



430 S. Michigan Ave.
Chicago, IL 60605-1394

Address Service Requested

NONPROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID

ROOSEVELT
UNIVERSITY

 Become a fan at: [Facebook.com/RooseveltUniversity](https://www.facebook.com/RooseveltUniversity)



WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Do you recognize these students who attended Roosevelt University during the 1960s, '70s and '80s? If so, send an email to tkarow@roosevelt.edu, and we'll publish your letter in the next issue of the *Roosevelt Review*.



ROOSEVELT

SUMMER 2010

REVIEW



BANKING ON GRADY

Community investment
triggers success for alumnus
Walter E. Grady's Seaway
Bank and Trust. [PAGE 20](#)

INSIDE

FRESH START | After a tragic loss, Ayodeji Ogunniyi finds renewal in his Roosevelt education. [PAGE 6](#)

THE WRITE STUFF | Texas writer Scott Blackwood has big plans for the creative writing program. [PAGE 10](#)

Q&A | McCormick Foundation's CEO David Hiller discusses the breadth of philanthropy. [PAGE 26](#)

A LIFETIME OF SERVICE | **RICHARD L. MITCHELL** (1938–2007)



Roosevelt University Alumnus Richard L. Mitchell (BSBA, '65), who parlayed his education at Roosevelt into a successful marketing career, has left his \$646,000 estate to the University. Mitchell, who passed away in 2007, was a 1956 graduate of Bloom Township High School in Chicago Heights, Ill. He majored in marketing at Roosevelt, graduating in 1965, and received a master's degree from the University of Chicago in 1967.

Mitchell worked for many companies before landing a job at Venture, a division of May Company, where he was vice president of marketing. After retiring, he lived in the Chicago area, caring for his mother, Rose Elizabeth Haymes, who had Alzheimer's disease, until her death in 2000.

"He was not only a good son, but a good friend," said Michael St. John, Mitchell's accountant for more than three decades, as well as trustee of his estate. "Dick was a lively guy, who loved jazz and sports and was an intellectual with an IQ of 151. He left behind 10 bookcases filled with books and music," he said.

Mitchell worked to put himself through college and later frequently talked about helping disadvantaged students. Half of his estate gift will fund The Richard L. Mitchell Endowed Scholarship for Residential, On-Campus Living, a scholarship that he could have utilized when he was an undergraduate here. The other half of his estate will support the new 32-story vertical campus that Roosevelt is building at 425 S. Wabash Ave. The office of the dean of the Walter E. Heller College of Business Administration will be named in his honor.

The Roosevelt University community salutes Mitchell for his outstanding career, his loyalty to family, friends and Roosevelt University and for his generosity.

For more information on how you can support Roosevelt University through estate and planned giving, contact:

Charles A. Browning
Assistant Vice President, Planned Giving
Roosevelt University
430 S. Michigan Ave., Room 827
Chicago, IL 60605
Phone: (312) 341-6455
Fax: (312) 341-2319
cbrowning@roosevelt.edu



ROOSEVELT UNIVERSITY
FIRESIDE CIRCLE

CONTENTS



PHOTO BOB COSCARELLI

McCormick Foundation's
Cantigny Park.

“ There are different ways to invest
that can have multiple impacts.”

– MCCORMICK FOUNDATION CEO DAVID HILLER

20



WALTER GRADY

Alumnus Walter Grady runs Seaway Bank, the nation's fourth-largest black-owned bank, and a success for 45 years because of its commitment to community.

COVER PHOTO BY BOB COSCARELLI

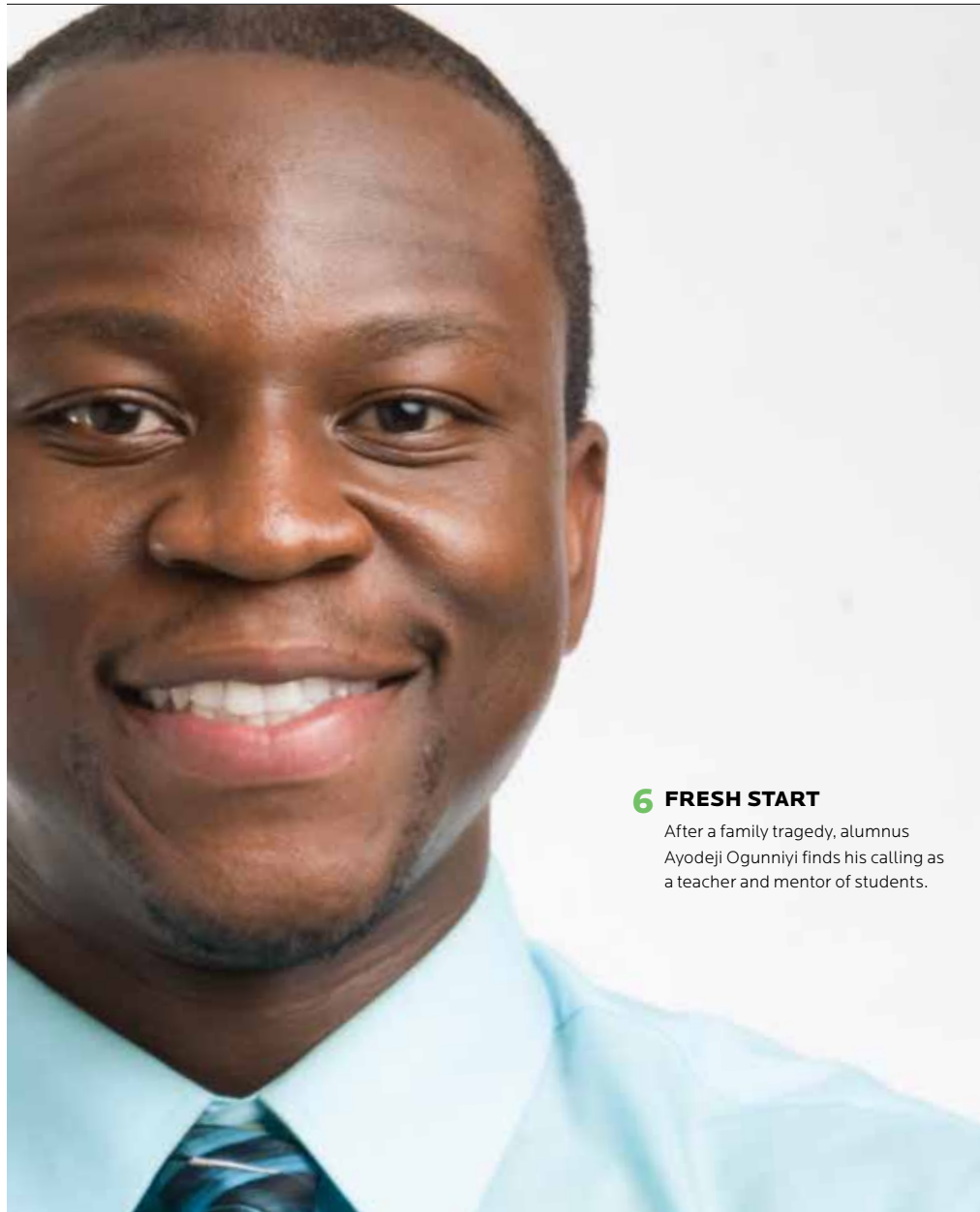
16 UNDER PROTESS

Alumnus David Protes's crusade against wrongful convictions has led to the release of five death row inmates.

▲ 26 THE MULTIPLIER EFFECT

The McCormick Foundation is one of the nation's largest philanthropies, supporting children, journalism and communities.

SUMMER 2010 FEATURES



6 FRESH START

After a family tragedy, alumnus Ayodeji Ogunniyi finds his calling as a teacher and mentor of students.

10 THE WRITE STUFF

Award-winning writer Scott Blackwood is leading the Creative Writing Program and its community of writers to new heights.

30 FACULTY ESSAY

Roosevelt's Tana McCoy advocates substance abuse treatment in lieu of incarceration.

36 A HOME OF HER OWN

Graduate sociology student Shannon Beaudry talks about what it's like to be homeless and the research she's doing on the topic.



40 A MODEL FOR EDUCATION

There are many reasons why Roosevelt's vertical campus will be a noteworthy addition to Chicago's skyline. Architect Chris Groesbeck explains.

ROOSEVELT REVIEW | SUMMER 2010 VOLUME 15, NUMBER 2

PUBLISHER | Lesley D. Slavitt

EDITOR | Thomas R. Karow

CREATIVE DIRECTOR | Patrick J. Lytle

ASSOCIATE EDITOR | Laura Janota

WRITERS | Courtney Flynn, Laura Janota, Thomas R. Karow, Tana McCoy

DESIGN | Right Angle Studio

PHOTOGRAPHY | Steve Becker, Bob Coscarelli, Cheri Eisenberg, Ruben Gamarra, Nathan Mandell, Prakarn Nisarath, Howard Pasamanick, Richard Wheeler

ILLUSTRATION | Anthony Kola

EDITORIAL BOARD

James Gandre Provost and Executive Vice President

Thomas R. Karow Assistant Vice President, Public Relations

Patrick J. Lytle Assistant Vice President, Marketing

Charles R. Middleton President

Lesley D. Slavitt Vice President, Government Relations and University Outreach

Patrick M. Woods Vice President, Institutional Advancement and Chief Advancement Officer

Roosevelt Review is published three times a year by Roosevelt University. There is no subscription fee.

Roosevelt University
430 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60605
(312) 341-3500 | www.roosevelt.edu



DEPARTMENTS

4 PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

45 UNIVERSITY NEWS

57 INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT

58 FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

60 SCHOLARSHIP SPOTLIGHT

61 ALUMNI NEWS

62 EVENTS

66 WHERE RU?

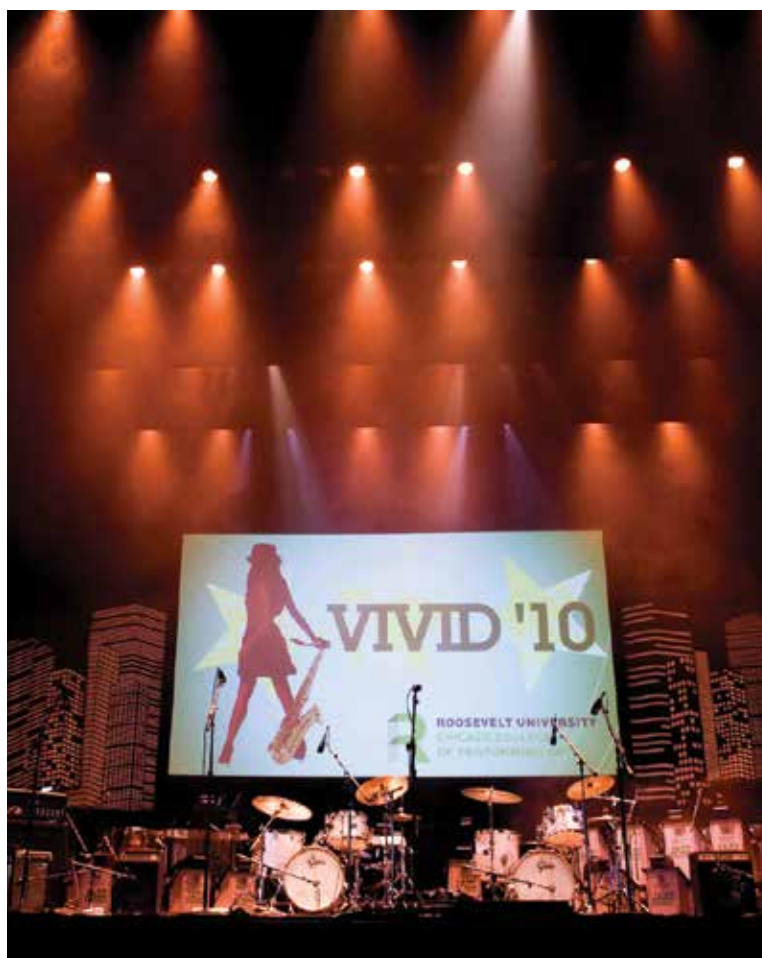
67 IN MEMORIAM

" Relationships I've formed at Roosevelt will benefit my writing career for years to come."

– CREATIVE WRITING STUDENT
LAUREN STACKS, PAGE 10



▲ **48 ACTS OF SERVICE** More than 400 volunteers turned out for Roosevelt's eighth annual New Deal Service Day.



▲ **52 VIVID 2010: A SHOWSTOPPING TURNOUT**



ALUMNI ARE KEY TO LONG-TERM SUCCESS By Roosevelt University President Chuck Middleton

Every strong, successful and high-quality college or university is blessed by an active and engaged alumni base.

The importance of this aspect of success is underscored in the way rankings are determined by many national rating organizations. In these, the percentage of alumni who give to the annual fund is one measure (note, not the amount given), along with student performance and student-faculty ratios, that determines which of the four tiers of excellence you will appear in.

I am not a fan of such ratings as many on campus will tell you. But I do take them seriously because others do. Part of that seriousness is to think about why each of these indicators of quality is important to those who make the rating rules and especially to those who use them to assess institutional excellence.

It's easy to see why academic performance of students in high school, graduation rates, the number of faculty on average per full-time student, and other academic variables are important ingredients in the mix. After all, these are markers of the core mission of an institution and they can easily be compared from campus to campus. To be sure, they are flawed, but since when has imperfect data kept people from comparing one result to another?

Not so clear in this analysis of institutional quality is why alumni support ranks up there in the top half dozen measurements of an institution's overall quality. Yet, when you think about it, it's not so far-fetched as it initially might appear.

The occasion of my reflection about this matter was the decision to do a better and more strategic job of engaging Roosevelt alumni in the future of the University. Readers of this award-winning magazine will appreciate how much progress we have been making in elevating the other indicators of excellence. More and more accomplished faculty members, students with outstanding credentials, enhanced graduation numbers, and new programs and services together drive our reputation for excellence today. All bode well for the future.

That said, we need to do much better in keeping our graduates engaged in that future if we are to achieve the sort of overall sustained reputation for excellence to which these other indicators point.

This is why we are actively starting officially chartered alumni chapters around the country as well as here in the greater Chicago area.

Alumni engagement is a two-way street. While the University needs strong advocacy along with financial support from

those who benefit from the education they received here, our alumni deserve a lifetime commitment of the University to their success as well.

This commitment on our part is multifaceted. It includes helping develop networks of Roosevelt University graduates in areas where there are concentrations of alumni. These networks, when they work optimally, provide an entree into communities for alumni who are new to an area. They also help all local graduates grow and sustain business, professional and social opportunities.

Another advantage to alumni is that through strong and local chapters they can stay abreast of new ideas that animate study on campus by hosting University faculty members at chapter events. In short, extension of the intellectual and creative climate on campus is a key component of chapter activity. It keeps our graduates up to date on the disciplines and brings the new knowledge of current faculty members to bear on their continued learning, itself a hallmark of a truly educated person.

I have been traveling a great deal lately to engage alumni coast to coast as well as locally in discussions about these chapters. We have started four of them this spring with at least four more slated for the fall semester. In the conversations with those who are spearheading these efforts locally, one thing is common. It is how transformational the Roosevelt experience was to the lives of all alumni, from the classes of the 1940s to those that have graduated in this century.

It is this spirit, this powerful impact, that leads to real dedication to the University and that makes possible the advocacy for our mission that is so critical to future success.

Advocacy is easy, really. Anyone can do it. All it takes is pride in your alma mater, the willingness to share your story with family and friends, and active participation in alumni events, and when possible, campus activities. Putting a Roosevelt sticker on your car window is an act of advocacy. The goal is to spread the word about what a terrific place this is and to be sure that anyone who is paying even the slightest attention cannot fail to know that.

Won't you join me in this endeavor? We will do so much good together and we will have lots of fun doing it.



@ Chuck Middleton welcomes your comments. Please email him at cmiddleton@roosevelt.edu.

fresh start

After a family tragedy, alumnus
Ayodeji Ogunniyi finds his calling as
a teacher and mentor of students.

BY LAURA JANOTA

Ayodeji Ogunniyi entered college right after graduating from high school in 2005, but dropped out after only one semester when his father was murdered by young men in Evergreen Park, Ill.

Today, the Roosevelt University alumnus, who graduated in December 2009 with a bachelor's degree in English and a minor in secondary education, has found his calling teaching youth at Thornwood High School in South Holland, Ill.

Ogunniyi's story, featured prominently in the Chicago Tribune and the Los Angeles Times, is as much about overcoming adversity as it is about transforming a negative into a positive for the greater good – or as he likes to put it: "When life throws you lemons, you make lemonade."

Ogunniyi still feels sad that the three youths accused of killing his father threw away their lives at only 18, 19 and 21 years of age, and he doesn't want to see other teenagers making bad decisions that can destroy their future potential and opportunities for success. "I need to make sure that no other teen ends up like this," he said. "That's why I'm trying to show young people that it's okay to be professional and that's why I'm telling my story."

He's been talking to teens all over the Chicago area, including at his alma-mater middle school in South Holland, at an anti-violence forum at Thornton Township High School in Harvey, Ill., and with the Men of Vision Project at the College of Lake County.

“When life throws you lemons,
you make lemonade.”

A Nigerian who immigrated to Chicago's south suburbs with his family at three years of age, Ogunniyi, now 23, has conducted his life in a way that would have pleased Eleanor Roosevelt. "What I love about Roosevelt University is what it stands for – the enlightenment of the human spirit – and the University really has helped me pursue that goal," he said.

Such a pursuit undoubtedly is a life-long journey. However, Ogunniyi's personal story of overcoming obstacles to make a difference in the lives of others began taking shape on Dec. 22, 2005, the day his father was murdered while driving his SUV cab for private fares.



Ogunniyi had just returned home for the winter break from his first semester studying at Northern Illinois University. He first learned on TV that a cabbie had been robbed and shot in a carjacking, and left to bleed to death in an Evergreen Park alley. That evening, he learned from police that the cabbie, Abimbola Ogunniyi, was his father.

"I was depressed and I didn't want to go to school anymore," said Ogunniyi, who was the only one in the family who knew their dad, who had been robbed before, was driving again to make a little extra money to help his two sons get through college.

Ogunniyi stayed home, in large part, to help his grieving mother. In January 2006, he began taking general education courses close to home at South Suburban Community College in South Holland. The next year, he volunteered to become a tutor for kids in third grade through high school who were looking for help with homework in an after-school program run by the Thornton Township Youth Committee. From that point on, Ogunniyi knew the direction he would take with his life.

While living at home and attending college, Ogunniyi began to pray for help in determining how he could move forward with his career. Then, a Roosevelt University admission representative called him out of the blue. Ogunniyi's mother encouraged her son to apply. In fall 2007, he enrolled at Roosevelt as an English major and secondary education minor, and moved into the University Center Chicago residence hall.

"I remember that first week. I was lonely leaving home, but I loved meeting new people. I loved the atmosphere in the South Loop. I loved the Auditorium Building," he said. "I remember spending hours in the University library looking out the windows and going through the shelves."

Majoring in English wasn't easy at first for Ogunniyi, who recalls being so discouraged early on that he considered dropping out. "It was very difficult for me. I had never really done critical analysis before and I don't think I was prepared for the rigorous curriculum," said Ogunniyi, who had been an honors student throughout his education.

Ogunniyi credits Ann Brigham, associate professor of English and women's and gender studies and one of Ogunniyi's first instructors in his major, with convincing him to stick with English even though he was having some trouble with his writing.

"His participation in my class was transformative. He asked questions, he thought things through, and he always approached things as if he were trying to solve a puzzle. It was fabulous, and I remember telling him: 'If you can do that, you should definitely stay in English literature,'" she said.

Another associate professor of English, Ellen O'Brien, gave him confidence even when he did poorly on one of his early exams. "I told him, 'Let's talk about how to prepare. Don't freak yourself out,'" said O'Brien, who recalls Ogunniyi's enthusiasm, interest and engagement growing as the semester went on.

