection.

"Jake was a breath of fresh air for our program this year," Griffin said. "What's most impressive about Jake, however, are his intangibles. His toughness, intensity, and desire to win are second to none. He is a special kid with a bright future, and he will be a cornerstone in our continued success as a program."

Ludwig was joined in the backcourt by another rookie, point guard Kyle Bumbalough from New Castle, Ind. Bumbalough is just 5-foot-9, but his grit and reliable offensive leadership make him a big player in Griffin's system.

"Kyle is one of the toughest little guys that we've been around," said Griffin. "He is unique in that he plays bigger than his size, and he really had a solid freshman year. With more experience he will continue to get better and better. Like Jake, his motor and how hard he plays are his most valuable attributes,



HEAD COACH JOE GRIFFIN'S TEAM FEATURES YOUNG TALENT WHO PLAYED CRUCIAL ROLES IN 2015-16, AND THOSE ROLES WILL ONLY EXPAND AS THEY GAIN MORE EXPERIENCE.



and he is as good an example of a true student athlete as there is, sporting a 3.9 GPA as a biology major."

Sophomore forward Joshua Dillingham proved to be unstoppable at times during his second season. The team's leading rebounder, Dillingham is a

Bolingbrook, Ill.-native who showed flashes of dominance in the post when he was able to stay out of foul trouble. He provided Roosevelt fans a first-hand glimpse of his potential when he scored a career-high 26 points and almost single-handedly rallied the Lakers back against eventual CCAC tournament champion Robert Morris Illinois at the Goodman Center this past January.

"Josh has been an outstanding teammate and leader in his two years," Griffin said of the 6-foot-4 Dillingham. "Like most young players, he is continuing to learn how to harness his energy and passion. He makes you happy to come to the gym every day just by his presence. The jump he made from his freshman to sophomore years is impressive and, if he can continue to make similar jumps, he will go down as one of the most memorable players in our short history."

Those are just three of the young players Griffin has on his roster for next year and beyond, and reinforcements via the recruiting trail should give Roosevelt more talent to take a greater step forward in the rigorous CCAC. [3](#)

opposite page: As UIC found, wherever a loose ball goes, Joshua Dillingham is usually nearby. above: Kyle Bumbalough is as bright handling point guard duties as he is studying biology. below: Jake Ludwig was the CCAC's top rookie and one of the best players in the league last year.

Match Point: Vivian Rodriguez

by PETER J. LAHAIE (BPS, '12)

In high school, Vivian Rodriguez was pretty sure she wanted to be an ultrasound technician.

“I wanted to be able to tell the parents whether the baby was a boy or a girl!” However, when she heard that it was the doctor who generally shares this information with parents, she changed her mind. But, she knew that she wanted to be a health care practitioner and help people.

She started looking into allied health programs and decided that nuclear medicine technology was the field for her. She was fascinated by the ability of nuclear medicine to provide unique information about the structure and function of virtually every major organ system within the human body, setting it apart from other types of imaging. Today, as a Roosevelt University student, Vivian performs clinical hours at Northwestern Memorial Hospital, helping physicians characterize and quantify physiologic function at the molecular level by administering radioactive nuclides for disease diagnosis and, in some cases, therapy.

A few years ago when she and her family visited and toured Roosevelt’s Chicago Campus, she knew that this is where she wanted to be. And once her dad saw the Wabash Building and her reaction to the possibility of living and studying there, he made the decision that he would not deny her the opportunity to do so.

Rodriguez was an excellent student and talented athlete at Eisenhower High School in Blue Island, Ill. She was also an active participant in show choir, concert choir, band (she plays trumpet) and mathletes. And, she did all this while working part-time for her dad in his restaurant in Blue Island.

When she arrived at Roosevelt, she worked as a student ambassador in the Office of Admission for her first three years. “Now as a senior, I work for the Athletics Department.


With my clinical hours at the hospital, I needed evening hours,” she explained. She also has held multiple positions within her sorority, Alpha Gamma Delta. She played on the Roosevelt women’s tennis team as a sophomore and was the team captain last year.

When asked about professors who have influenced her, she instantly smiled and said: “Dr. (Cornelius) Watson and Dr. (Norbert) Cordeiro.” “Dr. Watson was the faculty member who made me want to attend Roosevelt,” she said. Watson returned the compliment, saying that Rodriguez “is a bright, conscientious and personable student who has a promising future in the health sciences.”

“Vivian is a student who has an intense curiosity for the sciences,” said Cordeiro, who impressed Rodriguez by bringing artifacts from the Field Museum for students to study in class. “Despite being heavily involved in athletics as well as a plethora of other activities, what I found exciting about Vivian is how she strove to maintain academics as her central focus — I think we all know that this is not an easy task.”

One of the things that Rodriguez has enjoyed most while studying at Roosevelt is the diversity of the student body. “I love getting to know people from all over the country.” In her studies at Northwestern Memorial, she has enjoyed learning about all of the rare diseases that are diagnosed using her discipline.

When she graduates, she hopes to find a job at a Chicago area hospital with Northwestern Memorial and Central DuPage being her top choices. She’s grateful for everyone at Roosevelt who has supported her during the last four years, especially Trustee Gerald Fogelson, who funded her scholarship.

“I’m starting a career helping people in a profession that I love. I’m appreciative for all the help that has allowed me to achieve this goal,” she said. 



SPOTLIGHT ON: VIVIAN S. RODRIGUEZ
GRADUATION: MAY 2016
MAJOR: ALLIED HEALTH – NUCLEAR MEDICINE TECHNOLOGY
HOMETOWN: BLUE ISLAND, ILL.
HIGH SCHOOL: DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER HIGH SCHOOL
SCHOLARSHIP: FOGELSON GENERAL SCHOLARSHIP

by PETER PIATKOWSKI

WhereRU?

1950s

VIVIAN R. JACOBSON (BA, '58), a College of Education major, recently presented a talk, *Elvis and Chagall* at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke. The talk found an artistic link between singer Elvis Presley and painter Marc Chagall. Jacobson's talk was part of UNC's Installation Week. Along with her degree from Roosevelt University, Jacobson also holds a degree from Northeastern Illinois University. She's a member of various artistic organizations and is a fan of art and Presley.

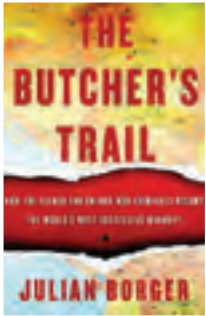
1960s

STERLING PLUMPP (BA, '68) participated in the Delta Symposium at Arkansas State University. An award-winning author, Plumpp is prolific with many titles to his credit including *Black Rituals* and *Blues Narratives*, among others. He's the recipient of various industry and art awards including the Illinois Arts Council Award and the Carl Sandburg Literary Award for Poetry.

