

THE POINT



ON TRACK

Track and field athletes are newest Pioneers

High Impact Education

A new core and more will enhance students' learning experiences



Dear alumni and friends,

It's spring, and that means it is commencement season here at Point Park. Our entire campus community joins our graduates and their families in celebrating this time of joy, transition and renewal.

Both community and creativity have always played an important role in defining the Point Park experience. From our classrooms

to the broader campus to our Downtown neighborhood and beyond, creative collaboration is thriving here.

We all know that working together – whether it's with fellow students on a class project, a teacher on a research project, or a mentor at a professional internship – can make all the difference in student success.

That's why community building is a key focus of a new core course for first year students, City-University Life. This new first-year experience course will not only provide freshmen with basic study and research skills and other academic tools to help them succeed, but also unique opportunities to connect with the greater urban community of Pittsburgh – a distinctive characteristic of a Point Park education.

The City-University Life course and other enhancements to the core curriculum are part of the Point Park 2020 initiative, a multi-faceted effort to enhance the overall student learning experience here at the University. You can learn more about our efforts on page 12, and in future issues of The Point.

Creative renewal also characterizes Point Park's Academic Village initiative in our Downtown neighborhood. In fact, one of the most recent projects might be described as "back to the future." A new student lounge on the second floor of Lawrence Hall is designed to be reminiscent of the area's original purpose as a grand lobby entrance to the Keystone Athletic Club. See page 14 to learn more about this latest restoration and revitalization project, which will be completed by the beginning of summer 2014.

There is much to celebrate and enjoy here on our campus, as well as the greater Downtown community. Next time you're in the neighborhood, we hope you'll drop by and take a closer look at the creative transformation that is always in season at Point Park.

Warm regards,

Dr. Paul Hennigan
President



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ON THE COVER:
Track and field athletes are poised to become the latest Pioneers. See page 34 to learn more.

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TALK TO US!

The Point wants to hear from you. Send your comments and suggestions to:

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Nondiscrimination, Equal Opportunity and Diversity Initiatives

This policy affirms Point Park University's commitment to nondiscrimination, equal opportunity and the pursuit of diversity. Point Park University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, ancestry, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, genetic information, marital status, caregiver status or familial status in the administration of any of its educational programs, activities or with respect to employment or admission to the University's educational programs and activities. This policy is in accord with local, state and federal laws, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act, Age Discrimination Act of 1975 and the Pittsburgh Human Relations Act. Inquiries regarding these regulations, policies or complaints of discrimination should be referred to the human resources officer, telephone number 412-392-3952. Inquiries regarding Title IX and the Title IX regulations should also be referred to the senior vice president, academic and student affairs, as the Title IX coordinator, or deputy coordinators, the human resources officer or the dean of students.



Point Park President **Paul Hennigan** received a special-edition 225th Anniversary Medallion from his alma mater, the University of Pittsburgh. Marking Pitt's 225th anniversary, the award is given to alumni who have made outstanding contributions to their professional fields and contributed to the progress of the university. The Master of Public Administration degree that Hennigan earned from Pitt in 1986 provided him with the foundation upon

which he built a successful career in government, consulting and higher education.

"I have often said that an institution of higher education makes many of its most important contributions through the work done by its graduates, and it is a particular source of pride when one of those graduates goes on to make that impact in the field of higher education," said Pitt Chancellor **Mark A. Nordenberg**,

who presented the medallion at a Jan. 30 meeting of Point Park's Board of Trustees. "As president of Point Park, Dr. Hennigan is helping to forge the futures of countless young people and making enormous contributions to the revitalization of our city."

Hennigan has served as an adjunct faculty member and senior management analyst for the H.J. Heinz School of Public Policy and Management at Carnegie Mellon University and as a consultant to the government of Allegheny County, where he managed its strategic planning project. He was the chief financial officer for the City of Pittsburgh from 1994-1999. Hennigan accepted the Innovations in American Government Award from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University on behalf of the City in 1999. The award recognized Pittsburgh for the first-ever use of the Internet to sell municipal bonds, a project that Hennigan directed and was reported on in *The Wall Street Journal*.

Hennigan is vice chair of the Pennsylvania Economy League board of directors and a member of the board of directors of the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, the Duquesne Club and the Pittsburgh CLO. He is an Eagle Scout sponsor for the Boy Scouts of America and a member of Leadership Pittsburgh, Class XII.

FEEDBACK ▶

Dear Editor,

Thank you for keeping us updated! We receive the email newsletter [from the Alumni Office] and we also get *The Point* regularly, and that helps keep us part of Point Park. My wife Cabrini (A&S 1969) and I were both from the "Neanderthal" age, when Lawrence Hall was a "new" acquisition for the school. In those days, WPPJ-670AM had just completed new studios and offices, on the second floor overlooking the "big hall," across the street from the Pittsburgh Ballet Theater studios [then located at the corner of Wood St. and the Blvd. of the Allies]. It was the beginning of a "brave new world" – a dream by 'the few' that started it all. And what Point Park has become is another point in the never-ending evolution of a little junior college "that could." Cabrini did what she loved from that "point" forward, and she has now been teaching for four decades, plus! My journalism and communications professors were the best; WPPJ-670 gave many J&C students our start in radio. Soon many of us became the founders of WDVE 102.5, then an ABC network-owned and operated radio station in what was considered a major market, the envy of many!

Not bad for two kids with dreams, eh? Having done many speeches and forums, I've talked with a lot of people, and my optimism has never been greater. This group of students is the future, and the future looks just great. Point Park University is a wonderful example of what happens when you dream, then put your dreams into action! Great things await today's students, and if they continue that tradition, then the sky is the limit...again! We are both very thankful to have been part of Point Park's commitment to educating those who have a burning desire to learn. The education we both received there gave us the foundation for building our future – as it ended up, together! So thanks to all those who went before, those who are doing great things there now, and those who are our "gifts for tomorrow" – the students of Point Park University! Thank you and God bless!

William H. (Bill) Bruun, Ft. Myers, Fla.

Correction/Clarification

Due to an editing error, quotes in the introductory paragraphs of the article Architectural Elements in the winter 2014 issue of The Point did not include adequate attribution to the University president. The Point regrets the error.

NEWS AND VIEWS ▶

Professional Advancement

Gregg Johnson, Ph.D., associate professor of electrical engineering technology, spoke on "Unlocking the Mysteries of Chaos and Control" in the 2014 Leonard Finkelhor Lecture on campus on April 16. Johnson explored how systems with seemingly identical starting conditions lead to remarkably different outcomes and how these and other real-world systems exhibit the earmarks of a phenomenon called "chaos." Johnson said his talk explores "a classic example of a chaotic system that appears quite benign yet displays all of the rich, underlying complexity of chaotic motion." Some of the areas of Johnson's lecture were developed during communications research he did at the Naval Research Lab in Washington, D.C.

Michele Langbein, Ph.D., associate professor in the School of Business, presented "Ethical Shades of Gray and Our Fiduciary Duty" at the March 19 meeting of the Institute of Management Accountants (IMA) Pittsburgh chapter. The IMA provides global leadership in education, certification and practice of management accounting and financial management. Members range from management accountants and financial management professionals just beginning their careers to presidents and CFOs of major corporations.

Nelson Chipman, former chair of the Department of Cinema Arts, addressed the National Association of Broadcasters at the organization's annual conference in Las Vegas in April 2014.

Matthew Opdyke, Ph.D., associate professor of environmental science and Joshua Daugherty, a graduate student in environmental studies program at Point Park, were awarded a grant from the University of Pittsburgh's Pymatuning

Laboratory of Ecology, to study the species diversity and distribution of lichens at Pymatuning State Park in summer 2014. Opdyke was awarded his first grant to study lichen in 2009 by the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. His research involves studying lichen as indicators of air quality in areas such as Schenley Park, Frick Park, Mingo Creek, Roaring Run and Downtown Pittsburgh.

April Friges, assistant professor of photography, was among 11 artists to display her work at the recent exhibit "Pop Explosion: the Artist and Popular Culture," which ran through March 29 at the Sweetwater Center for the Arts in Sewickley, Pa. Friges, an award-winning photographer, joined the School of Communication in fall 2013.

Amy McCall, J.D. has been appointed as general counsel at Point Park. She previously served the Office of General Counsel at The Pennsylvania State University (Penn State) and prior to that was in private practice in the Pittsburgh region. She earned a bachelor's degree in computer science from Drexel University and received her J.D. from Duquesne University. McCall is a former member of the patent bar. The Office of General Counsel acts as the primary advocate to protect the University against current and future legal issues, obstacles and concerns.

Chris Hill has rejoined the University as the vice president of operations in the Physical Plant Department. He earned his bachelor's degree from Ithaca College and his M.B.A. from Point Park.

Tony Gaglierd, adjunct faculty member in Natural Sciences and Engineering Technology, reports that two graduate students in environmental sciences,

Joshua Daugherty and **Robin Shaw**, have achieved an exceptional level of performance. Shaw's "effective and professional presentation of ATSDR's Health Assessment of American Chain and Gable Site (Reading, Pa.) and Chem Fab Facility (Doylestown, Pa.) earned a perfect score of 50 points. "My congratulations and best wishes for continued success," said Gaglierd.

Nicole Chytil has joined the University as the administrator for Development and Alumni Relations. She previously worked in the development offices of the Medical and Health Sciences Foundation and Carnegie Mellon University and has her associate's degree from Kaplan Career Institute.

Penny Schnarrs has been appointed director of donor relations and development communications in Development and Alumni Relations. Before coming to Point Park, she was manager of communications and Administrative Services at the Association of American Medical Colleges in Washington, DC. She has her M.B.A. from Chatham University and her B.A. from Duquesne University.

Bridget McNamee joined the University as the director of development resources in Development and Alumni Relations. Before coming to Point Park, she was a senior planning specialist with the Allegheny County Department of Human Services. She earned her master's degree from the University of Pittsburgh and bachelor's degree from Chatham University.

Drew Moniot, Ph.D., adjunct faculty member in the Conservatory of Performing Arts, reviewed holiday films for KDKA-TV in Pittsburgh. To see *Drew's Reviews*, visit: <http://pittsburgh.cbslocal.com/video/9665708-drews-reviews-holiday-movie-season/>.

Rohr and Washington Honored at Commencement

Jim Rohr, executive chairman and former chief executive officer of PNC Financial Services Group, one of the largest diversified financial services companies in the United States, was the featured speaker at Point Park's 2014 commencement on May 3. He also received an honorary degree. In more than 40 years with PNC, Rohr has held a variety of leadership positions, including vice chairman, director and chief operating officer. Named chief executive officer in 2000, Rohr oversaw the company's expansion from an institution that served customers primarily in two states to one of the largest regional banks in the country. Considered a civic champion for the city of Pittsburgh, Rohr serves on the board of directors for The Heinz

Endowments; is a member of the board of trustees and serves on the executive committee for the Committee for Economic Development; is a member of the boards of trustees for Carnegie Mellon University and The University of Notre Dame; is past chairman and a member of the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust; and is past chairman of the Allegheny Conference on Community Development. **Nancy D. Washington**, Ph.D., the immediate past chairman of Point Park University's Board of Trustees, also received an honorary degree. Washington is a faculty member emeritus of the University of Pittsburgh and has published articles and presented papers on the topics of student achievement and health beliefs among girls, women and African-Americans. Her other community commitments include member of the Women's Committee of the Carn-

egie Museum of Art and the Pittsburgh Symphony; member of the executive committee and chair of the Programming Committee of the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust; and Secretary of the board of directors of the Pittsburgh Foundation. **Robert Alexander**, Ph.D., professor in the Humanities and Human Sciences Department, served as grand marshal for commencement 2014.