Roosevelt English Professor Regina Buccola encouraged Ogunniyi to develop and write about his own original ideas. "I saw an upward trajectory with his writing," recalls Buccola.

"He got stronger and stronger as he went along in expressing his ideas and articulating them through his writing."

At the same time he was taking English classes, Ogunniyi was also completing course work in Roosevelt's College of Education so he could become an English teacher. "He had a lot of confidence and he related well to kids, and I remember thinking he was one of those students who has a gift for teaching," said Linda Pincham. An associate professor of education, she oversaw Ogunniyi's field observation at Hyde Park High School in Chicago — a school she says requested Ogunniyi as a student teacher.

Roosevelt education instructor Alice Crawford, who oversaw Ogunniyi's student teaching at Thornwood — where he was immediately hired after the stint was over — remembers him, above all, reaching his students by coming up with a variety of engaging activities and strategies.

"During the lesson, he would use the words 'tracking, tracking, tracking' as a means to check on whether the students understood him," said Crawford. "I had never heard anyone use that strategy before, but I think it was an effective one because it engaged students and got across the idea that it was fine to ask questions," she said.

While Ogunniyi was spending a lot of his time at court hearings and at trials for the three youths accused in his father's death, few at Roosevelt knew anything about his personal journey, his loss and his grief.

Then one day in November 2008, Ogunniyi went to see the opera, Margaret Garner, at the Auditorium Theatre of Roosevelt University as a class assignment with Kimberly Ruffin, assistant professor of English, for her Literature and Enslavement class.

Seeing all of his English professors sitting together at the opera and watching the story of Margaret Garner, who fought at all costs against slavery, struck a chord with Ogunniyi, who wrote a letter to Brigham, O'Brien, Ruffin, Buccola and associate English professor and Department Chair Bonnie Gunzenhauser.



FATHER KNOWS BEST Abimbola Ogunniyi (right) always wanted his son, Ayodeji, to go to college, a wish Ayodeji fulfilled when he graduated in 2009.



TRIBUNE PHOTO WILLIAM DESHAZER

"Being there that night made me think of my own trials and how my own father forsook his life just so my brother and I could get an education — and I just felt overcome with gratitude because there were so many times that I wanted to throw in the towel and my English teachers wouldn't let me," he recalled.

In the letter, Ogunniyi talks of his loss, but moves beyond in appreciation for what he's gained since:

"I loved each and every one of your classes," the letter states. "I must admit that it was challenging for me because I was new to a lot of subjects and writing methods. I was not used to the type of education or instruction that I received from Roosevelt. I'm not sure what it was particularly, maybe your enthusiasm or your willingness to help every step of the way. But going to Roosevelt ... has re-strengthened my passion for life. Studying literature under Roosevelt's English department has given me a way to escape from the pain of losing my father in a tragic way. THANK YOU."

Today, those professors continue to sing Ogunniyi's praises. "Sometimes students will share things about themselves orally after a class, but I think it's rare that a student will take the time to write a note like that," remarked Ruffin. "It was so eloquent and so heartfelt and it was evidence to me of how well suited he is to be a teacher."

Ogunniyi, who recently completed his first year teaching freshman English at Thornwood High, has been lauded for his ability to relate to students on both a professional and personal level. "I think his situation with his father has made him more sensitive to the fact that other students are suffering in all kinds of situations," said Thornwood English instructor Julia Glaser, who has known Ogunniyi since he was a student teacher in her class. "He's more than just someone who gives out information. He's interested in both the academic and emotional sides of our students, and that's what makes him a great teacher."

LEADING BY EXAMPLE Roosevelt alum Ayodeji Ogunniyi (BA,'09) teaches high school English in South Holland, Ill., where he is a role model to his students.

“Going to Roosevelt
has re-strengthened
my passion for life.”

— AYODEJI OGUNNIYI



the writ

Novelist Scott Blackwood is creating
a community of writers at Roosevelt.

BY LAURA JANOTA

te stuff





exas writer Scott Blackwood left behind family and friends, but not his sense of community when he arrived at Roosevelt University in the fall of 2008.

Blackwood, 44, is the 2009 winner of the Texas Institute of Letters Award for best book of fiction, a prestigious recognition that has been given in the past to many great, well-known fiction writers, including Katherine Anne Porter, Larry McMurtry and Cormac McCarthy. He won the award for his novel, *We Agreed to Meet Just Here*, which also was selected for the 2007 best novel award from the Association of Writers and Writing Programs.

While he calls Austin, Texas, his first, real home, Blackwood moved to Chicago to build a creative writing program centered on the writing life – its opportunities for camaraderie, its support for one's work and the work of others, and the chance to share with other like-minded writers a love for the craft.

"Austin represented all of the things that the rest of Texas didn't," he says today. "There is a sense of community there that makes it okay to be different and to pursue things that don't necessarily make you money, and I am aiming to build a writing community here at Roosevelt that will be as close-knit and supportive as the one I was part of in Austin."

Blackwood believes the most important element in becoming a successful writer is a focus on essentials – the craft of writing and the writer's own work.

"William Faulkner used to say that all a writer needs is a pencil and paper, but Faulkner also had a mentor, Sherwood Anderson, to help him find his sense of place as a writer," said Blackwood. "One of the things Anderson taught Faulkner – and that I tell my students – is to concentrate on honing the craft of writing. That always has to come first. Good things will follow if a writer stays focused on that," he said.

So far, his strategy and approach have been on track, as students and recent alumni from Roosevelt's Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing Program are publishing fiction, non-fiction, poetry and scripts that are winning national contests and widespread recognition.

For instance, Adam Morgan, a second-year MFA student in the Roosevelt program, won the top prize and \$25,000 last fall at the 2009 New York Television Festival Awards for his TV comedy script, *Liberal Arts*. Selected from more than 600 entries, Morgan's script follows a college freshman's first experiences at a small, private liberal arts college. As the winner of the Fox-Procter & Gamble Comedy Script Contest, *Liberal Arts* may be turned into a national network TV pilot for Fox Broadcasting Company.

First-year MFA student Cecilia Villarruel, the first in her family to go to college, took fourth place and received \$2,000 from the National Society for Arts and Letters Central Illinois Chapter for Short Story Writing for "Footnotes: Mexican Evolution," a first-person account of what it's like being the daughter of Mexican immigrants and for her third-person narrative about volunteering with children in Namibia. Also, poetry by creative writing student Lauren Stacks is featured in Naomi Shihab Nye's new anthology, *Time You Let Me In: 25 Poets Under 25*, which was published in February.

"These are exceptional accomplishments for the Creative Writing Program, which has been flourishing under Scott's leadership," said Lynn Weiner, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Roosevelt.

WINNING WORDS

Winner of The Jesse H. Jones Award from the Texas Institute of Letters for his first novel, Blackwood was a creative writing lecturer for seven years and program director for the Undergraduate Writing Center at the University of Texas at Austin, which is considered to be one of the top three writing centers in the nation.

"Scott is a prize-winning writer who also has a lot of experience as a college administrator," added Weiner. "When he came here, he had great ideas for building on a program that already had begun to take off, and he's been doing a terrific job with us since then."

Blackwood earned a Master of Fine Arts (MFA) in Creative Writing in 1997 from the Texas State University at San Marcos, where the faculty includes Tim O'Brien, a highly acclaimed writer and National Book Award winner.



2009 GRADUATE WINS SHORT STORY CONTEST

Lori Rader Day wanted to write more when she applied to Roosevelt University's Master of Fine Arts (MFA) in Creative Writing Program in 2006.

Since then, Rader Day, who received her MFA from the University in 2009, has published 11 short stories in literary journals and magazines. She also won several major fiction-writing contests, including the \$3,000 grand prize in May from *Good Housekeeping* magazine.

"When they called to let me know I'd won, I was stunned," said Rader Day, whose winning 3,500-word short story, "Layers of Love," was selected from more than 5,000 contest entries and is published in *Good Housekeeping*'s May 2010 125th anniversary issue.

"I thought the story was good and that it might be a runner-up, or at the very least, I could send it somewhere else for publication after *Good Housekeeping* rejected it," said the writer. "But never in my wildest dreams did I think it was the story that would win the contest."

"Layers of Love" is about a woman, Jolie, who moves with her husband from the suburbs to Chicago, leaving behind her in-laws to discover new truths about family in her new community.

"The links between parents and children – and the lengths we go to preserve them – serve as a beautiful thread tying together Day's masterful piece," *Good Housekeeping* fiction contest judge



and bestselling author Jodi Picoult wrote in her review of the winning story. "The subtlety of an unreliable narrator's character development was what blew me away in this story," Picoult explained.

"The secret to Lori's success is really no secret at all. She has painstakingly studied her craft, developed a vision for the kinds of stories she wants to tell and has researched the audience for her work," said Scott Blackwood,

director of Roosevelt's Creative Writing Program.

Since graduating from Roosevelt, Rader Day has completed a draft of her first novel, a literary mystery, and is just starting work on a second novel. She also recently landed a job as director of communications for the School of Communication at Northwestern University.

"Roosevelt's Creative Writing Program changed my life. It gave me the focus I need to do my writing," she said.



"At Texas State, people really liked the culture and they liked the mix of people," he said. "That's why I joined Roosevelt's MFA program. It reminds me very much of where the program at Texas State was just before it took off."

Blackwood learned a great deal about running a successful creative writing program from his mentors at Texas State, including Tom Grimes, director of the program, and Debra Monroe, his thesis advisor. He is drawing on what he learned from them as he begins to take Roosevelt's Creative Writing Program to the next level. "When I was a student at Texas State, it was a place where people really wanted to be," said Blackwood, who took writing workshops, similar to those offered in Roosevelt's MFA program. He wrote short stories there that would become the basis for his master's thesis and first book of short stories, *In the Shadow of Our House*.

Released in 2001, the title story from that book has been described as "impressive" and "accomplished" by the *New York Times*. One of the story's characters is a doctor who discovered the bodies of followers of Jim Jones in Jonestown, Guyana, after they drank cyanide-laced punch. The character was created by Blackwood after he saw an obituary about the real-life doctor in a Texas newspaper. He is currently at work on a second novel about a murder, set in both Austin and Chicago, which is based on a famous, ongoing Austin case known as the Yogurt Shop Murders.

"Scott Blackwood is a well known writer," said Lori Rader Day, who won a *Good Housekeeping* fiction-writing contest (see article at left). "He's published books and he's continuing to write, and that's very important to students who are looking to their published professors to be their mentors."

"I'm a much better writer thanks to Roosevelt."

– ADAM MORGAN



Rader Day so far has published 11 of her short stories in literary journals and magazines and is now at work on her first novel. "Roosevelt's Creative Writing Program has prepared me well for the writing life. I would recommend it to anyone who has the desire and the drive to be a writer," said Rader Day.

When Blackwood started at Roosevelt, the MFA program already was coming into its own. Enrollments and applications to the program were up and buzz about the program was spreading locally and even nationally. The program was attracting more full-time students with the means and willingness to dedicate themselves wholeheartedly to the craft and community of writing.

These trends are indicative of what's happening across the country: MFA programs are growing in popularity. In fact, the number of MFA programs sprouting up at U.S. colleges and universities has more than doubled since 1990.

Daniel Pink, author of several best-selling books on the changing nature of work, has called the MFA the nation's new MBA degree. He believes the MFA may be just as desirable as the MBA once was because the MFA trains people how to do conceptual work — a mandatory skill that will be needed as the U.S. economy begins to rely more and more on creative ability to compete globally.

"People see these programs as a way to do something that's meaningful and enjoyable," said Blackwood. "At the same time, they know the programs are making them better writers, and writing is the ultimate skill that you can have in any profession."

Morgan, whose comedy script, *Liberal Arts*, may one day become a TV pilot, agrees that the Roosevelt program under Blackwood's leadership has made the difference in his recent success. "I'm a much better writer thanks to Roosevelt," said Morgan. "I don't think I would have won this contest without my training in the Creative Writing Program."

Beginning this fall, students in the Creative Writing Program will have the opportunity to work with well-known writers from outside the University, including National Book Award winner Janet Burroway and novelist Debra Monroe, who once was Blackwood's own mentor.


"I believe that the relationships I've formed with professors and classmates at Roosevelt will be of benefit to my writing career for many years to come," said Stacks, who had four poems published in *Time You Let Me In: 25 Poets Under 25*.


"I wanted to go to a school that emphasized social justice," added Villarruel, a South-Side Chicago native and the first of nine children in her family to graduate from college. Currently an intern for the Creative Writing Program's *Oyez Review* literary magazine, Villarruel is planning to do her master's thesis on experiences she had as a Peace Corps volunteer in Namibia.

"It's important for me to be able to tell stories and the Roosevelt Creative Writing Program is helping me develop this talent," said Villarruel, who spent part of her life growing up in rural Mexico.

Under Blackwood's leadership, Roosevelt has developed a number of ways to support the writing community. These include workshop-style sessions that encourage writers to exchange ideas and critique one another; reading events that feature the work of faculty members, students and guest writers; an MFA blog that connects students to upcoming events, news about writing contests and the work of others in the program; and *Oyez Review*, the University's literary magazine that gives students a chance to work together on a published project.

Blackwood recently taught a new course called *Writing about Place*, which is intended to be a springboard for better understanding of the landscapes writers choose — both inside their heads and in their environments. "I believe people build a sense of place, and that the place we are building has more to do with a sense of belonging and connection — a community if you will — than it has to do with a physical location," said Blackwood.

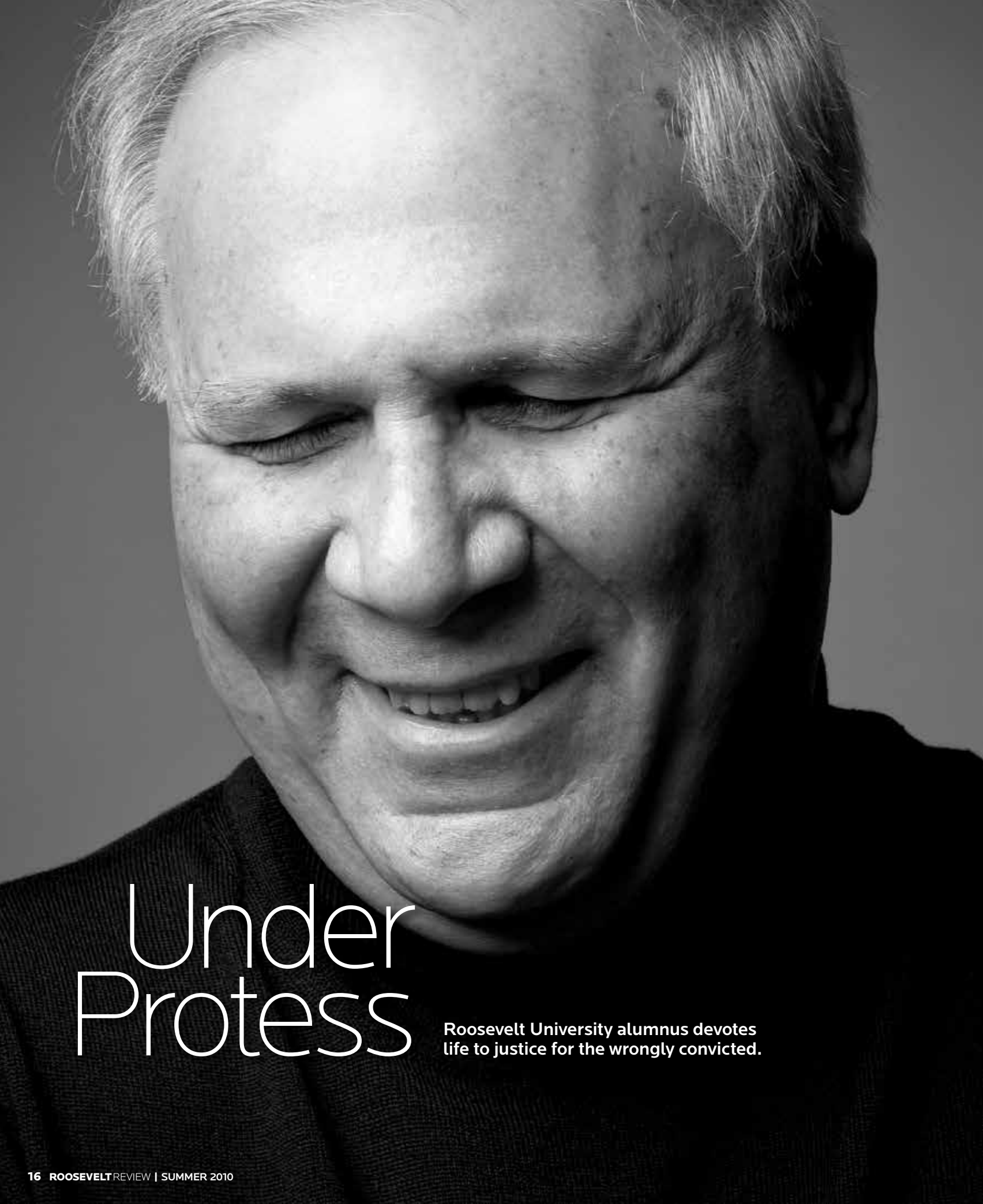
"We are building a program that has a national reputation for supporting its students as a community," added Blackwood. He hopes to attract distinguished writers to the University and to expand horizons so that students in the program can teach creative writing at area high schools. 

 Contact Scott Blackwood at sblackwood@roosevelt.edu.

"I wanted to go to a school that emphasized social justice."

— CECILIA VILLARRUEL





Under Protest

Roosevelt University alumnus devotes
life to justice for the wrongly convicted.

BY COURTNEY FLYNN

David Protess didn't just begin his career at Roosevelt University, he began his life here, too.

When he arrived on campus in 1965 in the midst of the turbulent times surrounding the Civil Rights Movement and the Vietnam War, he was filled with anger and a sense of alienation.

Just a few months before, Protess had been attending the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, but was turned off by large class sizes that left him feeling "miserable" and "lonely."

When a severe case of mononucleosis forced him to recuperate at his parents' home in Chicago, he knew he didn't want to go back downstate and decided instead to take a couple of political science classes at Roosevelt. He never left.

"It turned my life around," said Protess, 63. "When I arrived at Roosevelt, I was an extremely angry person and didn't have any useful way to express the anger. I found that place in the form of a belief in social justice."

Inspired by Roosevelt professors like Dale Pontius, an outspoken anti-war activist, and Charles Hamilton, co-author of *Black Power*, Protess' early days laid the foundation for a life spent fighting injustice.

The 1968 Roosevelt alumnus has become a renowned crusader against wrongful convictions, helping to exonerate 11 men, five of them freed from death row. He has authored four books and currently serves as director of the nationally acclaimed Medill Innocence Project at Northwestern University, which investigates wrongful convictions. Protess and his journalism students were highlighted in 2003 when then-Governor George Ryan announced he was commuting the sentences of all the death row inmates in Illinois.

"It is alumni like Protess, who consistently live the University's mission of social justice, that make us so proud," said Roosevelt President Chuck Middleton.

"It's important to be able to show our current students that they follow in the footsteps of Roosevelt students in the past who have put their education to work in their lives," Middleton said. "It's leading by example, and David Protess leads by example."

Protess said at this point in his life he feels so comfortable with what he's doing that he just wants the time to continue to do it.

Those who know him best say they don't see him giving up the cause any time soon.

His friends and colleagues describe Protess as a man who is incredibly passionate, dedicated and relentless — in a good way. "I think that as long as there are people whom he thinks are wrongfully convicted, he'll keep doing this," said Donna Leff, a Medill journalism professor who has known Protess for about 30 years. "There's a sense of mission, a sense of dedication, a sense of doing what's right."

FREEDOM FIGHTER David Protess found his social justice calling at Roosevelt University.

What also stands out, they say, is that he has chosen to teach and instill the pursuit of truth in another generation.

"When he's involved in something, he wants to take it as far as he can go," said Linda Jones, associate professor of journalism and associate graduate dean at Roosevelt. "The greater thing is that he can transfer that enthusiasm and drive to get to an end result to the students."