1970s

JACQUES PAUL KLEIN (MA, '71) had his work featured in a new book, Julian Borger's thriller, *The Butcher's Trail*. The book centers on the International Criminal Tribunal's efforts to arrest and convict Balkan war criminals. Klein's extensive work in diplomacy and foreign affairs includes serving as special representative of the secretary-general and coordinator of the United Nations Operations in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Transitional Administrator in Croatia. In

2003, he was appointed by the United Nations secretary-general as his special representative to Liberia. His diplomatic work has been rewarded with numerous awards and honors and he has been



granted honorary titles by countries including Belgium, Germany, Brazil, Senegal, France, and in 2013, he was made an honorary citizen of the City of Osijek, Croatia. *The Butcher's Trail* was published in January.

CARLA D. HAYDEN (BA, '73) was nominated by President Barack Obama for the Library of Congress. If confirmed, Hayden would be the first African-American and first woman to serve as the Librarian of Congress. Hayden has a long and distinguished career, working with the Chicago Public Library and serving as CEO of the Enoch Pratt Free Library in Baltimore. Obama highlighted the long relationship he enjoyed with Hayden since her days with the Chicago Public Library. Along with her degree from Roosevelt University, she has an MA and a PhD from the Graduate Library School of the University of Chicago.

THOMAS M. MARKUS (MPA, '76) was recently named the city manager of Lawrence, Kan. He previously was the city manager of Iowa City, Iowa. Markus has had a distinguished career in city administrative work, including as village manager of Wheeling, Ill., city manager of Brooklyn Park, Minn. and city administrator of Savage, Minn. Along with his degree from Roosevelt University, he earned his undergraduate degree from Minnesota State University.

RAO M. TADAVARTHY (MBA, '78) is currently working for Universal Service Administrative Company in the role of certification and accreditation analyst for IT Systems. Before his current position, Tadavarthy worked for Morton Salt Company in Chicago as a marketing analyst. Later he moved to the Washington, D.C. metro area, working for several consulting companies to provide services for several federal departments and agencies.

CAROL C. WOODS (MA, '79), a foreign language substitute teacher at Glenbard East High School for 29 years, recently announced her retirement.

1980s

CINDY WALKER (BS, '89) was named dean of the Duquesne University School of Education. Walker was previously professor of educational psychology in the School of Education at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and served as the School of Education's dean of research and engaged scholarship since 2012. Along with being a scholar and educator, she is also a prolific author and published the textbook, *Categorical Data Analysis for the Social Sciences*. In addition to her degree from Roosevelt University, she earned a Master of Science in mathematics from Illinois State University, and a PhD in educational psychology from the University of Illinois.

JAMES J. RADOUS (MBA, '89) was appointed president of UniCarriers Americas.



Before his current appointment, Radous worked with UCA as vice president of sales and marketing operations and more recently executive vice president of sales since 2013. Radous earned his undergraduate degree in communications from Northern Illinois University.

1990s

REV. GREGORY STEWART (MA, '92) was named principal of School of Tomorrow's campus in Silver Spring, Md. Stewart is the campus' first principal. Along with his degree from Roosevelt, he also holds degrees from the University of Illinois and University of Chicago.

2010s

ROBERT J. KASS (MBA, '10) was inducted into the Broadcast Hall of Fame by WZN, Illinois State University's student radio station. Kass has an accomplished career in communications and radio broadcasting, which includes a stint with CBS Radio in Chicago.

ALICIA EVANS (EdD, '11) was recently named assistant superintendent for finance and operations for Oak Park Elementary School District 97.

MIA SERAFINO (BFA, '11), a CCPA graduate, is a cast member on NBC's new sitcom *Crowded*. Serafino plays opposite Stacy Keach and Emmy-winning actress Carrie Preston (*The Good Wife*).

CAMERON S. TURNER (BFA, '12) is choreographer for the Kokandy Production of the musical *Tomorrow Morning*. A CCPA graduate, Turner has an impressive list of credits including *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Wild Party* and *A New Brain*, among others.

ERIKA ZAVALA (BA, '12) is currently finishing her master's degree at The University of Illinois at Chicago. During her time at Roosevelt, she traveled to South Africa with Heather Dalmage, professor of Sociology and director of the Mansfield Institute for Social Justice and Transformation. After graduation, she worked in a battered women's shelter in Pilsen. Zavala is living the social justice mission of Roosevelt University by working with a current Roosevelt University student, and helping the student get an internship with the shelter where she works.

Where Are You? We'd love to hear what you've been up to! Please send us your photo and an update!

EMAIL: alum@roosevelt.edu
MAIL: OFFICE OF ALUMNI RELATIONS
ROOSEVELT UNIVERSITY
430 S. MICHIGAN AVENUE, AUD 818
CHICAGO, IL 60605

Please include your name, address, email, major and graduation year.

Answers from the Quiz on page 80:
1. 80 – 40 undergraduates and 40 graduates, 2. The suburbs of Buffalo, N.Y., 3. Psychology, 4. Two, 5. Roosevelt, 6. Fala the Laker, 7. The American Dream Reconsidered conference, 8. Zambia, 9. Abraham Lincoln, 10. 28

Alumna Nominated to Head Library of Congress

Roosevelt University alumna Carla Hayden (BA, '73) has been nominated by President Barack Obama to lead the nation's Library of Congress. A 1973 graduate in political science, Hayden is currently chief executive officer of Baltimore's Enoch Pratt Free Public Library system. She would be the first woman and the first African American to head the nation's 160-million-item library collection if confirmed for the life-time job by the U.S. Senate.



Formerly director of the Chicago Public Library and previously president of the American Library Association, Hayden, 63, has been called "a perfect nominee for Library of Congress" by the *Baltimore Sun*, which finds her "up to the job" of technologically modernizing America's national library.

"Dr. Hayden has devoted her career to modernizing libraries so that everyone can participate in today's digital culture," Obama said in nominating Hayden, who has master's and PhD degrees in library science from the University of Chicago.

"DR. HAYDEN HAS DEVOTED HER CAREER TO MODERNIZING LIBRARIES SO THAT EVERYONE CAN PARTICIPATE IN TODAY'S DIGITAL CULTURE."

— BARACK OBAMA
President of the United States



Thank a Donor

In February, dedicated Roosevelt Alumni volunteered at **Thank-a-Donor-Days** at both the Chicago and Schaumburg campuses. This University-wide initiative called on Roosevelt students to sign Thank-you Valentines to more than 1,000 donors.