Storytelling and Human Rights Symposium

Free speech and censorship were the focus of the second annual Storytelling and Human Rights Symposium on March 21. Point Park's Honors Student Organization partnered with Global Solutions for the event, which was open to high school and University students and the general public.

In Memoriam

Albert F. McLean, Ph.D., professor emeritus and former academic dean at Point Park College, passed away on Jan. 15, 2014 in Naples, Fla. He was 85. Dr. McLean was a professor of English for two decades and served as academic dean during various periods in the 1960s and 1970s. During his tenure as dean, Point Park achieved accreditation as a four-year college. His book *Point Park: The First Twenty-five Years* brought together many oral histories and celebrated the first quarter-century of the College's success.

According to his obituary in the Naples News, before coming to Point Park, McLean was a faculty member at Tufts University in Massachusetts and Transylvania College in Kentucky. He earned his



bachelor's degree at Williams College and a master's degree and doctorate in history from Harvard University. McLean wrote extensively on subjects within American culture. His books, *American Vaudeville as Ritual* and *William Cullen Bryant*, have each been recognized, nationally and internationally, as important contributions to scholarship. His articles and poetry appeared in numerous professional journals and books, including *Best Poems of 1960*. He was also a contributor to the *Oxford Companion to the Theatre*, *Notable American Women*, and the *Dictionary of American Biography*.

McLean was a member of many professional societies including the American Association of University Professors, the Modern Language Association and the Oral History Association. The husband of Point Park alumna **Rev. Jean Mairs McLean** (A&S 1983), he was the father of alumnus **Stuart McLean** (A&S 1983), whose wife **Diane (Yates) McLean** (A&S 1986) is also an alumna, as well as Cameron McLean and Janet Mickens. He is also survived by his brother Roger McLean and many loving grandchildren.

POINT PARK UNIVERSITY
Annual Fund

“ I wanted to give opportunities to people who may have not had a chance otherwise. ”

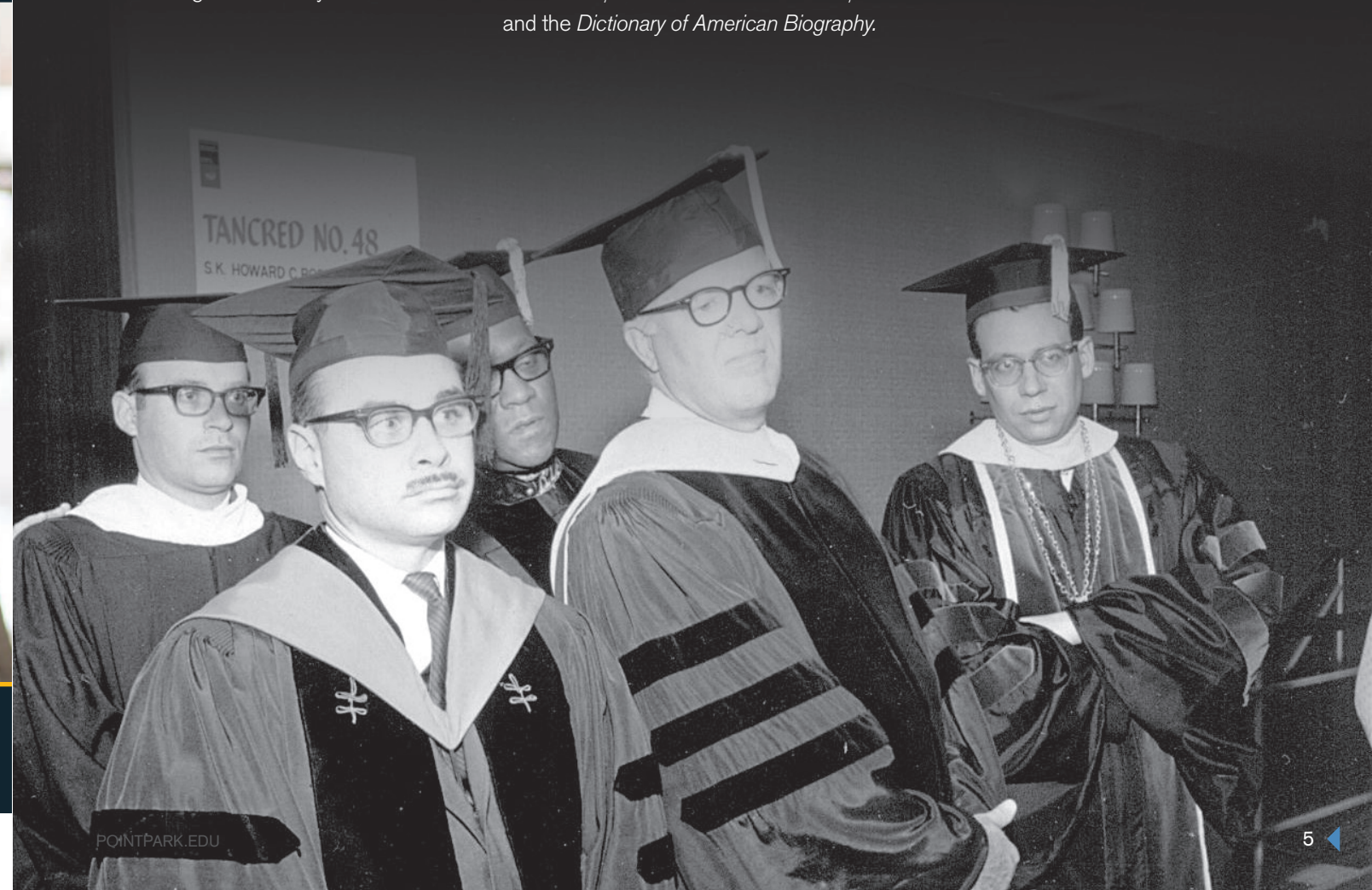
Brian Cunningham
First Generation Graduate
B.A. Organizational Leadership, '12

You can make this life-changing experience possible for deserving students too with a tax-deductible, unrestricted gift to Point Park University's Annual Fund. Or designate your gift to a school or program.



To donate online or for more information:

www.pointpark.edu/annualfund | annualfund@pointpark.edu | 412-392-3999



Henry Reese, co-founder and chairman of City of Asylum, Pittsburgh, was the keynote speaker. Discussion panelists led participants through major free speech issues from different perspectives, including literature and the humanities, legal issues and human rights, journalism and propaganda, and theatre and the arts. Afterward, the audience participated in small workshops with the panelists where they created their own skit, story or piece of art.

Project BOLD

The Building Our Leaders Daily (BOLD) initiative is celebrating its second-year achievements. The program is aimed at creating awareness of careers in finance and accounting among urban middle school students throughout the region, as well as linking students to mentors. On April 30, student participants, mentors and community partners who have

contributed to the success of the program came together for an event to celebrate its success. **Paulo Nzambi**, executive vice president and chief operating officer of Manchester Bidwell Corp., was the featured speaker and the master of ceremonies was KDKA-TV reporter **Harold Hayes**. According to **Herman Reid**, Ed.D., Point Park's director of academic outreach as well as the BOLD program, "the mentoring and guidance is a unique motivational feature of the program. The theme is 'Today's Mentors for Tomorrow's Workforce.'" The mentors go beyond exposing the students to careers, and spend time teaching them about interviewing, work habits, time and money management and other life skills.

CMU Partners with Point Park

Carnegie Mellon University's H. John Heinz III College joined Point Park in announcing that the University is a new Regional Education Partner. Starting in 2014, the Heinz College will award a scholarship to Point Park alumni who are entering one of the College's full-time graduate degree programs. To be considered for the scholarship, Heinz College applicants should indicate their Point Park alumni status on the application for admission. Eligible students will receive at least \$6,000 per semester, and most students will receive more. The partnership was established as part of Heinz College's commitment to promoting economic growth. "Partnerships like this are designed to strengthen the Western Pennsylvania region," said **David Eber**, Heinz College's director of admissions. "The combination of an undergraduate degree from Point Park and a graduate degree in management from Heinz College would make a student highly competitive," Eber said. "This



Animation Expert Dazzles

The Department of Cinema Arts hosted Academy-award nominated animation director **John Dilworth** in the GRW Theater on April 5. The event welcomed nearly 65 students, faculty and guests. "Being able to see successful people in the industry is very helpful," said **Chris Dreslitzak**, a sophomore animation and visual effects major. "It's inspiring and it gives us motivation." Dilworth began the event by showing his original short film, *Courage the Cowardly Dog*, an animation series that went on to become one of Cartoon Network's top-rated shows. His work has also appeared on many major networks, including CBS, Showtime, and Nickelodeon, and he is the founder of Stretch Films, Inc., an animation studio in New York City. During the lecture, Dilworth provided insight into his career in animation by presenting his work and explaining his creative process. Students in attendance were given the opportunity to ask questions following the presentation. When asked why Dilworth got into animation, he said, "One day I was drawing, and it seemed limited, so I wanted to see it move."

is particularly true of students seeking jobs in the Western Pennsylvania region, where Heinz College graduates are highly recruited." According to **Steve Tanzilli**, associate professor at Point Park's School of Business and chair of the Sports, Arts and Entertainment Management program, the new partnership "represents an invaluable opportunity for our alumni to maximize their academic credentials and, at the same time, broaden their higher education experience."

Rules of Etiquette

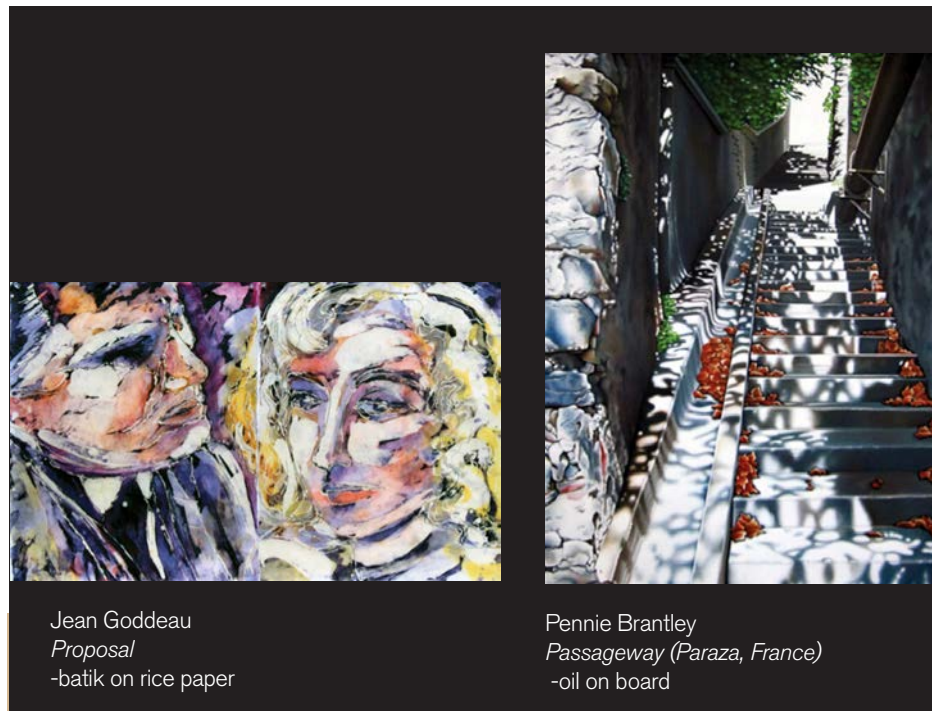
Conversation skills and table manners are key to making a good first impression. For

students hoping to land internships or jobs, these skills are even more critical. Each year, the staff of Point Park's Career Development Center hosts a popular "etiquette dinner" to teach students the rules for meeting and dining in a business setting. This year's dinner on Jan. 29 attracted more than 80 students dressed in business attire. Representatives from 19 area employers, including Steeltown Entertainment Project, Northwestern Mutual Financial Network and the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, attended the dinner as well. Employers mingled with students during the pre-dinner reception, which gave students practice balancing appetizers and sparkling juice "mocktails"

while networking. "The number of attendees grows each year," said **Amy Bittner**, coordinator of counseling services in the Career Development Center. "For the first time, we had a student wait list this year."

