

THE POINT

ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENTS

Blending History with
Sustainability in the
Academic Village

Pure Water Vision

Documenting the Fight to
Prevent Waterborne Diseases
in Africa

On the Move

Alumnus Michael Wagner
Leads Fast-Growing Target
Freight Management

Home Field Advantage

Highmark Stadium is New
Home for Pioneer Soccer

POINT
PARK
UNIVERSITY

LAWRENCE
HALL





Dear alumni and friends,

It's the middle of winter in Downtown Pittsburgh, and we won't see signs of spring in the Village Park for a few more weeks, yet it feels like a season of renewal here at Point Park University.

I look forward to the start of each new semester. Our students, faculty and staff have already embarked on the spring semester of the academic year with optimism, creativity and enthusiasm.

In fact, creativity, reinvention and renewal are among the hallmarks of this University. It's a theme that has carried us throughout our history, and I can't think of a better way to describe the efforts of our entire University community as we continue to collaborate to build for the future.

One of the most significant examples of this creative collaboration is the Point Park 2020 initiative, a comprehensive effort to examine and enhance key pillars of the student learning experience. Point Park 2020 encompasses everything from the core curriculum and academic structure to co-curricular experiences and city University life.

Rooted in Point Park Excellence, the continuous improvement program that evolved from the recent Middle States reaccreditation process, Point Park 2020 has involved the creative contributions of everyone from faculty and students to alumni, staff and trustees. It promises to yield great dividends for University students and graduates in the years to come. You can learn more about Point Park 2020 on page 14, and we will continue to share news about this initiative in future issues of *The Point*.

Renewal and reinvention also characterize our campus and Downtown neighborhood. For the past five decades, Point Park has been an integral part of Downtown Pittsburgh. We're proud to say that the University takes its role as a partner in preserving the past, while building for a vibrant future, very seriously.

The Academic Village Initiative, unveiled in 2008, laid out a vision developed by the community, regional stakeholders and the University for positive growth. Over the last five years, the University has worked to reinvigorate Wood Street, the Boulevard of the Allies and the Forbes Avenue corridors with projects that support the academics of the University while also complementing

the history, honoring the architecture and developing a strong economic future for the neighborhood.

Point Park is honored to be the steward of an extraordinary collection of turn-of-the-century properties. These buildings have been lovingly restored over the years, giving each a new place in the vibrancy of Downtown. A campus stroll down Wood Street is also a tour of urban architecture, stretching from the classic terra cotta details of century-old West Penn Hall at First Avenue to the historic bank building that houses the University Center between Fourth and Forbes Avenues. The new Pittsburgh Playhouse, which will be relocated from Oakland to Downtown property adjacent to the University Center, will continue in the same tradition of historic preservation and creative reuse. Learn more about our efforts on page 16.

On your next visit to Downtown Pittsburgh, we hope you'll stop by and spend some time connecting, or re-connecting, with the University's energetic and creative community. Renewal and reinvention are always in season at Point Park.

Warm regards,

Dr. Paul Hennigan
President



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ON THE COVER: Students enjoy a Wood Street stroll past the restored street level façade of Lawrence Hall, built near the turn of the century as the Keystone Athletic Club. The second floor will soon be restored as a grand lobby-style lounge for students. Photo by John McKeith.

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TALK TO US!

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

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The Point is published by the Department of Marketing and Communications, Point Park University, 201 Wood Street Pittsburgh, PA 15222. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of published information. Please visit our web site at www.pointpark.edu for current information regarding University programs, departments, alumni activities and events.

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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.

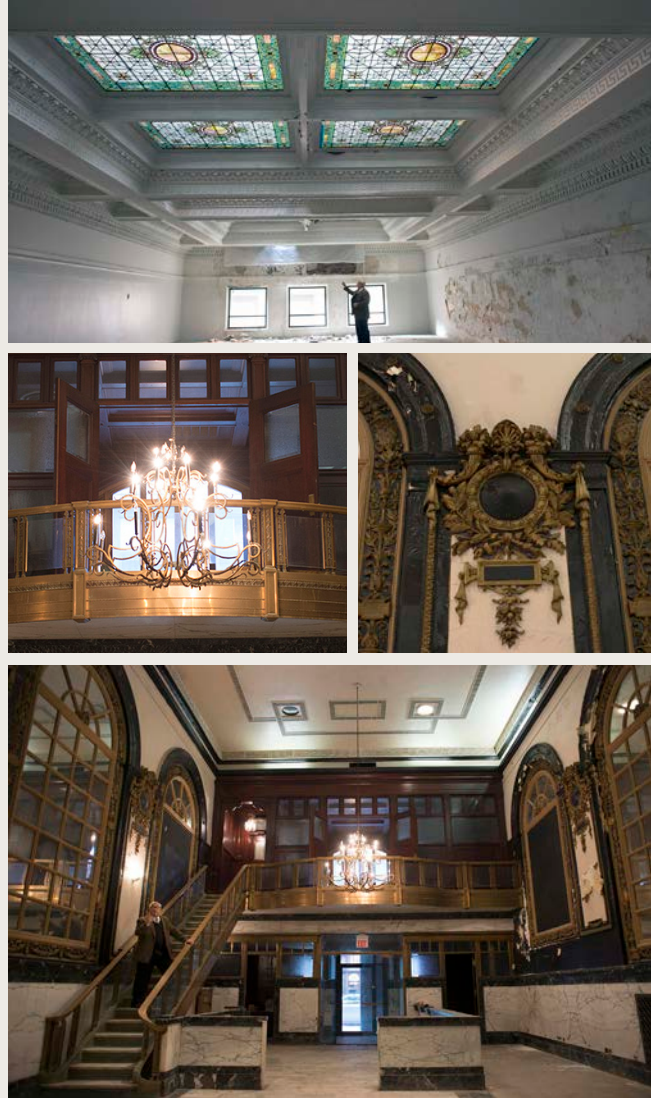
FEEDBACK ▶

Dear Editor,

I read the article in the Spring 2013 issue of The Point magazine, as well as articles in the Pittsburgh newspapers, about plans to relocate the Pittsburgh Playhouse to the 300 block of Forbes Avenue now owned by the University. I am concerned about what will be the use of the former Industrial Bank Building at 333 Fourth Avenue as part of this project. I feel that the interior should also be preserved as well as its impressive exterior on Fourth Avenue.

The building was built between 1903-1904 and was designed by the prominent Pittsburgh architect, Charles M. Bartberger (1850-1939). It is one of two remaining buildings that Mr. Bartberger designed in Downtown Pittsburgh (the other is the 100 Ross Building facing First Avenue.) It was used as a bank up to 1959, then as the Pittsburgh Stock Exchange from 1962 to 1974. Then it had various uses, including a jazz club, a disco and a dance club. It has been vacant since 2006. I have done extensive research on the building, including photographs of the original interior when it was a bank and [later] the Stock Exchange.

Except for the addition of a stairway and boardroom in 1911 (designed by architect Charles Bickel), the extension of the third floor, and the removal of some mural paintings in approximately 1940, the interior is largely intact. It is one of the few classical-Beaux Arts buildings left downtown and should be preserved. It was lit with stained glass skylights, now covered by a third floor extension, designed by famed stained glass artists, the Rudy Brothers. These originally lit the interior and were visible from the main floor. The third floor could be removed and the skylights returned to their original purpose.



The basement safe deposit vault was converted into a dining room and the nearby counter was used as a bar. There is a kitchen in the building as well as an elevator that runs from the basement to the third floor...[which] could be modernized, as well as [other accommodations made] to increase accessibility to persons with disabilities...the building could be connected to the theater and used the same way that the Lillian Russell Room was used in the present Playhouse. It also has the advantage of having an entrance on Fourth Avenue.

In the past, the University has shown its concern towards historic preservation in its restorations of Lawrence Hall and the University Center. I [hope] that the University and its architects include not just preservation of the exterior of the Industrial Bank Building but a restoration of its interior to a sensitive adaptable use. It is part of the Fourth Avenue Historic District and is worthy of preservation inside as well as outside.

Let us hope it will be done.

Sincerely,

Thomas A. Josephi (A&S 1973, 1981) Pittsburgh, Pa.

(Editor's note: please see page 16 for photos and more information about Point Park's plans to preserve and reuse the Stock Exchange building in the development of the new Pittsburgh Playhouse complex in Downtown Pittsburgh).

NEWS AND VIEWS ▶

Professional Advancement



Gary Bracken is the new vice president for enrollment management at Point Park. He has served in admission and enrollment management roles since 1988. Bracken began his career in higher education as the director of music admission at Ithaca College. He went on to become senior associate director of admission, and later interim director of admission, at Northeastern University in Boston. Following his tenure at Northeastern, Bracken accepted the position of vice president for enrollment at Saint Leo University, a position he held for more than 13 years. He managed marketing, financial aid and enrollment services for Saint Leo's traditional and non-traditional on-campus and online programs, doubling campus enrollments and helping to transform Saint Leo into one of the largest not-for-profit online education programs and providers of military education in the United States. Bracken has served as a consultant for several colleges for financial aid and scholarship processes and the employment of enrollment management concepts for recruitment and retention. An active presenter at conferences across the country, he has been a faculty member at the College Board's Summer Institute, covering such topics as

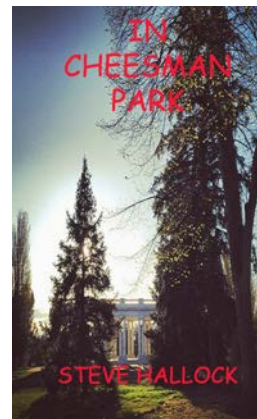
"Decisions That Make a Difference" and "What Traditional Colleges Need to Know about Their Online Competition." Bracken is also active in the community. He is a past president of the Rotary Club and he served as president of the Pasco (Fla.) Education Foundation. He received a bachelor's degree in music education from Indiana University of Pennsylvania and a master's degree in music education and performance from Columbia University.