Alumnus Named Head of Illinois Corporation

Jim Radous, (MBA, '89), was appointed president of UniCarriers Americas Corporation (UCA) in Marengo, Ill., in January. UniCarriers is one of the largest forklift manufacturers in the world. The Marengo facility is both a state-of-the art manufacturing plant and headquarters to the North and South American operations. It employs more than 350 highly skilled professionals and has 150 plus dealers in nearly 300 locations across the Americas.

Joe Chan, dean of Roosevelt's Heller College of Business and Juliana Nelligan, development director at Roosevelt, met with Jim on Feb. 8. During the visit, Jim shared his vision for UniCarriers. The meeting was followed by a tour of the manufacturing plant led by Jim and Wayne Wilde, field sales technical officers.

above, left to right:
Heller College Dean Joe Chan, UCA President Jim Radous, Julianna Nelligan of Roosevelt and Wayne Wilde of UCA at UniCarriers Corp. on Feb. 8.



Theatre Alumna Stars in New NBC Sitcom

A Roosevelt University musical theatre alumna co-stars in the TV sitcom *Crowded*, which debuted on NBC network TV in March and airs on Sundays.

Mia Serafino, a 2011 graduate of Roosevelt's Chicago College of Performing Arts (CCPA), plays Stella, the grown daughter of an empty-nest couple whose newfound freedom ends when Stella, her sister and her father's parents move in.

Besides Serafino, the *Crowded* cast includes *Seinfeld*'s Patrick Warburton, *The Good Wife*'s Emmy-award winner Carrie Preston and legendary Hollywood star Stacy Keach. "I'm thrilled to be a part of an incredible cast," said Serafino, who plays the crazy and rebellious eldest daughter of empty nesters' Warburton and Preston.

A native of Detroit, Serafino moved to Los Angeles about eight months after graduating from Roosevelt. "It was rough at first to find my footing, but I was drawn to TV and movies and really wanted to give it a try in Hollywood."

The Roosevelt alumna credits CCPA's Theatre Conservatory with instilling discipline and diligence. "My Roosevelt instructors taught me that you don't just get handed things. You have to work for them," said Serafino, who has had roles in *Saving Mr. Banks*, *Oz the Great and Powerful* and *The Color of Time*, and also guest parts in TV's *Scorpion*, *Shameless*, *NCIS: LA* and *Stitchers*.

"MY ROOSEVELT INSTRUCTORS TAUGHT ME THAT YOU DON'T JUST GET HANDED THINGS. YOU HAVE TO WORK FOR THEM."

— MIA SERAFINO
CCPA Alumna

The Late Mayor Washington Honored by Alumni

In April, the South Side Alumni Chapter met at Beggar's Pizza in Blue Island, Ill. to raise funds for the Chapter's pledge to fund the **Harold Washington Memorial Student Lounge in Roosevelt's Wabash building**. The event was a huge success, and the chapter went "over the top," raising more than their goal to finish off the pledge. The chapter has been working for three years to complete its \$10,000 pledge, and will name a student lounge in memory of Roosevelt alumnus and late Chicago Mayor Harold Washington.



DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI FYI: HAROLD WASHINGTON GRADUATED IN 1949 WITH A BS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE.



South Side Alumni Chapter gets out!

The South Side Alumni Chapter has been active! In December, chapter members held a holiday party at Athena Greek Restaurant, and in February, alumni attended dinner, followed by the dress rehearsal of the CCPA production of the Broadway musical *Legally Blonde*.

above, left to right: Shundra Johnson, Mashanda Scott, Denise Bransford, Leticia Ranson



ROOSEVELT ALUMNI GATHERED IN NOVEMBER FOR PIZZA AT EXCHEQUER PUB AND ATTENDED THE DRESS REHEARSAL OF AND THE TONY GOES TO . . . 4 GET ABOUT IT – THE LOSERS, PRESENTED BY CCPA STUDENTS AT ROOSEVELT'S MILLER THEATER. THE SHOW FEATURED WELL-KNOWN SONGS THAT, SURPRISINGLY, DIDN'T WIN TONY AWARDS WHILE ON BROADWAY.

by BARBARA MCCAIN

1940s

OLIVIA DEUTSCH JACOBS (BA, '48) of Ventura, Calif., died on June 23, 2015. She was a special education teacher for 25 years.

DIETER KOBER (MM, '48) of Chicago died on Oct. 1, 2015. He was the founder and for 61 years music director and conductor of the Chicago Chamber Orchestra. He also was an educator for 39 years.

WILLIAM ATHENS, SR. (BA, '49) of Grosse Ile, Mich., died on Nov. 30, 2015. He practiced medicine for over 60 years.

LOUISE GILLIOM (BM, '49) of Waukegan, Ill., died on Feb. 17, 2016. She had a beautiful singing voice.

ALLAN ROSENBERG (BS, '49; BC, '57) of Melrose Park, Ill., died on Nov. 23, 2015. He was a lover of classical music, cars and Chicago baseball.

1950s

JEAN HOPE (BA, '50) of St. Petersburg, Fla., died on Oct.16, 2015. She was an educator and an avid volunteer for various organizations.

JULES NEWMAN (BA, '50) of Madison, Wis., died on Nov. 26, 2015. He taught in the Chicago Public Schools for several years and later became a principal until he retired.

AUGUSTUS SAVAGE (BA, '51) of Washington, D.C., died on Oct., 31 2015. He was a civil rights activist and journalist who represented the South Side of Chicago in the House of Representatives for 12 years. During his time in Washington, Congress passed a measure requiring the Defense Department to set aside military procurement contracts for minority-owned businesses.

CLAUDINE WELCH (BA, '51) of Gary, Ind., died on Oct. 18, 2015. She was an educator and avid member of the churches she served.

HELEN ROWEN (BA, '52) of Los Angeles, Calif., died on Oct. 26, 2015. She was an educator.

ROBERT ROSENBAUM (BSC, '52) of Chicago died on Oct. 19, 2015. He was a U.S. veteran and worked as a comptroller for the Jewish Federation for 30 years.

DONNA COLE (BA, '53) of Evanston, Ill., died on Aug.11, 2015. She was a dedicated teacher in Michigan City, Ind., area schools for over 20 years.

SAM OZAKI (BA, '53) of Chicago died on Sept. 23, 2015. He was the first Asian-American principal in the Chicago Public Schools.

ROBERT ARMSTRONG (MA, '54) of Pensacola, Fla., died on Feb. 4, 2016. He was an educator and a founding faculty member of the University of West Florida and chairman of the Philosophy and Religious Studies Department.

ELAINE SIEGEL SHEPP (BA, '54) of Wilmette, Ill., died on Aug. 6, 2014. She practiced as a licensed clinical social worker in the Chicago suburbs for 36 years.