WPPJ Earns Top Honors

Point Park's student-run radio station, WPPJ, earned top honors at the 74th Annual Intercollegiate Broadcasting System Conference and College Radio Awards, held in March in New York City. Eight students and **David Fabilli**, professor of broadcasting and faculty adviser, attended the awards presentation. The winning entries included: First



Jean Goddeau
Proposal
-batik on rice paper

Pennie Brantley
Passageway (Paraza, France)
-oil on board

Visions and Revelations

Imagery of the human figure and the natural world are common themes among the women artists featured in "Visions and Revelations," the spring 2014 exhibition in the Lawrence Hall Gallery. All of the featured artists are members of the National Association of Women Artists (NAWA), were selected from submissions across the country, and are working in a variety of diverse media and techniques. The exhibit was organized by **Jack Tomayko**, a Point Park trustee and president and CEO of the Tomayko Group, and was curated by **Sarah Hall**, director of curatorial affairs for the Frick Art & Historical Center in Pittsburgh. According to Hall, some of the artists featured in the exhibit "demonstrate a psychological acuity – an awareness of facial expressions and gestures, and the ways we interpret and use them to both reveal and hide ourselves from the world." "Visions and Revelations" runs through May 18. For more information, call 412-392-8008.

place: "Best Public Service Announcement" for the Early Learning Institute, senior broadcasting reporting major **Sara Daversa** (writer/producer), senior broadcasting reporting major **Mary Jo Maloney** (voice over) and junior mass communication major **Ali Soukovich** (voice over); First place: "Best Specialty Music Program," The Porch Swing, senior broadcasting reporting major **Jenni**

Bloodworth (producer/host). Category finalist: "Best Sports Update," senior broadcasting reporting major **Chris Hoffman** (producer/host); and Category finalist: "Best Show Promo," **Jenni Bloodworth** (producer) During the trip, the aspiring broadcasters got a behind-the-scenes tour of NY1: News, public radio stations WNYC and WOXR and the Paley Center for Media.



From left: Khouanchay Krueger, Ingrid Docherty, Darlene Brusco and Nabat Mammedova. Photo by Courtney Geruschat.

Accounting Team Wins

Darlene Brusco, Ingrid Docherty, Khouanchay Krueger, and Nabat Mammedova, all accounting students and members of Point Park's "Accrual World" team, took first place in the second annual Pittsburgh Institute of Internal Auditors/Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants Case Study Competition last winter. They competed against teams from Carlow University and Duquesne University. "Several of the students who competed are currently working in business and bring real-world experience to the classroom. I'm sure this gave them an edge. However, our traditional age students did a terrific job on the reports as well," remarked **Margaret Gilfillan**, M.B.A., C.P.A., associate professor of accounting. "We had very bright, dedicated and talented groups. Their reports were professional and as comprehensive and insightful as any I would expect from new auditors in a big accounting firm." The competition was held at the Pittsburgh office of Alpern Rosenthal, one of the nation's top 100 accounting firms.

Geographer Leads HHS Symposium

Don Mitchell, Ph.D., distinguished professor of geography at Syracuse University, was the featured speaker for Point Park's Fifth Annual Humanities and Human Sciences Symposium on April 18. The primary goal of the annual HHS symposium is to showcase the original research and readings of creative work by Point Park's undergraduate students across a variety of majors, including English, creative writing, psychology, global cultural studies, political science and more. This year, the student panels focused on: Adventures in Marxism; Sexuality and Gender Revisited; Global Feminisms: Re-presenting (Post) Modern Womanhood; Re-envisioning Jane Austen: Novel Interpretations of *Pride and Prejudice* and *Sense and Sensibility*; Challenging Canonicity: Subverting the Norms of Literary Tradition; Creative Writing and Visual Art; and Creative Writing Process: Vision and Revision. In selecting Mitchell as the keynote speaker, **Robert Ross**, Ph.D., assistant professor of global cultural studies, explained, "We wanted a social scientist whose work was deeply critical of entrenched systems of power so that students could see a scholar who puts his research and teaching into political action. Don's work is very much in line with our emphasis on critical thinking and social justice." Mitchell is the author of numerous books on the historical geographies of labor struggles, the political economy of culture and conflicts over urban public spaces, including *The People's Property? Power, Politics, and the Public* and *They Saved the Crops: Landscape, Labor, and The Struggle for Industrial Farming in Bracero-Era California*. In addition, he has received several awards and honors, including a MacArthur Fellowship and a Guggenheim Fellowship, and most recently, the Anders Retzius

Medal in Gold from the Swedish Society of Anthropology and Geography. Student poster presentations followed Mitchell's keynote address, and panel presentations and creative readings by students took place throughout Academic Hall later in the day. Point Park students **Andie Fullmer**, an English/creative writing major, and **Katy Albert**, a public relations and advertising major, helped to organize the symposium.

SAEM at Pollstar in Nashville

Eight students from Point Park's Sports, Arts and Entertainment Management club, accompanied by Assistant Professor **Ed Traversari**, attended the Pollstar Live! 2014 Music Conference in Nashville in February. The conference attracted more than 1,500 attendees from the industry, including top managers, agents and entertainers. In exchange for volunteer service, the students' registration fees were waived by conference organizers.



Center for Sports Media and Marketing Events

The Pittsburgh Center for Sports Media and Marketing hosted a number of events this spring, including a trip to Erie, Pa. to visit alumnus **Aaron Cooney** (COM '12), the director of broadcasting and media relations for the Erie Otters Hockey Club. Aaron led students on a tour of the arena and through his daily routine before puck drop, when students got to enjoy the game and listen to Aaron's broadcast. In addition, students received an inside look at media relations, business strategies and social media best practices from Pittsburgh Pirates communication pros on April 9, when alumnus **Dan Hart** (COM 1995, 1999), director of media relations, and **Terry Rodgers**, coordinator of business communications and social media, led a campus session on "Pirates: Building on Last Year's Success." Earlier in the spring, The Center hosted **Merril Hoge**, a former Pittsburgh Steeler and currently an NFL analyst on ESPN, who visited Point Park on March 25 to talk with students about ESPN and the NFL.

Pioneer Community Day 2014

On April 12, the United Student Government (USG) hosted the fourth annual Pioneer Community Day. A record number of participants, 164 students, faculty and staff members, volunteered their time that day by working to support many local non-profit organizations, including Friends of the Riverfront, Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership, Hosanna House and the Western Pennsylvania Humane Society. Photo and video by Chris Rolinson.



Point Extra

See a video:

<http://tinyurl.com/pioneercommunityday2014>

The six-day trip provided students with valuable insight into careers as booking agents, record label representatives, concert and festival managers and more. It also provided opportunities to meet leaders in the industry, including those they met before the conference began. "On Monday, we visited National Shows 2, a concert promoter, then went to Treasure Isle Recording Studios, where they were finishing tracks to Jason Aldean's new record," said Traversari. "That night, we hosted a VIP reception in our hotel with musicians, Arista Records reps and industry leader **Ed Salamon**, once known as 'country music's most influential programmer.'" Next, the group attended meetings with top executives at the William Morris Endeavor office and Creative Artists Agency. The following three days were spent volunteering, attending panel sessions — including one with country music star Brad Paisley — and networking at the conference. "As a sophomore, I'm still learning about jobs in the industry," said **Rachel Travisano**. However, after hearing two representatives from Arista Records describe their jobs as 80 percent travel, Travisano now knows

she is "definitely interested in working for a label." Junior **Adam Valen** mentioned the value of learning from top industry professionals at panel sessions. "I took home innovative ideas to discuss with my boss at Drusky Entertainment," he said.

New Doctorate in Leadership and Administration

Point Park plans to launch its first doctoral program (pending external approvals) in fall 2014: a new doctorate in leadership and administration. "A leader's role is to raise people's aspirations for what they can become and to release their energies so they will try to get there," according to David Gergen, a former advisor to four American presidents. Those words have helped to guide development of Point Park's new 54-credit Ed.D. program, which plans to educate leaders who will be able to:

- ▶ Function as a skilled instructional and/or organizational leader in an educational, non-profit or business environment;

- ▶ Understand and respect the complex interrelationships among stakeholders;

- ▶ Use six performance domains, developed by Drs. Charles Schwahn and William Spady in *Total Leaders* and adapted by the Professional Leadership Development Center, of authenticity, vision, culture, quality, service systems and communication to lead and effect change;

- ▶ Understand the role of research in guiding assessment and progress.

Future doctors of leadership and administration can choose from three tracks: Professional Leadership (including those working toward Superintendent Letter of Eligibility); K-12 Administration (including principal certification); and an individualized concentration that allows students to transfer post-master's credits and focus on personalized goals and responsibilities. The program also includes core courses focusing on research methods and dissertation development.

Designed for Working Professionals

"This Ed.D. program is designed for working professionals, those who want to improve their effectiveness so they can address the changing needs of their organization or school," according to Dr. **Darlene Marnich**, professor and chair of Point Park's Education Department. "This is a degree that is practice-based and where research is used to directly apply to workplace goals and challenges."

"All courses will be offered in a hybrid format with on-site commitments reasonable enough to establish faculty/student and student/student community, but combined with off-site learning via electronic media to make it possible for working professionals to meet family and personal obligations while finishing all required courses and a dissertation in three years," Marnich added. Some distinctive features of Point Park's Ed.D. in Leadership and Administration include: ability to transfer in up to 18 credits of post-master's credits (could complete program in two years); work closely with mentor(s) in the student's field leading to a comprehensive portfolio; learn from faculty and guest speakers from diverse disciplines; and benefit from an interdisciplinary framework and partnership with the Professional Leadership Development Center.

The program has an affordable fixed-rate tuition of \$13,000 per year. To learn more, visit: www.pointpark.edu/leader. Point Park also offers nearly 100 undergraduate and 17 master's degree programs.

Celebrating Martin Luther King, Jr.