Nicolas Petrov, professor of dance, has retired after four distinguished decades at Point Park's Conservatory of Performing Arts. Petrov's Pittsburgh career began with his choreography of the first American production of Sergei Prokofiev's *Romeo and Juliet* for Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre in 1971. He concluded his remarkable teaching career with a performance of the same ballet by the Conservatory Dance Company, Dec. 10-15 at the Pittsburgh Playhouse. According to Pittsburgh City Paper, "when Petrov assumed the directorship of the Pittsburgh Playhouse's ballet school, in 1967, no one could have foreseen that within a few years, the Yugoslavian-born dancer and choreog-



rapher would forever alter the Pittsburgh dance landscape by founding two of its major institutions: Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre and Point Park University's renowned dance department. Born in 1933, in Novi Sad, Yugoslavia – now Serbia, then a Soviet-bloc country – Petrov studied dance at the Novi Sad Theatre Academy and Belgrade State Ballet Academy. His performance career included stints with Opera Ballet of Belgrade, Janine Charrat's Ballets de France, Theatre D'Art du Ballet and former Ballets Russes star Léonide Massine's Ballet Europeo di Nervi. In 1968, the formerly independent Pittsburgh Playhouse became part of Point Park College, and the ballet school Petrov had so briefly headed went dark. At the behest of college president Arthur Blum, Petrov took a job as associate professor and set about creating the college's dance program. Modeled after ballet schools in Europe, the program was designed to train students to become professional dancers." Read the whole article: <http://tinyurl.com/nicolaspetrov>

Steve Hallock, director of the School of Communication and associate professor of journalism, is the author of *In Cheesman Park*, a new book published by Codefore Publishing, which specializes in true crime and donates some of its proceeds to efforts to protect abused children. According to Hallock, the book is not an academic work but rather, "it is a memoir, a true story of my college days in Denver and Boulder, Colo., in the late 1960s and early 1970s. It explores the youth culture of that era:



the music, the anti-war movement, the drugs and free love," he explains. "But more than that, it is a revealing, and troubling, look at the attitudes toward women in those days – attitudes that persist today. And it is a tale of the downside of what many remember as the peace and love generation." The book is available on Amazon.

James Haley, Ph.D., **Michele Langbein**, Ph.D., **Archish Maharaja**, Ed.D., **Gita Maharaja**, Ed.D., and **M.H. Sidky**, Ph.D., all members of the faculty in the School of Business, joined M.B.A. alumna **Dawn Parasolick** in presenting their research at the 36th Annual Meeting of the Northeastern Association of Business, Economics and Technology held Oct. 17-18 in State College, Pa. Research presentations included: "A Multi-level

Socratic Approach to Teaching M.B.A. Course Ethical Leadership and Sustainable Organizations Utilizing Instructional Activities Inside and Outside of the Classroom and Student Assessment to Improve the Course," by Haley and Parasolick; "Can You Really Do Marketing in the Health Care Sector?" by G. Maharaja and A. Maharaja; "Ethics Education and Accreditation," by Langbein; "Global Water Crisis: Dying of Thirst on a Water Planet," by Sidky; "Occupational Fraud and Motivations for Fraud in Today's Corporate World: Who is to Blame?" by Parasolick, A. Maharaja and G. Maharaja. In addition, A. Maharaja and Langbein served as chairs for two of the conference sessions.

Matthew Opdyke, Ph.D., associate professor of environmental science, recently gave a research presentation

on the "Conservation Assessment on Fishing Creek in Columbia and Sullivan Counties," at the 2013 Susquehanna River Basin Commission Water Science Forum. Government, university and private business water quality scientists attended the forum to discuss the health of the Susquehanna River Basin and the future management of its streams. "My presentation was on the research I've done on the Fishing Creek Watershed and how I've been working with the community to assess water quality and the biological status of trout and aquatic insects," explained Opdyke. "The project is in its third year of assessment and has been an important component for managing that region of the Susquehanna River Basin."

Edward C. Wachter, Jr., J.D., professor of business management, presented a semi-

nar on effective business writing as part of an ongoing lecture series for graduate students organized by the Office of Academic and Student Affairs. Geared for both professionals and full-time graduate students, the seminar provided 25 practical pointers on how they can get the best results from their written communications. Wachter encouraged students to execute one new step a day for 25 business days. **Jennifer Makowski**, a graduate student in the M.A./M.B.A. dual degree program at Point Park and a guest services administrator for PNC Financial Services Group, said she found the entire presentation beneficial. "It was truly about getting straight to the point."

Helena Knörr, Ph.D., associate professor of organizational leadership, recently spoke about "Developing Women Leaders and Entrepreneurs" at an international conference in Medellín, Colombia. Red EmprendeSur, an international academic organization that promotes the development of entrepreneurship in Latin America, hosted the conference. "I was very excited and humbled to be part of a wonderful panel of experts at the conference. It was an honor," remarked Knörr. While in Colombia, Knörr was interviewed on national television and featured in several newspapers, including two of the country's leading national newspapers.

Robert J. Fowler, Ph.D., adjunct faculty in the departments of Criminal Justice and Intelligence Studies and the Humanities and Social Sciences, presented at the "2013 Symposium on Writing" in Chicago last spring. Titled "From Essay to Academic Writing: Bridging the Gap," his presentation was designed to assist students in making the transition from undergraduate to graduate studies and explored the challenges they face in making choices about diction, levels of proof, credibility, style, and tone in their writing.

From Prague to Point Park

The Prague Writers' Festival, an international gathering of writers, poets, historians and journalists, took place in the United States for the first time ever — and it was hosted by Point Park University. Drawing more than 200 people, the festival's Friday evening event on Oct. 18 featured internationally renowned author **E.L. Doctorow**, who gave a world premiere reading of his latest novel, *Andrew's Brain*, and participated in an on-stage interview with **Michael March**, founder and president of the Prague Writers' Festival. Titled "Birth of Nations/The Pursuit of Happiness," the Pittsburgh gathering of the festival kicked off on Oct. 17 with a reception hosted by Point Park President Paul Hennigan. The reception brought together state, city and civic leaders, festival participants, Point Park representatives and members of the Czech Senate to honor and celebrate the 95th anniversary of the Pittsburgh Agreement, which helped to establish the state of Czechoslovakia in 1918. Professor **Channa Newman**, Ph.D., director of the University's global cultural studies program, serves as director of international programs for the Prague Writers' Festival. Newman said the festival offered an incredible opportunity for students to meet writers from around the world including Egypt, India and the Czech Republic.



Dimitris Kraniou, Ph.D., professor and chair of the Department of Global Management and Organization, **Archish Maharaja**, Ed.D., assistant professor and director of the M.B.A. program and **Dawn Parasolick**, 2012 Point Park M.B.A. alumna, presented papers at the American Society for Competitiveness 24th Annual Conference held in Pittsburgh last November. Kraniou presented "Neo-Mercantilism in an Age of Austerity: Thoughts on the Global Economic Pathology" and "Special Session for Honors Program Students: Leadership for Competitive Advantage"; and Maharaja and Parasolick presented "Today's Fraud Levels, Have They Gone Wild? The Need for Forensic Accounting." In addition, Maharaja chaired a session on "Higher Education and Human Capital Formation."

Robert Skertich, Ph.D., assistant professor of public administration and director of nontraditional business programs, gave the commencement address at the Pittsburgh International Airport's Aircraft Rescue and Firefighters 2013 graduation ceremony last fall. Skertich's graduation speech was titled "Pinning on the Badge" and focused on honor and duty as well as the responsibilities a public servant must accept. Skertich became involved with the Pittsburgh International Airport's emergency planning operations while working for the Allegheny County EMS Coordinator's Office and the American Red Cross. He continues to work with airport management on disaster preparedness through their Incident Command System training programs.

POINT PARK UNIVERSITY Annual Fund

“Being a Point Park University student really has changed my life. I am learning from the best professors in downtown Pittsburgh, and transitioning into the career that will shape the rest of my life.”

Justin L. Druga
Junior, Mass Communication

You can make this life-changing experience possible for deserving students like Justin 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:
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Anthony Ricchiuto, Point Park University police officer, received the Recognition of Excellence Award from the City of Pittsburgh Bureau of Police in honor of his timely response to an armed street robbery on Smithfield Street near the University's Downtown campus on August 21, 2013. Ricchiuto, who was flagged

down by the victim, provided critical information about the suspect's description and flight direction to the three city police officers who responded to the incident. As a result they were able to apprehend the suspect, place him under arrest, and later locate the firearm believed to have been used in the robbery.



Dr. Rosemarie Cibik enjoys her birthday cake at her celebration in Lawrence Hall.

Honoring Dr. Rosemarie Cibik

Friends and family joined together with distinguished educator **Dr. Rosemarie E. Cibik** on campus Dec. 2 to celebrate her 90th birthday with the establishment of the Dr. Rosemarie E. Cibik Scholarship Fund at Point Park. The new fund will provide a deserving Point Park student, who is majoring in education and who demonstrates financial need, with an annual scholarship. Guests included her daughters **Lisa Cibik** and **Melanie Cibik** as well as extended family and many members of the University community. A pioneer in the world of educational administration, Cibik had a long, successful tenure at Point Park, including serving as a professor and chairman of the Education department. She was especially proud of the Early Childhood Education program, which she brought to fruition as Director of Educational Certification. It became the model that other colleges and universities followed in Pennsylvania. She also served on Point Park's Board of Trustees. Cibik later became the Superintendent of Schools for both Baldwin Whitehall School District and the Diocese of Pittsburgh – she was the second female ever in the state of Pennsylvania to become a superintendent. She also served as Secretary of Education for the Diocese of Pittsburgh and was honored among 100 Outstanding Educators in North America. "We celebrate the 90th Birthday of a remarkable woman and all that she's accomplished in her life," said President **Paul Hennigan**. "We honor Dr. Cibik for her many contributions to the field of education, and we appreciate the continued friendship of the Cibik family and their legacy, which continues to shape Point Park."

Welcome New Faculty

Arleen Wheat, Ed.D., is an assistant professor of special education. Prior to joining Point Park, Wheat was assistant superintendent of special education and pupil services for North Allegheny School District. Before that, she was North Allegheny's supervisor of special education. Wheat has expertise in a variety of fields including autism, special education, gifted education, health services, psychological services, student assistance programs, school counseling, social work, ESL, home-schooling and home education.