Many people may be good teachers, Jones said, but there are only a handful who are inspirational like Protess. "He's able to inspire them to pursue things that really matter," Jones said. "That's a rare quality."

After graduating from Roosevelt, Protess went on to earn his doctorate at the University of Chicago. He then began teaching political science at Loyola University Chicago. After a few years, though, he said he became bored with academia and took a five-year break from teaching full-time. "Political science was intellectually

As part of the investigation, Trossman made an appointment at one of the clinics, saying she thought she was pregnant. Doctors then told her to bring in a urine sample, she said. In an effort to make the investigation as foolproof as possible, Trossman returned with Protess' urine.

"We didn't want them to come up with any outs," Trossman said. "Sure enough, they said I was pregnant based on his urine. I remember coming back to the office and saying to David, 'Congratulations! You're pregnant!'"

His thorough and careful investigative skills still stand out to Trossman. "He's truly one of the most amazing people I know," she said. "I so admire the way he goes about investigating ... he really is the ultimate truth seeker."

After leaving the BGA, Protess was hired at Medill to teach investigative reporting. The deal he worked out with the university allowed him to teach half the time and spend the other half working for Chicago Lawyer magazine, where he did a series of articles about wrongful convictions.

In 1999, Protess founded the Medill Innocence Project, which uses the help of undergraduate journalism students to help expose and fix problems within the criminal justice system especially when it comes to wrongful convictions in murder cases. When he began looking into wrongful convictions in the mid-1990s, there were three other innocence projects. Today there are 53 nationally.

"He practically invented the field of wrongful conviction," Leff said. "If it weren't for David, a lot of people might still be sitting in jail ... Most people in the culture just kind of accept authority and conventional wisdom. He just looks at everything skeptically, and a lot of times he's right."

The results of Protess' work are evident in the case of Kenneth Adams, a member of the group infamously known as the Ford Heights Four, who was convicted along with three other men of a double murder and rape in 1978.

Adams spent 18 years behind bars before he and the others were eventually exonerated by DNA evidence. Before the men were released, however, Protess and his students uncovered important evidence of police intimidation and efforts to conceal information from a witness that implicated four other men.

"We were freed in 1996 with Dave's help," Adams said. "It's more or less extraordinary that someone would dedicate so much of their personal time to help people like me. To think that there's people out there who are willing to give 100 percent of their life to help others in need — it's amazing."

AND JUSTICE FOR ALL Eleven men have been exonerated of crimes they didn't commit because of work by David Protess and students involved with the Medill Innocence Project at Northwestern University.



stimulating, but it didn't give me the kind of activist sense that I cultivated at Roosevelt," he said.

So from 1976 to 1981, Protess continued to teach part-time while also serving as the research director for the Better Government Association (BGA), a non-partisan government watchdog group.

Former Medill professor Mindy Trossman, who worked as an investigator with Protess at the BGA, said he served as a mentor to her. "He taught me how to look at government agencies and governmental problems and how to look at documents," Trossman said. "He was incredibly helpful to me with my career at the BGA."

She also recalls how meticulous he was with his work. In the late 1970s, the BGA teamed up with the Chicago Sun-Times for a series called "The Abortion Profiteers" in which the agency and the newspaper exposed clinics on Michigan Avenue that performed abortions on women — sometimes when they weren't even pregnant.



APIIMAGES

“I’m proud to be a Roosevelt alum. It’s not only where my career started. It’s where my life started.” – **DAVID PROTESS**

These days Adams said although he considers Protes a good friend, he tries not to crowd him because he wants him to be able to devote his full attention to other people in need. “There’s always another case that might require all of his energy,” Adams said.

Indeed, as of press time, Protes was involved in a legal skirmish with Cook County State’s Attorney Anita Alvarez over a case involving the 1981 conviction of a man whom the Medill Innocence Project says is not guilty.

Alvarez filed court documents demanding grades and other materials from Protes’ students and charging that witnesses said students paid for information and flirted with them.

Protes has denied the accusations and puts little weight into what detractors think. “I can’t worry about people who are critical of what I do,” Protes said. “In fact, I think it’s healthy. It helps produce a dialogue from which truth emerges.”

And that pursuit of the truth and belief in social justice stems from the time Protes spent at Roosevelt. Despite his many accomplishments and work at Northwestern University, he has never strayed far from Roosevelt.

He eats lunch every Tuesday with a friend he made while he was a student at Roosevelt. He helped organize his 20th reunion and last year’s 40th reunion.

“I’m just thrilled that Roosevelt remains a diverse place where people in Chicago can come to receive a quality education for a reasonable amount of tuition,” Protes said. “I’m absolutely thrilled with the prospects for the future for my alma mater. I’m proud to be a Roosevelt alum. It’s not only where my career started. It’s where my life started.” 📺



GRADY GOES GREEN

BEFORE LANDMARK LEGISLATION ELIMINATED THE PRACTICE OF REDLINING, WALTER GRADY INVESTED IN COMMUNITY AND BUILT THE FOURTH-LARGEST BLACK-OWNED BANK IN THE NATION.

BY TOM KAROW

In 1970 when Walter E. Grady was studying chemistry and mathematics, a Roosevelt University professor noted his keen business potential and suggested that Grady consider a career change to business administration. That year, Grady not only considered the suggestion, but followed the advice, leading to his becoming president and chief executive officer of Seaway Bank and Trust Company in Chicago.

Grady speaks proudly of his service in the US Air Force and his attendance at Morehouse College in Atlanta. However, he never imagined what he would achieve at Seaway Bank as a result of the education he received at Roosevelt University.

Under the Roosevelt alumnus' leadership, Seaway has grown from a bank with \$40 million in assets to one with assets that have topped \$400 million, with 250 employees. Today, Seaway is the fourth-largest black-owned bank in the country.

"I have to say that what gives me the most joy is to help a customer through a financial crisis. Customers may come in concerned and worried, but we do our best to make sure they leave with a big smile on their face," said Grady, who has been president and CEO of Seaway for 30 years, making him the longest serving bank president in the Chicago area.

For Grady, home ownership for consumers has been a major focus. He likes to tout Seaway's special program, created on his watch, that allows qualified buyers to purchase a home by putting down only one percent of the home's value. During the past 15 years, many people have taken advantage of the program with virtually no defaults. "We've been able to help deserving people obtain the American dream of owning a home without altering our sound business principles," he said.

Another program created under Grady's leadership is the Seaway Community Development Corp. The corporation buys distressed properties, rehabs them and then sells them to low and moderate-income individuals at affordable prices. "When people have ownership, it gives them a sense of pride," said Jacoby Dickens, the long-time chairman of Seaway's Board of Directors.

Reflecting on Seaway's original mission to counter discriminatory lending practices, Grady said, "We started out with the philosophy that we wanted to fill the credit needs of the community, and we have done just that. What we have not

done is lower our standards by making loans to individuals who didn't qualify. This would hurt not just our bank, but it would also harm the consumer, as we're now seeing throughout the country."

Since Seaway was established in 1965, it has helped many individuals and businesses. In the late 1960s, for example, Joseph Caldwell's dry-cleaning and tailoring business on Chicago's South Side was at a crossroads. To keep growing and expanding, he needed \$3,500 to install a gas line for a new clothing press, but his loan application kept being stymied by the large Chicago banks. Frustrated, Caldwell finally turned to Seaway, a neighborhood bank which had just opened. "They realized the obstacles I was facing and they understood how determined I was to make my business relevant," Caldwell said.

Seaway gave Caldwell the money he needed, and Caldwell has since received several additional loans from Seaway. TailorRite Complete Clothing Care, Caldwell's company, now has annual sales of more than \$1 million and is the official cleaners of the Chicago White Sox.

The Rev. Cody Marshall (BS, '54) is a dedicated customer of Seaway Bank and a personal friend of Grady, whom he calls "a very responsible person, a family man, someone concerned about the community." Marshall also has positive comments about Seaway, which he describes as a "conservative bank," one that has always "catered to the needs" of people in the neighborhood.

In 2006, Marshall turned to Seaway when his Freedom Temple Church of God in Christ, a well-known place of worship on 74th Street at Ashland Avenue in Chicago, needed a loan to expand. "Even though the failure rate of loans for churches is less than those for any other type of business, other banks were difficult to deal with," Marshall said.

Seaway provided the pastor with a \$4 million, 20-year mortgage so that he could build a new home for one of the cornerstones of the African-American community, a striking 1,200-seat church complete with a daycare center, gymnasium and fitness center.

Another major customer is Community Insurance Center, Inc., the fourth-largest minority-owned insurance brokerage in



HOW REDLINING BECAME GREENLINING

BY **D. BRADFORD HUNT**

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

Like other forms of discrimination, "redlining" had destructive effects on Chicago neighborhoods, and only in recent decades have "greenlining" and other forms of community investment begun to reverse this damage.

"Redlining" describes the practice of arbitrarily denying or limiting financial services to entire neighborhoods, generally because most residents are people of color or are poor. Beginning in the 1930s, bankers and government officials drew color-coded lines on maps using racial, ethnic and class criteria. Red lines were drawn around predominantly African-American, Hispanic, Jewish and poor white neighborhoods, making them off-limits to loans and insurance from major banks.

Starting in the late-1960s, federal legislation and regulation sought to combat redlining. The Fair Housing Act of 1968 prohibited housing discrimination and the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act of 1975 required the release of data on bank lending. But regulation rarely resulted in active investment in poor neighborhoods, and community leaders in Chicago spearheaded further reform.

In the early 1970s, the Citizens Action Program, a multi-racial group of community activists from the South Side, developed a strategy of "greenlining" by asking neighborhood residents to deposit savings only in banks that pledged to reinvest funds in urban communities. This strategy soon received federal support in the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) of 1977. Little progress was made, however, until the 1980s when activists, led by Gail Cincotta and the National Training and Information Center in Chicago, put public pressure on Chicago banks for specific agreements to lend to distressed neighborhoods.

By the 1990s, banks learned that such lending could be financially sound, and Chicago's CRA agreements became a model for the rest of the country. Unfortunately, in the past decade, many banks engaged in higher-risk lending while others pushed high-cost loans on some borrowers in poor communities, a practice called "predatory lending." As the housing market crumbled, many low-income homeowners were saddled with unworkable loans. Still, "Greenlining" through the CRA has become a crucial tool for bringing commercial and residential investment – as well as employment opportunities – to low-income communities.

While reform efforts have been focused on downtown banks, community-based banks like Seaway have steadily grown by practicing an older form of "relationship" banking that carefully serves a broad range of community needs, from small business loans to home improvement financing.

D. Bradford Hunt, associate professor of social science and associate dean of the Evelyn T. Stone College of Professional Studies at Roosevelt University, is a professor, administrator and scholar. His book, Blueprint for Disaster: The Unraveling of Chicago Public Housing, received the 2009 Lewis Mumford Book Prize, best book in American planning history, from the Society of American City and Regional Planning Historians.

the Midwest. "When I first met Walter, we both had black hair. Now we're mostly gray," said company President Milton Moses, who has been banking at Seaway for 40 years. "At Seaway I am not an account number. All the executives know us. If I call Walter, I can speak with him or he'll call back."

A major loan from Seaway in 1976 allowed Community Insurance to construct a brick office building on East 87th Street, providing it with the space it needed to grow. "We still do all of our banking with Seaway and I'm not interested in a change," Moses said.

A few years ago, a doctor visited Grady just after she completed her degree, wanting to buy and furnish a medical building. She had gone to another bank two months earlier, but was still waiting to find out if her loan request was approved. "I met with her and, in about a week, we gave her an answer and she was able to buy the building and start her practice. I don't think that you could pull her away from Seaway at this point," Grady said.

To help young people achieve the skills they'll need to be successful, Grady encourages his bank officers to work with local schools and supports internships, mentoring and work-study programs. Seaway also provides schools with supplies, textbooks and equipment.

"We are 100 percent committed to developing businesses in our community and helping them grow," said Grady. "However, one of the most frustrating things about this job is trying to educate the community-at-large that black institutions are just as solid, innovative and safe as the majority institutions." Many people, he said, would be surprised to know that Seaway was the first bank in Chicago to allow its 24,000 customers to access their account balances automatically over the telephone.

During its 45 years, Seaway's bottom line has never been in the red, while the bank's assets have soared during Grady's presidency. Even during fiscal 2008, an extremely difficult time, profits at the privately owned bank rose by 2.65 percent to \$3.3 million. "We're very proud to say that Seaway Bank is still lending," said Arlene Williams, executive vice president. In fact, loans increased by 8.6 percent in 2008.

By implementing what Grady calls a "prudent" banking strategy, his team of executives has managed to keep Seaway clear of the financial problems affecting hundreds of banks across the country. That is important because when a community loses its hometown bank, it also loses a vital institution, one that usually supports causes like little league teams and redevelopment projects, something that Seaway Bank does regularly. During the past two years, more than 24 Illinois banks have been seized due to financial problems.

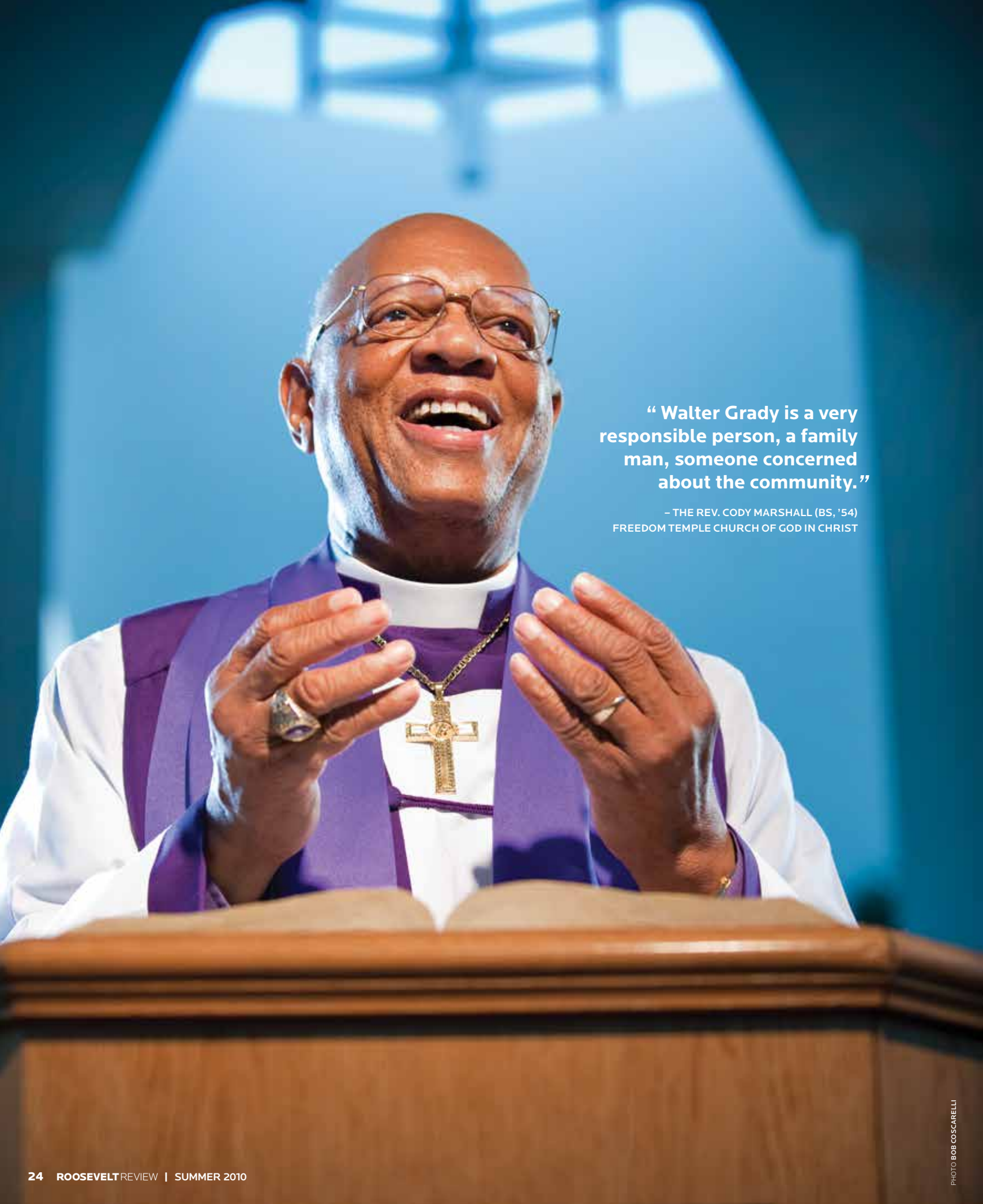
While Seaway is doing well, Grady is concerned about the high unemployment rate in the black community, especially for unskilled workers. "To create jobs we need to give more incentives to small businesses," he said. "Small businesses would hire more employees, if they felt they could get some sort of a tax break. They're simply not able to just borrow more money."

"One of the major differences between Seaway, a community bank, and a large financial institution is that when individuals come here, they can talk to the president," Grady said with a smile. "People come to my office all the time because they're either seeking advice or they need financial assistance. Many come to my office just to say 'hello.'"



“Seaway realized the obstacles I was facing and understood how determined I was to make my business relevant.”

— JOSEPH CALDWELL
OWNER, TAILORITE COMPLETE CLOTHING CARE



“Walter Grady is a very responsible person, a family man, someone concerned about the community.”

– THE REV. CODY MARSHALL (BS, '54)
FREEDOM TEMPLE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

What does Grady credit for his sound business principles? He readily points to Roosevelt University where he earned a BGS degree in business in 1972 and an MBA in 1979. "Being married and working 40 hours a week, I found that Roosevelt offered me the best opportunities to transition majors. I was also impressed with the method of the professors," he recalled.

Two of Grady's children also have Roosevelt degrees. Senalda, principal of John T. Pirie Fine Arts Academy in Chicago, received an MA in education in 1999, and Terrence, who works at Seaway, received an MBA in 2008. Senalda said Roosevelt's hands-on training with school principals have helped in her capacity as a school principal where experience in administration is critical. "The professors at Roosevelt were excellent," she stated.

"Like my dad, I took classes in the evening and worked full time while studying for my MBA," Terrence said. "I'm a commercial loan officer, and I can say that my Roosevelt education prepared me for many of the things I am doing now, such as developing business plans and financial statements and working with entrepreneurs."

Walter E. Grady's office is located on the second floor of Seaway's Main Bank building at 645 E. 87th Street in Chicago's Chatham neighborhood. The space is nicely appointed, but, in keeping with the bank's practical spending philosophy, is a far cry from the expansive suites occupied by some bank CEOs. The bank has six other facilities, including branches in Waukegan and at O'Hare and Midway airports.

Future bank plans, Grady said, include expanding into other minority and underserved communities, similar to Seaway's Waukegan branch where tellers are conversant in both English and Spanish. "We also are looking to acquire additional branches during the next three to five years," he said.

Seaway Bank might be Grady's vocation, but it's certainly not the only thing occupying his time. He is an outdoorsman who loves to fish, garden, golf and restore old cars. "I'll fish anywhere," he said pointing to a picture of a large catfish he caught last year in Colorado Springs. "In the winter, I do a lot of fishing in Arizona. And right now, I'm restoring two 1965 Mustangs. At home in Crete, Ill., I'm an avid gardener - some say a master gardener. I just like watching nature grow."

In addition to serving on Seaway's Board of Directors, Grady is a board member of the Illinois Bankers Association, Boy Scouts Area Council, Illinois Commission on Volunteerism, 111th Street YMCA, United Methodist Foundation and Seaway Community Development Corporation. He also is a member of the National Bankers Association, American Bankers Association, American Management Association, Chatham Lions Club, Economic Club of Chicago and Alliance of Business Leaders & Entrepreneurs.

Grady, who is 70, said he has no plans to retire. He's far too busy for that. 🐼

ADDED VALUE Seaway President Walter Grady (right) meets regularly with those who have financial needs and also mentors kids in the community.