As in past years, Point Park students participated in a variety of events on and off campus to observe Martin

Rock & Roll Hall of Fame Exec Visits

Joel Peresman, president and CEO of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Foundation, delivered a lecture at Point Park last spring. "I wanted to get into concerts for free," the Pittsburgh native recalled, as he spoke to more than 100 Point Park students at a presentation hosted by the Department of Sports, Arts and Entertainment Management (SAEM). Peresman achieved that goal and much more. In addition to his current role, his experience includes positions with the William Morris Agency, International Talent Group, Madison Square Garden and Radio City Music Hall. ITG represented some of the largest touring acts in the world, including Pink Floyd, Duran Duran, Peter Dinklage, Genesis and The Cure. At the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Foundation, Peresman leads media deals, sponsorship, marketing and fundraising. He also serves as executive producer for the annual artist induction ceremony broadcast on HBO.



Luther King Jr. Day. However, this year's activities carried a special significance because 2014 marks the 50th anniversary of The Civil Rights Act of 1964. A Leadership Luncheon hosted by the Office of Student Affairs gave students, faculty and staff the opportunity to honor and discuss King's legacy. "The goal was to honor Dr. King and highlight some aspect of his life," said **Michael Gieseke**, senior assistant dean of campus life and organizer of the luncheon. "Each year at the luncheon we will highlight a different issue he fought for, whether that's education or poverty or injustice." **Ed Meena**, professor of history, welcomed the more than 100 guests and provided remarks about the impact of the legislation. "Being able to sit at a table and chat with faculty and staff members who could speak to the time and the real-life implications of the bill greatly expanded

my understanding," said **Dillon Kunkle**, a senior biology major and president of United Student Government. Later that day, a group of Honors Program students travelled to Pittsburgh's East End for the "Share Your Voice" event hosted by The Union Project. This included discussion about solutions for bridging gaps between cultures, creative communication and a shared celebration meal. "The Honors Student Organization has been focusing on the themes of storytelling, connection and humanity for the past two years and this event seemed to fit right in," said **Casey Stelitano**, a junior global cultural studies major. That evening, students gathered in the JVH Auditorium to listen to and discuss "Beyond Vietnam," a speech that King delivered one year before he was assassinated in 1968. ❖

Point Park Welcomes Girl Scouts

Gina Pennline (COM '10), assistant to the vice president and program department for the Girl Scouts of Western Pennsylvania, returned to campus on Feb. 7 to help celebrate the organization's National Cookie Day, during which the Girl Scouts sold cookies at various locations in Downtown Pittsburgh. According to Pennline, who earned her degree in advertising and public relations at Point Park, "my co-workers and I were representing GSWPA and had two Girl Scouts from the Be a Friend First program selling cookies with us. All proceeds from the day went to the program that gives girls valuable skills to develop healthy relationships and prevent bullying behavior in their schools and communities." She enjoyed the opportunity to return as an alumna representing GSWPA, said Pennline. "It brought back so many memories! It was nice to see all of the improvements around campus, so much has been added since I graduated. It was fun to see the Girl Scouts so excited to be on campus, and I was able to answer their questions and tell them stories about living on campus." The University has supported the Girl Scouts of Western Pennsylvania for the past several years, including hosting a campus event to celebrate the organization's anniversary.



HIGH IMPACT LEARNING

City-University Life course part of comprehensive effort to enhance the core curriculum and overall student learning experience



In fall of 2014, all first-time, full-time Point Park students will take a new core course in City-University Life, a foundational course designed to help freshmen develop key skills for success as a student in Point Park's diverse urban community.

Aimed at such key learning outcomes as communication, information literacy, problem-solving, global and cultural literacy, and creativity and aesthetics, the new course will encompass everything from study and basic research skills to the importance of community in the classroom, campus and the City of Pittsburgh, according to Karen McIntyre, Ph.D., senior vice president of academic and student affairs and dean of faculty.

In addition to providing a foundation for success, "it will give students a broad look at what University life is all about, particularly what it means to connect your learning to our urban community

here in Pittsburgh," says McIntyre. "It's a very exciting, well-rounded introductory course."

A number of full-time faculty members have completed professional development sessions in order to prepare to teach the course, says Diane Maldonado, Ph.D., associate vice president and director of the University's Center for Teaching Excellence. Each will take a scholarly approach by focusing on a common syllabus and learning outcomes, but bring their own unique perspective based on their particular area of expertise.

Focus on Community

The emphasis on community building is among the distinctive characteristics of the new core course, as well as broader efforts to enhance the overall learning experience, says McIntyre. "We know that when students have the opportunity

to work together with fellow students, faculty and others outside of the classroom, they have a greater chance to be successful in school."

"So we are looking at all kinds of ways to build and promote learning communities at Point Park, starting with this new first-year experience class as well as English 101, a writing and composition course that is also part of the new core requirements starting this fall," she explains. In spring 2015, an oral presentation course will be added to what's known as the "Confluence Core" curriculum.

Enhancements to the core curriculum are part of the ongoing Point Park 2020 initiative, a comprehensive effort to enhance key pillars of the student learning experience. Based on indicators ranging from the University's own self-assessment processes to feedback gained through the National Survey of Student Engagement, it became clear that

"students want experiences that support their learning, that connect them to the community, that are meaningful and relevant, that are interdisciplinary in nature, and that provide choice and flexibility," says McIntyre.

High Impact Education

The initiative encompasses many of the "high impact educational practices" advanced by nationally known educator George Kuh, including first-year experiences, learning communities, writing-intensive courses, diversity/global learning, service-learning and community-based learning, internships and capstone projects.

"George Kuh's research has focused on what enables a student to persist in their education," says McIntyre. "We know that student satisfaction equals student engagement equals student success. We want to foster that engagement by giving our students experiences and opportunities that will enable them to be more successful in their total learning experience."

Toward that end, the University's advising system will also be expanded to encompass an eight-term model in which students will connect with both an academic advisor and an advisor in Point Park's Center for Student Success during each semester: a joint pathway for success aimed at graduation and beyond, says McIntyre.

Learn more about Point Park 2020, including efforts to expand service learning, global and cultural experiences, career development through internships, and more, in upcoming issues of The Point.



Online Learning Opportunities

Point Park offers a number of degree and certificate programs in a fully online format, and plans are underway to expand and enhance online learning opportunities in the near future. Classes for the programs are offered entirely via the Internet following well-established curriculum used in traditional classrooms. The online programs begin in both the fall and spring semesters, and students never need to visit campus. All courses are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week via Blackboard, the University's course management system.

The Blackboard platform allows for easy access to course content and ongoing interaction between course instructors and students. Point Park provides concise information on computer hardware and software requirements to ensure compatibility with the University network and student service systems. (Be sure to read all system requirements). In addition, the University library offers all students virtual access 24 hours a day.

Fully Online Programs

- ▷ B. A. in Organizational Leadership
- ▷ B. S. in Business
- ▷ B. S. in Public Administration
- ▷ Associate in Science in Public Administration
- ▷ Certificate in Public Administration
- ▷ Certificate in Adult Education and Administration
- ▷ Certificate in Intelligence and National Security

In addition to these fully online programs, the School of Business and other schools offer individual online classes. The University coursebook also lists hybrid classes, which means a course may include online requirements along with traditional in-class time.

Easy to Use Technology

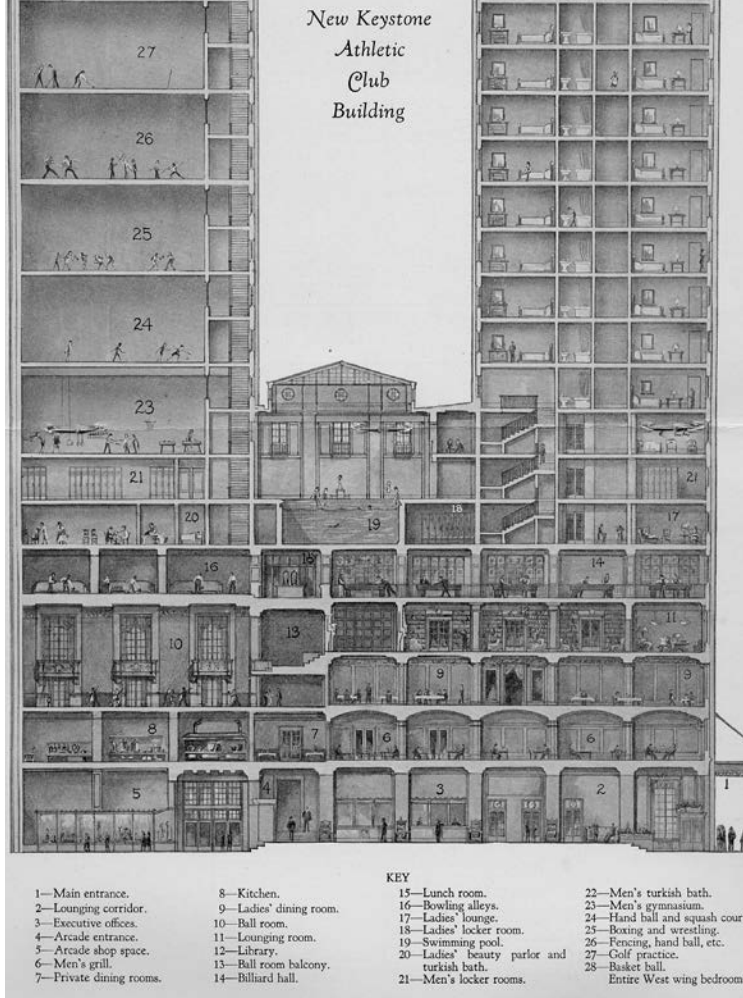
Students access Blackboard via a secure log-in using their own high-speed Internet

Quality Instruction

Point Park's online programs have been created in accordance with Quality Matters (QM), a national non-profit organization that specializes in developing quality online experiences for students. In fact, 90 Point Park faculty members have received QM-based training, 13 are QM-certified to serve as peer reviewers, and three are master reviewers. The goal is to provide online learning that reflects the quality and personal attention of campus classroom instruction.

Learn More

For more information about current offerings, visit www.pointpark.edu/Academics/OnlineLearning or contact Karen Hall, director of e-learning, at khall@pointpark.edu or 412-392-4783. Watch for news about the upcoming expansion of the University's online programs in future issues of The Point. ❖



CLUB LEVEL

At the bridge entrance into Lawrence Hall, a new student lounge will recall the grand Keystone Athletic Club

Opposite: Lawrence Hall construction. Photos by Chris Rolinson. This page: Vintage images courtesy of the University Archives.

One of the most prominent examples of Point Park University's commitment to architectural preservation and creative reuse is Lawrence Hall, a landmark building at the corner of the Boulevard of the Allies and Wood Street that was designed by distinguished Pittsburgh architect Benno Janssen at the turn of the last century.

Now serving as academic, living, art gallery and social space for the University, the building was originally built as the Keystone Athletic Club and later known as the Sherwyn Hotel (when it was acquired by Point Park in 1967).

Architectural Treasure

Within the past decade, the University has restored and renovated Lawrence Hall to include a three-story, historically appropriate stone façade with new lighting fixtures and windows, a bookstore, and configuration of street-level gathering space for students and visitors, as well as an attractive entrance into the LEED Gold-certified George Rowland White Performance Center next door.