Kirstin Hanley, Ph.D., is an assistant professor of composition and rhetoric in the Department of Humanities and Human Sciences. Hanley has taught a range of courses, focusing on composition theory, professional and academic writing, women's studies, and 18th Century British Literature. Her research explores the intersections between proto-feminist literatures and composition studies. Before coming to Point Park University, she was an assistant professor at the State University of New York at Fredonia.

Mark Wintz, Ph.D., is an assistant professor of intelligence and national security. He was previously assistant professor and director of international studies at SUNY-Brockport. He was a visiting assistant professor at Westminster College and a center associate at the University of Pittsburgh's European Studies Center and European Union Center of Excellence. Wintz has served as an academic advisory board member for McGraw-Hill Publishers' Annual Editions on Violence and Terrorism, American Foreign Policy and Global Issues. His areas of teaching experience include American foreign policy, intelligence tradecraft techniques, international terrorism, Middle East politics, military history, national security, strategic intelligence and weapons of mass destruction.



Fighting Ovarian Cancer

Point Park photography students had the unique opportunity to serve as volunteer photographers at the National Ovarian Cancer Coalition's annual Run/Walk to Break the Silence on Ovarian Cancer, held last September in Allison Park, Pa. "For the past four years, Point Park has provided skilled and creative students to serve as our volunteer photographers," said Mary Urban, Pittsburgh chapter manager, NOCC. "The students have an eye for what makes our event special, which ensures that the pictures they take tell the story of our event." Student **Kiersten Mae Lewis**, who captured Point Park soccer players on the walk (pictured above), said "Photographing this walk really helped me better myself in taking photos. I even applied skills that I have learned in a broadcast writing class, and that helped me interview race participants to hear their stories while also taking photos."

Sarah L. Schulz, Ph.D., is an assistant professor of behavioral sciences. Her research focuses on mental health, medical sociology and gender studies, with an emphasis on addressing barriers to health care faced by members of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) communities. Her research is grounded in over 10 years of practice as a psychiatric social worker in a variety of practice settings. She previously worked as a high-risk care manager at UPMC's Community Care Behavioral Health, where she was responsible for managing behavioral health care benefits for

Medicaid and Medicare recipients. While pursuing her doctorate, Schulz worked as a clinical review specialist at Alta Bates Medical Center in Berkeley, Calif. Schulz's areas of teaching interest include generalist social work practice, qualitative research methods and behavioral health and social work practice with LGBT populations. She is a member of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) and a Licensed Social Worker (LSW) in the state of Pennsylvania.

April Friges is an assistant professor of photography. She teaches courses

in such areas as digital printing methodologies, experimental black and white photography and view camera techniques. Her artistic works include: "Review: Saudade," Flavorpill, Miracle Mile Art Walk: Galleries and Museums to Check Out, 2012; and "Review: The De-Socialized Landscape Curated by Grant Vetter," Farsited: Foundation of Art Resources, 2011. Among Friges' awards and honors are a residency grant at the Vermont Studio Center in 2012 and a Pedagogical Fellowship and California Fellowship for the Arts, both at the University of California, Irvine in 2010.

2013 Ethical Leadership Event

Panelists from Westinghouse Electric Company, Management Science Associates, Inc. and Point Park led the discussion at the Third Annual "Meeting the Challenges of Ethical Leadership" event held at the University this fall. Sponsored by the Department of Academic and Student Affairs and **James Haley**, Ph.D., Point Park's H.J. Heinz Endowed Chair in Management and professor in the Department of Global Management and Organization, the event garnered more than 130 students, alumni and business professionals. Panelists included James

Buddie, J.D., assistant general counsel and corporate ethics officer for Westinghouse Electric Company, **Timothy McGuire**, Ph.D., Point Park trustee and senior executive vice president, chief analytics officer and vice chairman for Management Science Associates, Inc. and **Helen Sobehart**, Ph.D., executive director of graduate education at Point Park. McGuire talked about corporate governance best practices that for-profit organizations should follow and the behaviors that contribute to sustainability in nonprofit organizations. "A motivated, engaged work force contributes to productivity and profitability in many ways.

Many companies have discovered that being good citizens of the community yields positive benefits," remarked McGuire. Sobehart encouraged women at the event to become active in leadership roles in professional, social or religious organizations important to their field or life. "This will help you establish yourself as a credible leader in these venues so that you will gain respect and attention when you lead causes that are with, for and about women," she explained. Haley said, "We want to continue to inspire America's future business leaders to understand the value and role of ethical leadership in making an organization sustainable." The Speakers' Series is based on the "Ethical Leadership and Sustainable Organizations" course offered in the M.B.A. program at Point Park.

Nike Executives Visit Campus

The Pittsburgh Center for Sports Media and Marketing also welcomed leading Nike executives **Ed Haberle**, a Point Park alumnus, and **Laura Kosmalski** to campus on Oct. 23 to talk about The Story Behind the Branding, Marketing and PR Powerhouse at Nike. "I was one of you," said Haberle, vice president of North America sporting goods to university students. "I'm very excited to be at Point Park to share the Nike story with you. I've been with Nike for 30 years — it's a great brand and a great place to work." Kosmalski, a senior director of retail brand presentation, also spoke to students and shared video clips from Nike's communication platforms as examples of how the company's retail sales and marketing areas work to target consumers. "At Nike, our mission is to bring inspiration and innovation to every athlete in the world," she said.



Kevin McClatchey on Campus

In his first appearance on a university campus, Kevin McClatchy, former owner of the Pittsburgh Pirates and board chair of The McClatchy Company, spoke to Point Park students on Nov. 6 about the business of sports and his experiences owning the Pirates and helping to establish PNC Park. McClatchy held a question and answer session with students after the talk. The event was sponsored by the Department of Sports, Arts and Entertainment Management.

To see a video of McClatchey's appearance visit <http://tinyurl.com/mclatchey>

Shirley Jones Returns to Playhouse for *Oklahoma!*

Pittsburgh Playhouse alumna and Hollywood veteran **Shirley Jones** attended the Conservatory Theatre Company's opening performance of *Oklahoma!*, directed by her son **Patrick Cassidy**, a Broadway star, on Oct. 18. "You all are just remarkable. This is the most professional production of *Oklahoma!* I have seen in years. Every character was so right on — the lighting, the props, the sets — I'm so proud of my son and Point Park University," said Jones, who played the role of Laurey in the movie production of *Oklahoma!* in 1955. Born and raised in Smithton, Pa., Jones credits her success on stage to the training she received at the Pittsburgh Playhouse.

"The Playhouse was my learning ground. I went to the Pittsburgh Playhouse every summer when I was in high school to study acting and singing," she said. "I love Point Park and I'm so very proud of these incredible actors and singers." Cassidy echoed his mother's remarks as he thanked the entire cast and crew who worked to transform the Pittsburgh Playhouse into *Oklahoma!* "I am so grateful to have had the opportunity for 35 years to work in theatre, and equally as blessed to have been able to direct and teach. I want to thank Point Park University for allowing me to do both," said Cassidy. "I want to thank this cast for their dedication, willingness and their raw talent — this is the next batch of Broadway performers."



Point Extra

To see a video of Jones' appearance at the Playhouse, visit: <http://tinyurl.com/oklahomaplayhouse>.



New Online Programs

Point Park bachelor's degree capstone programs in accelerated business and organizational leadership are being offered fully online, beginning spring 2014. Students will still have the option to complete these degree programs in a hybrid format, meaning a combination of online and face-to-face classes. The accelerated business and organizational leadership programs at Point Park offer students career-focused, hands-on course work taught by faculty members with real-world experience. Both programs build on an associate's degree or 60 previously earned credits and can be completed in two years. Point Park also offers fully online programs in the following: Adult Education and Administration Certificate; Intelligence and National Security Certificate; M.F.A. in Screenwriting and Playwriting; Low-Residency; Public Administration — including traditional and capstone bachelor's degrees, certificate and minor (all with a choice of concentration in general public administration or fire service administration) and an associate's degree. For more information, visit www.pointpark.edu/Academics/OnlineLearning.

Wecht Speaks on J.F.K. Assassination

Nationally acclaimed forensic expert **Cyril Wecht**, M.D., J.D., recently visited Point Park to give a passionate presentation on his criticism of the Warren Commission's findings regarding the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. Students, faculty and staff packed into the JVH Auditorium for the event, which was sponsored by the Department of Criminal Justice and Intelligence Studies and spearheaded by **Olivia Baker**, a sophomore forensic science major. "I reached out to Dr. Wecht personally and asked if he would come to Point Park to talk about the J.F.K. assassination,"



New Facilities for Cinema and Digital Arts

Point Park cinema and digital arts students are gaining hands-on experience in new state-of-the-art facilities on campus. During the summer of 2013, work was done in the Patterson Building on Third Avenue to create a new sound mixing suite and color correction suite. On the first and second floor in West Penn Hall is a flexible production facility, known as Studio Two, a 30-ft. screening facility, and new classrooms equipped with computers and digital tools designed for the animation and visual effects program. "In our new screenwriting room, our student writers now have the ability to project their screenplays for the entire class to view," said **Rick Hawkins**, artist-in-residence in the Department of Cinema and Digital Arts. "Our students are having the experience for four years to use state-of-the-art equipment that's being used in Hollywood to make movies." Animation students are putting their creativity to the test in their new lab, equipped with 21 computers with Cintiq screens — a tablet screen designed for pinpoint accuracy — and new software (GameMaker, ZBrush, Maya, NUKE, MotionBuilder, Dragonframe, Sculpttris and Adobe Production Suite CC, including After Effects and Premiere). "Everyone in the classroom has a Cintiq tablet, which means I can demonstrate and the students can follow along, it's very hands-on," said Associate Professor **Pahl Hluchan**. "I can cover a lot more and I've noticed the students' work has improved dramatically because of it."

said Baker. The main focus of Wecht's presentation surrounded his rejection of the Warren Commission's single-bullet theory, which suggests that Kennedy was shot by the same bullet that also injured Texas Gov. John Connally, who sat in the front seat of the presidential limousine. Wecht talked about the events leading up to Kennedy's assassination. "If you want to understand history, you've got to know what really took place," advised Wecht.