JUDITH SAVILLE (BA, '55) of Solana Beach, Calif., died on Nov. 25, 2015.

BENOLIA COBLE (BA, '56) of Palm Desert, Calif., died on Nov. 2, 2015. She taught in Chicago Public Schools for 15 year after which she explored several other careers including starting her own optical shop.

RONALD PERRELLA (BSC, '57) of Laguna Niguel, Calif., died on Aug. 24, 2015. He was the president of the Alpha Sigma National Advertising Fraternity. He was named the Laguna Niguel Citizen of the Year in 2006.

WILLIAM BIAGI (BC, '58) of Oak Park, Ill., died on Aug. 8, 2015. He was a senior vice president for a marketing firm and retired as an accountant at the age of 72.

REV. ROBERT JOHN CARLSON (BA, '58) of Deland, FL., died on Dec. 26, 2015. He was a pastor in the Richmond area and the Massachusetts National Guard.

CHARLES DANIEL VELICK (BA, '58) of Columbia, S.C., died on July 22, 2015.

EDMUND NOWICKI (BA, '59; MB, '65) of Bonita Springs, Fla., died on Aug. 25, 2015. He was a pioneer of the computer age, working in the technology industry throughout his career, spending the last 20 years at Rheem Manufacturing.

1960s

EDWARD SONKIN (BB, '60) of Morton Grove, Ill., died in November 2015.

KENNETH WILLIAM WALTERS (BA, '60) of Carthage, Texas, died Nov. 1, 2015.

KENNETH WILKINSON (MS, '60) of Mainville, Ohio, died Jan. 3, 2016. He served as president of the Hilton Davis Company in Cincinnati until he retired in 1994.

NILS STRAND (BB, '60) of Battle Creek, Mich., died on Aug. 11, 2015. He was a property manager for the United States government for 50 years. He was also the president of the Humane Society of South Central Michigan.

RICHARD GOLDEN (MM, '61) of Lambertville, N.J., died on June 24, 2015. He was a retired director of rehabilitation services at Trenton Psychiatric Hospital.

JAMES FEDEROFF (BSBA, '62) of Lowell, Ind., died on Oct. 28, 2015. He worked for Inland Steel Company until his retirement in 1983.

PHILIP MACARTHUR (BM, '62) of Central New York died on Dec. 3, 2015. He was an accomplished musician and president of the Professional Musicians of Central New York (American Federation of Musicians Local 78) for over 30 years.

LOUISE VIRAMONTES (BA, '62) of Steger, Ill., died on July 25, 2015.

LAWRENCE WEISER (BSBA, '62) of Stevens Point, Wis., died on Nov. 9, 2015. He was a U.S. veteran and educator for 30 years.

PATRICIA DUNBAR (MA, '63) of Providence Point, Pa., died on Nov. 5, 2015. She was a clinical psychologist for several years, after which she served various faith organizations for over 40 years.

MARI ANN CHAMBERS (MA, '63) of Wheaton, Ill., died on Oct. 26, 2015. She was the first married female teacher in the Oak Park Public School system.

WADDELL STEELE (BB, '65) of Bartlett, Ill., died on Oct. 14, 2015. He had a career in accounting and was an avid Chicago White Sox fan.

GEORGE KOURVETARIS (MA, '65) of DeKalb, Ill., died on Oct. 20, 2015. He was a professor of sociology at Northern Illinois University for 38 years.

LONNIE E. THOMPSON (BB, '65) of Petersburg, Va., died on Sept. 10, 2015. He served in the U.S. Army for 30 years, including World War II, Korean War and Vietnam War. He retired from the army as a lieutenant colonel.

IRENE ROBERTSON (BA, '65) of Harvey, Ill., died on Feb. 3, 2016. She was an avid bridge player and taught special education until her retirement.

LORENZO BROWN (BA, '66) of Washington, D.C., died on Aug. 21, 2015. He was active in the 1960s Civil Rights Movement while teaching at Howard University. He also worked for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission while consulting for the C&P Telephone Company, now Verizon. He was the co-founder, president and managing editor of Sister-2-Sister magazine.

SONIA G. DE LAMA (BA, '67; MA, '68) of Niles, Ill., died on Oct. 7, 2015. She taught Spanish for 32 years at the City Colleges of Chicago. She was also the president of the Chicago Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese.

GERALD PYTKO (BSBA, '67) of Denver died on Nov. 27, 2015. He was active in the Bear Creek Rodeo Association and also volunteered at the Elk Creek Fire Department.

RANNE' SIOUX (MA, '68) of Salisbury, N.C., died on June 11, 2015. She worked in various positions for the Veterans Administration for 28 years.

1970s

TOUNCEL SMITH JR. (MA, '70) of Tyler, Tex., died on Feb. 13, 2016. He was an educator for over 37 years.

RAYMOND JOHNSON (MA, '71) of Chicago died on Jan.29, 2016. He was a veteran and member of the Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity.

ELIZABETH HALL (BGS, '71) of Fort Wayne, Tex., died on March 18, 2016. She was instrumental in forming the Illinois School Nursing Association. She retired after 30 years of being a school nurse.

HELENE FEINGOLD (BA, '72) of Chicago died on March 13, 2015.

ROBERT POWERS (BA, '72) of Seaford, Va., died on Jan.7, 2016. He retired from the U.S. Air Force after 23 years. He also was an educator for Chicago Public Schools for 23 years.

CHARLES EDWARDS (BSBA, '73) of Richmond Hill, Ga., died on Feb. 11, 2016.

CONRAD FREUND (BSBA, '73) of Clifton, Va., died on Feb. 4, 2016. He played a key role in the unprecedented financial surplus of the 1984 Olympics Games.

RODNEY HOOTS (BSBA, '73) of Arlington, Va., died on Jan. 27, 2016. He served in the Department of Defense for 49 years.

GERALDINE PRATT (MA, '73) of Los Angeles, Calif., died on Dec. 13, 2015. She was an educational counselor until her retirement.

HENRY MARTINEZ (BG, '74) of Lansing, Ill., died on Nov. 30, 2015. He was an activist for the Latino community who advocated especially on behalf of youth and veterans.

GLEN REEL (BB, '74) of Evansville, Ind., died Dec. 2, 2015.

EDWIN EUGENE WILLIAMS JR. (BG, '74; MA, '76) of Chicago died on Oct. 14, 2015.

STEPHEN GULAN (MBA, '75) of Pleasant Prairie, Wis., died on Jan. 31, 2016. He owned and operated Park Liquors and was vice president of Marion's Harbor Pub and Restaurant

JOE HERNANDEZ (BA, '75) of South Chicago died March 3, 2016. He was an employee of the U.S. Postal Service.