The street level of Lawrence Hall previously consisted of solid masonry walls lacking in light and character, according to preservation architect Ellis Schmidlapp, principal of Landmark Design Architects (LDA), which led the restoration. LDA has served as preservation design consultants in many campus projects including the completed renovation of a conference room in the University Center (the former Colonial Trust), the



upcoming new Pittsburgh Playhouse that will be situated between Forbes and Fourth Avenues at Wood Street, and current renovations to the second floor of Lawrence Hall.

Grand Lobby Returns

In Spring 2014, LDA led a restoration of the second floor, which was the original lobby level of the Keystone Athletic Club (retail space occupied the street-level). Previously used as a dance studio, an area to the left of the bridge entrance into Lawrence Hall (from Academic Hall) has been transformed into a grand lobby: a club-like gathering area that will feature historically appropriate details and lighting while providing comfortable lounge space for students.

According to University Architect Elmer Burger, "the Lawrence Hall student lounge project is an extraordinary opportunity to bring back some of the building's original architectural character."

The area is a prime location for the University, he added. "So many members of the University cross the bridge between Academic and Lawrence Halls on a regular basis," says Burger, from residents who live in the building to students, faculty and staff on their way to classrooms, offices and the Point Café. "In addition, there has always been a need for more lounge space and gathering areas on our campus."

"Our goal is to recreate the feel of the original space," says Burger. Under the vaulted and arched ceiling, the original chandeliers have been restored and new wall sconces have been custom made to complete the look. Also undergoing restoration is the room's original wainscoting, with a new wood parquet floor stained to match.

Furnishings and other finishes will include club-style chairs and an area rug, says Burger, all designed to look traditional while able to withstand the wear and tear of a student lounge.

Urban Renewal

To the right of the bridge entrance is a new multi-purpose gathering and meeting space, and a classic portal with a new barrel-vaulted ceiling now welcomes bridge pedestrians into the building.

"Point Park has been the most preservation-minded user of historic buildings in Downtown Pittsburgh," according to architect and historian Arthur Ziegler, president of Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation (PHLF). "The University has made a huge investment in reusing, restoring and adapting these buildings, and has created a great deal of life in its urban neighborhood as a result." ❖



WAR IS SERIOUS BUSINESS

On an annual class trip to Gettysburg, students discover timeless lessons about business strategy

Text by George C. Bromall II, J.D., photos by Christopher Rolinson.



Looking back at my education, there are plenty of things I've forgotten ... but I can remember in great detail every single field trip I ever took.

We start on the bus trip across the state with rolling lectures and audio/visual presentations. But the real learning comes as we near the site and start seeing buildings still pockmarked with gunfire.

That's why each year in late January or early February, I take a group of "Business History Perspectives" students to the Gettysburg battlefield for a long three-day weekend to learn something about history, and a lot about business strategy.

Gettysburg is the perfect place to teach about business strategy. Robert E. Lee and George Meade were military men, but they were also leaders of large organizations – CEOs in fierce competition with their rivals.



There are a number of business lessons to be found at the battlefield. Some of my favorites:

Inventory

▷ The armies that converged on Gettysburg brought with them 164,000 troops. Each soldier needed to be fed, clothed, and housed. They needed supplies and guns. They needed bullets. To succeed in business, you need the supplies and equipment to do the job.

Leadership

▷ Colonel Joshua Chamberlain, a college professor from Maine, defended Little Round Top with a group of scared soldiers, including a large contingent of deserters. They not only held the position, but, as ammunition began running out, charged down the hill with bayonets. Chamberlain's men followed him not because they had to but because they wanted to. Many a CEO today could learn from that lesson.

Consequences

▷ Nowhere more than a battlefield is the lesson clearer that executive decisions can have far-reaching consequences

for those under your command. War is a testament to the responsibility leaders have to make wise decisions. Leaders usually walk away from bad decisions in fairly good shape; their subordinates often do not.

Communications

▷ Mistakes made at Gettysburg were because leaders didn't have all the information they needed at hand. Communication today is at the speed of light, but the message still fails to get through at times, with dire consequences.

Flexibility

▷ You can't have a business these days without a "strategic plan" to guide your actions. Both sides went into the conflict with their own strategic plans, but both found five minutes in that those plans had to be tossed out the window and new plans formulated on the spot.

Although the battle itself took place in July, I take my students in the off-season. Without all the foliage on the trees, they can see across the battlefield and visualize how, when, and where important leadership decisions were made. But visiting the site in the dead of winter also brings home that thousands of Americans lost their lives in just a few days of conflict.

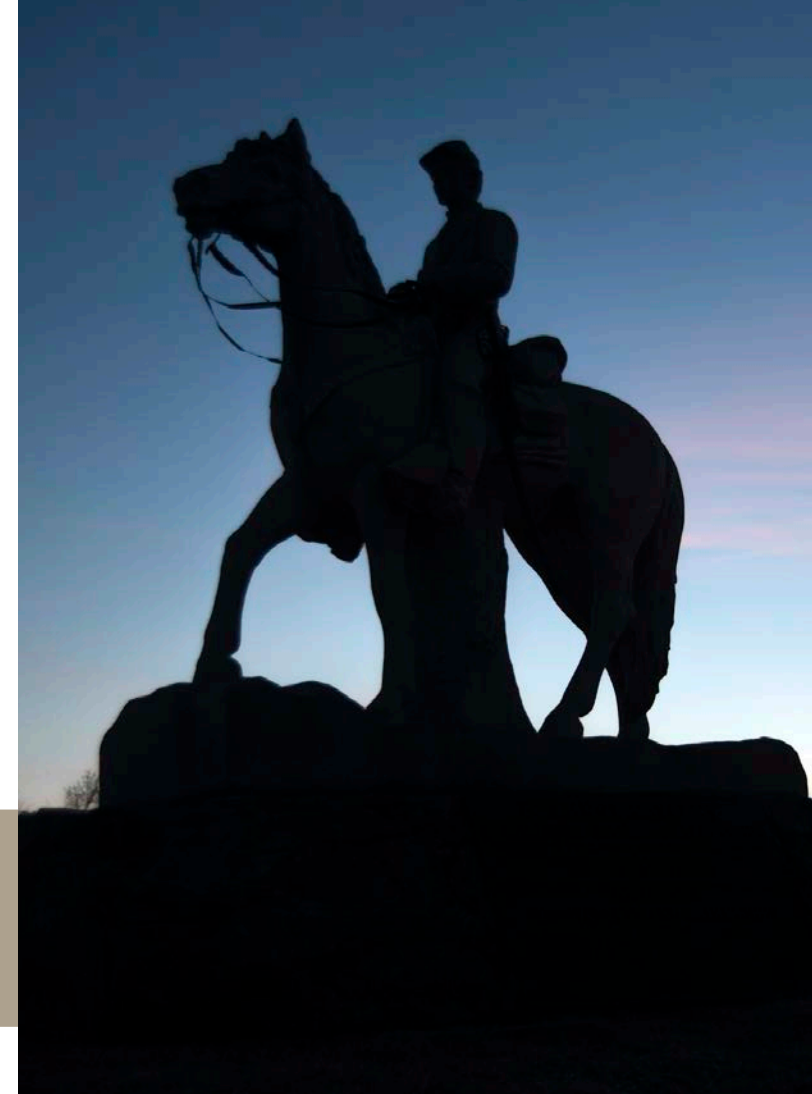
Something our students will find hard to forget.

George C. Bromall II, J.D. is associate dean and professor in the School of Business. This article originally ran in the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review on February 21, 2014. Reprinted with permission. ❖



Point Extra

For a video with highlights of Bromall's Business History Perspectives class' 2014 visit to Gettysburg, visit www.pointpark.edu/thepoint.



On Location with *The Chair*

Point Park is Home to New Documentary Series That Puts Filmmakers' Vision in the Spotlight



Opposite: On *The Chair* set in Upper St. Clair, Pa. last March. This page: Producers Chris Moore (left) and Josh Shader (right) on set with Point Park's Nelson Chipman. Photos by Martha Rial.

The *Chair*, a new documentary series that follows two up-and-coming directors as they compete to make the best feature film, from the same script using the same resources, was produced on Point Park's campus and in Pittsburgh locations during the winter and spring of 2014. The series is slated to air on the Starz cable channel this fall.

More than 75 Point Park students and alumni from a variety of majors have supported the television series and two feature films as interns, employees and through class projects. The production

offices for *The Chair* were housed on campus in West Penn Hall, where editing and other post-production work continued through the spring.

According to Nelson Chipman, former chair of Point Park's Cinema Arts department and University liaison for the production, the project brought together two film crews and one television crew, all shooting simultaneously, giving Point Park students unparalleled learning opportunities to experience all aspects of production.

The Creative Side of Filmmaking: Building a Lasting Career

Presented by Chris Moore and Corey Moosa
Executive producers of "The Chair"



Zachary Quinto (left) and Neil Dodson present a seminar at Point Park. Photo by Sarah Cunningham, a photojournalism major.



Point Park students and alumni at work on *The Chair* set. Photos by Martha Rial.

"*The Chair* project has given our students and alumni the opportunity to gain real-world experience alongside artists and professionals on a unique project of national scope," said Point Park President Paul Hennigan. "It aligns perfectly with our mission."

Producers for *The Chair* include: Hollywood veteran Chris Moore (*Good Will Hunting*, *American Pie*, *Promised Land* and the HBO series *Project Greenlight*); Pittsburgh native and famed actor Zachary Quinto (*Star Trek*); and producers Corey Moosa, Josh Shader and Neil Dodson.

The Chair was made in Pittsburgh because Moore and Before the Door Pictures have a working relationship with the local movie industry — particularly Point Park and Steeltown Enter-

tainment Project, which shepherds Pittsburgh-area film projects. Steeltown's chief operating officer and Point Park faculty member Lisa Smith-Reed, a veteran producer who teaches cinema, was also instrumental in bringing *The Chair* to the University and Pittsburgh.




Moore joined Moosa on the stage of Point Park's packed GRW Theatre for a kick-off celebration, lecture and question and answer session to discuss "The Business of Filmmaking" on Feb. 3. (View the video: <http://bit.ly/1yNbK9>. The Cinema Arts department also hosted Quinto and Dodson on Feb. 17 for a session on "The Creative Side of Filmmaking: Building a Lasting Career." (See the video: <http://bit.ly/1mHxQof>. During filming of the TV series and both feature films, all shot entirely in Pittsburgh, students and alumni representing the Conservatory of Performing Arts, School

of Business and School of Communication have worked on and off set in production-based roles, as well as administrative and marketing positions. Several classes participated in semester-long projects, and students had the opportunity to audition for roles in the films.

The Chair explores the power of creative vision and the impact it has on an artistic product. The upcoming series will chronicle each director's journey to make the best film, and the winner will be chosen by audience vote. The winning director will receive a yearlong filmmaker's package in Los Angeles to pursue their dream of becoming a Hollywood director. The film is a coming-of-age comedy about a group of former high school classmates who return home from college for Thanksgiving.

Shane Dawson and Anna Martemucci, both from Los Angeles, are the competing directors. Dawson is currently one of the biggest stars on YouTube as a result of his comedy channel. He recently sold a half-hour sitcom based on his life to NBC. Martemucci is a writer, actress and producer, often assuming all three roles for a film. She's best known for *Before After* (2010), *Periods* (2012) and *Breakup at a Wedding* (2013).