CITY Connections Grant

CITY Connections at Point Park University recently received a \$15,000 grant from the Trustees of Massey Charitable Trust to add research and one-on-one mentoring to the program. The CITY (Creating Individualized Transitions for Youth) Connections program provides students with autism and other mental and physical disabilities the opportunity for a university campus experience that mirrors the typical experience of their peers. "This grant will allow our education students to be trained to observe, listen and record data during each of their individual mentoring activities and then measure the effectiveness of their mentoring strategies on the CITY students' overall communication and social skills development," remarked **J. Kaye Cupples**, Ph.D., associate professor of special education and faculty program director for CITY Connections at Point Park. Mentoring activities include engaging with CITY Connections students in volunteer and part-time work, auditing of college classes and social and recreational events held both on and off campus. According to Cupples, Point Park education majors who serve as CITY Connections mentors will earn field experience credit that can be applied to meet Pennsylvania Department of Education requirements for professional certification in special education. Point Park is one of only 13 schools in Pennsylvania approved for special education at the secondary level with the option for dual certification and it is one of only a few universities in the Commonwealth to offer this option in a four-year program.

Pennsylvania National Guard Visit

The Department of Criminal Justice and Intelligence Studies and Career Development Center recently welcomed representatives from the Pennsylvania National Guard to campus to provide students with an information session on ROTC scholarships, which provided information on leadership and scholarship opportunities and the overall career benefits of becoming a reserve officer. After the presentation, students had the opportunity to ask questions and meet with the National Guard representatives. According to **Gregory Rogers**, J.D., professor and chair of the Department



Greek Isles Adventure

The Department of Global Management and Organization in the School of Business hosted a 10-day trip to Greece last May for Point Park personnel, graduate students and alumni. Stops included Athens, Mystra, Kalamata, Olympia, the Saronic Islands and more. Advisor for the trip was **Dimitris J. Kraniou**, Ph.D., department chair and professor of international economics and global management.

of Criminal Justice and Intelligence Studies, the event gave students great exposure to the different types of opportunities the National Guard offers. "Students, especially intelligence and national security majors, will be competing for jobs worldwide and public service opportunities like the National Guard can give them a real advantage," explained Rogers.

High School Media Day

Point Park welcomed more than 250 high school students and their teachers to the School of Communication's fall 2013 High School Media Day, held Nov. 1 on campus. "This is one of the biggest High School Media Days that we've ever had," said **Heather Starr Fiedler**, Ph.D., associate professor of multimedia and chair of



Business of Baseball

Three Point Park alumni who have excelled in the world of baseball returned to campus on Nov. 13 to present a seminar on "The Business of Baseball: On the Field, Off the Field with Point Park alums." Detroit Tigers ballplayer Don Kelly (BUS '06) pictured left, St. Lucie Mets Manager Ryan Ellis (A&S '00) pictured right and Texas League President Tom Kayser (COM 1974) shared insights with a student audience at the event, sponsored by the Pittsburgh Center for Sports Media and Marketing.

faculty, as she welcomed the students. "I'm really excited because we asked your teachers to pick workshop topics that are interesting and relevant to you. This year's theme is 'Teacher's Choice.'"

Broadcasting, multimedia/web, public relations and advertising, photojournalism, print journalism, law/ethics and tips for landing that first job or internship were among the session topics



Seated from left to right: Linda Esposto, Dr. Paul Caplan '06 (honorary degree), Tom Golonski (BUS 1972) and Elizabeth Cope joined President Paul Hennigan (standing, center) and scholarship recipients, alumni and guests at the annual Scholarship Awards Dinner.

Scholarship Awards Dinner Brings Benefactors and Recipients Together

November marks the time of year when we reflect a bit more on giving thanks. This past November was no exception. During the University's annual Scholarship Awards Dinner on Nov. 13, students, past alumni awardees, donors, family and friends gathered together to share stories of their times at Point Park. Students were able to meet donors and thank them personally for their contributions. President Hennigan noted: "Our alumni and friends identify with our students and want to contribute to their success. Because of their commitment, our students are able to not just attend the University, but contribute and excel. Many students would not have been able to afford Point Park University without these scholarships – 93 percent of our students receive financial aid. However, because of the financial support given, passionate, successful students continue to join our University family." Each generation gives the future to the next. Will you give back to the future of Point Park's family? For information on how to contribute toward much needed student scholarship funds, please contact Penny J. Schnarrs, director of donor relations and development communications, at 412-392-8060 or pschnarrs@pointpark.edu.

discussed with students. KDKA TV's **Jon Burnett** told participants, "It's a very different world that you're going into than the one I did when I was in college, but it's still a world that's craving talent on and off camera, behind the scenes, in programming, promotions, marketing or sales. But you're in the right place if you're ready to go to college. Four of my colleagues at the station, **Bob Pompeani, Ross Guidotti, Dr. Maria Simbra** and **Olga George** are Point Park alumni, and I think that speaks very highly of Point Park."

New M.F.A. in Screenwriting

The Conservatory of Performing Arts has announced a new low-residency Master of Fine Arts degree in screenwriting and playwriting beginning in the fall of 2014. The new M.F.A. program in writing for the screen and stage will challenge students to write stories for the screen and stage across multiple platforms — film, theatre, television and web — so that they can create a professional portfolio to pursue a career in writing and/or teaching. "Today's media and stage writing avenues are ever-evolving, and the need to write across multiple visual areas of interest is a must," said **Nelson Chipman**, associate professor and director of the new M.F.A. program. "This program will help students focus on their primary area of interest, while exposing them to many other facets of writing for the screen and stage." The low-residency program model requires students to take courses online during the fall and spring semesters, and attend three dynamic residencies of one to two weeks on Point Park's city campus. "A core group of talented faculty writers will work with our students in a small, intimate workshop setting that fosters community, engagement and excellence in work," said Chipman. "Our



Social Circle

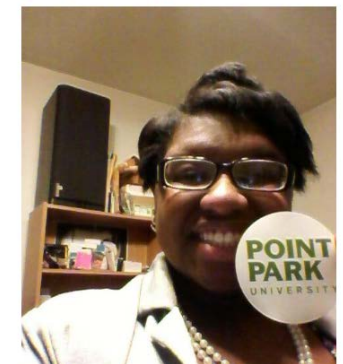


Ana McElravy @ana_mce

Can already tell I am going to love this place #ppu #adventureU

Incoming students shared their excitement about attending classes at Point Park on social media platforms through the University's #AdventureU mini-campaign. Print materials sent out for the summer orientation program Pioneer Experience, as well as a package sent to accepted students in 2013-14, included a Point Park sticker. Many enthusiastically "stickered and shared" on Instagram, Twitter, Facebook and on videos created for Pioneer Experience. Join the fun and follow #AdventureU. Concept and photo by graphic designer Krisna Poznik.

amber reyes @bamreyes13
Jus graduated from RMCTC for Electrical Technology and saw this in the mail I'm ready baby
#AdventureU pic.twitter.com/1ISPOz7KEI



Downtown Pittsburgh location is rich in film and theatre production, making it ripe with opportunities for writers in our program to engage with actors, directors or producers."

New Track and Field Teams

The Point Park athletic department is growing once again. The Pioneers will add two more sports teams when they begin competing in men's and women's track and field in the 2014-15 school year, the athletic department has announced. The addition of the two track and field teams will bring the number of varsity sports offerings at Point Park to 13. The search for a men's and women's track and field coaching staff is underway. Student-athletes interested in competing on the track and field teams are directed to complete the 'Prospective Athlete Questionnaire' on the Point Park athletics website and specify Track & Field. "The addition of men's and women's track and field at Point Park will add more opportunities for student-athletes to enjoy everything that intercollegiate athletics has to offer," said Director of Athletics **Dan Swalga**.

Accounting Alumni Dinner

The Office of Development and Alumni Relations hosted an accounting alumni dinner on Nov. 20. A small group of accounting alumni gathered to hear from **Art Kramer**, faculty emeritus, **Margie Gilfillan**, chair, Department of Management, and **Ed Scott**, George Rowland White Endowed Professor

of Accounting and Finance. The group enjoyed sharing stories from years past, and hearing information about the university and management program. Scott was present to talk about the Urban Accounting Initiative and Accounting Career Awareness Program (ACAP). Stay tuned for upcoming events, and ways for alumni to be engaged in meaningful ways. ❖



Remembering Violet Gallo

The University community remembers with affection arts patron and humanitarian Violet Gallo, who died on Nov. 15. According to the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, she was devoted to the service of others and always believed that she had a civic responsibility to do more. She spent her life volunteering for charitable organizations close to her heart, notably cancer survivors, the medical community and the arts. Having attended a class at the Pittsburgh Playhouse

in the late 1950s, Gallo volunteered as a performer for the Bedside Network to record radio and television scripts with veterans affected by their service in the Korean War. She was a strong supporter of the American Cancer Society, the Twenty-Five Club, the Ladies Hospital Aid Society, and the Pittsburgh Opera Association. In 2010, Gallo received the Performing Arts Partnership and Achievement Award from Point Park University and was honored the same year for her outstanding volunteerism in Allegheny County.

CORE VALUES

Point Park 2020 Focuses on Excellence in Students' Learning Experience

By Cheryl Valyo

What does it mean to be an educated person? What should a Point Park graduate know and be able to do?

These fundamentally important questions are at the heart of the Point Park 2020 initiative, a comprehensive effort to examine and enhance key pillars of the student learning experience. Point Park 2020 encompasses everything from the core curriculum and academic structure to co-curricular experiences and city campus life, according to Karen McIntyre, senior vice president of academic and student affairs and dean of faculty.

Rooted in Point Park Excellence, the continuous improvement program that evolved from the University's recent Middle States reaccreditation process, Point Park 2020 began with examining characteristics of excellence, says McIntyre. "An important characteristic has to do with general [course] distribution requirements, but equally important are overall learning experiences, co-curricular opportunities and services for students."

Based on a range of indicators, from the University's own self-assessment data to feedback gained through the National Survey of Student Engagement, it was 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.

The first phase of Point Park 2020, therefore, has focused on the core curriculum, the fundamental building block of the learning experience. "Everything is tied to the core," says McIntyre.

The process began two years ago with a series of campus conversations that invited the entire University community to debate and discuss such questions as, "what does it mean to be a Point Park graduate," says McIntyre. Everyone from students, faculty and staff to alumni and board members were invited to contribute ideas. "The process has been really great, and it began with these very personal, fireside-type discussions in which [students] had a lot



of input," recalls senior biology major Dillon Kunkle, who is now president of United Student Government and has been involved since the earliest stages. "Many students wanted more options. We are real people with a range of interests! Students are interested in things other than their major."