JEROME MYSLIWIEC (BB, '75) of Winter Springs, Fla. died March 11, 2016. He worked at Motorola.

CARL EVERETTE SUMMERVILLE (BA, '77) of Ocoee, Fla., died on Sept. 12, 2015.

HENRY WISE JR. (BG, '77) of Hayward, Calif., died on Dec. 28, 2015. He was a business systems analyst for over 40 years.

1980s

LOUIS DILLON (BA, '80) Gary, Ind., died on Aug. 5, 2015. He was a supervisor for U.S. Steel.

BONNIE HARMON (BGS, '80) of South Holland, Ill., died on Feb. 23, 2016. She enjoyed an extensive career in labor relations at U.S. Steel where she served as the first female president of Local 2695.

ROBERT SCHMIDT (BGS, '80) of Lake Villa, Ill., died Feb. 22, 2016.

BRENDA THOMAS (MA, '80) of Chicago, died on Dec. 17, 2015.

EMIL VLOSAK (BGS, '82) of Genesee, Wis., died on Oct. 31, 2015. He worked for the Pennsylvania Railroad. He was an avid reader and loved digitally editing video of family events and his grandchildren.

CAROLYN HOLBERT (BB, '83) of Harvey, Ill., died on Aug. 3, 2015.

1990s

PATRICIA LUX (MA, '90) of Chicago died on Aug. 12, 2015. She was a nurse and trailblazer for the Peace Corps.

SHARON BOROWICZ (MB, '92) of Bloomingdale, Ill., died in January 2016.

DIANE MOORE (BG, '92) of Chicago died in December 2015. She was part of the first group of women salespersons at the *Chicago Tribune* with a career that spanned nearly 30 years.

ERNIE THOMPSON (MA, '93) of Oak Park, Ill., died on Feb. 7, 2016. He was a founding member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc.

JOHN HANSON (MSIS, '94) of South Bend, Ind., died on Sept.4, 2015. He was a computer programmer.

MICHAEL KAMINSKI (BG, '95) of Ingleside, Ill., died on Dec. 22, 2015. He was a database administrator for Trustmark Insurance for the past 18 years.

MICHAEL HEMBERGER (MA, '96) of Westchester, Ill., died on Oct. 4, 2015.

JAMES CAIRO (BA, '99) of Rio Rancho, N.M., died on July 29, 2015. He worked for Presbyterian Medical Services.

2000s

KEVIN WADE WILSON (MA, '06) of Chicago died on July 18, 2015. He was an accountant for 19 years.

Roosevelt Students

Roosevelt University student **BARRETT MICHAEL LAASE** died unexpectedly on Oct. 8, 2015. A drummer and jazz performance major, Laase performed with Roosevelt's jazz combos and studied with Associate Professor of Jazz Studies Paul Wertico. A junior, he was supposed to graduate from Roosevelt in spring 2016.

Roosevelt University student **DYLAN SLAGER** died April 24, 2016. He was studying Hospitality and Tourism Management with a focus on Sports Hospitality. Slager recently completed his second season as senior student manager for Roosevelt's men's basketball team and his goal was to work in the front office of a major sports organization.

Roosevelt Faculty

Business Professor **CHUCK NOTY (BA, '54)** died on April 22, 2016. He began his Roosevelt career as assistant professor of management on Sept. 1, 1973 and was promoted to associate professor of management and then to professor of management with tenure. He served as department chair from 1978 to 1982. "Professor Noty was a mentor to many new faculty," said Dean Joseph Chan. "He cared deeply for the college, the university, his fellow faculty and his students. He impressed all of us with his great sense of humor and his passion for teaching."

2015 Fiscal Report

Almost 80 percent of the University’s student enrollment for the 2015 fall term was comprised of residents from the greater Chicago metropolitan area, consistent with Roosevelt’s mission to bring access to higher education to the urban setting. Roosevelt’s Chicago Campus provided housing for 737 students in the Wabash Building and University Center of Chicago, an increase of 64.3 percent compared to 2013. The numbers of traditional-age (18-to-24-year-old) students have grown to represent 66 percent of all University undergraduates in 2015, compared with 27 percent in 1997 and 51 percent in 2007. Total full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment decreased from 4,814 in the fall of 2014 to 4,285 in 2015.

Net tuition revenues were slightly declined in FY2015 to \$95.3 million from \$95.7 million in FY2014.

Roosevelt University posted its fifth calculated operating deficit of \$4.0 million in FY2015. Over the past five years, Roosevelt has faced major fiscal challenges resulting from declining enrollment and tuition revenues along with significant investments in the future of the University, such as construction of the Wabash Building and the Lillian and Larry Goodman Center, reinstitution of intercollegiate athletics, establishment of the College of Pharmacy, a new PhD program in Industrial/Organizational Psychology, a dance concentration in the undergraduate Musical Theater program, and a new online graduate program in Arts Management. In the long-term, these investments will continue to contribute to the fiscal and academic viability of the University.

The University’s endowment portfolio is generally held in large funds with allocations of domestic and international equities, fixed income, real estate, commodities and cash. The balance of the endowment as of Aug. 31, 2015 was \$83 million. For the 12-month period ending Aug. 31, 2015, the University reported an investment return of -7.1 percent on its endowment.

The financial information presented here represents the consolidated results of the University, the Auditorium Theatre of Roosevelt University and Roosevelt University Development Corporation.

Operating Revenue <i>(in thousands)</i>	2015	2014	2013
Student Tuition and Fees, Net	\$95,356	\$95,724	\$95,572
Local, State, Federal and grants	3,910	3,912	3,928
Privates	5,290	6,040	6,095
Auxiliary Income	11,966	12,168	12,232
Auditorium Theatre, Net	(1,117)	(750)	4,438
Investment Income	4,308	4,587	177
Other Income	2,174	2,176	1,484
Total Operating Revenues	<u>\$121,887</u>	<u>\$123,857</u>	<u>\$123,926</u>

Operating Expenses <i>(Education & General) (in thousands)</i>	2015	2014	2013
Instruction	\$48,780	\$49,378	\$35,174
Research	952	732	494
Public Service	1,262	1,249	1,014
Academic Support	14,811	14,621	10,339
Student Support	17,285	18,329	14,236
Institutional Support	27,206	27,009	37,223
Operations/maintenance of plant			18,709

Total educational and general expenses	<u>\$110,296</u>	<u>\$111,318</u>	<u>\$117,189</u>
Auxiliary Enterprises	13,431	13,505	7,267
Auditorium Theatre	2,179	2,133	2,245