Watch for the fall issue of *The Point* to learn more details about *The Chair*. Follow the project!

-  Facebook: www.facebook.com/PointParkCinema
-  Twitter: twitter.com/PointParkCinema and [#MakingTheChair](https://twitter.com/MakingTheChair)
-  Instagram: [instagram.com/pointparkcinema#](https://www.instagram.com/pointparkcinema#)

LIVING HISTORY

Alumna Elizabeth Wheatley leads efforts to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the Fort Pitt Block House

ALUMNI PROFILE

By Melissa Williams Schofield

Elizabeth (Hoffman) Wheatley (COM 1993) has the best of both worlds – she is using her journalism skills in her career as well as to promote a series of events to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the Fort Pitt Block House, a historic landmark that bears silent witness to Pittsburgh's history.

Wheatley wears multiple hats. She is a wife, mother of three, Delta Airlines flight attendant, and director of marketing for WebSAP.net. The Pittsburgh-based web design and development company was founded by her husband, Michael Wheatley, who also developed the fortpittblockhouse.com website.

A Legacy at the Point

She is also president of the Fort Pitt Society, a supporting organization of the Pittsburgh Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), which has owned and operated the Fort Pitt Block House as a historical treasure in Point State Park for the last 118 years. Wheatley previously served as the organization's publicity director.

Wheatley was born into a DAR family. Seventeen of her ancestors fought in the Revolutionary War. The 1989 Baldwin High School graduate speaks with pride of the Block House, built in 1764 as a defensive redoubt for Fort Pitt, a key British fortification during the French and Indian War. It is all that survives of Fort Pitt.

"This is the oldest authenticated structure in Western Pennsylvania and part of the National Historic Landmark of the Forks of the Ohio," says Wheatley.

Celebrating the Block House

Events are planned throughout 2014 to commemorate the Block House's 250th anniversary. On April 14, the Edith Darlington Ammon Garden was dedicated during a ceremony at the Block House. On June 14, at Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall in Oakland, a Flag Day event (co-sponsored by the National Society of the Sons of the American

Revolution) will salute student patriotism by honoring area students through art and essays they've written.

On August 9, the anniversary will be the focus of a Summer Public Garden Party at the Block House, and on Sept. 11 a gala anniversary celebration at the Wyndham Grand Hotel will feature an address by former First Daughter Julie Nixon Eisenhower. The Fort Pitt Society is also planning a time capsule dedication at the Senator John Heinz History Center.

Wheatley proudly points out that the Fort Pitt museum employs a full-time curator and that record crowds visited the Block House in 2013, thanks in part to the popular Rubber Duck art installation that floated in the nearby Allegheny River last fall.

Point Park Proud

She credits Point Park University and its talented professors for giving her a strong foundation in journalism and communications, which helped her to maximize opportunities to promote Pittsburgh's rich history and beloved Block House. Wheatley hopes Point Park students will participate in internship opportunities at the Block House.

"The professors nurture you. I am thrilled with my degree from Point Park," says Wheatley, who also minored in foreign language. She visited Paris with other students and Professor Channa Newman, Ph.D. "Dr. Newman knew every nook and cranny of Paris," she says.

"I wanted to travel the world and come back to Pittsburgh to work in advertising. I met my husband, an Englishman from London, through a friend. We dated for six weeks, got engaged and married a year later," recalls Wheatley. "We've been married for 17 years and have three children (Catherine, 15; Amelia, 10; and Andrew, 6)."

For more information on events related to the 250th anniversary of the Fort Pitt Block House, visit <http://www.fortpittblockhouse.com/block-house-250/>.

Alumna Elizabeth Wheatley at the Fort Pitt Block House in Point State Park in Downtown Pittsburgh. Photo by Martha Rial.

March for Babies

Alumni Erin and Dan Hart honor sons' legacy as 2014 March of Dimes Ambassador Family

By Melissa Williams Schofield

In October 2006, Dan (COM 1997 and 1999) and Erin McVey Hart (COM 1999) of Baden were ecstatic. After years of infertility struggles, they found out they were finally pregnant, and with twins.

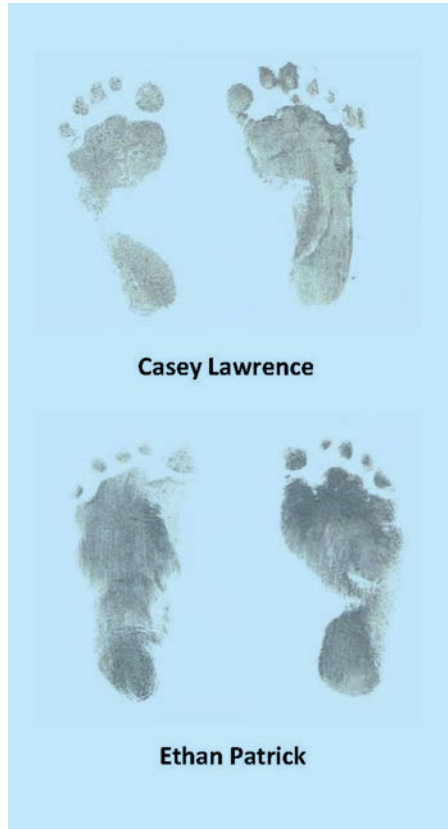
With the pregnancy progressing normally, 2006 turned into 2007. But a few months later, their world shattered. On March 6, 2007, at just 22 ½ weeks into the pregnancy, Erin went into premature labor at home and was rushed to the hospital – only to find out her labor was too far advanced. In the early hours of March 7, twins Ethan Patrick and Casey Lawrence were born. Ethan, at 1 pound, 1 ounce, was stillborn, while Casey, at just 1 pound, survived only briefly.

Life-Changing Loss

"I felt utterly defeated and helpless – being told there was nothing the doctors could do to save my sons," says Erin. "Nothing can prepare you for the earth-shattering news that your children won't survive."

Now serving as Director of Media Relations for the Pittsburgh Pirates, Dan was working in Bradenton, Fla.

and couldn't get to the hospital until many hours after the boys' birth. He says it's the most helpless he's ever felt in his life. "I couldn't be there for my wife or my boys. It was tough walking into the hospital room – only to have to leave them there and come home empty-handed."



Ethan (left) and Casey

Several months later, Erin connected with the March of Dimes via "Share Your Story," an online support forum for families to share their experiences with loss and prematurity. In 2008, wanting to do something positive in their sons' memory, the Harts started Ethan & Casey's Team for the annual March for Babies Walk. Because of their dedication, the Harts are Pittsburgh's Ambassador Family for 2014.

Legacy Leads to Hope

"Leading up to the Walk, which is on June 8 at 9 a.m. near Heinz Field, we will share our sons' story with local sponsors, corporate teams and others," says Erin. "We're educating and motivating. This isn't about us. It's about Ethan and Casey, and ensuring their legacy survives by helping others."

And it's also about their full-term daughters: Kaelin, age 5, and Kelsey, age 2. Kaelin was born on March 10, 2009, exactly two years to the day after the Harts shared their final goodbyes with their sons.

Erin, a Point Park journalism graduate assistant from 1997-99, is a marketing coordinator for Syndicus, Inc., and a

freelance writer. Her involvement with the March of Dimes also includes serving on committees such as Family Teams and the Signature Chefs Auction. Dan, who was Point Park's sports information director from 1994-99, says his alma mater is his "go to" University for interns. He also helps with Signature Chefs by soliciting auction items.

Dan and Erin agree that although their sons' passing changed their approach to life, the experience opened many doors. "It has brought a very strong support system via the March of Dimes, new friendships and personal growth.

"Would we trade it all? Absolutely," says Erin. "But we know our sons are right behind us every step of the way."

To support Ethan & Casey's Team, visit www.marchforbabies.org/Erin_Hart. ❖

From left: Erin, Kaelin, Kelsey and Dan Hart at PNC Park, where Dan serves as director of media relations for the Pittsburgh Pirates.



ALUMNI CONNECTION ▶

Greetings fellow alumni!

I said the following in my first letter as Alumni Association board president, and I'm going to repeat it here in my final letter: I'm a big believer in giving back to your community, giving back to those who gave to you, and getting involved in causes that are meaningful to you. I'm also a big believer in mentoring, whether it is as a mentor or mentee. I am extremely fortunate to have had strong mentors throughout my career and my life.

As fate would have it, two such people are the reasons I ultimately had the opportunity to serve as Alumni Association board president. One is my former boss and fellow board member Mary Josefowski (COM 1971, 1991), who offered tremendously valuable advice when she suggested that I consider attending Point Park to earn my master's degree, "back in the day," in 1990. The other is Janet Gray (COM 1993), my former co-worker and a Point Park development staff member, who generously recommended me to serve on the Alumni Association board in 2008. I'm forever grateful to both of these "wonder women" for their ongoing guidance, support and friendship.

I've been asking alumni to submit photos wearing Point Park gear. I would never have had the opportunity to write this letter without the support of Mary and Jan (standing at right and left, respectively) and that's why I wanted them to join me for this photo. Our snapshot may not have been taken in a distant locale such as Oregon (where alumna Kelly Coccia (COM '01) can be seen on page 29), but it was taken at a place with much meaning for all three of us: Point Park University.

Please remember to share a photo of yourself wearing Point Park gear, and email it to thepoint@pointpark.edu. And as always, consider supporting the University as a volunteer, mentor, donor or participant in an upcoming event, such as Point Park Night at PNC Park on July 19, when the Pirates take on the Colorado Rockies.

As I step down as Alumni Association board president, allow me to extend a final thank you for your support of Point Park University.

All the best,



Susan Orr
President, Point Park University Alumni Association

P.S. By the time this is published, Jan Gray will have retired from her position as director of corporate and foundation relations at Point Park. One of her favorite accomplishments while working for the University was helping to raise money to construct the Village Park (where we took this photo in front of the park fountain). Many thanks for all you have done for Point Park and enjoy a well-deserved retirement, Jan!



CLASS NOTES ▶

1960s

Joseph R. Kasprzyk (COM 1968) has retired from full-time employment after 45 years in newspaper work. Between September 1996 and May 2013, he worked as editorial writer for the Butler Eagle. Prior to moving to the Eagle, he worked for 27 years at the Johnstown Tribune-Democrat. He currently is doing freelance editorial writing for the Altoona Mirror.

1970s

Sharon Anne Klingler (A&S 1974) is the author of *Power Words*, released by Hay House. She previously authored the bestseller *Secrets of Success* (with her sister Sandra Taylor) and *Intuition & Beyond* (Random House, London). Known as a leading intuitive, Klingler has appeared on the Oprah Winfrey Network; Discovery; NBC, ABC, and CBS affiliates; ITV London; BBC London; BBC Scotland; Vision TV Canada; and on major outlets in Sydney, New York, Los Angeles, England, and throughout the United States. She has also been featured in *The London Daily Express* and in publications throughout Australia, Europe and the United States. In her private practice in metaphysical disciplines, she serves many high-profile clients and has presented workshops in Washington D.C., Baltimore, Philadelphia, Cincinnati, Los Angeles, Virginia, Maryland, Florida, New York, London, Australia and New Zealand. Klingler lectures annually at the Lily Dale Assembly, a spiritualist center and community in New York. She earned her bachelor's degree in psychology at Point Park.