"What gives me the most joy is to help a customer through a financial crisis. They come in concerned and worried and leave with a big smile on their face."

— WALTER GRADY (BGS, '72; MBA, '79)





the multiplier
effect

Give a person a fish,
or invest in a new
kind of net? McCormick
Foundation President
and CEO David Hiller
shares his thinking on
investments that go
far beyond charity.

Approximately one year ago, David D. Hiller, a Roosevelt University trustee since 1990, was appointed president and chief executive officer of the McCormick Foundation in Chicago. One of the nation's largest public charities, the McCormick Foundation has granted more than \$1 billion to organizations in local communities across the country since its founding in the 1950s.

A Chicago native and graduate of Harvard College and Harvard Law School, Hiller began his career as a lawyer with Sidley & Austin in

Chicago. He joined Tribune Company in 1988 as general counsel and later served as president, publisher and CEO of both the Chicago Tribune and the Los Angeles Times. As a Tribune employee, Hiller was a member of the McCormick Foundation's Board of Directors for seven years, where he helped determine the foundation's goals and strategy.

Now as CEO of the McCormick Foundation, he is leading the organization during a difficult time for philanthropy. His foundation and others like it across the country are facing the challenge of meeting great community needs at a time when resources are tight.

To learn how foundations are confronting these challenges, Roosevelt Review Editor Tom Karow met with Hiller in his office at the McCormick Foundation.

Q TOM KAROW What do you consider the role of foundations to be in American society?

A DAVID HILLER Philanthropy in the United States makes up just under two percent of the whole economy. In dollar terms, that's a significant number, about \$300 billion. This includes what people contribute to their churches and schools and many other philanthropic causes. Americans are generous givers, more so than in most other countries. But when you consider that the total amount of charitable donations is under two percent of all the economic activity in the country, that tells you that philanthropy can't do everything. It's not a replacement for what people do in their livelihoods and for some of what the government does, but it's very, very important in terms of progress, solutions and innovations. When foundations are able to be flexible and responsive, and when they collaborate with government and private industry to maximize their impact, the benefits to society can be enormous. That's why there is such a premium on foundations and individual givers trying to be effective and smart in terms of how to use those philanthropic dollars, because you've got to have a big multiplier effect.



TK What do you mean by a multiplier effect?

DH In some ways it's the old story of do you give a person a fish. That would be pure charity. Or do you teach them how to fish? Or do you create a fishing school? Or do you invent a new kind of fishing net? There are different ways to invest that can have multiple impacts.

TK Do you have a specific example of that?

DH Our foundation invests heavily in research for early childhood education. We look at what works and what doesn't work for improving the lives of kids from birth to eight years of age. In recent years, Illinois has become one of the leaders in early childhood education. Our curriculum could be a model for the rest of the nation, especially with the President and Secretary of Education both from Illinois and both of whom are aware of the work that's been done here.

TK Do you believe foundations should be activists to change public policy?

DH Yes, absolutely in a lot of dimensions. Foundation people are not lobbyists and we don't act directly on legislatures, but we do work with organizations that are building public awareness and are trying to support specific positions among public officials.

TK Do you think there are differences in what foundations are doing now versus when the Rockefeller and Ford foundations were established in the 1910s and 1930s?

DH The emphasis I see now is that foundations are more focused on social and community problems and they're using research and empirical evidence to test whether they're making a difference. It's hard to generalize too much, but overall I think in the old days money was just given away to good causes with less focus on making sure that it was really making a difference and having an impact in a measurable way.

TK Hispanics are now the largest minority segment in the U.S. population. Is that reshaping how foundations are allocating their resources?

DH It changes the nature of some of the problems we're tackling in the communities. To continue using early childhood as an example, we've got to go beyond the core issues of what kind of care and education would be good for children in their early years. Families with young children who are not English-speaking or bilingual have additional language and cultural challenges. The McCormick Foundation conducts community-based studies about families with different language issues to find out what approaches would be more welcoming and inclusive.

A TRUSTED LEADER David Hiller, CEO of the McCormick Foundation, has been a Roosevelt University trustee for 20 years.

TK Unemployment, poverty and homelessness are problems across the country. How are foundations working to meet basic needs?

DH Today's needs are more urgent than ever and increasingly complex. Often it is some type of illness or drug dependency that knocks people off-kilter, making it hard for them to keep a job. The McCormick Foundation, with our partners in the Chicago Tribune Charities, supports local food pantries and some of the many agencies in Chicago which provide shelters for the homeless. We also support organizations that can help individuals and families with their underlying problems.

TK Are foundations experiencing more requests for funding during these difficult economic times?

DH Yes, the needs in almost every area have been increasing. Families and individuals have been under a great deal of stress, affecting all aspects of their lives. This creates a chain reaction leading to the need for all types of additional help.

TK Can you give me an example of this?

DH We do a lot of work supporting food depositories. The Greater Chicago Food Depository and the Northern Illinois Food Depository are the two main ones in the northern half of the state. Their demand has been up 50 to 60 percent from just a year ago and obviously the resources available to support them aren't keeping up.

TK These must be very trying times for social service agencies.

DH Human needs are way up and the resources to deal with them are down. It's a double whammy on the community. What our foundation tries to do in this environment is to at least keep our giving level and our support steady.

TK Since many nonprofit organizations are in difficult economic straits, are you monitoring their performance more closely?

DH We try to maintain a close relationship with all of our grantees in a way that is helpful to them and us in terms of learning together about what kinds of programs have an impact. While that takes follow up and measurement, we try to do it in a way that doesn't necessarily burden them with a lot of paperwork.

TK Do you think there will be more mergers of nonprofits?

DH Oh, there will be. There are some nonprofits which aren't going to make it. Organizations are shutting their doors. They're laying people off. They're cutting back on services and it's really sad and tough out there.

TK How have these tough economic times affected foundations?

DH Foundations in Chicago and everywhere across the country are feeling the same asset squeeze. Because of market declines, assets are way down in some foundations.

"When foundations are able to be flexible and responsive, and when they collaborate with government and private industry to maximize their impact, the benefits to society can be enormous."

TK What have you focused on since you've been president and CEO of the McCormick Foundation?

DH I've used the occasion of being a new CEO to do a fundamental strategic planning review. We're trying to evaluate if there are areas where we could be more impactful. It's a great way to engage our board of directors and the staff in thinking deeply for the longer term about where we want to be and what role we want to have in Chicagoland.

TK Do you have a sense now about what future direction you might go?

DH I expect that we'll continue to work in several of the areas that we've been in, but we'll refine our approach. Our major areas are education, journalism, civic engagement and a broad program for social service agencies in partnership with the Chicago Tribune, WGN, the Chicago Cubs and other institutions in the city. We need to adapt the strategies and the programs to respond to what's going on in the world. I'll give you an example. If you're a funder or a supporter of work in journalism, you just can't function the same old way. We're shifting more of our focus to youth media, youth journalism, new technologies and getting away from the traditional journalism training and education work that has been done in the past.

TK Over the years the McCormick Foundation has supported youth media programs led by Roosevelt faculty members. Can you tell me about this?

DH Yes, a really neat grant we did that Roosevelt University managed was a youth media technology fund. Through Roosevelt, we make smaller startup grants for activities like youth video programming and high school newspapers. Small video cameras and a few computers can make a world of difference for young journalists.

TK What are some of the other projects the McCormick Foundation has funded at Roosevelt?

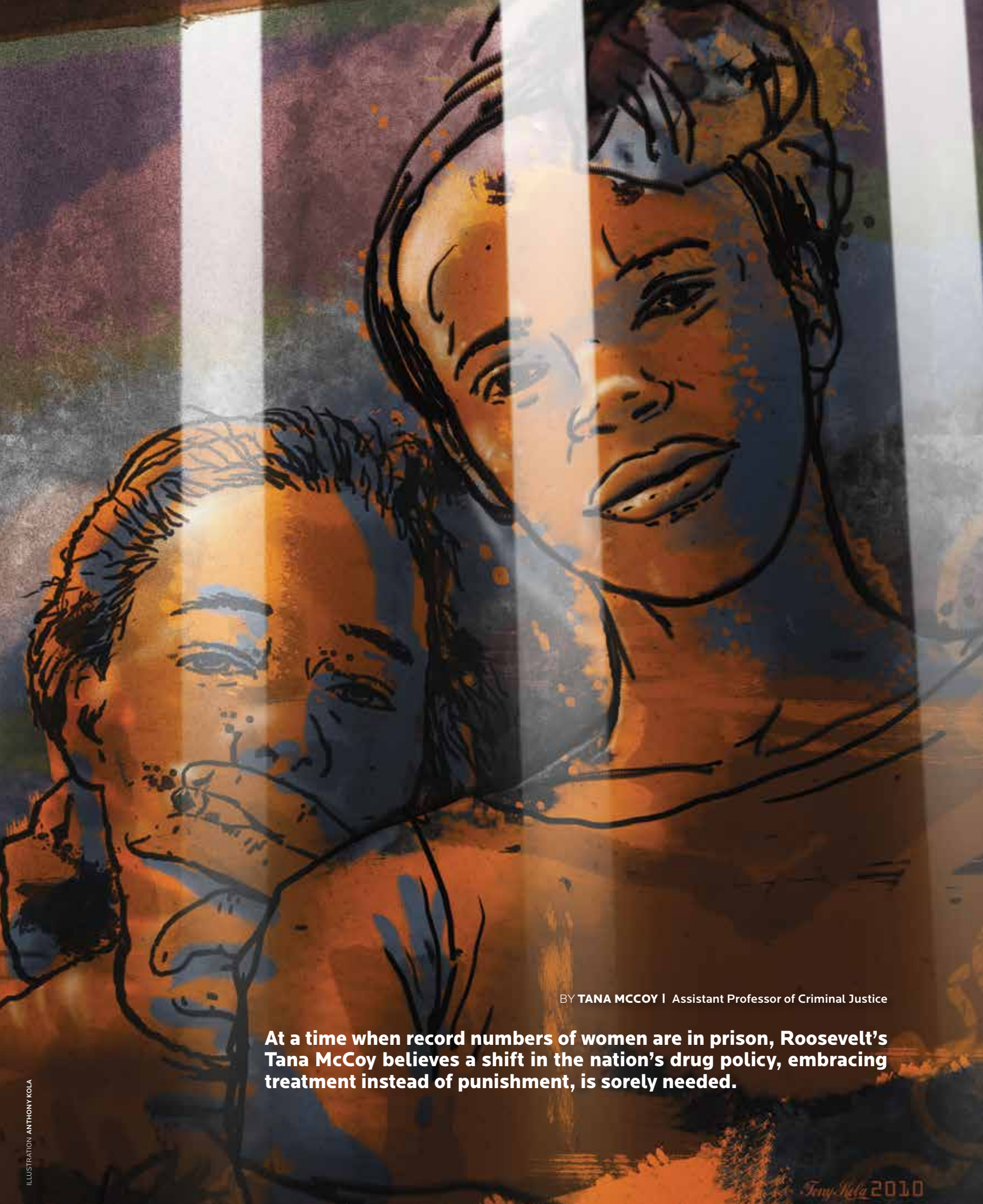
DH Over the past 15 or so years, we have given between \$3 and \$4 million for a variety of projects, including service learning, the Schaumburg Campus library, the Auditorium Theatre and renovation work.

TK Looking back, what has been your most rewarding experience so far as head of the McCormick Foundation?

DH Clearly it is the people that we're privileged to be able to work with and fund. The not-for-profit community in Chicagoland is incredible. I'm deeply impressed with the energy, passion and creativity of the people trying to solve community and social problems. 📺



BEYOND BARS



BY **TANA MCCOY** | Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice

At a time when record numbers of women are in prison, Roosevelt's Tana McCoy believes a shift in the nation's drug policy, embracing treatment instead of punishment, is sorely needed.

Women represent the least violent yet fastest growing segment of prison populations in the United States. Between 1977 and 2004, the number of women admitted to prisons increased 757 percent, compared to a 388 percent increase for men. For women of color, the increase was even more dramatic and the United States now leads the world in the incarceration of women. Criminologists attribute these increases to the War on Drugs, a set of federal policies, laws and funding priorities directed at reducing the consumption and trafficking of illegal drugs.

Highly symbolic and controversial, the phrase was coined in 1969 by President Richard Nixon who proclaimed illegal drugs to be “public enemy number one.” It is estimated that the anti-drug efforts cost approximately \$69 billion each year and result in the arrests of 1.5 million people. Forty percent of these arrests are for marijuana. Yet, “after 35 years and \$500 billion, drugs are as cheap and plentiful as ever,” according to a 2007 report by Wallace-Wells.

In this essay, I will examine factors which dramatically escalated U.S. drug efforts in the 1980s under President Ronald Reagan, resulting in what several researchers refer to as an “incarceration binge.” I also will explore how the media, race and politics fueled widespread support for drug laws and the harmful effects these laws have had on poor women of color. Finally, I will discuss the negative impact of incarcerating low-level female drug users and offer suggestions for policy changes.

HARSH DRUG LAWS ARE RESPONSIBLE

A myriad of factors coalesced in the mid-1980s to produce new and harsher laws aimed at disrupting the drug trade. Politically, the country was undergoing a considerable conservative shift, resulting in the election of legislators far more receptive to law-and-order policies than rehabilitative goals. Punitive rhetoric insisted that the War on Poverty had been a dismal and expensive failure. It was said that violent criminals were being released by liberal court policies and that the most inexpensive way to effectively combat violent crime was through mass incarceration. Eventually this resulted in the incarceration of a half-million Americans charged with drug crimes.

Crack, a cheap form of cocaine, was introduced into American inner cities around 1985, fueling considerable gang violence described by the mainstream media as an “epidemic.” Although subsequent research has shown crack and powder cocaine to have similar psychological and physiological effects, crack was portrayed as instantly addictive and strongly associated with violence by users. Drug-related violence was depicted as constantly spilling over into suburban white neighborhoods when, in reality,

the victims were overwhelmingly African-American and concentrated in the poorest neighborhoods.

The advent of 24/7 cable news in the 1980s fed viewers a constant stream of inner-city violence, exciting the racial fears of white, middle-class Americans who in turn demanded stronger drug laws. In 1986, Congress responded with the Anti-Drug Abuse Act, which required a mandatory minimum sentence of five years for those charged in federal court with possessing as little as five grams of crack cocaine. This law has been shown to disproportionately impact African-Americans and has been criticized by a diverse group of observers, including William F. Buckley, Jr., Noam Chomsky and George Schultz, secretary of labor and treasury under Nixon and secretary of state under Reagan.

The connection between drug policy and racial conflict has a long history in the United States. Cocaine use and possession was legal until the early 1900s when Southern newspapers contended its use by African-American males led to superhuman strength and a sexual thirst for white women. Similarly, considerable evidence exists linking the criminalization of marijuana during the Great Depression to the economic threat posed by Mexican immigrants who used marijuana recreationally and competed with white Americans for scarce jobs.

By 1990, public rhetoric germane to the War on Drugs became increasingly focused on demonizing women users. Perhaps nowhere was this more evident than the government response and media coverage of infants born to mothers dependent on crack cocaine, otherwise known as crack babies. In 1985, Dr. Ira Chasnoff, a Chicago pediatrician operating an inner-city drug clinic, first noted that the 23 babies born to cocaine-using mothers interacted less with humans and were moodier than babies born to drug-free women. From Chasnoff’s small and relatively obscure study, mainstream media used anecdotal evidence to craft a public-health crisis that would significantly influence drug policy and paint the picture of pregnant African-American women dependent on cocaine as “desperate, pathological, and powerless individuals who will do anything for their next hit” (Ball, Lilly and Cullen, 2007).

Crack babies were predicted to suffer physical and developmental disabilities so profound that many would require lifelong institutionalization, overwhelming public resources for years to come. A 1995 article in *The American School Board Journal* offered a grave prediction to kindergarten teachers that “[t]he arrival of those first afflicted youngsters will mark the beginning of a struggle that will leave your resources depleted and your compassion tested.”

The crack baby hysteria would slowly subside as respected scientists began to express skepticism questioning the credibility of many sources and directing attention to the more harmful effects of alcohol on the developing fetus. In fact, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta estimates between 1,300 and 8,000 babies are born

The U.S. now leads the world in the incarceration of women.

each year with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, which is the most common cause of mental retardation in the United States.

Unfortunately, previous to these findings states began passing an array of laws directed at punishing women who use drugs while pregnant. In some instances, women were secretly tested for cocaine use while seeking publicly-funded prenatal health care and charged with crimes. Application of these laws, however, disproportionately impacted African-American women. While self-reported data indicate small differences in the use of cocaine by white and African-American women, prosecutions were overwhelmingly of African-American women.

CONSPIRACY LAWS EXACERBATE PROBLEMS

An additional weapon in the War on Drugs came in the form of conspiracy laws, which provide for the prosecution of anyone who “aids and abets” a drug dealer. The involvement can be as minor as knowing people are dealing drugs and not reporting them. Conspiracy laws have had a disproportionately harmful impact on African-American women. Also known as “the girlfriend problem,” these laws have been used to intimidate, prosecute, convict and incarcerate women with familial or romantic ties to men who traffic drugs. Many women will not assist prosecutors fearing for their lives and the lives of loved ones should they do so.

Perhaps the most famous example of this is Kemba Smith, a college student who was romantically involved with an abusive man who was a drug dealer. When he was killed, prosecutors charged Smith with operating a large-scale drug ring, although she never sold or took drugs. She was convicted and sentenced to 24 years in prison where she gave birth to a son. Smith received clemency from President Bill Clinton in 2000 after serving six years. She graduated from college and now runs the Kemba Smith Foundation, a nonprofit organization focused on a myriad of issues related to drugs.

AFRICAN-AMERICAN WOMEN AFFECTED MOST

The War on Drugs has decimated the lives of poor African-American women and children in additional ways. The mass incarceration of African-American males has severely disrupted the stability of families, the economy and schools in inner cities. Absent in the media depiction of African-American males who participate in the underground drug economy are their strengths and contributions to their families. Most men earn at least some money from legitimate legal sources which they contribute to their partners for the support of their children. Left single by incarceration, women must take on other employment to support their families, leaving their children unsupervised for long periods of time. Families may have to move to more affordable housing.

Consequently, children change schools often, creating considerable disruption in their lives. The dearth of employed, available marriage partners leads many other women to forego marriage, creating a disproportionate number of

single-parent households. Unfortunately, some women are economically compelled to couple with less desirable men with little emotional connection to their children in order to survive. Thus, rates of child abuse are also impacted by the drug war.

A large percentage of women dependent upon street drugs struggle with mental illnesses such as bipolar disorder, depression and schizophrenia. Yet, African-American women are less likely to receive treatment or a diagnosis. Uninsured and unable to access mental health services, women self-medicate with street drugs.

550

**Percent increase of
people imprisoned
for drug offenses
over the last 20 years**

Source: Justice Policy Institute, “Pruning Prisons: How Cutting Corrections Can Save Money and Protect Public Safety” (Washington, DC: May 2009).

The passage of health care reform in March promises to provide affordable health-care to millions of uninsured Americans. For those with little or no income, Medicaid eligibility requirements will be dramatically loosened, increasing access to mental-health services for substance-dependent

women. Treatment of the underlying mental-health disorder greatly increases the chances of recovering from substance dependence. Pharmacological interventions have also been found to reduce the cravings which precede relapse. Fortunately, a growing body of pharmaceutical research has produced drugs which show promise in reducing the craving for cocaine.

Considerable evidence suggests that alcohol is more likely than both cocaine and heroin to produce violence in its users. Approximately 50 percent of all homicides involve alcohol. Alcohol is a factor in approximately one-quarter of assaults, one-third of rapes and sexual assaults and two-thirds of domestic violence arrests. The connection between street drugs and crime is much less clear. There is virtually no correlation between heroin use and violent crime but a moderate relationship exists with property crime — largely committed to pay for heroin. A weak to moderate relationship between cocaine use and crime has been noted although a much stronger correlation is associated with the sale of drugs. Many proponents of decriminalization of harder drugs such as cocaine point to the violence associated with the lucrativeness of trafficking.