Total Operating Expenses	<u>\$125,906</u>	<u>\$126,956</u>	<u>\$9,512</u>
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Assets <i>(in thousands)</i>	2015	2014	2013
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$27,093	\$38,047	\$37,950
Short-Term Investments	14,259	4,023	1,996
Funds on Deposit	13,403	14,807	15,043
Accounts Receivable, Net	31,851	32,446	29,751
Other Assets	22,971	24,122	22,668
Long-Term Investments	82,661	92,614	83,066
Funds Held in Trust	709	786	711
Loans Receivable	12,297	12,297	12,297
Unconditional Promises To Give, Net	2,323	3,211	3,078
Property, Plant and Equipment, Net	241,696	248,677	255,039

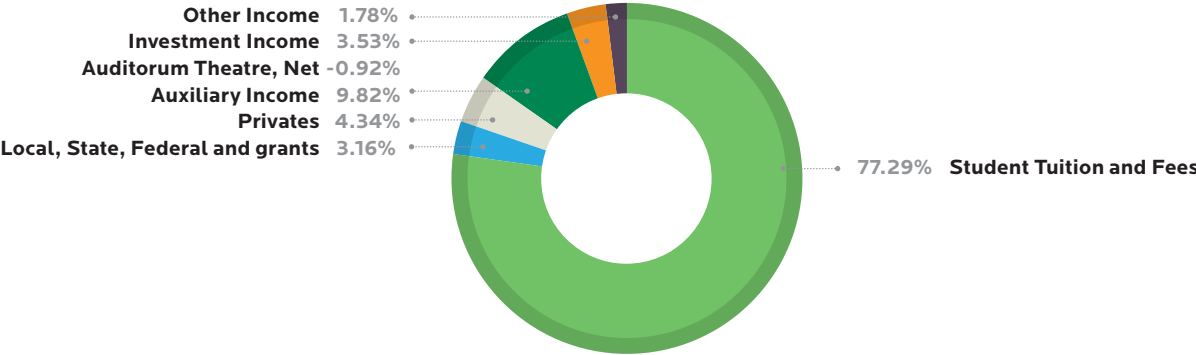
Total Assets	<u>\$449,263</u>	<u>\$471,030</u>	<u>\$461,599</u>
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Liabilities and Net Assets <i>(in thousands)</i>	2015	2014	2013
Liabilities:			
Accounts Payable	\$2,902	\$2,839	\$4,174
Accrued Expenses	4,092	6,637	8,835
Accrued Payroll	1,380	1,126	69,734
Student Deposits	651	610	
Refundable Advances	2,190	2,452	
Others	64,712	69,938	
Loan Payable	14,914	14,914	15,914
Bonds Payable	224,477	226,286	226,202

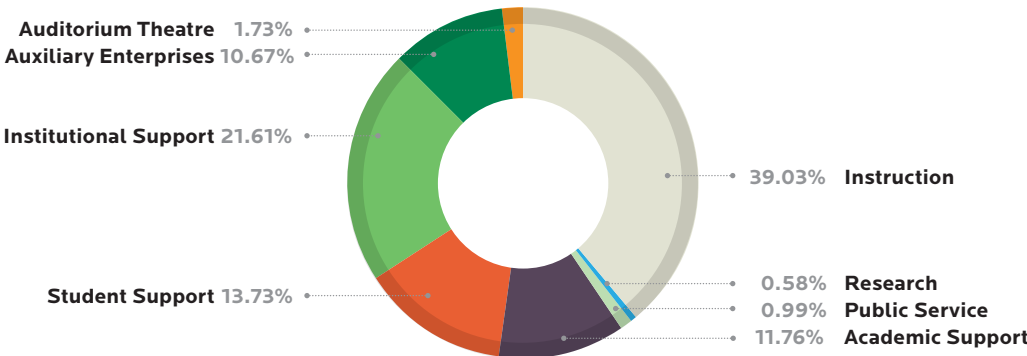
Total Liabilities	\$315,318	\$324,802	\$324,859
Net Assets	\$133,945	\$146,228	\$136,740

Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$449,263</u>	<u>\$471,030</u>	<u>\$461,599</u>
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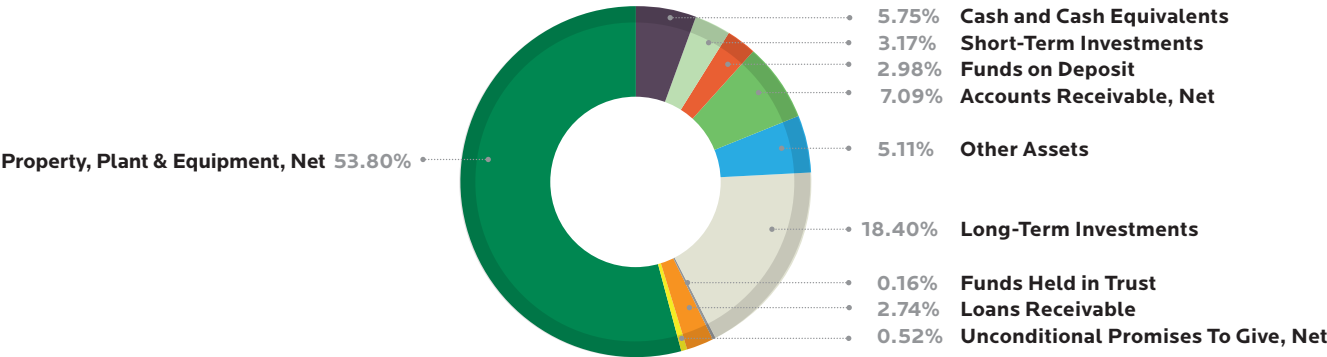
2015 Consolidated Operating Revenue