"After that early 'conversation phase,' we put out a request for proposals for a new core model and we invited everyone in the University community to submit a model for consideration," says McIntyre. Twelve proposals were submitted for review and subsequently evaluated by the faculty, "who have the primary responsibility for curriculum."

Teams led by faculty were created to take the various model ideas and extend them into a more detailed framework – "involving not just courses but more detail about learning experiences," says McIntyre. Since many of the models had similar elements, model ideas were combined to four frameworks for consider-

ation by the faculty. A clear frontrunner emerged – now known as the "Confluence Core."

The Confluence Core will include such elements as a first-year course that focuses on city university life, a capstone experience, and academic requirements balanced with flexible options, all of which are still in development.

"All of the proposals were driven by the central theme, that is, 'what does it mean to be a successful Point Park student,'" recalls Thomas Baggerman, a faculty member in the School of Communication who has been involved since the early stages. "From the initial period of visioning, to the well-planned process of moving from 12 proposals to the final plan, it's been truly collaborative." According to President Hennigan, a hallmark has been the active involvement of many University trustees: "This has been a very organic process –thoughtful, inclusive and comprehensive."

Trustee Loren Roth, M.D., M.P.H., agrees: "As a trustee of Point Park, I am a strong advocate of advancing the mission of the University, and implementing a new core experience for students is a most important activity for future success. I've been very pleased with the deliberate and well-planned process implemented by the administration and faculty to achieve this goal," says Dr. Roth, a professor of psychiatry at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine and a distinguished leader in the fields of psychiatry, law and public health.

He says he especially appreciated the hands-on collaboration with the Point Park faculty. "This is a fine example of shared governance." ❖

Learn much more about the Confluence Core experience, including details about content, implementation and how it will impact the next generation of Point Park students, in an upcoming issue of The Point.



This page and opposite top: Lawrence Hall, built at the turn of the century as the Keystone Athletic Club, has been lovingly restored to provide premier academic, living, gallery and social space for the University. Photos by Martha Rial.



Architectural Elements

Blending history with sustainability in the Academic Village

By Cheryl Valyo

For the past five decades, Point Park University has been an integral part of Downtown Pittsburgh. The University takes its role as a partner in preserving the past, while building for a vibrant future, very seriously. The Academic Village Initiative, unveiled in 2008, laid out a vision developed by the community, regional stakeholders and the University for positive growth. Over the last five years, the University has worked to reinvigorate Wood Street, the Boulevard of the Allies and the Forbes Avenue corridors with projects that support the academics of the University while also complementing the history, honoring the architecture and developing a strong economic future for the neighborhood.

“Point Park is honored to be the steward of an extraordinary collection of turn-of-the-century properties,” according to President Paul Hennigan. “These buildings have been lovingly restored over the years, giving each a new place in the vibrancy of Downtown.”

A campus stroll down Wood Street is also a tour of urban architecture, stretching from the classic terra cotta details of century-old West Penn Hall at First Avenue to the historic bank building that houses the University Center between Fourth and Forbes Avenues. The new Pittsburgh Playhouse, which will be relocated from Oakland to Downtown property adjacent to the University Center, will continue in the same tradition of historic preservation and creative reuse.



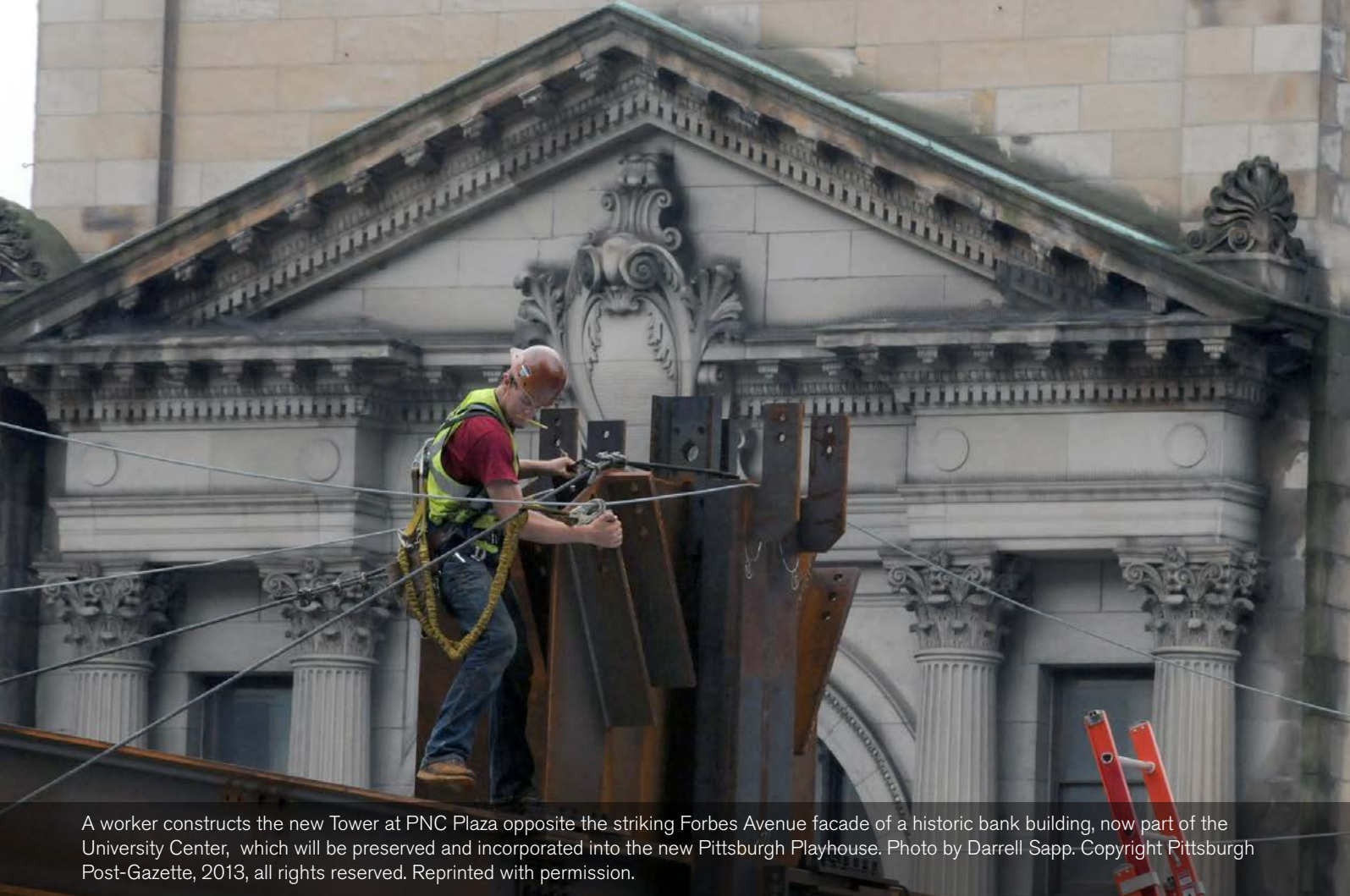
Preservation-Minded

“Point Park has been the most preservation-minded user of historic buildings in Downtown Pittsburgh,” says prominent preservationist Arthur P. Ziegler Jr., 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.”

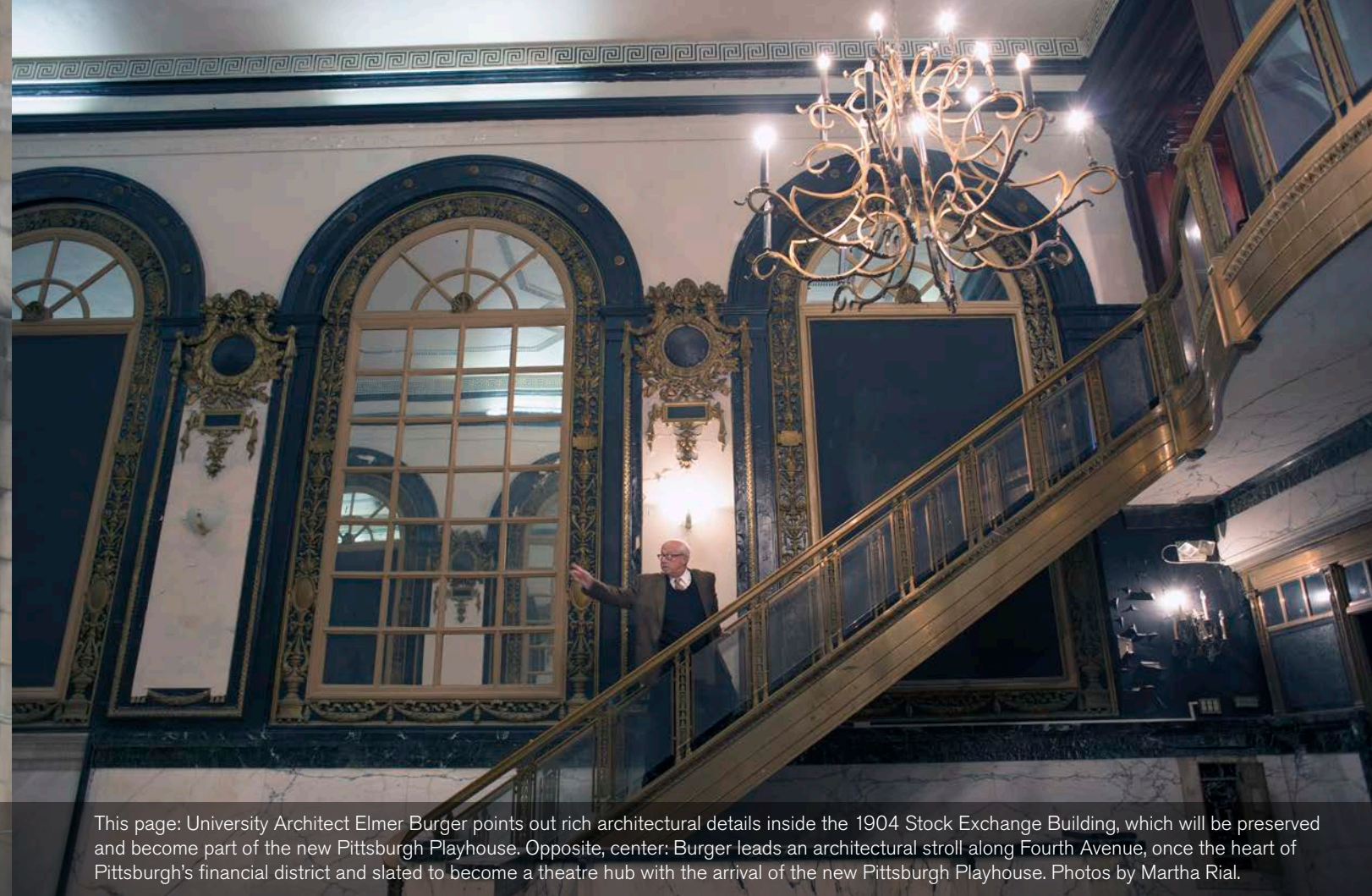
One of the most prominent examples, according to Ziegler, is the restored Lawrence Hall, a Benno Janssen-designed building at the corner of the Boulevard of the Allies and Wood Street, now serving

as premier academic, living, art gallery and social space for the University. Known as the Sherwyn Hotel when it was acquired by Point Park in 1967, it was originally built as the Keystone Athletic Club.