The first drug treatment many women receive is in prison. Unfortunately, few innovative and gender-specific approaches exist. Faith-based approaches popular under the second Bush administration have been shown to be largely ineffective in reducing drug use. The core principles of some faith-based approaches are archaic, not grounded in sound research and may be detrimental to women with histories of abusive relationships.



CHANGE AGENT Tana McCoy reports that drug laws have been harsher on African-American women and children.

NEW APPROACHES NEEDED NOW

It is time to embrace a new approach to drug policy that focuses on harm reduction from a public-health perspective. Several states have begun to pass legislation which mandates treatment, not incarceration, for first-time drug offenders. Needle-exchange programs have been found to reduce the transmission of HIV, Hepatitis B and C. Most importantly, needle-exchange programs allow users to be counseled regarding treatment options in a sympathetic, health care environment as opposed to a punitive, shaming environment.

In 2001, Lisbon, Portugal decriminalized the possession (not sale) of hard drugs, including cocaine, heroin and LSD. Rather than facing jail time, people charged with possessing small amounts of drugs are referred to a panel consisting of a social worker, psychologist and legal counsel. Treatment options are discussed and offenders may refuse without facing jail time.

It is time to embrace a new approach to drug policy that focuses on harm reduction.

According to the Cato Institute, there has been no increase in usage (perhaps a small decrease) and dramatic decreases in drug overdose deaths and the transmission of drug-related pathologies such as HIV and hepatitis. Obviously, decriminalizing hard drugs in the United States is not a realistic

policy goal. The Portugal experience, however, highlights the need to reexamine some of the assumptions upon which current drug policies are based. The primary argument for current drug laws has been to deter drug use, but 99 percent of people in a 2007 Zogby poll indicated that the legalization of harder drugs would not increase their likelihood of use.

Having served on the board of a methadone clinic for women in Little Rock, Ark., I have witnessed the positive impact a progressive public health-based approach can have on treating substance-dependent women. They were no longer compelled to seek street drugs often paid for through prostitution and other illegal activities. Their rates of victimization fell dramatically. Medically regulated, the women were stabilized and able to be present and focused mothers.


\$17,110,415

Daily cost to imprison drug offenders in state prisons


Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Prisoners in 2007* (Washington, DC: US Department of Justice, December 2008).

One patient, “Jo Ann,” was a homeless prostitute addicted to heroin in New Orleans before Hurricane Katrina forced her evacuation to Little Rock in 2005. Unable to locate a source for heroin in her new city, she turned to the methadone clinic. Three years later, she was employed at a local video store, no longer dependent on street drugs and regularly attending Narcotics Anonymous meetings. Her goal was to become drug-free and attend college.

Fortunately, President Barack Obama’s administration appears to be willing to try a new approach to drug policies, reframing the issues more from a public-health than a criminal-justice perspective. The administration is the first in over 40 years to refrain from referring to drug policy as the “War on Drugs,” stating that no American policy should be a war waged against its citizens.

As an educator and advocate for social justice, I believe it is imperative that we engage students in meaningful and creative experiences which utilize service-learning approaches. Students who have direct contact with substance-dependent women quickly begin to transcend the sensationalized images of these women. Students who have attended open meetings of Narcotics Anonymous as a requirement in my classes say they have gained empathy for substance-dependent women. They now see them holistically as daughters, mothers and victims capable of change and worthy of dignity and compassion. 

Tana McCoy joined Roosevelt University in 2008 as an assistant professor of criminal justice in the Evelyn T. Stone College of Professional Studies. She received her PhD in 2002 from Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas and previously taught for three years in the Department of Criminal Justice at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. She has conducted research on female offenders, disproportionate minority contact and death row conditions for females.

 Contact Tana McCoy at tmccoy@roosevelt.edu.



FIGHTING THE WAR ON DRUGS Roosevelt’s Kathie Kane-Willis is a leading voice for drug-policy reform.

REFORMER UNITES COMMUNITY

As a leading proponent of drug-policy reform, Roosevelt University’s Kathie Kane-Willis believes the tide is finally turning against the nation’s so-called War on Drugs.

“We’re getting to the tipping point where people are agreeing that the War on Drugs is an utter failure,” said Kane-Willis (BA, ’01; MA, ’05), a researcher and drug-policy-reform advocate who formed the Illinois Consortium on Drug Policy in 2005 to promote alternatives for handling drug-use issues and cases in Illinois.

With a membership that includes elected officials, representatives from law enforcement, academicians, service providers and individuals affected by problems related to drug use, the 400-strong consortium is doing research, advocacy work and engaging with communities to reform Illinois drug laws and a criminal justice system that is overloaded with drug cases and offenders.

“We’ve been successful in uniting people, but we haven’t seen a switch away yet from drugs and drug use being dealt with by law enforcement and the criminal justice system,” said Kane-Willis, who believes, along with many others, that treatment is preferable to punishment of drug users. “That must be our focus and our thrust as we move forward.”

Housed in Roosevelt’s Institute for Metropolitan Affairs, the Illinois Consortium on Drug Policy has conducted a number of studies on drug policy issues in Illinois. A report completed in 2006 found that Illinois ranked second in the nation for incarceration of drug offenders. The state was also second in the nation in terms of disparities between large numbers of blacks and small numbers of whites serving time for drug offenses.

The consortium also has done research on alternatives to incarceration of drug users, and has looked at cost savings that Illinois could reap if short-stay drug offenders were sent to treatment programs rather than prison. — Laura Janota



HOME OF HER OWN

BY LAURA JANOTA

There are good times and bad. Sociology student Shannon Beaudry knows a fair bit about both.

The 30-year-old recently celebrated success as she received her bachelor's degree in sociology from Roosevelt University this May. She is now enrolled in graduate school at Roosevelt.

"Shannon's an excellent student, a leader and a person who takes initiative to make change," said Professor Heather Dalmage, director of the Mansfield Institute for Social Justice and Transformation, which selected Beaudry as its Mansfield Scholar for 2009-'11.

She also received the University's Bronze R award last year for her work with the Roosevelt University Sociological Society where, among other efforts, she lobbied to restore \$200 million in Illinois Monetary Award Program grants to 138,000 low-income students.



"I wanted to be involved with the issue because I know personally what it's like to be in desperate need of money," said Beaudry, who has attended multiple two and four-year colleges over the past 12 years.

Indeed, Beaudry understands what it's like to be poor, homeless and embarrassed by misfortune, which is not supposed to happen in America, particularly if one is from the suburbs.

"It's not the kind of thing that's easy to talk about," said Beaudry, who grew up in suburban Detroit, where she spent seven years, including all of her high school years homeless, living with relatives and in motel rooms with her mother, father and younger brother.

"After awhile of doing it, you begin to realize that there are a lot of people who end up in that kind of situation — and I believe that they need help to put things into perspective," she said.

As a Roosevelt undergraduate, Beaudry did scholarly research about suburban homelessness and wrote a paper titled "Struggling in Suburbia," which she presented in June at the International Conference on Social Sciences in Hawaii.

She currently is working on a master's thesis that will explore how white identity affects people who are homeless in Chicago's suburbs. For the thesis, she is interviewing white, suburban homeless families about their innermost feelings on their situation.

"When someone is white, they are not expected to have experiences with poverty. It makes it difficult to talk about because there's a stigma attached to being white and having that kind of experience," said Beaudry, whose challenge is in finding homeless, suburban whites who are willing to discuss their plight.

"My hope is to reduce the stigma and to get people to realize that homelessness is a universal experience," added Beaudry. She believes growth in unemployment and mortgage foreclosures has caused a corresponding rise in suburban homelessness, making her project and its timing vital.

After receiving her graduate degree in 2011, Beaudry plans to pursue a PhD in sociology, studying further the idea of identity and privilege.

"Shannon is doing path-breaking research in areas that few scholars have delved into," said Stephanie Farmer, assistant professor of sociology and one of Beaudry's mentors. "She is advanced in her thinking and ideas, and she's been a leader in helping to move our sociology program forward."

Raised across the street from a Detroit-area community theater that her father ran, Beaudry spent her childhood years building theater sets, operating lights and mixing with a close-knit group of actors, directors, writers and other theater professionals.

"If I wasn't at school and wasn't asleep, I was there (at the theater). It was a great way to grow up, living in a situation where things could be make-believe every day," she said.

When the theater folded and her family, unable to keep up with the bills, was evicted from their home, the 14-year-old began to learn the meaning of work. As a teenager, she took any and all jobs she could get to help her family save for a down payment and first month's rent for an apartment.



36%
of the nation's
homeless are made up
of families with children

However, that goal proved to be elusive for while all of her family members were working, they had to address unforeseen crises: a broken-down car that needed to be replaced so each could get to jobs in suburbs without mass transit; a car accident that sidelined Beaudry's mother, a waitress, for months with a broken knee and broken clavicle; and a serious illness, leading to kidney dialysis, which disabled her father.

"Homelessness is difficult to deal with, period," Beaudry wrote in a journal article on the subject. "Many aspects are universal, like the frustration of trying to find work or enroll children in school without a permanent address or trying to feed yourself and your family with a couple of dollars a day and no kitchen. You live with a unique type of anxiety I can only describe as a constant combination of homesickness, terror and embarrassment."

Still, Beaudry greatly appreciates her parents' efforts. They did whatever it took to keep the family together and out of homeless shelters that typically accommodate individuals, but not entire families.

"Splitting up families makes it harder for them to attain permanent housing," Beaudry explained in her "Struggling in Suburbia" research paper, which she first presented in 2009 at Roosevelt University during the Social Justice in a Changing World Conference, an event that she helped organize.

"Instead of being able to use all of its resources to gain housing, the family must attempt to maintain separate households," wrote Beaudry, who is advocating, as part of her research, for creation of family shelters so parents and children can stick together rather than be split apart to cope alone.

In 2002, the Beaudry family came up with enough money to move into an apartment. It was the first time, at 21 years of age, that Beaudry had her own bedroom. During this time, she was taking courses, as she could afford them, at a community college and at Eastern Michigan University.

Then in 2008, she moved to Chicago with a friend. Interested in the arts and arts management field, Beaudry had heard of Roosevelt's Chicago College of Performing Arts and knew of the University's historic mission of social justice.

At the time, she needed only a few credits to get her bachelor's degree, and decided to enroll at the University. One of the first courses she took was a basic sociological methods course with Farmer.

"She's a typical Roosevelt student in the sense that, like many of our students, she has an amazing story of adversity and amazing potential as well," said Farmer. "I knew from the beginning that she had skills and talents. It was just a matter of her developing confidence."

Beaudry became interested in the kinds of problems that sociologists examine. "I've always been a people watcher and an outsider looking in. To be able to look critically at societal issues and behaviors is fascinating to me," she said. At Roosevelt, she has turned the lens on a societal problem that she understands better than most — homelessness.


"I don't think anyone recognizes how close he or she is to being in a bad situation, such as homelessness. It takes a lot of luck to always be in a comfortable situation and I think

we have to come to grips with this idea as a society and as a culture," she said.

"Shannon has a quiet strength about her," said Nancy Michaels, project coordinator for the Mansfield Institute and a master's sociology student who also graduated in May. "I've seen students in our sociology program flock to her as a kind of leader. She's got a gift for gaining people's trust and then leading them in an unassuming way."

As the Mansfield Scholar, Beaudry has received scholarship aid toward both her undergraduate and graduate education at Roosevelt. In exchange, she has assisted at the Mansfield Institute with its programming and social justice projects.

"There were a couple of times when I wasn't sure I would make it through college," Beaudry said. "The Mansfield Scholarship is making it possible for me to realize that dream and to continue on and complete my MA in sociology."

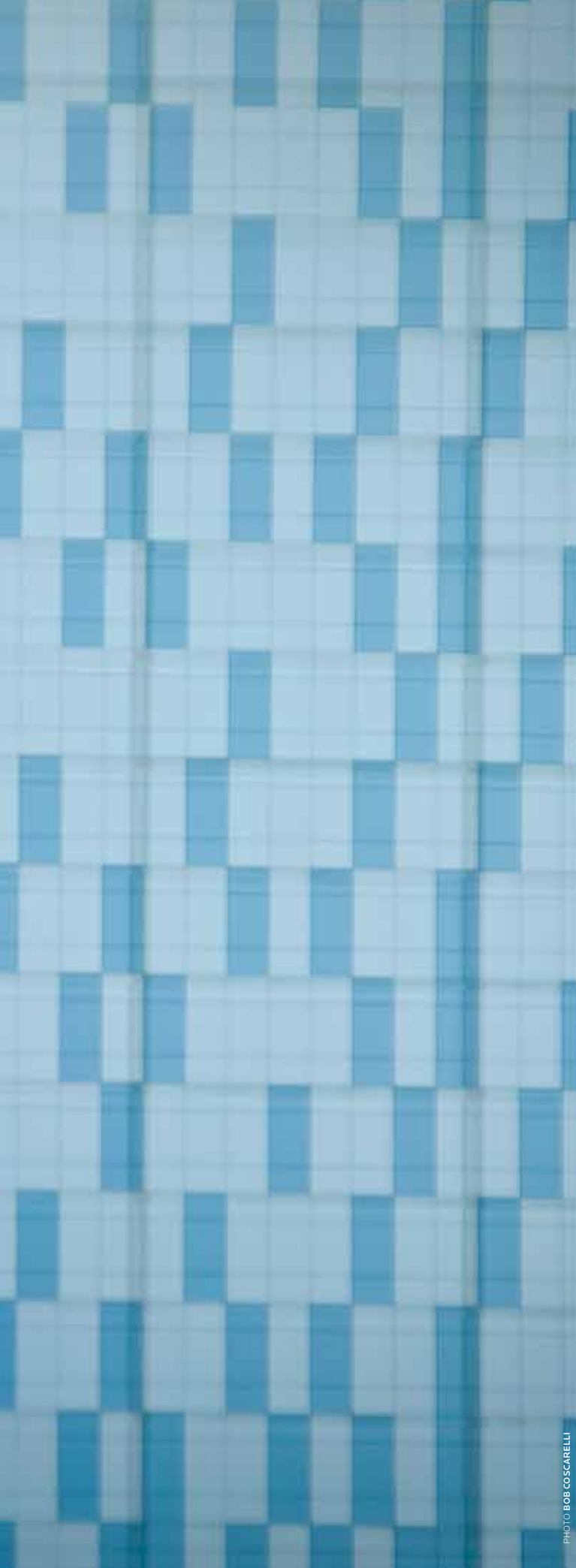
"Roosevelt University is an amazing place," she added. "It's changed my life and I feel proud to be a Mansfield Scholar." 

“My hope is to reduce the stigma and to get people to realize that homelessness is a universal experience.”

— SHANNON BEAUDRY







A MODEL FOR EDUCATION

Roosevelt's planned 32-story vertical campus will redefine urban education – and Chicago's skyline.

BY LAURA JANOTA

There are many reasons why Roosevelt University's under-construction, 32-story skyscraper will be a noteworthy addition to the Chicago skyline when the building opens in 2012.

Of interest, experts say, are the building's unique vertical-campus concept, its stature as one of the tallest education buildings in the nation and world, its connection, both literally and symbolically, to the historic, landmark Auditorium Building and its resemblance to a famous sculpture, The Endless Column. The building's shape conveys the idea of transition and continual growth — an ideal metaphor for the college experience.

However, when building architect Chris Groesbeck, a principal with the internationally acclaimed architectural firm VOA Associates, predicts that the project will be "one of the great buildings in Chicago," he is talking about far more than its concept, height, historic relation or artistic value.

"Our intention is to create a structure that will stand the test of time," remarked Groesbeck, a 30-year veteran architect who has led a number of high-profile projects in Chicago, and around the globe, including several major developments in China. "It's a difficult thing to do, but we are committed to creating a building for Roosevelt University that will be authentic and useful and will provide an uplifting environment for many decades to come."

Selected from a competitive field of architectural firms, VOA Associates created a gem that will not only be stunning to look at, but also will be functional inside. "VOA has shown a great understanding for the flexibility that the University desires. As the student-learning experience rapidly evolves and changes, so does our utilization of space," said Maureen Ehrenberg, a member of the Roosevelt University Board of Trustees and chair of the board's Facilities Committee. "What we asked for and need is a versatile and highly functional, multi-purpose building that supports the work and

A CLOSER LOOK Architect Chris Groesbeck examines a model of Roosevelt's new vertical campus.

lifestyles of the University's many stakeholders. VOA has delivered on that."

Founded in Chicago in 1969, VOA Associates has designed office towers, hotels, trade centers, museums, theaters and college buildings – to name just a few – that are located around the country and world. It has received more than 200 local and national awards for design excellence.

Groesbeck, the lead architect for Roosevelt's building, estimates he's been involved over time in at least 80 different projects, including renovation and expansion of Chicago's McCormick Place. Over the years, his architectural firm also has been involved in many noteworthy Chicago projects including the replacement of Northwestern Memorial Hospital and the redesign of Navy Pier.

"Roosevelt's new building will be one of the highlights of the Chicago skyline thanks to the creativity and care that have been devoted to this project by VOA," said Roosevelt University President Chuck Middleton of the firm that has spent more than two years fine-tuning its design.

Early on, Groesbeck and his team had considered a simple rectangle to compliment the neighboring Auditorium Building, but through a rigorous process they developed a design that makes Roosevelt's skyscraper a counterpart to the historic treasure. "We are not trying with this project to resemble any other building out there," he said.

**"With this new building,
we hope to capture
the transformational
nature of education."**

– ARCHITECT CHRIS GROESBECK

The architect proposed giving the building an undulating shape to convey movement, an essential element in any student's journey to getting a college education and diploma, and University officials embraced the concept.

The skyline design is inspired by a 96-foot-high cast iron statue, The Endless Column, which was created in 1938 by Romanian artist Constantin Brancusi. Groesbeck first saw the sculpture in a history book while he was in college studying architecture, and has discussed the work – and its inspiring shape and message – on occasion with fellow architects.

"This sculpture has a very modern but primal quality. It's a timeless work that is as fresh today as it was when it was first created," said Groesbeck. "It conveys the idea of endlessness, and that is a meaningful symbol for higher education where learning doesn't end even when a degree is completed. Rather, a higher education is a platform for continual growth."

THE ENDLESS COLUMN The look of Roosevelt's vertical campus is inspired by Constantin Brancusi's cast-iron sculpture, which conveys the idea of continual growth.

Roosevelt's 400,000-square-foot building will be the latest example of Chicago architecture at its finest. "Our job is to create space for a wide variety of functions," said Groesbeck of the building, which will have spaces for offices, classrooms, student services, student life and housing. As such, the structure is following in the footsteps of some of Chicago's great multi-use structures — among them, the John Hancock Building, Willis Tower and the Auditorium Building.

"Chicago architecture has a great tradition of being creative with buildings that define our everyday existence," said Groesbeck. "It's all about creating something simple and functional, but making the finished product much, much more. With this new building we are doing that."

At the same time, however, Roosevelt's new building also will be a trendsetter, particularly for higher education, where university campuses typically have been comprised of low-rise structures amid open spaces that almost always spread or grow out, not up.

With 32 stories of variegated university life all under one roof, Roosevelt's building will be a vertical campus. "There are not many vertical campuses out there, but the concept is beginning to catch on at institutions that want to have a visible presence as a metropolitan university," said Groesbeck.

The interior of Roosevelt's vertical campus will have a look and feel of openness about it, including a southern, eastern and western exposure that will allow much natural light to filter in.

In fact, the only educational facility in the United States that will be taller is Cathedral Hall at the University of Pittsburgh. At 469 feet, Roosevelt's building will be the sixth tallest in the world behind Moscow State University, which stands at 787 feet.

While the vertical campus is being viewed these days as the wave of the future when it comes to new urban educational facilities, Groesbeck believes Roosevelt's skyscraper will be unique.