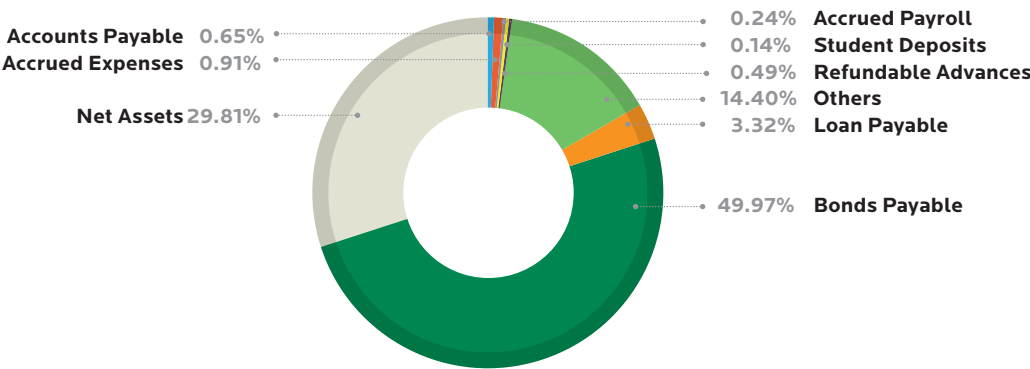
2015 Operating Expenses

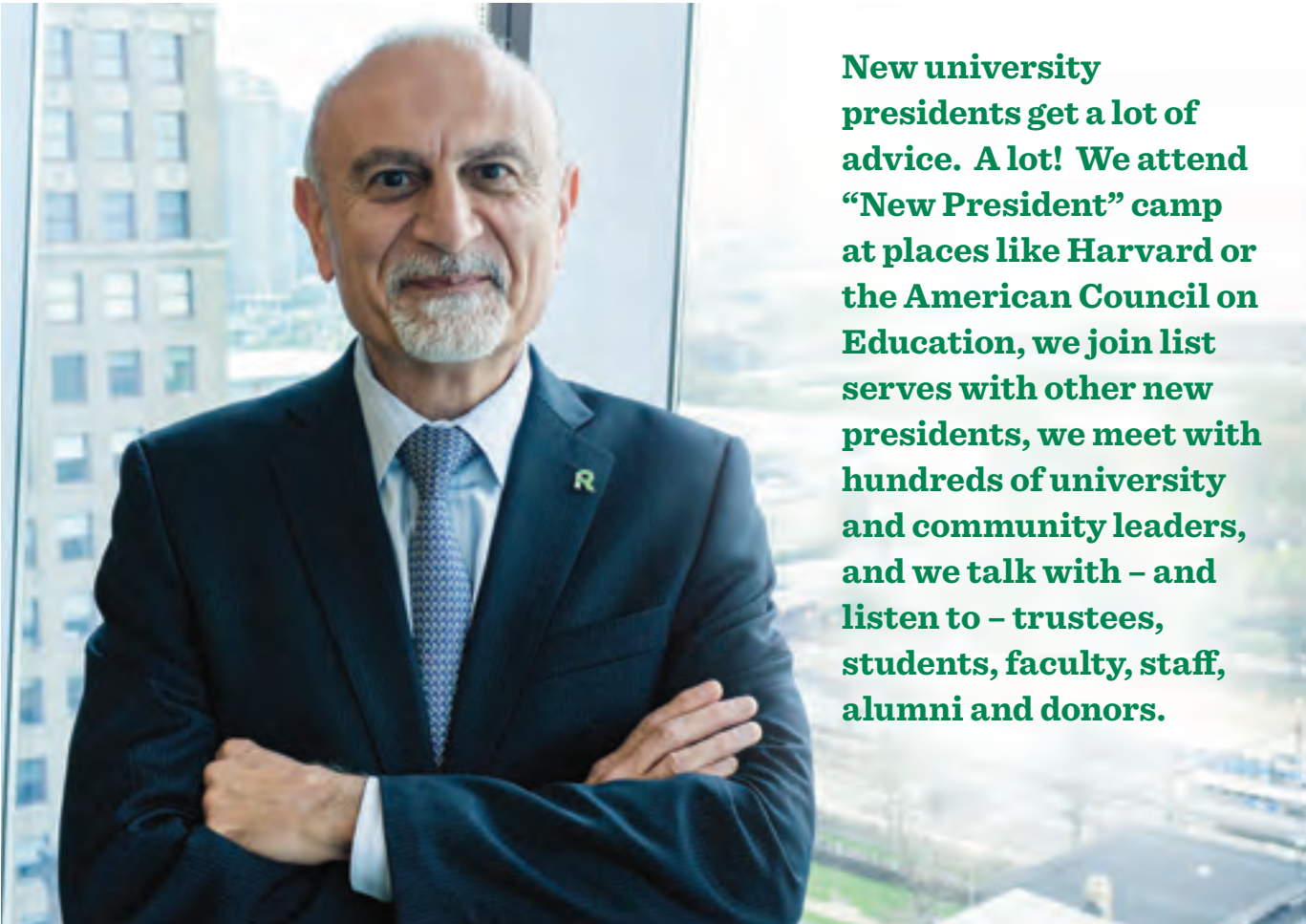


2015 Consolidated Statements of Financial Position



2015 Consolidated Total Liabilities and Net Assets





New university presidents get a lot of advice. A lot! We attend “New President” camp at places like Harvard or the American Council on Education, we join list serves with other new presidents, we meet with hundreds of university and community leaders, and we talk with – and listen to – trustees, students, faculty, staff, alumni and donors.

One of the most common pieces of advice (aside from the universal directive to change the look of the president’s office!) is to examine the administrative staff, see what makes sense for restructuring, and revitalize the leadership team.

I took that advice. And we have been fortunate to fairly quickly hire two outstanding individuals who joined our team in April. I’m delighted to introduce you to:

- **Vice President for Enrollment Management: Paul McGuiness.**
He joins us with over 25 years of experience in enrollment and student affairs, most recently as vice chancellor at Purdue University North Central in Indiana.
- **Vice President for Institutional Advancement: Don Jones.**
Don joins us from the New England Conservatory, where he served as executive vice president for Institutional Advancement since 2002. His previous experience includes development work for public radio, the Rhode Island School of Design, Bentley University, and the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. You can read more about our new vice presidents on page 10.

At this writing we are working to fill three other executive positions, so watch our website at www.roosevelt.edu for more news as it happens. And I’m happy to add that we have 14 new faculty arriving this fall, to teach psychology, actuarial science, biology, counseling & human services, accounting, management, theater, information technology, pharmacy and criminal justice.

above: President Ali Malekzadeh in his office.
opposite page: President Malekzadeh and Pat Harris, chair of Roosevelt University’s Board of Trustees at graduation and with Fala the Laker.

There have been many more exciting activities and events during my first year at Roosevelt. Here are just a few highlights:

- **Excellent news from the Higher Learning Commission**, which has reaffirmed our accreditation, noting that we met requirements on 19 of 21 core components. They praised our educational programs, general education, assessment activities, mission, student support, and integrity. They especially cite our “exemplary commitment to diversity and the advancement of the public good.” Their concerns with finance and Board of Trustee governance will be reassessed in two years and we are already working on improvements in those areas. I’d like to thank our entire community for their hard work on this reaccreditation process, but especially Associate Provost Joe Regan for his leadership.
- **A new initiative has been started to make Roosevelt University a top place to work**, with more flexible work policies, professional development and recognition, increased communication, and a forthcoming Center for Campus Diversity and Inclusion.
- **Revitalization of the Schaumburg Campus** is being shaped by the work of three groups – an Academic Council, Operations Council, and Campus Advisory Council. We will celebrate the 20th anniversary of this campus in fall 2016. Stay tuned for dates and details on our Schaumburg Campus birthday celebration!
- **A pilot program in undergraduate mentoring and professional development began this semester.** Under the leadership of Associate Provost Megan Bernard, we intend to expand this during 2016-17 to include opportunities for students with any major in any college.
- **Finally, we are planning the inaugural American Dream: A Reconsideration Conference for Sept. 11-15.** It is my hope that this annual discussion of the meaning of the American Dream will sharpen our identity, engage our community and contribute to the national discourse about democracy and opportunity and the challenges before us.