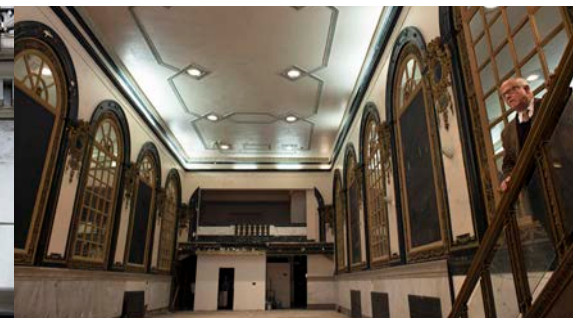
Within the past decade the University has renovated Lawrence Hall to include a three-story, historically appropriate stone façade with new lighting fixtures and windows, a bookstore, and configuration of street-level gathering space for students and visitors as well as a grand entrance into the LEED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



A worker constructs the new Tower at PNC Plaza opposite the striking Forbes Avenue facade of a historic bank building, now part of the University Center, which will be preserved and incorporated into the new Pittsburgh Playhouse. Photo by Darrell Sapp. Copyright Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, 2013, all rights reserved. Reprinted with permission.



This page: University Architect Elmer Burger points out rich architectural details inside the 1904 Stock Exchange Building, which will be preserved and become part of the new Pittsburgh Playhouse. Opposite, center: Burger leads an architectural stroll along Fourth Avenue, once the heart of Pittsburgh's financial district and slated to become a theatre hub with the arrival of the new Pittsburgh Playhouse. Photos by Martha Rial.



Grand Lobby Returns

The street level of Lawrence Hall previously consisted of solid masonry walls devoid of light and character, recalls preservation architect Ellis Schmidlapp, principal of Landmark Design Architects (LDA), which led the restoration. LDA has served as preservation design consultants in many projects in the Academic Village initiative, including the completed renovation of a conference room in the University Center (the former Colonial Trust), current renovations to the second floor of Lawrence Hall, as well as the upcoming new Pittsburgh Playhouse.

LDA is now leading a restoration of the second floor, which was the original lobby level of the Keystone Athletic Club (retail space occupied the street level). A former dance studio, located to the left of the bridge entrance from Academic Hall, will be transformed back into a grand lobby: a club-like gathering area that will feature historically appropriate details and lighting while providing comfortable lounge space for students. To the right of the bridge will be a multi-purpose meeting space, and a classic portal will welcome bridge pedestrians into the building, according to Schmidlapp.

Inside the New Playhouse

As the University turns its attention to the footprint of the new Pittsburgh Playhouse, it will employ the same attention to detail, with an eye toward restoring what can be restored and reusing details of what cannot be salvaged based on the condition of the properties, according to University Architect Elmer Burger.

Two key pillars of the Playhouse design call on restoring and reusing the University Center, designed by Frederick J. Osterling for the Colonial Trust Company, as well as restoring and using the Stock Exchange Building on Fourth Avenue, designed by prominent architect Charles M. Bartberger.

Completed in 1904 to house the Industrial Bank, the Stock Exchange Building later served as home to nightclubs and has stood vacant for many years. However, its spectacular façade and many interior details remain. These include marble floors, a grand brass staircase, original woodwork and stained glass skylights now hidden above a ceiling that was inserted decades after the original construction.

The Playhouse design plans include restoration of the original details, including the lower level with original bank vault and the large main level. "We also plan to remove the later ceiling to expose the stained glass and coffers of the original," says Burger. "It will rival the grandeur of the University Center."



This page, top: students visit the library in the University Center, a grand former bank built at the turn-of-the-century for the Colonial Trust Company. The building will receive further restoration as part of the Pittsburgh Playhouse project. Photo by John McKeith. Below, center: cornucopias adorn the Fourth Avenue entry of another historic bank, among several significant facades that will be preserved and restored in place as part of the University Center and new Playhouse. Photos by Martha Rial.



This page, top: Among the many Downtown buildings that have been repurposed by Point Park are two former office towers that are now home to resident students as the Boulevard Apartments. Below, right: 101 Wood Street, often referred to as the "green building," has a distinctive cast-iron front that is slated for restoration. Part of the building will become a University welcome center. Photos by John McKeith.



A new café will occupy a partial second level (to be installed under the stained glass), which will open onto a public outdoor plaza facing Forbes Avenue. The building will house technical theatre design areas as well as faculty and staff offices and will be incorporated into the Playhouse complex.

Historic Details, Modern Uses

The Stock Exchange Building and the new Playhouse "will be fully integrated and the space will flow easily," says Burger. For example, "there are arches in the wall that will flow into the rest of the Playhouse. There is so much rich detail in this building that we want to preserve and retain." (For more information about the history of the Stock Exchange Building, see alumnus Thomas Joseph's informative letter on page 2.)

As part of the Playhouse project, buildings that house the University Center and other academic spaces will receive further renovations and restoration. The former Colonial Trust was built in 1902 as a narrow building that stretched between Forbes and Fourth Avenues. In 1925 an addition was extended to form a "T" that provides a grand entrance on Wood Street. The original building and addition were designed by Osterling, known for his design of such landmarks as the Union Trust Building.

Two adjacent historic buildings currently serve as academic space for Point Park. The first is the 1893 Freehold Realty Building, distinguished by large square windows, which currently houses part of the Department of Cinema and Digital Arts. Next door on Fourth is the former Commercial National Bank, designed in 1887 by legendary Boston architects Alden and Harlow. "These

are buildings that Point Park is already using and will continue to renovate and restore," says Burger, including the spectacular facades on Fourth Avenue. "A lot of attention has been paid to the design of the Playhouse to ensure it fits well with the character and scale of the street," says Schmidlapp. "The new uses and old elements really have to be able work together. The vision for the Playhouse is that it will be a great teaching and learning center and theater, and it has its own needs in order to function well, he adds. "Point Park has been a very good urban steward. This project will bring new life to the block."

Preservation and Revitalization

"The Pittsburgh Playhouse project is yet another example of historic buildings that will get new uses or improvements, such

as the University Center," says Ziegler. "It is therefore following in a great tradition. The Playhouse project will also bring a great deal of life to the Downtown neighborhood as well as a new venue for theatre and performances. "The design of the Pittsburgh Playhouse is truly unique. The design will be both modern and respectfully historic, it will unite the new with the old."

"Point Park has already enlivened the city by attracting new students and so many others to its neighborhood to attend classes and performances," Ziegler adds. "This has made Downtown Pittsburgh a center for higher education. I commend (former President) Katherine Henderson who began the process, and President Paul Hennigan who is continuing it. The University is a model of leadership in revitalization, and preservation, in Downtown Pittsburgh." ❖

Pure Water Vision



Potters Water Action Group fights waterborne diseases in developing countries



Text and photos by Christopher Rolinson (COM '04)

Potters Water Action Group (PWAG) is an association of individuals and organizations united in the war against waterborne diseases. Since 1999, members of the group have been promoting and improving the silver-enhanced, ceramic water filter that can be produced almost anywhere in the world using locally obtained materials.

Based in the POT SHOP at the Braddock Carnegie Library since 2004, the PWAG and its affiliates have assisted in the establishment of water filter production and distribution facilities in Honduras, Haiti, Iraq, Sudan and the Dominican Republic.

My role in PWAG is to document the history and development of the water filter; beginning with its champion, sociologist/potter

Ron Rivera, and continuing through our current project. Rivera died five years ago from malaria contracted while attempting to set up a production facility in Nigeria. Last May my mentor, retired Slippery Rock University Professor Richard Wukich, visited the same site to carry out Rivera's vision of pure water.

The pottery is located in a grove of palm trees outside the village of Atamora. The master potter, Ibukunoluwa Ayoola, known as IBK, is an anomaly in the Nigerian pottery tradition as the work has traditionally been conducted by women. He attended college training as an accountant.

After a few years, unable to accept the tedium of a desk job, he and his wife moved to his grandmother's village and took

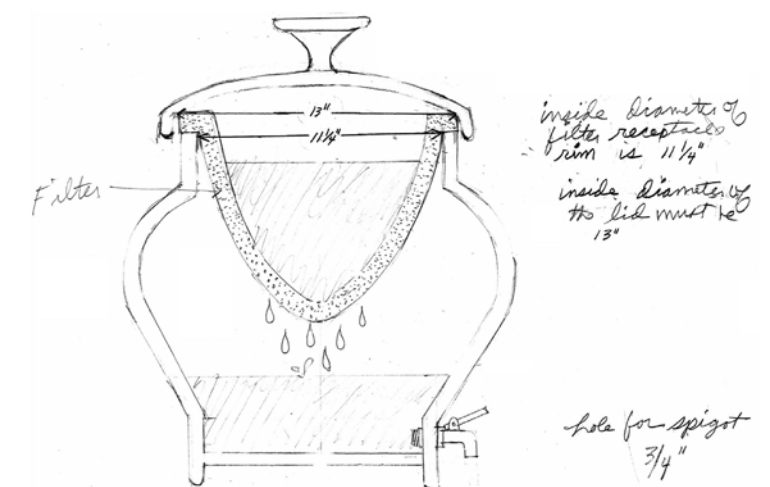


up farming and pottery. IBK learned his skills from various sources and eventually attracted young people who wanted to work in the clay arts.