One reason is the combination of uses within the structure – classrooms, offices and student housing have never before been combined in a vertical campus setting. Some of the structure's airy features include a dramatic two-story main lobby; open spaces linking several floors of student services as well as different levels of the student union; academic areas on multiple floors connected by study spaces at the ends of corridors; and breathtaking views of Lake Michigan that can be enjoyed regularly by students living in the facility.

"What we are doing with this building is creating neighborhoods within the structure," said Groesbeck.



"It gives you the sense that you're in the presence of a very large university." The architect also believes that Roosevelt's new educational facility is unusual because of its direct proximity to one of Chicago's most famous buildings, Roosevelt's national landmark Auditorium Building.

A pioneer that originally started Chicago's architectural reputation for creativity, simplicity and functionality, the Auditorium was the tallest structure in Chicago when it opened in 1889. With its hotel, theatre and offices, it also was the nation's first multi-purpose building. There will be five places where the Auditorium and Roosevelt's new skyscraper will be interconnected for use by the Roosevelt community.

"With this new building, we hope to capture the transformational nature of education and make the learning experience for Roosevelt students as enjoyable and functional as possible," Groesbeck said. 



FROM THE GROUND UP
An early sketch by the architect and a rendering of the building.



PHOTO BOB COSCARELLI

CHRIS GROESBECK: MODEL ARCHITECT

Chris Groesbeck has traveled the world for the love of architecture.

However, his real home has always been the Chicago area, and its renowned Chicago School of Architecture his grounding.

Born and raised in Wheaton, Ill., Groesbeck first became interested in architecture thanks to his mother, who took him to an exhibit about the Chicago School of Architecture at the Art Institute of Chicago in 1971.

It was his first exposure to the work of Chicago architect and planner Daniel Burnham. Groesbeck got the idea to study architecture as a career after seeing Burnham's Flat Iron Building several years later in New York City.

"When I saw that building for the first time, it made me think of the exhibit, and something just clicked," said Groesbeck, who received his BA and MA in architecture from the University of Illinois in 1976 and 1980 respectively. "I knew then and there that designing buildings was something I was interested in doing."

A 30-year veteran architect who joined Chicago-based VOA Associates in 1992, Groesbeck is known for his willingness to



listen to others, incorporating a myriad of ideas into a single design. "When he's sketching, it's not unusual to see a group of 20 or more team members there with him all working together to come up with an overall design," said Ann Volz, director of business development and marketing at VOA Associates.

Indeed, Groesbeck's approach to design is to bring together "inspired" collaborators who not only have mutual respect for one another, but who also can agree on design features that come from more than one source. "The good ideas have to be things that everyone can embrace," Groesbeck says. "Otherwise, they don't make it into a project."

Groesbeck spent a year in Versailles, France, while attending the University of Illinois, where he studied European architectural design and also met classmate and wife-to-be, Kim Beeler, who also is an architect. He also studied in Rome; he worked for one of the most famous architects in the world, I.M. Pei and Partners in New York City; and he was under the tutelage of one of Chicago's great modern architects, the late Walter Netsch of SOM, whose first assignment for Groesbeck was assisting in the development of a master plan for a new university campus of buildings in Algeria. "A lot of my interest in architecture comes from the inspiration of how great cities – like Chicago or New York or Rome – can be meaningful to their communities," he said.

Besides Roosevelt University's new vertical campus project, Groesbeck is at work these days on several major projects in Asia, including a mixed-use development near Hong Kong and a waterfront development that will one day occupy a third of Cambodia's coastline.

The architect first went to China as a member of Roosevelt University's Marshall Bennett Institute of Real Estate advisory board in 2005 when he and other board members visited the country seeking partnership opportunities for the University and its real estate school.

"Chris has been a strong supporter of our real estate program and our gala. We like to call him a Zen architect because he's able to work with so many diverse groups of people, and is always able to calmly come up with ideas and creative solutions," said Jon DeVries, director of Roosevelt's Marshall Bennett Institute of Real Estate.

During the trip, Groesbeck helped the University and its real estate program establish a connection with Tongjii University in Shanghai. Under a collaborative arrangement, Tongjii has sent real estate experts and scholars to Roosevelt University. Meanwhile, real estate experts affiliated with Roosevelt, including Groesbeck, will be presenting at a real estate forum at Tongjii this fall.

"Roosevelt University is a unique institution that I've truly enjoyed being involved with," said Groesbeck, whose firm, VOA Associates, also was responsible for design and planning at University Center Chicago, a South Loop housing facility at State and Harrison streets that serves Roosevelt, DePaul University and Columbia College Chicago students. "I hope to continue working with the University in a variety of ways in the future."

At left, a rendering of the building looking west from Chicago's Grant Park.

SUMMER 2010

UNIVERSITY NEWS



PHOTO STEVE BECKER

A GOOD DEAL Every year Roosevelt University community members — students, faculty, administrators, alumni, staff, families and friends — work to help the needy. Laying mulch for a nature trail, picking up trash, cleaning windows, painting classrooms, spending a few hours with senior citizens — that is what Roosevelt's New Deal Service Days are all about. This year's event, held in April, again attracted a record number of volunteers who worked at more than 20 sites in Chicago and its northwest suburbs.



Breaking New Ground BY LAURA JANOTA

Historic event marks a new beginning as Roosevelt moves ahead on skyscraper.

The groundbreaking of Roosevelt University's historic 32-story vertical campus in Chicago's South Loop on April 17 marked a new beginning for the 65-year-old institution.

"It's a wonderful, wonderful day for the University," declared Roosevelt University Board of Trustees Chair James J. Mitchell III as President Chuck Middleton, Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley and other dignitaries ceremoniously turned the first shovels of dirt for the project.

More than 175 well wishers, including students, alumni, faculty, administrators, trustees, family members and friends, attended the historic event where Daley spoke of the University's commitment to Chicago.

"When you think about Roosevelt University, you think about strong foundations," said Daley, who credited the University with being an urban-education leader. "I want to thank you for giving so many opportunities to our citizens. We have transformed the South Loop because of Roosevelt University," the Mayor added.

Hopes and dreams of the University are invested firmly in the future, but Congressman Bobby Rush (BGS, '74) couldn't help but note – and

praise – the University for committing to educate those who might not otherwise have an opportunity to go to college.

"There was no hesitancy at all on the part of Roosevelt University in accepting me," said Rush, a political activist during the Sixties. "The University's investment in me is still paying off today," he added. "I will always love Roosevelt University."

Mayor Daley noted that the University has always been there to serve students. "I thank you for your vision and your commitment to excellence in education," he said.

Several elected leaders from the state of Illinois also were in attendance, including State Sen. Kwame Raoul, State Rep. William Burns and State Rep. Greg Harris, who sponsored a resolution congratulating the University on its building project and legacy.

"Roosevelt University does not give up on those who want to live their dreams," said Raoul, whose sister graduated from Roosevelt and went on to become a medical doctor.

The groundbreaking was a turning point ushering in the University's growth, innovation and transformation according to Chicago Alderman Robert W. Fioretti. "This isn't just a building. It's truly an aesthetic

masterpiece that will transform our city, attract more students and add life and vibrancy to our downtown area."

Some of those in attendance noted that the new building will increase classroom space, while others quoted the late Eleanor Roosevelt. "The future belongs to those who believe in dreams ... through this groundbreaking, the dreams of many are being realized," said Alexander Sewell, president of Roosevelt's Student Government Association.

"We are reaching for the stars," Mitchell told well wishers. "And with our groundbreaking today we are announcing another new beginning for the University."

**"When you think about
Roosevelt University,
you think about strong
foundations."**

— MAYOR RICHARD M. DALEY

MOMENTOUS OCCASION Right: Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley joined Roosevelt University President Chuck Middleton (right) and other dignitaries at the April 17 groundbreaking ceremony for Roosevelt's new vertical campus. Lower right: U.S. Congressman Bobby Rush (BGS,'74) and State Rep. William Burns (right) told the audience why Roosevelt University is important to them and their families.



Facebook.com/RooseveltUniversity

For more information on the new building, visit the "Vertical Campus" tab of the University's Facebook page.



PHOTOGRAPHY CHERIEISENBERG



New Deal Service Days attract more than 400 volunteers

New Deal Service Days, Roosevelt University's largest community service event of the year, drew a record number of volunteers who did painting, gardening, cleaning and many other worthwhile tasks at more than 20 sites in Chicago and the northwest suburbs.

More than 400 volunteers participated in this year's April 23 and 24 event that united the Roosevelt community — students, faculty, administrators, alumni, staff, family and friends — in living the University's mission by helping those who are less fortunate.

The eighth annual event drew large groups of students from Assistant Professor of English Kimberly Ruffin's service-learning classes, the Theatre Conservatory and the Integrated Marketing Communication program, including Associate Marketing Professor Lee Earle's students, who inspired the event's marketing campaign. Several large sorority groups, students from the Department of Biological, Chemical and Physical Sciences and administrators from Roosevelt's Counseling Center, the Provost's Office and the Office of Finance and Administration also were part of the massive volunteer effort.

"We are proud of all that was accomplished and we hope that this will be the beginning of a lifetime of volunteering for all who participated," said Laura Janota, co-chair of the event. "Participation in this event is one of the most rewarding experiences one can have at the University, and I recommend for anyone who hasn't, to plan to volunteer for New Deal Service Days next year," added Mary Gabioud, co-chair of the event.

Among the highlights, more than 50 volunteers who worked at the YMCA Camp Algonquin in McHenry County were able to enjoy the fruits of their labor during a ceremony in which President Chuck Middleton and representatives from the YMCA of McHenry County named and signed a trail in Roosevelt University's honor.



**“ Participation in this event
is one of the most rewarding
experiences one can have
at the University.”**

– MARY GABIOUD, NDSD CO-CHAIR



PHOTOGRAPHY STEVE BECKER



AT YOUR SERVICE Community service is rewarding and fun for volunteers who trim bushes (left), lay mulch (top of page) and clean windows (above) at sites in Chicago and the northwest suburbs.

Chris Matthews delivers winning formula for success

Renowned television news anchor Chris Matthews had plenty of practical advice for the nearly 900 May graduates of Roosevelt University's Class of 2010.

The host of MSNBC's *Hardball* and NBC's *The Chris Matthews Show*, who received an honorary doctorate during the University's 140th Commencement held May 14, implored graduates to: network with one another, sharpen listening skills, ask for what they want and learn to accept rejection.

"Nobody's going to come to your door looking for you. Nobody's going to be checking out what dreams you have," said Matthews, who shared tips for moving ahead in life and career based on his many years of observations and interviews with the nation's leading politicians.

A veteran newspaper and broadcast journalist who got his start with the U.S. Peace Corps in Swaziland, Africa, Matthews was a speechwriter for former President Jimmy Carter and a top aide to former House Speaker Thomas "Tip" O'Neill before landing his own TV shows.

"I've watched politicians since I was five years old and what they never talk about is how they got to be powerful," said Matthews, who believes a combination of people skills and street smarts is the winning formula.

"If you want to make it in this world, you have to get out and meet people," said Matthews, who encouraged gradu-

ates to keep up with their college friends through mediums like Facebook.

"If you're smart in life, you pay attention to what the other person is saying," advised Matthews, who singled out President Bill Clinton for having mastered the skill of effective listening – and feeling the pain – of others.

While listening is vital, asking for what one wants is the key to success, Matthews said. "If you get an interview, ask for the job. When someone says yes to you, he or she becomes your investor who is willing to help you again and again and again," he said.

However, many times when one asks, the answer is no, a situation that Matthews believes successful people learn how to handle. Many politicians, including President Barack Obama, faced and overcame rejection when starting down the road toward a goal, he said.

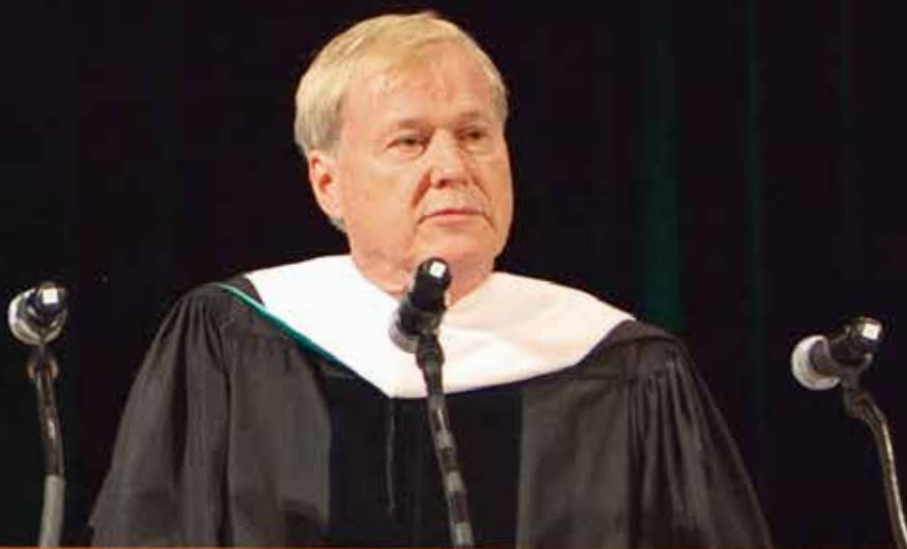
"Imagine driving across the state of Illinois with just a map trying to meet people," said Matthews of Obama's bid to become a U.S. senator from Illinois in 2004. "And imagine calling people and saying, 'Hi, my name's Barack Obama and I would like you to contribute to my campaign.' Imagine the rejection he faced," said Matthews.

Quoting Eleanor Roosevelt, he concluded by saying, "You must do the things you think you cannot do to gain strength, courage and confidence."



"If you want to make it in this world,
you have to get out and meet people."

– CHRIS MATTHEWS



**ROOSEVELT
UNIVERSITY**



PHOTOGRAPHY NATHAN MANDELL

2,000 PEOPLE ATTEND VIVID '10

Chicago College of Performing Arts (CCPA) presented Vivid '10 on March 23 to nearly 2,000 people in the Auditorium Theatre of Roosevelt University. In his first year as dean of CCPA, Henry Fogel launched a new model for Vivid to include both the Music and Theatre Conservatories. In addition to the change in format, the performance was free to the public. With people from throughout metropolitan Chicago attending, this was the second-largest audience in the history of Vivid. Underwriting for the show was provided by the Elizabeth Morse Genius Charitable Trust.

Vivid '10 showcased 75 students from the Jazz and Musical Theatre programs, with the Swing, Hard Bop, ECM and Avant-Garde combos performing in the first act. The CCPA Jazz Ensemble accompanied musical theatre students performing excerpts from the Theatre Conservatory's spring production of *Sweet Charity* during the second act of Vivid '10. Fogel was the narrator for the evening, tying together the history of jazz and theatre in Chicago with Roosevelt's notable performing arts alumni.

If you would like to attend Vivid '11, mark your calendars now. It will be on April 12, 2011 in the Auditorium Theatre.

STAGE HANDS Student performances of jazz (left) and musical theatre (below) were the highlight of *Vivid '10*, which was narrated by Chicago College of Performing Arts Dean Henry Fogel (right).





SENATOR DURBIN ANNOUNCES NEW PELL GRANTS FOR THE NATION'S STUDENTS

Three Roosevelt University students joined U.S. Senator Dick Durbin at a March 29 press conference where the senior senator from Illinois announced new legislation for the nation's Pell Grant program.

"Today, approximately 200,000 Illinois students use Pell Grants to help pay for college. As a result of student aid overhaul, Illinois will receive an additional \$313.5 million, helping to fund an additional 23,720 Pell Grants for Illinois students," Durbin said. After his remarks, he called on the students to describe why Pell Grants are important to them.

Alexander Sewell, a junior at Roosevelt majoring in political science, spoke on the importance of the Pell Grant to his success. "Today, I stand before you all, two semesters away from graduation, a member of Roosevelt University's Honors Program, named to the dean's list and Student Government Association president. None of this would have been possible without the greater access to quality education that the Federal Pell Grant program has provided for me."

Erika Gomez explained why she chose Roosevelt out of the many college choices in the area. "Thanks to a personal encounter with President (Chuck) Middleton during my high school years at Jones College Prep, I decided and was determined to continue my studies here at Roosevelt University." The third-year student and early childhood education major explained that Pell Grants are necessary for her education.

Griselda Romero, the third student to speak at the press conference, is the first member of her family to go to college. She stated: "The Pell Grant program has been around for many years helping students achieve their goals and becoming better mentors and leaders for this country. By increasing the Pell Grant program, it will assist students like me to do the same." Romero is a junior majoring in psychology.

MUSIC EDUCATION PROFESSOR RECOGNIZED FOR 2009 DISSERTATION OF THE YEAR

Wesley Brewer, assistant professor of instrumental music education at Roosevelt University, has received the national Outstanding Dissertation Award from the Council for Research in Music Education (CRME).

Brewer, who joined the Chicago College of Performing Arts faculty in August 2009, was recognized for "Conceptions of Effective Teaching and Role-Identity Development Among Preservice Music Educators." He is a 2009 graduate of the doctoral program in music education at Arizona State University, where he completed the winning dissertation.



For the project, Brewer talked with and followed a group of prospective music teachers from Arizona State for two years, focusing on their ideas for good music teaching, how they developed in their roles and how they changed over time. Brewer then developed a model, based on sociological principles, to illustrate how pre-service music teachers form their beliefs about good music teaching. Brewer was cited by CRME for his dissertation's thoroughness, the quality of writing and editing.

"A lot of previous research has been focused on making checklists, but I believe good music teaching is more individualized than that," said Brewer, who has a master's degree in conducting from Southern Oregon University and a bachelor's degree in music education from the University of Arizona.

Prior to Roosevelt, Brewer was a teaching assistant in music education at Arizona State where he also served as conductor the University's concert band. He also had taught middle and high school in southern Arizona, about 10 miles from the border with Mexico, where his concert, marching, jazz and percussion ensembles consistently excelled and where he was selected as Outstanding Arizona Jazz Educator of the Year in 2006.

"What I enjoy about Roosevelt University is that there's a great sense of community," said Brewer. "One of my goals at the University will be to integrate social justice into the music education program and I think there are some great opportunities to do that." Brewer has won a cash prize for the national award and also will give a guest lecture on his dissertation at the University of Illinois this fall.

BIOTECH GRAD WINS RESEARCH POST IN CAMBRIDGE, ENGLAND

Alexander John Flowers, who received a master's degree in biotechnology from Roosevelt University in May, was one of only four students in the United States to be selected for the Minority Health and Health Disparities International Research Training program at the University of Cambridge in England.

Flowers, who founded a Roosevelt chapter of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars (NSCS) last semester, spent 10 weeks over the summer doing cancer research at the University of Cambridge.

"My experience at Roosevelt was amazing. I had so much encouragement, support and assistance from my professors," said Flowers, who counts as his most important mentor, Cornelius Watson, associate professor of biology. "My professors helped me become a student leader and they helped me to get opportunities in the field."



At Roosevelt, Flowers won the Ronald E. McNair scholarship for minority students, the 2009 NSCS-GEICO graduate scholarship and the NSCS Distinguished Service Award. He also has been a research assistant with the NorthShore University Health Systems Research Institute's Behavior Genetics Unit in Evanston, Ill., where he collected DNA samples of gay brothers and their parents, which are being analyzed as part of a National Institutes for Health study on the influence of genetics on sexual orientation.

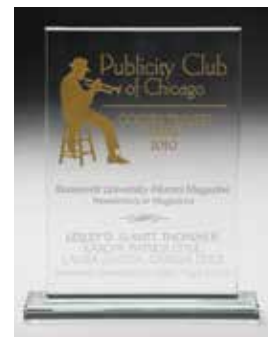
"Alexander is an exemplary student leader who has the promise of a very bright future in science," said Watson. "I am impressed with his positive attitude, hard work and dedication to community and campus service."