And here’s one example where I am going to ignore a common piece of advice to new presidents! We are told that it is tradition to stage a large, lavish and expensive installation ceremony celebrating ourselves and our university– inviting chancellors and presidents, university representatives and public officials from around the country to process down the aisles in full academic regalia, listen to important speakers and attend a number of gala celebrations.

Instead, it seems to me more appropriate to follow the advice of our namesake, Eleanor Roosevelt, who said in 1957 that “You get more joy out of giving . . . and should put a great deal of thought into the happiness that you are able to give.”

To that end, I will host a revival of Roosevelt’s tradition of community service, with an inaugural American Dream Service Day. On Sept. 15, I invite you to join me at the Goodman Center for a continental breakfast and then work together on behalf of food banks, schools, public parks, and other projects. We will also provide American Dream scholarships to meritorious students from each college. What could be a better celebration than that?

It is my hope that I am following the right advice, and by doing so will strengthen Roosevelt’s legacy of democracy as we continue our mission of offering educational excellence and opportunity to the next generation of students. 📖



Ali Malekzadeh welcomes your comments.
Email him at amalekzadeh@roosevelt.edu!

The 'Tail' Continues...

Meet Fala the Laker. The newest addition to the University is "Fala the Laker," Roosevelt's official mascot and unofficial chief school spirit officer.

In honor of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt's beloved Scottish Terrier, who is widely considered one of the most popular presidential pets in history, Fala the Laker debuted in March and quickly gained his own share of popularity during appearances on the Chicago Campus.

"I USED TO SPEND MY TIME WITH SOME COOL PEOPLE NAMED FRANKLIN AND ELEANOR. NOW I'M HERE AT ROOSEVELT!"

Fala the Laker never talks, but is quite loud on his social medium of choice, Instagram, where he recently wrote: "I used to spend my time with some cool people named Franklin and Eleanor. Now I'm here at Roosevelt!" You can keep track of his latest witticisms via the handle **@falathelaker**.

So be sure to fala, um, follow **Fala the Laker on Instagram** and, of course, say hi to him at a Roosevelt game or event.



@falathelaker



Fala the Laker

left to right: Fala is played by CCPA freshmen Antonio Bouie and Meghan Walters.



The Roosevelt Quiz

Now that you're at the end of *Roosevelt Review*, we thought it might be fun to see how carefully you read the articles. The questions aren't too hard, and you can always look up the answers. If you get everything correct, you win a free subscription to *Roosevelt Review* (of course, that's the same prize if you get them all wrong)!

Answers are on page 69.

- 1 How many students are in Roosevelt's Actuarial Science Program?
- 2 Where did Professor Erik Gellman grow up?
- 3 What was artist Joel Schick's major at Roosevelt?
- 4 How many courses did Professor Larry Howe teach each semester in Denmark?
- 5 According to Grub Hub, what is the tenth most polite university in the United States?
- 6 What is the name of Roosevelt's first-ever mascot?
- 7 Peter Thiel, the co-founder of PayPal, will be at Roosevelt in September for what event?
- 8 Roosevelt alumna Zindaba Nyirenda is a princess in what country?
- 9 Professor Thomas J. Kernan won an award for his study on the music of which U.S. president?
- 10 How old was Keisha Newell when she was named head coach of Roosevelt's women's basketball team?

Planned Giving

Just after World War II ended,
I enrolled at Roosevelt College.
The forties were exciting years to
be at a new college founded on
principles for which we believed
our country stood.

There was excitement, enthusiasm and optimism in the air. Roosevelt exemplified all of these qualities. My favorite memories are of classrooms filled with energetic, uninhibited students full of ideas, eager to articulate them and ready to challenge any idea they disagreed with.

I recall the free exchanges, open and often heated discussions between such illustrious professors as St. Clair Drake, Abba Lerner, S. Kirson Weinberg and Helmut Hirsch to mention just a few. The class sat enthralled as students and professor argued and debated but finally frequently acquiesced to sarcasm, humor or overwhelming evidence and facts. These were exciting times and voices rang loudly through the corridors and lecture rooms. It was a happy environment, full of goodwill and many close social relationships.

Now I feel it a privilege to endow a scholarship for others to attend Roosevelt. The college provided me with friends who were as supportive as family. It freed me from an environment that had been suffering under dogma and tradition. Roosevelt challenged my conformist values and freed me to be a whole person. It brought me into contact with people of different races, religions and life styles. It opened the world to me.

I learned to think critically, particularly in the classroom of Professor Lionel Ruby and to write exactly under Professors Bowersox and Cosby.

Thinking back to my education and experiences at Roosevelt, it empowered me to set the terms of my own life and to try to live a value-rich existence. That is what Roosevelt has meant to me. In 1949 I met my late wife, Fay Sperling, at Roosevelt and for that I am always indebted.



Herbert Herman

BA English, 1950, College of Arts and Sciences
MA Education, 1957, College of Education

Herman has established an endowed scholarship for students and has designated Roosevelt University as a beneficiary in his will.

Herman resides in Naples, Fla. with his second wife, Suzanne.

What will your legacy be?

Roosevelt's Fireside Circle recognizes alumni and friends who have made provisions for Roosevelt University through a planned gift. For more information on the Fireside Circle and how you can plan for your retirement and the future of your heirs as well as reduce taxes and make a difference at Roosevelt University, please contact our office.

Janice Parkin (BA, '79)
Associate Vice President of
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A CONFERENCE PRESENTED BY ROOSEVELT UNIVERSITY

SEPTEMBER 11-15, 2016

Roosevelt was founded on the ideals of educational opportunities for all, regardless of background. At **The American Dream Reconsidered Conference**, you'll explore how access to education is fundamental to Roosevelt's mission as well as our national ethos. Join us for a week of panel discussions and service activities open to the Roosevelt community and the general public.

FEATURED SPEAKERS INCLUDE

- **Jelani Cobb**, historian and staff writer at *The New Yorker*
- **Pat Harris**, Roosevelt alumna and chair of its Board of Trustees
- **Martha Nussbaum**, University of Chicago philosopher
- **Congressman Mike Quigley**, alum, will moderate a faculty panel
- **Peter Thiel**, co-founder of PayPal

Reserve your spot and find more details at:
www.roosevelt.edu/americaandream