Currently, he has a number of apprentices living in the village and learning to become potters. The filter production facility will add another dimension to the pottery and enable them to expand and begin vocational training for the youth of the village and surrounding area. The factory will produce about 1,500 filters a month and provide jobs for 10. Plans are to establish a training center at Atamora that will enable others to learn the process and set up additional factories as needed.

The filter is an inverted bell shape made from clay and sawdust. When fired, the sawdust burns away leaving voids that allow water to pass through the wall of the vessel. The filter element is impregnated with colloidal silver, an

antimicrobial agent. The press used to form the filters is built from steel and simple hardware. The molds are custom manufactured by the E.H. Schwab Co.



The finished filter provides a family of five with potable water at the rate of 2-3 liters per hour. The filter rests in a five gallon plastic bucket with a spigot to draw off clean water. Handcrafted glazed receptacles can be obtained for upscale applications.

Christopher Rolinson (COM '04) is an assistant professor in the School of Communication. ❖



Point Extra

See video excerpts from Rolinson's upcoming documentary at www.pointpark.edu/the.point.

On the Move

Alumnus Michael Wagner Founded Fast-Growing Target Freight Management



by Cristina Rouvalis

Mike Wagner at Target Freight's headquarters in Pittsburgh. Photo by Martha Rial.

ALUMNI PROFILE

Michael Wagner started a transportation company that's growing so fast it's on the Inc. 500 list. He has 22 employees, and he just bought a second home in the mountains. And he thinks it won't be too long before he splurges on a Lamborghini, his childhood dream car.

Sometimes the 34-year-old has to stop and pinch himself. Is this really happening?

After all, the founder of Target Freight Management, which negotiates logistics contracts for small- and medium-sized manufacturers, wasn't exactly voted the most likely to succeed in high school. He came from a poor and troubled background. He didn't know his father and had a strained relationship with his mother. Things were so rough at home in Brookline, he often would crash at the homes of his friends, girlfriends and coach. Distracted by the turmoil, he barely eked out a high school diploma.

To the outside world, he looked like a hopeless screw-up, not an entrepreneur in the making. "Nobody thought I would amount to anything," he said.

Even his high school guidance counselor told him he was not college material. He proved naysayers wrong by earning a baseball scholarship to Erskine College. But when his daughter was born, he dropped out to support his family in Pittsburgh.

He studied two years at Community College of Allegheny County before transferring to Point Park University, the institution that changed his life.

From the start, Point Park seemed to see something special in Wagner. He was offered a new baseball scholarship but told then-head coach Mark Jackson he wouldn't be able to play because of family obligations. To Wagner's surprise, Point Park gave him the scholarship anyway.

To support his wife Pam and daughter Lexi while pursuing a business degree, he maintained a full course load and worked at FedEx. The young couple only had one car, so he would wake up in middle of the night to take his wife to her job that started at 4 a.m. It was an insane schedule, but he forged ahead.

Giving 100 Percent

He loved the intellectual stimulation he received at Point Park and found two mentors in Dimitris Kraniou, Ph.D., professor of international economics and global management, and William Breslove, Ph.D., professor of business management.

Wagner, who earned an M.B.A., immediately impressed Breslove. "Everything he does, he gives 100 percent," Breslove said. "Most people go through the motions and check out other people's reaction. I don't think

Mike has ever been concerned about impressing other people. He is only concerned about doing it right."

Wagner remembers Breslove telling him, "Mike, you are going to be a real success. You just have to find out what you are great at."

Turns out, he was a great salesman. He landed a job with a freight management company worked his way up to the position of national sales manager. The boy who had barely finished high school was now earning \$150,000 a year.

Life was good for the father of two, but he couldn't shake the idea of starting his own company. Risks came naturally to him. "I grew up with nothing. If I lost it all tomorrow, it was not the end of the world."

But launching Target Freight Management in 2009 turned out to be harder than he'd imagined. Other transportation firms were going out of business as he was starting up. He worked 80 hours a week trying to land his elusive first customer. But then he started landing clients, and sales keep multiplying.

He said his background makes him want to prove people wrong. "People are shocked at what I am able to do. All my motivation comes from my childhood and people doubting me." ❖

ALUMNI CONNECTION ▶

Dear alumni and friends,

When I attended Point Park College in the early 1990s, there were just two buildings — Lawrence Hall and Academic Hall. Fast forward to 2014, and we are a thriving University. We have a growing Academic Village with numerous buildings in Downtown Pittsburgh, a city that continues to evolve in exciting new ways.

In this issue of The Point, you can learn more about key areas of growth, including efforts to preserve and reuse historic city buildings as part of the University campus. Several of these buildings will become part of the planned new Pittsburgh Playhouse in Downtown Pittsburgh. See page 16 to learn more.

In a word, it's an exciting time to be involved with Point Park. Since I became Alumni Association Board president, I've heard from many fellow alumni who want to reconnect with the University. I look forward to hearing from more of you before I complete my tenure as president later this spring. Write to me anytime at sorr3@msn.com, and consider the following ways to get involved:

- Calling all Cleveland alumni! Join together on Feb. 5 for a Night with the NBA in Cleveland as the Cavaliers take on the L.A. Lakers.

- John Fallon Travel Fund fundraiser: Join the planning committee or attend this April 11 event! Contact **Helen Fallon** at hfallon@pointpark.edu for more information.

- Mark your calendar to join fellow alumni at Pittsburgh's PNC Park on July 19 as the Pirates take on the Colorado Rockies. It's a fireworks night!

- Join us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/pointparkalumni), Twitter and LinkedIn to stay connected and learn about other exciting events in 2014!

A final way to get involved is to submit a photo of yourself wearing Point Park gear that we can share in The Point, as members of the alumni board and the John Fallon Travel Fund planning committee proudly did for the photo on this page! Send photos to thepoint@pointpark.edu.

All the best,



Susan Orr
President, Point Park University Alumni Association



CLASS NOTES ▶

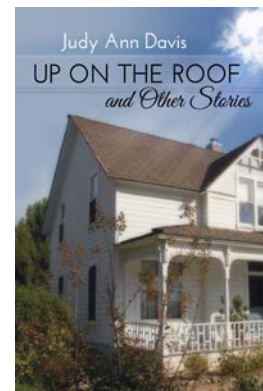
1970s

Michael J. Rieker (A&S 1978) has retired from Penn Glass Company, Inc. He had been employed as vice president and general manager for the past 32 years. In addition to earning his degree in psychology at Point Park, Rieker earned a master's degree from Shippensburg University in 1980. He currently serves as a facilitator with the Center for Community Peacemaking. He and his wife live in Holtwood, Pa.

Kim Payne (COM 1979) was recently appointed to the position of staff writer and media coordinator with Saint Leo University in Saint Leo, Fla. In his new role, he is responsible for raising the university's profile and reputation locally, regionally, nationally and internationally through concerted communications and media relations activities. Kim writes, "Saint Leo is the oldest Catholic college in Florida (founded in 1889) and one of the largest in the nation. I will graduate in December from Saint Leo with a graduate certificate in marketing. My wife, Susan, and I will celebrate our 35th wedding anniversary on March 31, 2014."

Judy Lashinski Davis (COM 1971), writing as author Judy Ann Davis, announced the release of two books in fall 2013. *Up on the Roof* and *Other Stories*, a collection of 19 short stories, was published by Whiskey Creek Press. A second book, the romance mystery *Key to Love*, was published by The Wild Rose Press. Both books are available in digital and print on Amazon and Barnes and Noble.

Visit www.judyanndavis.com or contact her: judy@judyanndavis.com



1980s

David Perozzi (COM 1988) served as a judge for the 2013 Miss Universe Pageant held in Moscow, Russia last November. Perozzi is an award-winning journalist and producer with more than two decades of experience. He built his career reporting and producing for ABC News and NBC News and has worked with CNN's Anderson Cooper and NBC's Al Roker. Perozzi has earned numerous honors, including four Emmy Award nominations, and was recently instrumental in launching a new music news program called Fuse News, where he served as supervising producer.

Debra DeCourcy (COM 1982) is the new executive communications director for Northlich, a large advertising and marketing agency in Cincinnati, Ohio. DeCourcy heads the agency's public relations group. She is married to fellow Point Park graduate Mike DeCourcy, an award-winning sports journalist and writer for the Sporting News.

Rob Ashford (COPA 1983), an award-winning Broadway performer and director, co-directed *The Sound of Music Live!* performance, starring Carrie Underwood, that aired on NBC on Dec. 5. To see a Broadway World video about the making of the production, including comments from Ashford and the young actors who appeared in the show, visit: www.broadway-world.com/video.php?colid=632921

1990s

Sherri (Clark) Hertzog (COPA 1998), who earned her degree in dance at Point Park, writes to say that she has made a career change and is now a licensed massage therapist (and has appointments available). A resident of Waynesburg, Pa., she can be contacted through Facebook.

Daniel Hart (COM 1996, 1999) is manager of media services for the Pittsburgh Pirates.

Patricia (Kober) Slye (COM 1991) is the author of just-published *Back Porch Mornings: My Journey to Peace, A Memoir*. The book is described as "an inspiring memoir that recounts the pain of grieving for loved ones and then moving into a new purpose in life. The author shares her journey that has helped her find what is really important and her intent to show others how to capture more joy every day." For more information, visit: www.amazon.com/Back-Porch-Mornings-Journey-Peace/dp/1492180297.



John Tommasino (A&S 1993) writes to say, "I recently moved to the Greater Los Angeles area where I am writing for online and print media outlets." He earned his degree in English at Point Park.