Flowers' aunt, the late Johneva Smith (MPA, '79) was a Roosevelt graduate, as is his wife, Qisoundra (MPA, '06). "I remember my aunt telling me that Roosevelt was a great institution. She liked the fact that it supported African Americans in higher education," said Flowers. "And I remember my wife saying she was warmly received and supported at the University. She got a lot of encouragement from her professors and she's now finishing up law school."

Flowers' career goal is to become a research pharmacist in oncology and infectious diseases, and one of the schools he is planning to apply to as a member of its inaugural class is Roosevelt University's new College of Pharmacy, which opens in 2011.

ROOSEVELT REVIEW WINS TOP AWARD

Roosevelt Review, this magazine for alumni and friends, received a Golden Trumpet award in May. Awarded by the Publicity Club of Chicago (PCC), the nation's largest, independent public relations membership organization, the Golden Trumpet is the highest award given by PCC. The Golden Trumpet awards program is the most prestigious in the Midwest, honoring distinguished accomplishments in public relations and communications practices. In receiving the award, Roosevelt Review was recognized for excellence in planning, creativity and execution. The Golden Trumpet judges cited the high quality of work done by Publisher Lesley D. Slavitt, Editor



Tom Karow, Creative Director Patrick Lytle, Associate Editor Laura Janota and Graphic Designer Carissa Lytle. Roosevelt Review is published three times a year and contains news and feature articles about Roosevelt University students, faculty and alumni.

KNERR LEADS SCHAUMBURG CAMPUS

One of Roosevelt University's most important strategic initiatives is to revitalize and grow the Schaumburg Campus by focusing on its distinctive academic excellence and Roosevelt's commitment to the students who will make the campus their academic home.



In response to that imperative, Professor Douglas Knerr was appointed interim Schaumburg Campus provost. Formerly vice provost for faculty and academic administration, Knerr has been charged with creating distinctive campus-specific programs and ensuring that the Schaumburg Campus is a vital community resource.

Knerr is an associate professor of history who previously served as interim dean of the Evelyn T. Stone College of Professional Studies and as associate provost for academic programs and distance learning. He will be working closely with the deans to enhance Schaumburg's academic programming, including establishing a full-time resident faculty. Knerr also will be collaborating with the heads of other departments on such critical issues as enrollment, retention, community outreach, human resources and facilities.

THEATRE STUDENT LANDS MAJOR ROLE WITH STEPPENWOLF THEATRE



It's not often that a college theatre student gets a major part in a top professional theatre production.

However, that's what 23-year-old Tim Bickel, who will be a senior this fall in Roosevelt's Theatre Conservatory, accomplished over the summer when he played the role of J.J. in Steppenwolf Theatre's world premiere of *A Parallelgram* by Bruce Norris.

"I was pretty much speechless when they asked me if I'd like to be part of the production," said Bickel, who auditioned several times with dozens of other prospects before landing the part of a 19-year-old Guatemalan lawn jockey with a heavy accent.

Bickel has a lot of lines and is spending considerable time on stage in the two-

act play that closes Aug. 29 at Steppenwolf. And he can't say enough about the training he received at Roosevelt, particularly his work with dialects, which prepared him well for his big acting break.

"I had been told by a lot of people to have a Spanish accent as part of my repertoire because it would help market me," said Bickel, who was born in Honduras, but spent his entire life in the United States as the adoptive son of a Pittsburgh couple.

Last fall, Bickel took a dialect class with instructor Jason Martin. During the class, Bickel, who doesn't speak Spanish, proposed doing a Spanish accent for his final project. Martin encouraged him to choose a Guatemalan accent instead as he would have to do more research on his own, which could increase the project's learning potential.

"I told him to pick something specific like a Guatemalan accent and to show me the differences between that and a Spanish accent," said Martin. "I had no idea I was steering him toward something he would be cast in."

Then, over winter break, Steppenwolf Theatre called Bickel to audition for the part of J.J.

"Jason (Martin) spent a lot of time with me, helping me to see what I was doing with the dialect and teaching me how to hear that accent in my ear," said Bickel, who went to his first Steppenwolf audition last January, where he was told he had done a great job and later was called back to audition in February.

At that time, Bickel was preparing for the role of Carlos Homenides in Roosevelt's spring-semester production of *A Flea in Her Ear*. For that role, he had to master a Castilian accent.

Bickel had small roles as a youth with the Pittsburgh Opera and also had parts in community theatre, radio and TV in Pittsburgh before coming to Roosevelt in 2007. He can be seen as AV Simmers, a soldier returning from Afghanistan, in the movie, *Warrior*, with Nick Nolte, which opens this fall.

HIGHER ED ISSUES KEEP ROOSEVELT STUDENT BUSY



Dimitra Georgouses is a busy and accomplished Roosevelt student whose schedule would rival University President Chuck Middleton's. In addition to being a Roosevelt University student trustee, in August she will be one of two students on the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) with full voting privileges. She also is one of 44 student members on the IBHE's Student Advisory Committee (SAC).

A double major in political science and sociology with a minor in women's and gender studies, Georgouses also is chair of the Coalition of Chicago Colleges, president of the Alpha Gamma Delta sorority on campus and a member of the Pre-Law Society.

As a SAC member, Georgouses' job is to "represent Roosevelt University students and those affected by the IBHE." Along with SAC meetings, she attends IBHE meetings, IBHE Committee meetings and Faculty Advisory Committee meetings to keep up-to-date on what issues might affect higher education students in Illinois.

Georgouses said that at the SAC meetings student leaders discuss a variety of topics, from textbook costs to materials for new educational buildings. "We go over the items and give our opinions," Georgouses said. "After debating the topic of discussion, we vote."

In April, Georgouses spent a day in Springfield, Ill., lobbying for issues that impact thousands of Illinois students in higher education. "These activities are the best thing I've ever done," she said. "It gives me strength in my life to know I can help and do something great. I work with amazing people whose hearts are in it for the right reasons."

INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT



BIRTHDAY WISHES Roosevelt University turned 65 on April 17, marking its founding as one of the nation's first institutions of higher learning to admit all qualified students regardless of race, gender, religion and other factors with a groundbreaking ceremony and birthday cake. Provost and Executive Vice President James Gandre sang "Happy Birthday" for the occasion. More than 175 people attended the birthday party and groundbreaking for Roosevelt's 32-story vertical campus.

FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT 58
SCHOLARSHIP SPOTLIGHT 60



Dear Alumni and Friends,

Since our last communication in the Roosevelt Review, there have been many positive and uplifting activities and fundraising successes with alumni and friends of the University. One of the most exciting initiatives that the University has undertaken is to establish at least 10 alumni chapters in the Chicago metropolitan area and around the country where there are large numbers of Roosevelt alumni. This initiative has been undertaken to reconnect thousands of Roosevelt alumni with the University. We will provide opportunities for alumni to connect with each other and the University in mutually supportive roles, and encourage alumni to support the University with their ideas, talents and financial support. Leaders for the 10 chapter locations have been determined, and there have already been four official kickoff events and charter-signing ceremonies. The alumni events have been enthusiastic and joyful as we establish these new connections with the alma mater of our nearly 70,000 alumni.

Fundraising has been going very well for the quiet phase of the comprehensive campaign that the University is conducting – Living the Legacy: The Campaign for Roosevelt University. After nearly two years of difficult economic news that affected our donors and friends significantly, donors are committing to major levels of support for student financial aid; the new 32-story building for student housing, classrooms and student services that is being constructed on Wabash Avenue; academic programs; and unrestricted support.

Roosevelt has enjoyed excellent public relations on a high level. In March Illinois Senator Richard Durbin made his statewide announcement about increased funding for Pell Grants from the federal government in the Sullivan Room of the Auditorium Building. Additionally, Chris Matthews, host of MSNBC's Hardball, addressed both Commencement ceremonies in May.

We have much to be thankful for in the transformation that is occurring at Roosevelt, and your ongoing and future support will help to propel the University forward for many decades to come. I encourage you to consider how you can participate in this exciting time in the University's history. Your time, positive comments to friends about the University, talents and financial support are critical to our future.

Thank you for all that you do for Roosevelt as we prepare for the future for our marvelous students.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Patrick M. Woods". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light gray background.

Patrick M. Woods
Vice President, Institutional Advancement

FUNDING HIGHLIGHTS

Partnership helps students improve math and science

JPMorgan Chase Foundation and Texas Instruments have partnered with Roosevelt University to improve the success of Chicago high school students taking introductory algebra and geometry courses.

Through the partnership, more than 100 high school students from the Chicago Public Schools (CPS) who had trouble with math were engaged in unique ways over the summer during a new pilot program that is helping them master science, technology, engineering and mathematics concepts and courses.

Roosevelt developed the program with help from a \$50,000 grant from JP Morgan Chase Foundation and an in-kind contribution in hardware, software and training from Texas Instruments. Meanwhile, faculty from Roosevelt's College of Education and College of Arts and Sciences provided professional development training to CPS teachers at Hyde Park Career Academy and Dunbar High School. These teachers learned about new techniques and resources that can help to individually direct student learning, particularly in mathematics, and it is expected that this training will change the way math courses are being taught. The ultimate goal of the program is to improve student performance, eventually eliminating need for the summer credit recovery program that is mandatory for all CPS high school students with failing grades.

As part of the partnership, faculty from the University's College of Education and Roosevelt's Department of Mathematics and Actuarial Science also received training with Texas Instrument's graphing calculators.

Roosevelt receives funding for criminal justice study

Roosevelt University's Institute for Metropolitan Affairs (IMA) has received a \$50,000 grant from the Chicago Community Trust to study the role of preliminary hearings in the Cook County criminal courts and how decisions made during these hearings may lead to an unequal number of minorities moving through the courts for drug offenses. The research is of particular importance because Illinois ranks first in the nation for disproportionate imprisonment of African-American drug offenders.

IMA's research is specifically focusing on the role of judicial and prosecutorial discretion being used during preliminary drug hearings, and is expected to build on last year's IMA study of the adjudication process for drug cases in Cook County, a project that also was supported by the Trust. During the current study, IMA researchers will observe preliminary drug hearings and do interviews with various law enforcement officials, including police officers and prosecutors. These interviews also will explore how law enforcement considers evidence and makes decisions related to drug cases.

The goal of the research is to shine a light on judicial and prosecutorial practices that are part of the preliminary hearing process, and which may result in unintentional bias against minorities. The ultimate aim of the study will be to create policy solutions that will ensure a more equitable process for minorities and others facing drug charges in Illinois.

OFFICE OF INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT

Office of the Vice President

Patrick M. Woods
Vice President,
Institutional
Advancement and Chief
Advancement Officer
(312) 341-6360
pwoods@roosevelt.edu

Charles A. Browning
Assistant Vice President,
Planned Giving
(312) 341-6455
cbrowning@roosevelt.edu

Mirna T. Holton
Associate Vice President,
Development
(312) 341-2309
mtgarcia@roosevelt.edu

Kim Gibson-Harman
Campaign Director
(312) 341-3663
kgibsonh@roosevelt.edu

Randy Lee
Assistant Vice President,
Alumni Relations and
Annual Giving
(312) 341-2407
rlee@roosevelt.edu

Advancement Services

Desiree Ballanco Knight
Advancement
Systems Analyst
(312) 341-3622
dknight02@roosevelt.edu

Yvette F. Garcia
Director, Research
(312) 341-3626
ygarcia@roosevelt.edu

Alumni Relations
www.roosevelt.edu/alumni
alum@roosevelt.edu

Jennifer Plakut
Director, Alumni Relations
(312) 341-4327
jplakut@roosevelt.edu

Annual Giving
www.roosevelt.edu/giving

Janelle Stevenson
Assistant Director,
Annual Giving
(312) 341-3629
jstevenson@roosevelt.edu

Development

Dolores L. Metzger
Senior Director,
Development, College
of Arts and Sciences and
University Libraries
(312) 341-2252
dmetzger@roosevelt.edu

Paula S. Carlin
Director, Development,
Corporate and
Foundation Relations
(312) 341-3621
pcarlin@roosevelt.edu

Gary Keller
Director, Development,
Walter E. Heller
College of Business
Administration
(312) 341-6797
gkeller@roosevelt.edu

Jodi M. Kurtze
Director, Development,
Chicago College of
Performing Arts
(312) 341-2421
jkurtze@roosevelt.edu

Linda Sands
Assistant Director,
Donor Relations
and Stewardship
(312) 341-3625
lsands@roosevelt.edu

Special Events

Lauren Chill
Executive Director,
Special Events
(312) 341-3617
lchill@roosevelt.edu

AT A GLANCE

Name: Griffin Ross

Class Year: 2010

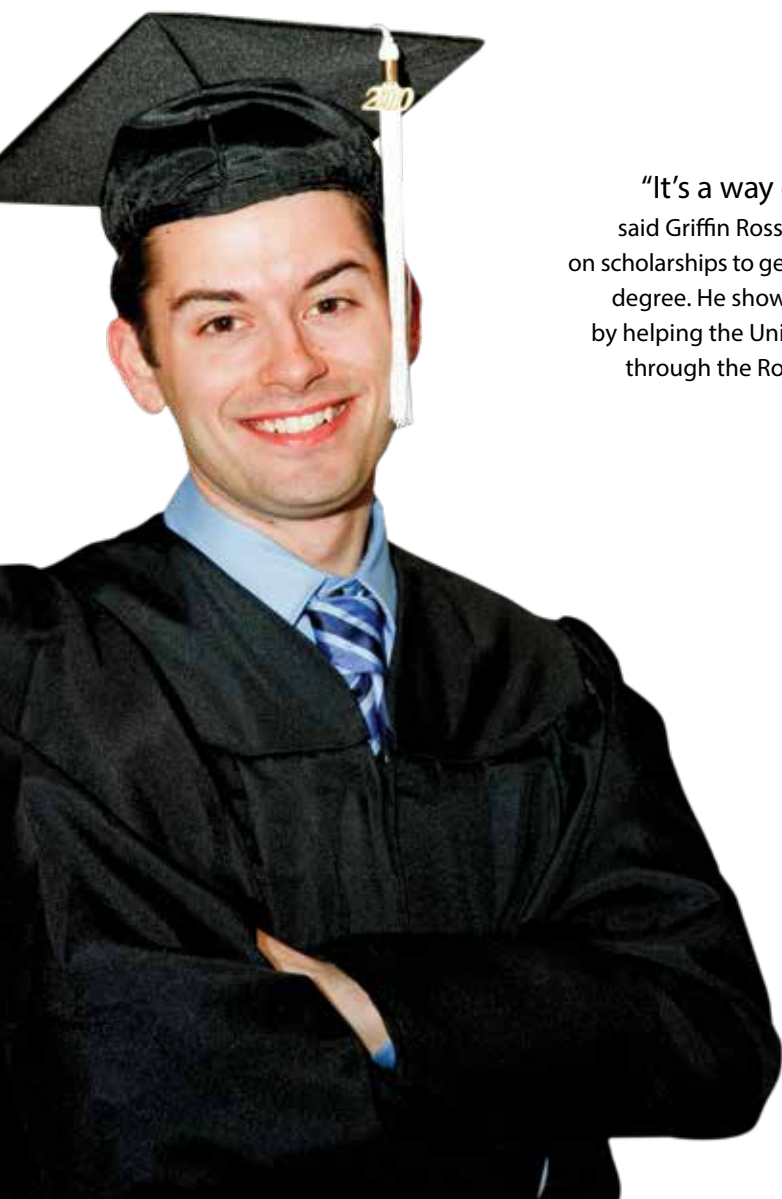
Degree: Bachelor of Arts

Major: Political Science

Minors: Sociology and Philosophy

Hometown: Antioch, Ill.

Scholarship received: Abe & Esther Manaster –
Dr. Charles Solomon Scholarship Fund



"It's a way of giving back,"
said Griffin Ross (BA, '10), who relied
on scholarships to get his undergraduate
degree. He showed his appreciation
by helping the University raise money
through the Roosevelt Phonathon.

Roosevelt grad grateful for scholarship support

BY LINDA SANDS

Anyone who speaks with Griffin Ross, who graduated with a BA in political science in May, will be reminded of the importance and impact that scholarships can have in the lives of Roosevelt University students.

Four years ago when Ross was considering where he would begin his college career, he was faced with the financial challenges that most students today must consider. Ross originally wanted to be a civil rights lawyer, and he chose Roosevelt University as his first stop on the path toward that goal. While he applied for financial aid through government assistance programs, it wasn't enough.

The day before he was scheduled to move into student housing, Ross visited Roosevelt's Financial Aid Office to withdraw his application and return the money he had been awarded. However,

Walter O'Neill, assistant vice president for financial aid, intervened, offering Ross the Manaster-Solomon Scholarship.

Even though Ross would receive enough scholarship and grant money to pay for college, he knew he would need a part-time job. He saw a flier on campus soliciting students to work for Roosevelt's Phonathon, a job that would have him calling potential donors to support student scholarships and University programs. He decided to apply.

Not only did Ross get the job, he stayed with it for four years. He became one of two supervisors training new hires how to do phone fundraising. What made him stay so long? Not only did he establish camaraderie with his fellow student workers, he also became passionate about fundraising. In fact, Griffin is seeking a position in the development field. While calling people for money can be awkward at times, Griffin knows his work is for a good cause.

"You never really know what a donor's capabilities are, but you have to keep your composure and let them know there are students in need of scholarship money," said Griffin, who is grateful for the scholarships and grants that have made his own undergraduate education at Roosevelt possible. "It's a way of giving back," said Griffin, who hopes to continue his education and eventually get a PhD in political science.

SUMMER 2010

ALUMNI NEWS



PHOTO: CHERI EISENBERG

MEET AND CONNECT Roosevelt University is connecting with alumni by establishing chapters and holding events across the country. Before long, there will be 10 alumni chapters, some of them in the Chicagoland area. On May 4, President Chuck Middleton hosted an event for alumni in Chicago's western suburbs at the historic Danada House (above) in Wheaton, Ill. Pictures from a number of recent alumni activities are on the following pages.

EVENTS 62
WHERE RU? 66
IN MEMORIAM 67



PRESIDENT MIDDLETON MEETS WASHINGTON, D.C., ALUMNI

Roosevelt University President Chuck Middleton addressed the Washington, D.C., Alumni Chapter two blocks from the White House during the kickoff event at the DACOR Bacon House on April 27. DACOR (Diplomatic and Consular Officers, Retired) is an association of retired officers of the U.S. Foreign Service agencies. Founded in 1952, it is a place where U.S. Presidents have made important decisions regarding international relations. Host and member of DACOR was Roosevelt University alumnus and alumni chapter ambassador Ernest Latham (MA, '66). Now retired, Latham has more than 29 years of distinguished foreign service in the Middle East and Central and Eastern Europe.

PHOTOGRAPHY RUBEN GAMARRA



PHOTOGRAPHY CHERI EISENBERG

WEST SUBURBAN ALUMNI KICK OFF CHAPTER

On May 4, the Western Suburban Alumni Chapter kicked off its first event at the Danada House, located on the Wheaton, Ill., farm that was the home of 1965 Kentucky Derby winner Lucky Debonaire, ridden by jockey Willie Shoemaker. President Middleton welcomed the alumni with updates about the University. Lena Neal (MK, '83) served as alumni chapter ambassador and hosted the event.



PHOTOGRAPHY RICHARD WHEELER

ALUMNI CHAPTER STARTED IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

In April, the Northern California Alumni Chapter held its inaugural event at Foreign Cinema in San Francisco's Mission District. Nearly 30 alumni and their guests attended the charter-signing ceremony and reception. President Chuck Middleton updated the alumni on the state of the University and Patrick Woods, vice president of Institutional Advancement, provided information about the new vertical campus. Local alumni ambassadors Hymie Luden (BA, '72) and the Rev. Jason Parkin (BM, '80) signed the charter creating the Northern California Alumni Chapter.

SAVE THE DATE! CHAPTER KICK-OFFS

It's back-to-school time for Roosevelt students and alumni, and new alumni chapters are being launched in New York City in September and in Highland Park, Ill., during October. Leaders for these new chapters are now working to develop core leadership and programming plans for the upcoming year for both chapters.