Walt Smith (A&S 1974) was recently honored as Teacher of the Year by Twin Towers Consulting firm. Smith was the first Ohio teacher to receive this award from the company. A resident of Cleveland, Smith earned his bachelor's degree in elementary education at Point Park.

1980s

Rob Ashford (COPA 1983, HON '10) made his debut with the Lyric Opera of Chicago, directing Rossini's *Barber of Seville*. According to the Chicago Tribune, "Ashford brings to his Lyric debut a packed resume as both a dancer and choreographer with eight Tony Award and five Olivier Award nominations to his credit, along with Emmy, Drama Desk and Outer Critics Circle awards on his shelf. He's presently collaborating as co-director with Kenneth

Branagh on a highly anticipated production of Shakespeare's *Macbeth*, starring the British actor-director, that's scheduled to move from Manchester, England (where it had an acclaimed opening last summer), to New York's Park Avenue Armory in June. And Lyric announced ...that Ashford will direct a new production of the classic Rodgers and Hammerstein musical *Carousel* to conclude the company's diamond anniversary season in April 2015. With Broadway



Pacific Northwest Pioneer

Kelly Coccia (COM '01) realized a lifelong dream when she travelled to the scenic Pacific Northwest last year. She writes, "When I was diagnosed with and beat cancer, I decided nothing is going to hold me back. I went to Oregon in October to celebrate three years of my breast cancer remission. I visited Portland, Astoria, Cannon Beach, Mt. Hood and the Colombia Gorge. It was also my first time touching the Pacific Ocean! I had sunshine every day and saw amazing views of mountain ranges and waterfalls. Even our tour guide said that I got a 12 on the weather and told me that someone must have sent this sunshine! It is my goal to visit all 50 states." Where have you been in your Point Park gear? Send us a photo at thepoint@pointpark.edu.

CLASS NOTES

and the Bard securely under his belt, not to mention NBC's recent *The Sound of Music Live!*, which Ashford directed, *Barber of Seville* should be a cakewalk, right? Yes and no. It seems that Rossini's greatest hit will be the first opera [Ashford] has ever directed..." Read the whole article: <http://bit.ly/1jM3X1S>

Robert Needham (A&S 1981) is the author of *Mystery Mountain: A Walk With God*, published by Christian publisher Xulon Press. The book traces the story of a ninth grade science class that receives an anonymous invitation to take a field trip to Mt. Ararat in Turkey. On their hike to and from the summit, the teacher and students encounter some of the world's greatest scientific minds. What they discover is that these same scientists lead them in a direct pathway to God's Kingdom. "This book unravels the mysteries of God for the

adventure-seeker in search of answers to man's most confounding questions about the world we live in," according to Needham. "It will help the reader to unleash the hidden ties that keep us from being all we can be, and 'enter in' to God's world, as seen through the eyes of some of the greatest minds." Needham, who earned his degree in mechanical and civil engineering technology degree at Point Park, has more than 40 years of experience in product design. An avid backpacker and hiker, he says, "I owe the inspiration and storyline of this book to the Lord's leadership in my life, every day of the three and a half years that I sat down to write it. ...A testament to what one can do if they are willing to walk out of their 'comfort zone.'" The book is available online through xulonpress.com/bookstore, amazon.com and barnesandnoble.com. See a video trailer at: <http://youtu.be/UZX3TMMLECY>.

Sherri (Scarvace) Hertzog (COPA 1987), who earned her degree in dance at Point Park, has made a career change and is now a licensed massage therapist (and has appointments available). A resident of West Mifflin, Pa., she can be contacted through Facebook. (Editor's note: Sherri's graduation year and hometown were incorrectly reported in the winter 2014 issue. The Point regrets the error.)

1990s

Adam Bernstein (COPA 1998) has been named executive director of The New Group. According to *Broadway World*, Bernstein joined The New Group last February "after eleven years with New York City's Signature Theatre, where he was promoted twice before becoming its general manager in 2006. He played an integral role in Signature's transition to The Pershing Square

Signature Center, its Frank Gehry-designed home on 42nd Street, and its growth from a \$3 million producing theater to a \$12 million institution. Leading up to the opening of the Center in 2012, he helped to lead Signature's efforts to plan and manage its \$70 million capital budget including securing over \$10 million in project financing." According to Bernstein, "I am honored and thrilled to have been selected as executive director of The New Group, which is such a vital force in contemporary American theater." Read the whole article at: <http://bit.ly/QLLpm>.

Dave Pinchot (COM 1997) is now a photo manager at Lifetouch photography.

Mary Ann Bradley (COPA 1997) was named one of *Dance Magazine's* "25 to Watch" for 2014. Currently in her ninth season with Zenon Dance Company of Minneapolis, she is a two-time recipient of the McKnight Fellowship for Dancers. The magazine notes: "Bradley gives Zenon Dance Company's eclectic repertory both elegance and pizzazz: Her innate musicality can transform ballroom dance moves into kinetic storytelling, while her goofy, off-kilter glamour inspires choreographers like Andrea Miller and Danny Buraczeski. In a recent solo created for her by Jennifer Arave for Walker Art Center's Momentum series, Bradley ricocheted around a small raised platform, sawing an electric guitar in two like a woman possessed. A native of Dayton, Ohio, Bradley began her training at the Dayton Ballet School, and performed with local pre-professional companies Dance Theatre Dayton and Dayton Contemporary Dance II. Since moving to Minnesota she has danced with numerous Twin Cities-based companies and choreographers and is currently in her ninth season with Zenon." Read more: www.dancemagazine.com/issues/January-2014/25-to-watch.

2000s

Jeffrey Jones (COM '00) spoke to Point Park students on campus last February about his work with Havas Public Relations and the firm's leadership of the global campaign for One Young World, an event that brings together young people from countries throughout the world to debate and expand involvement in critical social issues. Jones earned his bachelor's degree in journalism and communications at Point Park.

Sukarta Fuadin AS (BUS '07) has moved from Jakarta, Indonesia to accept a position as an operations manager and pilot with a corporate jet company based in Singapore. Sukarta, who earned an M.B.A. at Point Park in 2007, writes to express appreciation for the education and guidance provided by Dimitris Kraniou, Ph.D., chair of the Department of Global Management and Organization at Point Park.

Kelly Beth Clawson (COM '07), is the owner/operator of Magni CrossFit in Fairfax, Va. Opened in December 2013, the studio offers a full range of functional fitness and yoga classes. Clawson earned her bachelor's degree in journalism and communications at Point Park in 2007, and she is a former member of the University's Alumni Relations office team.

Shanna VanDerwerker (COPA '00) is the dance captain for the First National Tour of *Wicked*, a position she has held since 2009. In an article in the *Sacramento Press*, she talked about her work with the blockbuster musical *Wicked*: "VanDerwerker, who married fellow cast member Justin Brill (Boq) in October 2010, joined the show's first national tour ... following a long run in the Broadway cast. A graduate of Pittsburgh's Point Park University, where she earned a bachelor's degree in dance,



Caroline Shannon-Karasik (COM '05)

is the author of *The Gluten-Free Revolution: A Balanced Guide to a Gluten-Free Lifestyle Through Healthy Recipes, Green Smoothies, Yoga, Pilates, and Easy Desserts!* She is a writer, certified health coach, and author of the popular gluten-free blog Sincerely Caroline. Her writing and recipe development have been featured in several publications, including Redbook, Kiwi and VegNews. She has been a long-distance runner for more than 15 years and certified Pilates instructor for more than a decade. She and her husband Dan live in Pittsburgh. For more information, visit: www.carolineshannon.com.

VanDerwerker's credits include stints with: Theater Under the Stars in Houston, Texas; The Walden Company in New York; the Fire-side Dinner Theatre in Fort Atkinson, Wis.; and the New York-based dre.dance company. Stressing that roles aren't necessarily assigned to the best technical dancers, but to those who interpret their role's choreography through nuanced gestures and facial expressions, VanDerwerker said, 'storytelling is the most important thing a dancer should keep in mind.' Read the whole article: <http://sacramento.press.com/2012/06/03/theater-tours-dance-captain-teaches-local-students-some-wicked-moves/>.

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CLASS NOTES

Shane Portman (COPA '02) writes to say, "I just finished writing for the first season of *Tumbleaf*, a stop motion animated series for preschoolers, created by Kelli Bixler and the Emmy Award-winning Drew Hodges at Bix Pix Studios. It was one of the first five original series to be greenlit for production through Amazon.com and will debut later this year. Learn more: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pRo5gYKYLQk>. Portman lives in Los Angeles.

Margie (Trax) Netzel (COM '02) is now the copywriter and social media manager for the national retailer Things Remem-

bered in Cleveland. She previously spent 10 years as reporter/photographer for the Ashtabula Star Beacon. Netzel earned her undergraduate degree in journalism at Point Park and now lives in the heart of Ohio's wine country with her husband Andrew and their two children.

Daina Michelle Griffith (COPA '03) was named the 2013 Post-Gazette Performer of the Year. According to the Post-Gazette, the award "...goes to a Norwegian seductress, a vengeful Irish wife, a butch lesbian, a youthful musical protester, an Ohioan whose fiance died in World War II, several

hallucinated Nazis, and a couple of fictional writers, each creating the play she is in. And thanks to the wonder of theater, all these were played with invention and skill during 2013 by one person, Daina Michelle Griffith....Several roles had the heft and distinction worthy of the award on their own, but above all we honor her combination of excellence with versatility — not to mention energy. Griffith's 2013 roles were for Quantum Theatre, Playhouse Rep, No Name Players, barebones productions and, in three plays, Off the Wall Productions in Carnegie, perhaps our region's least-known professional company but a

comer. In Griffith's 10 years on Pittsburgh professional stages (2002-13, minus two years she spent in New York), she has also acted for Pittsburgh Public Theater, City Theatre, Pittsburgh Irish & Classical Theatre, Pittsburgh CLO, Pittsburgh Musical Theater, Prime Stage, Jewish Theater, you name it." Read the whole article: <http://www.post-gazette.com/ae/theater-dance/2014/01/05/Daina-Michelle-Griffith-2013-Performer-of-the-Year/stories/2014010500053>.

Heather Morici Shepler (A&S '02) writes, "I was married in Las Vegas on Feb. 9, 2014 to Bryan Shepler. We are the proud parents of Riley and Eva.

Philip Spicuzza (A&S '09), was promoted to sergeant at the Allegheny County Jail in December 2013. He earned his degree in criminal justice in 2009.

2010s

Gabriella Sorrentino (COPA '12) was a contestant on the television quiz show *Wheel of Fortune*, in an episode that appeared on March 3.

Kevin Drobish (A&S '10) is a licensed embalmer, funeral director and forensic autopsy specialist at Cyril H. Wecht Pathology and Associates. Drobish is also a restorative art instructor at the Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science and has been appointed a member of the Funeral Director/Coroner Task Force with the Center for Organ Recovery and Education (CORE).

Connor Russell (COPA '12) was nominated for an International Academy of Web Television Award (IAWTA) in the category of best male performance in a drama for the web series *The Hinterlands*. Other actors nominated in the same category included David Arquette and Milo Ventimiglia. According to Sheila McKenna, professor of theatre at Point Park, "if you have not yet seen it, I recommend *The Hinterlands* — [Connor] is truly wonderful in his role and the series is so well made." Learn more at: www.hinterlandsthemusical.com ❖



Jonathan Freeland (COPA '13) is playing the role of male jet/shark swing in the North American tour of *West Side Story*. He returned to campus in March 2014 to teach a master class to Point Park students. According to Freeland, "I approached teaching the song ("Cool" from *West Side Story*) in nearly the same way I learned it during the audition process. Because the piece I taught is just as driven by the acting as it is by the movement, I wanted to make sure that the students understood the meaning behind each piece of choreography. The class wasn't just about learning steps, but really about being able to apply the training the students receive in their acting classes, just as much as the technical training they receive in their dance classes. The class was great!"



Justin Wojtkowski (BUS '12) and **Ryan Strength** (COM '12) were married on Feb. 28, 2014 in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic. Ryan works as a home loan closer for Ryland Homes, and Justin is a student support specialist with Arizona State University. The couple lives in Phoenix but is planning a move back to Pittsburgh in 2014.

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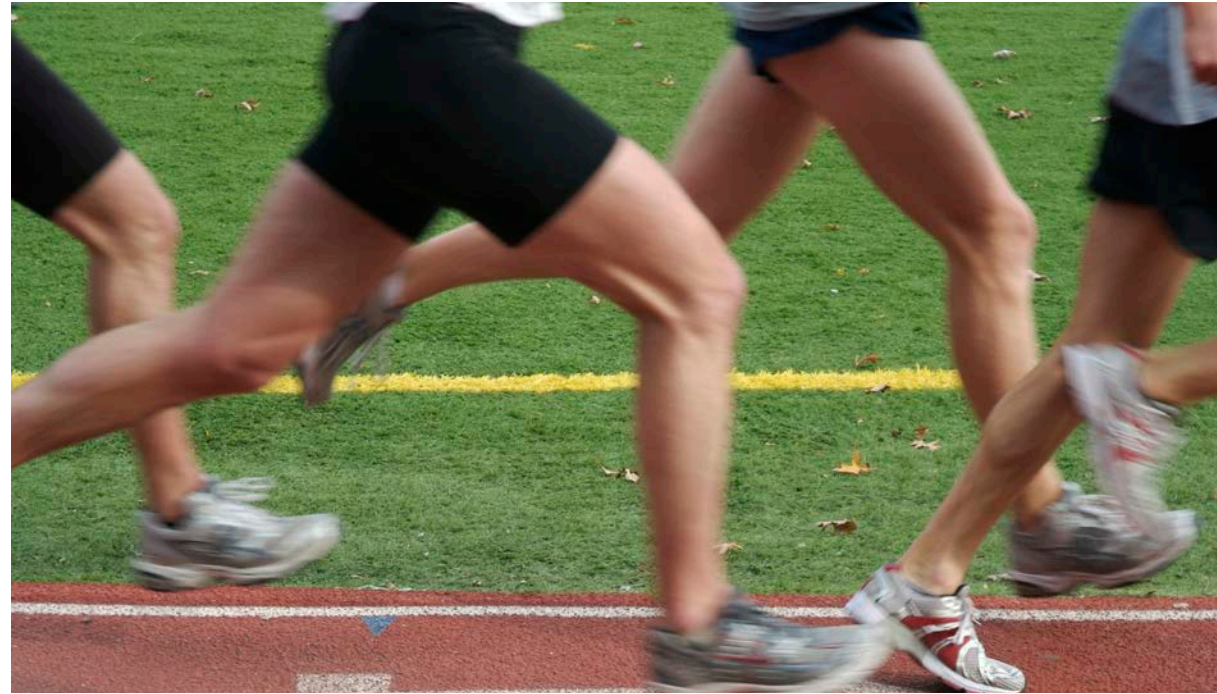


Alyssa Zagorac and Kyle Southerlin (both COPA '11) were married in Pittsburgh on October 26, 2013. Fellow alums **Justin Fortunato** (COPA '11) and **Meghan Ginley** (COPA '12) served as best man and bridesmaid, respectively. Alyssa earned her bachelor's degree in theatre and currently runs the Creative Arts program at Propel EAST Charter School in the Pittsburgh suburb of Turtle Creek. Kyle also earned his bachelor's degree in theatre and serves as the assistant general manager of the Home2 Suites by Hilton in McCandless, Pa. The couple honeymooned in Cancun, Mexico before returning home to Robinson, where they currently reside with their pitbull mix, Bruiser. (Photo by Michaelwill Photography).

ON TRACK

Track and Field athletes poised to compete as latest Pioneers

by Kevin Taylor



New Track and Field Head Coach Kelly Parsley at the Village Park.

New varsity teams boost roster of campus sports in 2014-15



Cross Country Athletes on the Move

Above: Point Park women's cross country athletes get out of the starting gate at the Pitt-Greensburg meet on Oct. 5, 2013, where the team (below) celebrated a first place victory. Below left: Men's cross country runner and NAIA Scholar-Athlete Connor Mulvaney qualified for the NAIA national meet last fall.

The list of new and exciting things happening at Point Park has grown once again with the Pioneers' athletic department fielding men's and women's track and field teams for the first time in 2014-15.

The track and field teams were officially adopted at the University in November 2013, and after hiring head coach Kelly Parsley in January 2014, the teams will compete for the first time in school history starting this coming academic year.

Thirteen Varsity Sports

The two additional teams give the athletic department 13 varsity sports that compete in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) and the Kentucky Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (KIAC).

"The addition of men's and women's track and field teams at Point Park will add more opportunities for student-athletes to enjoy everything that intercollegiate athletics has to offer," Director of Athletics Dan Swalga said. "The KIAC offers a track and field championship meet, so our student-athletes have a goal to win their event at the conference meet and compete nationally at the NAIA meet. We very are excited about continuing the growth of athletics at Point Park."

Coach Parsley, who will be the head coach of both teams, has 12 years of collegiate head-coaching experience. He's no stranger to starting a brand-new track and field program as he experienced that in previous coaching stops at Lindenwood University-Belleville (Mo.) and Goldey-Beacom (N.J.) College.

New Coach Applauds Academics, Location

Parsley, a native of Greensburg, Pa., feels the University has plenty to offer the potential track and field student-athlete.

"I think that Point Park can give recruits the best of everything, be it academics, location and athletics," said Parsley. "I feel Point Park is one of the better schools academically in the NAIA. Combined with our great location in the City of Pittsburgh and the chance to compete for the NAIA national meet, we have a lot to offer."

Point Park track and field will not be limited by any events, as the goal is to field as many participants in as many events as possible. In terms of competing on the conference and national level, Parsley feels the Pioneers can be competitive right away, in the first year.





Clockwise from top left: Point Park Men's soccer celebrates its KIAC Tournament victory at Highmark Stadium on Nov. 9, 2013. Point Park's Ousman Jaiteh scores a goal versus Asbury (Ky.) in the tournament finals, a 2-1 win for the Pioneers. Point Park's women's basketball team celebrates after qualifying for the NAIA Division II national tourney for the third consecutive season. Junior Kari Kowalski of Pioneer women's soccer in a game at Highmark Stadium in 2013.



SPORTS ROUNDUP

► MEN'S SOCCER

Point Park won its second straight KIAC tournament championship in the fall 2013 season to qualify for the NAIA national tournament for the second year in a row. The Pioneers tied a team record for wins in a season with a 12-7-1 overall record, and they beat Asbury (Ky.) in the KIAC finals at Highmark Stadium, 2-1. Point Park nearly upset No. 2-ranked Rio Grande (Ohio) in the national tournament but lost, 2-1.

► WOMEN'S SOCCER

The Pioneers reached the finals of the KIAC tournament for the second-consecutive year but once again came up short and missed the NAIA national tournament by one game. Point Park lost at Asbury (Ky.), 2-1, to end the 2013 season with a record of 7-12-2 overall. It was the first year for the Pioneers playing home games at Highmark Stadium, where they were 6-4-1.

► VOLLEYBALL

The Pioneers had a re-building year having lost 10 seniors from the season before but still reached the semifinals of the KIAC tournament in the fall of 2013. Point Park ended the year with a record of 21-19 overall to post its fifth-straight 20-win season. The Pioneers, who are 148-53 the last five years, return all but two players for next season.

► WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

The Pioneers placed third of 10 teams in the KIAC meet and had three runners earn all-conference honors in the fall 2013. Junior Hana Jiraskova placed fifth at the KIAC meet to qualify for the NAIA national meet for the second year in a row. She was joined on the All-KIAC team by teammates Ashley Czerniewski-Hagan and Marissa Buchheit.

► MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

Point Park placed eighth of 10 teams in the KIAC meet after battling injuries during the 2013 season. Junior Connor Mulvaney qualified for the NAIA national meet by finishing in eighth place

individually at the KIAC meet. Mulvaney and teammate Zane Kravec were NAIA Scholar-Athletes.

► WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

The Pioneers won a conference tournament title for the third year in a row with their repeat as KIAC Tournament champions in the 2013-14 season. Point Park qualified for the NAIA Division II national tourney for the third consecutive season and took a team record 29 wins into the national championship.

► MEN'S BASKETBALL

Point Park made the conference playoffs for the fourth year in a row but had its upset bid of No. 2-nationally ranked Indiana Southeast end with a close loss in the first round of the 2013-14 KIAC Tournament. The Pioneers ended the year at 11-17 overall and eighth place in the KIAC standings.

"I believe that we can be one of the most-competitive teams in the KIAC our first year," said Parsley. "That will give the team a chance to compete nationally at the NAIA meet. And the NAIA is different than the NCAA because every individual who reaches the NAIA-qualifying standard during the season qualifies individually for the national meet. That gives more opportunity to compete for nationals."

Parsley sees the importance of getting recruits from high schools surrounding the Pittsburgh area but sees no reason why the recruiting boundaries would end there.

"I think that the WPIAL is one of the better high school districts in the state of Pennsylvania," said Parsley. "There's a lot of talent here locally, and a lot of times keeping kids here comes down to athletic

scholarship. With the NAIA, you can give a good amount of athletic scholarship that's a lot of times better than most of the area colleges for track and field. And Point Park also has a good list of academic majors to satisfy a wide-range of student-athletes."

Attracting New Recruits

"I feel that we can attract recruits from anywhere. The city environment is very appealing, and any time that you are adding sports teams, that is a good sign for a University."

Parsley's vision of Point Park track and field is a team in which individual student-athletes not only maximize their athletic ability to the fullest, but also compete as a team and form bonds and experiences that will be long-lasting.

"Athletically, I want to give my student-athletes the best chance to compete," said Parsley. "I want them to run faster for me than they ever have and to get in the best shape of their lives. I'm tough but fair, and I am not a yeller who gets in your face but rather someone who has high expectations for you to work hard in practice every day and be the best you can be."

"I want them to be a team, and I want them to compete for each other. I want student-athletes to have friendships and experiences to last them the rest of their lives and come back as active alumni," added Parsley. "Our sport is a lifestyle. You take it with you after you leave. And for us as a new program, there's a chance to be a part of something new and to be the first to build our history and tradition." ❖



Point Extra

For more news about Pioneer athletics news, visit www.pointpark.edu/athletics.

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