The New York City Alumni Chapter kicks off on Sept. 21 at the Century Association in New York City's Midtown. Meanwhile, the North Shore Alumni Chapter inaugural event is tentatively scheduled for Oct. 26 at the Art Center in Highland Park. Both events include a reception from 6 to 8 p.m. with a presentation by Roosevelt University President Chuck Middleton.

Mark your calendars now!
For more information, contact the Office of Alumni Relations at **1-888-RU-ALUMS**, **(312) 341-3624** or **alum@roosevelt.edu**.



PHOTOGRAPHY HOWARD PASAMANICK

ART SHOW DRAWS LOS ANGELES-AREA ALUMNI

More than 60 alums from the Los Angeles area, spanning classes from 1949 to 2005, gathered in April at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art to inaugurate a Los Angeles/Orange County Alumni Chapter. The group, which heard from President Middleton about news at the University, enjoyed a private viewing at the museum of the exhibit, *Renoir in the 20th Century*.

1940s

Eugene Telser (BA, '49) is the author of three novels. Telser's 2009 release is a mystery titled *The Quarterback from Puerto Rico*. Prior novels include *How to Become President of the United States* and *Bosco the Great, an American Odyssey*.

William Thompson, MD (BS, '49) retired from practice in 2002. Thompson's career includes 13 years in the pharmaceutical industry as a research biochemist. In 1954, he received a JD from Loyola University Law School followed by an MD from Northwestern University Medical School in 1960 and completed his surgical residency at Mayo Clinic in 1969. Thompson lives in Huntington Beach, Calif.

1950s

Charles E. Donegan (BS, '54) has been a private-practice lawyer since 1984 in Washington, D.C., and in Illinois. He was the first full-time minority law professor at the State University of New York at Buffalo Law School in 1970. He also has taught full time at Howard, Ohio State, Southern, Louisiana State and North Carolina Central universities. He was voted the most outstanding professor at Southern Law School. He lives in Washington, D.C.

1970s

Michele David, MD (BS, '78), a physician specializing in women's health, was selected to receive the 2010 William A. Hinton Award for her many years of activism, commitment to public health, and tireless work to educate others. This award is named in honor of one of the first African-American graduates of Harvard Medical School who made tremendous contributions in the field of immunology. David received her MD from the University of Chicago, Pritzker School of Medicine. She is the director, Community Health Programs at Boston University, National Center for Excellence in Women's Health; co-director, Haitian Health Institute at Boston Medical Center; Public Health Council member; co-course director of leadership in Advocacy Block for the Department of Medicine Primary Care Residency Program; and Indelfinger Academy advisor, Boston University School of Medicine. David balances the demands of medicine

through her expression in the fabric arts, inspired by African and Haitian influences, including the color and vibrancy from her childhood home of Haiti. Her fabric art can be viewed at www.Creole-Creations.com.

Gwendoline Y. Fortune (MPH, '72) is the author of three novels including her latest, *Weaving the Journey: Noni and the Great Grands*. Fortune's previous books include *Growing Up Nigger Rich* and *Family Lines*.

Jennifer Lane (BM, '77) is recognized internationally for her interpretations of musical repertoire from the early Baroque period to today's composers. Lane has appeared at festivals and concert series worldwide, and recently released a solo disc of George Frideric Handel's arias, *Fury with Red Sparkling Eyes*. She is professor of music at the University of North Texas and formerly held faculty positions at Stanford University and the University of Kentucky.

Robert Pacyga (MAT, '72) was recently inducted into the Partners in Science Hall of Fame in recognition of his 20 years of outstanding performance and lasting contributions in science and mathematics to the Partners in Science Program.

1980s

Patricia Barnett (BA, '82) has been selected as the new chief executive officer of the New Jersey State Nurses Association. Barnett served as director and government affairs manager for Bristol-Myers Squibb in Princeton, N.J., from 1987-93 and again in 1997-98; director of economic and general welfare for the Illinois Nurses Association in Chicago from 1979-87; and more recently as executive director of public policy and government affairs for Forest Laboratories, Inc. A graduate of the Michael Reese Hospital School of Nursing and Loyola University School of Law, Barnett has served in both supervisory and line-nursing capacities.

1990s

Michelle Areyzaga (BM, '99) has appeared in principal operatic roles, singing Baroque to contemporary pieces. She has performed with companies including Chicago Opera Theater, Lyric Opera of Chicago's "In

the Neighborhoods," and Orquesta Sinfónica del Estado de México. Among her recent concert engagements are: The New York Festival of Song; Francis Poulenc's *Gloria* with the Flint Michigan Symphony; and Gustavo Leone's *Mundo* at the Grant Park Music Festival. She recently presented a recital of the songs of Lita Grier at the Ravinia Festival Day of Music. Areyzaga's CD, *The Sun is Love*, was released in 2005. She also is a frequent, live recitalist on WFMT-FM and was named by *Pioneer Press* as Chicago's Artist of the Year for 2006.

John Deignan (MSIB, '93) has been appointed vice president and chief marketing officer of Diebold, Inc. He will lead the company's global marketing and product management functions. Deignan previously served in Diebold's North American sales organization as vice president of strategic accounts since 2003. Deignan received a bachelor's degree in business economics from Marquette University before attending Roosevelt.



▲ **Jonathan Hall** (MM, '95) has published his first book, *Calvin Hampton: A Musician Without Borders*. The book is a revision of Hall's doctoral dissertation, which he wrote at Indiana University in Bloomington. He is a fellow of Trinity College London, a fellow of the American Guild of Organists and past dean of the Brooklyn, NY, chapter of the guild. A student of Roosevelt Professor of Keyboard and Music History David Schrader, Hall received a master's degree in organ performance and a doctorate in music from the Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University.

Donna Moore (BGS, '95) was named recently by *Illinois Super Lawyers*

magazine as one of the top attorneys in Illinois for 2010. Only five percent of lawyers in the state were selected. Moore is a trust and estates attorney in the Chicago office of the national law firm, Quarles and Brady LLP.

2000s

Katherine Budris (MFA, '06) teaches English composition and literature for community colleges and works part-time as an academic advisor for Middlesex County College in New Jersey. In 2009, her poems were published in *The Kelsey Review* and *Yellow Medicine Review*.

Kimberly Dahlem (MA, '01) has been appointed director of student services for Kildeer Countryside School District 86. Dahlem previously was a special education teacher and reading specialist for 15 years in Township High School District 211 in Palatine, Ill.

Ricardo Gutierrez (MA, '07) has been teaching high school Spanish in the Chicago Public Schools for two years.

▼ **Adrienne Leon** (MSJ, '07) has joined the editorial staff at *Fayette County News*. Leon accepted a full-time reporter position in January after spending three years at the *Gateway-Beacon* in Bremen, Ga. She also has been an investigative news researcher for WSB-TV, Channel 2. Leon received a bachelor's degree from Alabama State University in Montgomery.



Janelle Marshall (MJ, '05) is an online teacher for the University of Phoenix and the International Academy of Design and Technology.

IN MEMORIAM BY CLAUDIA ROCHA

Roosevelt University regrets to report the deaths of the following Roosevelt community members.

1950s

Herschel J. Rader (BA, '50), of Chicago, died Feb. 4, 2009. Rader was a teacher at Otis Elementary School and then principal of the James Weldon Johnson School where he remained until his retirement in 1987. He received his MA and PhD in education administration from the University of Chicago.

Donald M. Orstrom (BA, '51), of Glen Ellyn, Ill., died June 6, 2009. Orstrom received his law degree from Northwestern University in 1953. He practiced law for 40 years in DuPage County, Ill.

George Vid Tomashevich (BA, '51), of Berkeley, Calif., died Dec. 3, 2009. Tomashevich received his bachelor's degree in sociology from Roosevelt University and doctoral degree in anthropology from the University of Chicago. He moved to Buffalo, NY, in 1968 to teach anthropology at Buffalo State College and retired in 1995. The Anthropology Department at Buffalo State named the Collins/Tomashevich Award, given to a graduating anthropology major demonstrating superior leadership skill, after him and June Collins, another founding member of the department. Tomashevich was passionate about literature, the arts, history and sociology. He was an honorary member and founder of several academic associations, including Serbia's Writers Association, which honored him in 1997 as a recipient of the Raspko Petrovic Award for lifetime achievement. He was widely published, and his writings on the Serbia-Bosnia war appeared several times in *The Buffalo News* in the 1990s.

Roberta Fried (BSBA, '53), of Chicago, died Feb. 17, 2010. Fried was a devoted children's librarian, who inspired those around her to read, travel and participate in cultural activities. She worked for 30 years as a librarian in the Chicago Public Schools. After retiring, she was a library aide at the Deerfield, Ill., Walden School and also volunteered at the Maryville Academy in Des Plaines, Ill.

Martin Gutenkauf (BA, '53), of Morton Grove, Ill., died Feb. 5, 2010. A clinical psychologist, Gutenkauf worked at Chicago Read Mental Health Center for 35 years. Upon retirement, he counseled victims of fires, tornadoes and other natural disasters. Both he and his wife, Alice, volunteered with the American Red Cross, traveling to disaster sites where they provided grief counseling. The couple met in 1949 when they were both students at Roosevelt University. They married in 1958 and spent their leisure time traveling the world and volunteering for various causes. For nearly 20 years, the two were mediators of conflicts between schools and

parents for the Illinois Board of Education. They also served as surrogate parents for students who were wards of the state, ensuring these children received school services.

Marcia G. Jacobson (BA, '54), of Tustin, Calif., died Sept. 9, 2009. She majored in political science.

Vytautas Bildusas (BS, '55), of Montgomery, Ill., died Jan. 11, 2009. He majored in chemistry.

Stanley A. Bresler (BSBA, '56), of Highland Park, Ill., died in December 2009. Bresler was founder and chairman of Affiliated Realty and Management Co. He was also the chief executive officer and co-owner of Bresler Ice Cream Co. and Bresler 33 Flavors until its sale 25 years ago.

Anthony L. Ball, Jr. (MM, '57), of Homewood, Ill., died Oct. 20, 2009. He majored in music.

Charles W. Burdick (BSBA, '57), of Gainesville, Fla., died June 14, 2009. Burdick joined the U.S. Army in January 1940 and served in both the Pacific and European Theatres before retiring in July 1960. He taught mathematics at Valley High School in Albuquerque, N.M., and served as chairman of the department until retirement in 1982. His hobby was trap and skeet shooting. He majored in business administration.

Arthur Horn (BA, '59), of Elgin, Ill., died Nov. 24, 2009. He majored in psychology.

1960s

Kenneth Kessel (BSBA, '61), of Mira Loma, Calif., died Jan. 14, 2010. He majored in management.

Winston Thomas Mann (MPA, '68), of Adamstown, Md., died March 21, 2010. He majored in public administration.

Mattie Hughes (BA, '62; MA, '68), of Chicago, died Feb. 9, 2010. Hughes was a faithful member of Phi Delta Kappa. She enjoyed traveling to various parts of the world, where she loved the first-hand experiences of other cultures. Hughes taught in the Chicago Public Schools for more than 30 years. She majored in education.

Richard C. Smith (BA, '68), of Chicago, died Nov. 11, 2009. From the early '80s until the late '90s, Smith was principal of Martin Luther King High School, where he and his staff were influential in preparing students to graduate and to go on to college. He received a master's degree from University of Chicago and PhD from Northwestern University. He served in the U.S. Army, taught classes at Roosevelt University and held other administrative positions at the Chicago Board of Education.

Nicola Nelson (BGS, '04) is an attorney at Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP, where she practices primarily environmental law. Nelson authored the chapter on environmental compliance for an American Health Lawyers Association's reference book, *Enterprise Risk Management for Healthcare Entities*.

Dennis Pauli (EdD, '07) was named superintendent of schools in Edgerton, Wis. Pauli had been an elementary principal at Mendota Elementary School in Madison. He previously worked as assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction in Round Lake, Ill. Before that, Pauli was director of curriculum and instruction and an elementary principal in Barrington, Ill.

Amy Rieckelman (MFA, '04) landed a small part in the hit NBC television program, *The Office*. Rieckelman also performs with an indie rock band, Yes Me to Death.

Brian Russell (BGS, '07) has released a chapbook, *Meeting Dad: A Memoir*. Russell also won the first annual Keenan-Kara Writing Award for his short story, "Rutherford." He graduated in May from Spalding University's MFA in Writing Program where he has been a student assistant editor of *The Louisville Review*. His prose, poetry and critiques are available at www.public-republic.net and at www.thereviewreview.net.

Angela Sparrow (BA, '09) is the special events coordinator at SCR Medical Transportation, Inc., in Chicago. SCR provides door-to-door, customer-service-based transportation for physically challenged individuals in the greater Chicago area.

Yan Wang (MBA, '03) has been teaching for 20 years and is currently the director of the School of Foreign Languages at Shenyang University in China. She also has been director of American and British programs at Shenyang University. She has written, edited and published nine books, 12 academic theses, as well as hosted eight scientific and academic research programs. Wang won first prize in a Civic English teaching contest. She also has been instrumental in sending 12 visiting scholars during the past four years to Roosevelt University.

Where are you?

Send us your photo and an update!
Email alum@roosevelt.edu or mail to:

Office of Alumni Relations
Roosevelt University
430 S. Michigan Ave., Rm. 827
Chicago, IL 60605

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

Mary Ethel Clausen (MA, '69), of Tallahassee, Fla., died March 1, 2009. Clausen worked for many years at Kenai Peninsular Community College in Kenai, Alaska. She was an avid learner and was active in library issues throughout the Pacific Northwest, and participated in community and professional events throughout the state of Alaska.

Dr. Eddie Davis (BA, '69), of Buffalo, N.Y., died March 6, 2010. Davis served in the Illinois National Guard and received a bachelor's degree in psychology from Roosevelt University. He went on to get a master's degree in community organization and social planning in 1971 from the University of Chicago and continued there in advanced studies in policy, planning and administration. After taking a position as a drug counselor and therapist in Salt Lake City, he completed a doctorate in social work at the University of Utah. Davis was a member of the social work faculty at Morgan State University, Federal City College, University of Illinois at Chicago, Western Kentucky University and Wayne State University. He was campaign manager for a Chicago city councilman and helped organize tenants unions in Chicago and Salt Lake City. In Detroit, he was active with the Detroit Head Start Advisory Board and WTVS Channel 56's City for Youth Program. Davis moved to Buffalo in 1994 to become chairman of Buffalo State's Social Work Department and was well known among social work professionals. He researched youth violence, minority content in social work, effects of social policy on psychosocial development and family dynamics and authored many articles. Davis also enjoyed tennis, photography, music, theatre, skating and motorcycling.

Anna Anthony (MA, '69), of Chicago, died Feb. 9, 2010. She majored in education.

Edward A. Marshall (BSBA, '51; MC, '69), of Palatine, Ill., died Dec. 27, 2009. He majored in accounting.

1970s

Michael L. Gilbert (MA, '70), of Chicago, died Nov. 3, 2008. Gilbert taught for his entire career in the Chicago Public Schools (CPS) until his retirement in June 2007. He then became a coach in mathematics for CPS teachers in a program at the University of Chicago. Following his death, the Chicago City Council proclaimed a day in his memory.

Richard Dubin (BSBA, '73), of Des Plaines, Ill., died May 22, 2009. Dubin worked for the U.S. Social Security Administration for 30 years. He majored in accounting.

John Schola (MA, '75), of Mount Prospect, Ill., died Dec. 9, 2009. Schola served in the U.S. military before becoming a science teacher at Lincoln Junior High in Park Ridge, Ill. He then was a professor at Harper Community College where he received the Teacher of the Year award. After 35 years of teach-

ing, Schola retired in 2006. He was a consultant at the time of his death.

Delores L. Wash-King (BSBA, '75), of Chicago, died Feb. 9, 2010. She worked for Brass Foundation, which is known today as HRDI, as a counselor assistant for women dealing with substance-abuse addiction. After retiring, she became a foster grandparent for the Chicagoland school systems and daycare programs and worked tirelessly as an advocate for the elderly.

Leonard Elliot (BA, '76), of Rochester, N.Y., died Feb. 16, 2010. Elliot was a decorated veteran of World War II, where he served four years with distinction. He was a talented pianist and classically trained guitarist who loved music and teaching it to others. For 18 years, he served as musical director at Congregation Hakafa in Winnetka, Ill.

1980s

Duane Yetter (MC, '80), of Palatine, Ill., died Dec. 31, 2009. Yetter was a corporate credit manager in the finance industry and retired in 2002 after 50 years of employment.

Renee B. Lameka (BGS, '82; MPA '85), of Placitas, N.M., died Dec. 22, 2009. Lameka was a graduate of St. Mary of Nazareth School of Nursing and a former vice president of nursing at Holy Family Hospital.



▲ **Ruby Peters** (BA, '85), of Chicago, died Jan. 30, 2010. Peters loved singing and playing the piano, which she started at an early age. Some critics compared her voice to Billie Holiday and her piano playing to Art Tatum. She traveled the world as an entertainer and performed throughout the Chicago area in top supper clubs like the London House, Mr. Kelly's and Little Corporal. After graduation, she was active in Roosevelt University's alumni activities, including organizing an annual jazz festival that featured many of her musician friends and Roosevelt alumni. Peters was in the first graduating class of Du Sable High School in 1939.

1990s

Rabbi J. Hofmann (BA, '94), of Cleveland, Ohio, died in November 2009. He majored in philosophy.

2000s

Ashley C. Serola (BA, '08), of Arlington Heights, Ill., died Feb. 26, 2010. She was a skilled equestrian and enjoyed volunteering for Almost Home Animal Rescue. She was a member of the Psi Chi National Fraternal Organization of Psychology.

FACULTY AND STAFF

Edwin W. Turner, Roosevelt University's athletics director emeritus, died in March 2009. Turner joined Roosevelt in 1948 as assistant director of physical education after holding academic and business positions. During his career, he mentored hundreds of Roosevelt students on honor, respect and good sportsmanship. In addition to serving as athletic director, he coached several sports including basketball, soccer and golf. A pioneer in his time, Turner was one of the nation's few African-American coaches of an integrated basketball team. As a golf coach in the 1950s he was not permitted to follow his team at some private golf clubs as blacks were not allowed on the course. Turner served on Roosevelt University's Board of Trustees in the 1970s and also was the University marshal for Commencement. He retired in 1981. A Highland Park, Ill., resident, he was an avid golfer during his retirement years. Turner received a BA from Texas College and an MA from DePaul University.

Professor Emerita **Yolanda Lyon Miller**, director of theater and chair of the Theater Department at Roosevelt University for 35 years, died on June 13. Her visionary work was the foundation of Roosevelt's Theatre Conservatory in the Chicago College of Performing Arts. Professor Lyon Miller's lasting impact on Roosevelt and on her students went far beyond her role as a dramatic teacher. She was also known for opening up her home and using her own credit card to support the needs of her students. During her tenure at Roosevelt, she transformed the theatre program, which at the time was housed in the English Department, into one of Chicago's leading standalone theatre programs. Many of her students went on to achieve critical acclaim on Broadway, in television and film. More than 175 family members, former students and colleagues from across the country celebrated her life during a ceremony on June 15 in Ganz Hall. In her memory, the family of Professor Lyon Miller has established a scholarship fund to support the Theatre Conservatory. Contributions can be sent to the Office of Institutional Advancement at Roosevelt University. Please contact Jodi Kurtze at jkurtze@roosevelt.edu or (312) 341-2421 with any questions regarding the scholarship.



Dreaming of Roosevelt gear?

Make your dreams a reality by visiting roosevelt.edu/bookstore and pick up everything from T-shirts to mugs to hoodies.

Send us your baby photos! We'll send a Roosevelt University Onesie (size 3-6 months only) to the first 10 emails received at babygrad@roosevelt.edu.



Stretch Twill Cap
\$19.98



Short-Sleeved Onesie
\$19.98



Screenprint Hoodie
\$34.98