Elizabeth Wheatley (COM 1993) has been named president of the Fort Pitt Society, a supporting organization of the Pittsburgh Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR), which has owned and operated the Fort Pitt Block House as a historical site and museum for the last 120 years. Wheatley previously served as the organization's director of publicity since 2010 and has been active in the Pittsburgh Chapter NSDAR since 2009. She was born into a family active in the Daughters of the American Revolution for generations. Seventeen of her ancestors fought in the Revolutionary War, and she is eligible to belong to the Colonial Dames (descendants resided in an American

CLASS NOTES

Colony before 1750). Wheatley graduated cum laude with honors from Point Park with a degree in journalism and communication. After graduation, her love of travel and culture led her to a job as a flight attendant with Delta Airlines. She continues to work for Delta while also serving as director of marketing for WebSAP.net, a Pittsburgh-based web design and development company founded in 1998 by her husband Michael Wheatley. Liz and Michael reside in North Fayette Township with their three children, Catherine (14), Amelia (9) and Andrew (5).

Cathleen Williams (BUS 1992) is employed as payroll and personnel coordinator for the Dean's Office in the Kenneth P. Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences at the University of Pittsburgh. She earned her degree in business management at Point Park.

2000s



Dave Droxler (COPA '01) played the title role in the production of *The Man Who Laughs*, which was nominated for three Drama Desk Awards in the following categories: Unique Theatrical Experience, Outstanding Music in a Play and Outstanding Lighting Design. Droxler competed against Tom Hanks and Steve Martin, among other famous actors. Droxler is a New York-based actor, clown, filmmaker and screenwriter/playwright. After graduating with a BFA

in Acting at Point Park, he has worked in Off and Off-Off Broadway productions, as well as around the country in film, regional theater, national tours and clown shows. "As a physical comedian, Buster Keaton and Charlie Chaplin have played a vital role for me and have been the base for much of my work, not only as an actor, but also as a playwright," he says. Last June, Droxler was cast as a lead character in the independent film *Remorse*, which was filmed in Philadelphia, his hometown.

David S. Miller (BUS '00) was ordained by Bishop David Zubik as a permanent deacon for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh in June 2013. He lives in Gibsonia, Pa.

Charlene Bidula (COM '03, BUS '09) has been promoted to manager of communica-

tions and new media at the Westmoreland Museum of American Art in Greensburg, Pa. She earned her undergraduate degree in broadcasting and her M.B.A. in sports, arts and entertainment management at Point Park.

Anne Perri Cole (COM '09) and **Ben Cole** (COM '09) are the parents of John "Jack" David Cole, born November 19, 2013. Anne is a member of Point Park's Alumni Association Board.

V. Fawn Walker-Montgomery (A&S '06) received the Social Leader Award as part of the 2013 Mon River Fleet Women of Achievement ceremony aboard the Gateway Clipper on Oct. 3. Sailing the Monongahela River around the Healthier Communities PartnerSHIP towns of Clairton, McKeesport, Duquesne and Braddock, the event honored accomplishments of local women who have made an impact on the communities where they live and work. A lifelong resident of McKeesport, Walker-Montgomery's political career and civic involvement were inspired in McKeesport in her youth. She has 11 years of experience in social services, working with local families and agencies such as Macedonia FACE; Adelphoi Village; and Allegheny County Children, Youth and Families. She chairs the McKeesport Downtown Business Authority and is vice chair of the Home Rule Charter Committee. Walker-Montgomery serves with McKeesport Recreation Board, McKeesport African American Political Coalition, Rainbow Temple-Operation Save Our Youth, Semper Fidelis Club, McKeesport NAACP, Association of Black Social Workers and Carnegie Library of McKeesport. She is a past board member of First Step Recovery Homes and has served on McKeesport Council since 2010.

Caitlin Howley (COPA '09) has been appointed technical director at the Lincoln Park Performing Arts Center in Midland, Pa.



Point Park to Peru

Nancy Davis-Kahrs (COM 1972) writes, "We had a great trip to Peru and to Machu Picchu. I sure wish that I had paid more attention in my Spanish classes!" Often referred to as the "Lost City of the Incas," Machu Picchu is a long way from Pittsburgh and from Davis-Kahrs' home in Mt. Pleasant, S.C. Where have you been in your Point Park gear? Send us a photo at thepoint@pointpark.edu.

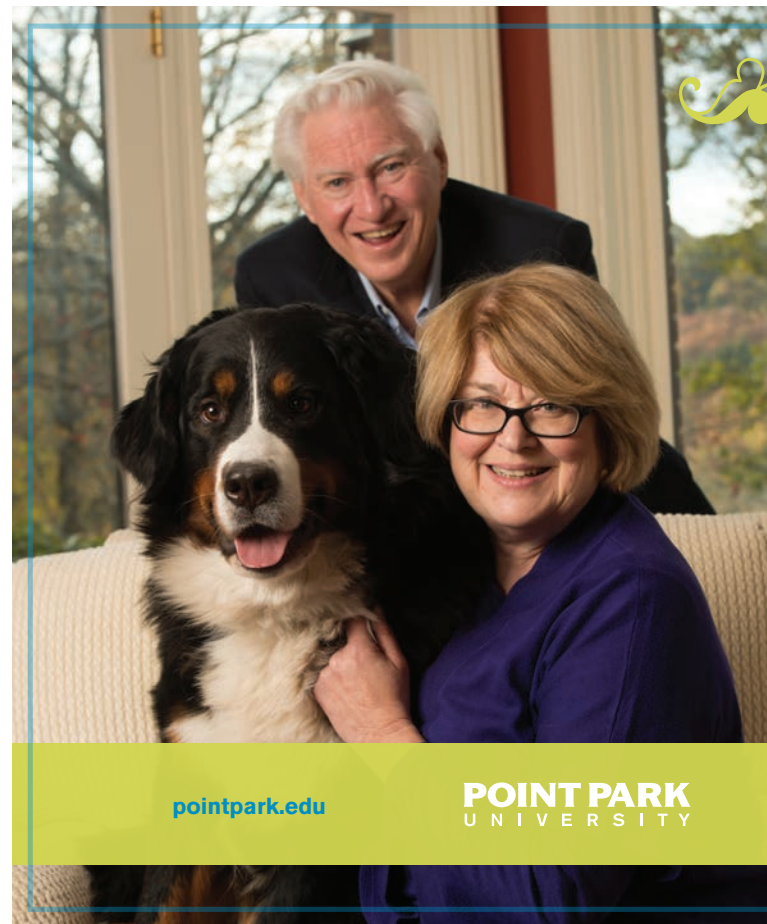
She earned her degree in technical theatre at Point Park in 2009.

2010s

Ashley Schoendorf (COPA '13) is a cabaret singer and dancer on Royal Caribbean's Azamara Club Cruise ship "Journey." Point Park classmate **Joe Pudetti** (COPA '13) is a performer on the same ship. Born in Florida, Ashley started dancing at age three and singing at age 12. Before transferring to Point Park, she spent her freshman and sophomore years at St. John's River State College in Palatka, Fla. where she received the Outstanding Performing Arts Student of the Year Award. Diagnosed with thyroid cancer during her sophomore year, she went through a thyroidectomy and went on to pursue her dream becoming a professional singer. Ashley says she loved studying in the city and having the opportunity to experience the four seasons and says she appreciated the training and the experiences that she received at Point Park.

Kelly Cline (COM '13) recently began a 10-month term of service in the National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC), an AmeriCorps program. AmeriCorps NCCC is a residential national service program that supports disaster relief, the environment, infrastructure improvement, energy conservation, and urban and rural development. Cline studied global cultural studies and photojournalism at Point Park. "I chose to do a term of national service because I am willing and able to do so. I strongly believe that if you are capable of serving, you should," says Cline. "I am passionate about community service and giving back to communities in need. I believe it is the youth of our nation who must set the example for the future, and I want to be a part of the movement towards continual improvement in the world."

Robert Gregg (COM '10), writes to share some memories about what led him to choose Point Park for his college studies: "While attending West Allegheny I performed in seven musicals, including *Hello Dolly*. You could say musicals are no big deal, but in a



A LASTING GIFT

"Tim and I are both first-generation college graduates. ... we deeply admire the school's commitment to educating students who will be the first family member to earn a college degree."

Nancy Melone, Ph.D., Donor, Deferred Charitable Gift Annuity

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Tim McGuire, Ph.D., Board of Trustees, Point Park University, Donor, Deferred Charitable Gift Annuity

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Contact Rick Haskins (COM 1971), vice president for development and alumni affairs, at 412-392-8097 or rhaskins@pointpark.edu for more information.

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POINT PARK
UNIVERSITY

SENIOR CLASS

Alumna Beulah Moody, age 97, remains Point Park proud

By Melissa Williams Schofield

Beulah Moody (A&S 1968) doesn't think her story is all that interesting, though at age 97 she's thought to be the oldest Point Park alumna. She started college in her early 40s, when her son was in kindergarten, to study early childhood education so she could have a better understanding of what he was learning in school.

The non-traditional student admits it "wasn't easy going to college while raising children" and advises today's students to finish their degrees before starting a family. She took night and weekend classes and found Point Park to be "very convenient." Moody often took the streetcar from the Bethel Park home she shared with her husband John Moody, who was a labor editor for the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette. He passed away over a year ago, shortly after the couple relocated to Woodcliff Lake, N.J., to be closer to their son John and his family.

John Moody is now serving as a news director for FOX News in the Big Apple. Her granddaughter, Kate Moody, works in French television in Paris, and her grandson, John, works for Google in New York.

Moody has fond memories of Point Park and says she attended classes held in one building. She also recalls Joann Blum, who started the early childhood education program at Point Park, and says Blum "treated me exceptionally well." Moody excelled, graduating magna cum laude.

She later worked in a joint venture with Point Park and Easter Seals, teaching in a program for developmentally challenged children. She taught for seven years and then served as director of education for Easter Seals, a position she held for 19 years. She earned a supervisory certificate and her master's degree in special education from the University of Pittsburgh in 1974.

Retired at age 70, Moody's driver's license expires in 2014. In fact, she drove until moving to New Jersey two years ago. As for her health, she says she's "still here" and sharp as a tack. She's had some health problems and has been in and out of the hospital "to get straightened out again." Moody jokingly says "thank goodness, I usually come back home." At 97, she says, "you never know."

Moody regrets that she was unable to attend Point Park's 50th anniversary celebration several years ago, but says she looks forward to keeping up with campus life by reading *The Point*.

"I certainly enjoyed Point Park."



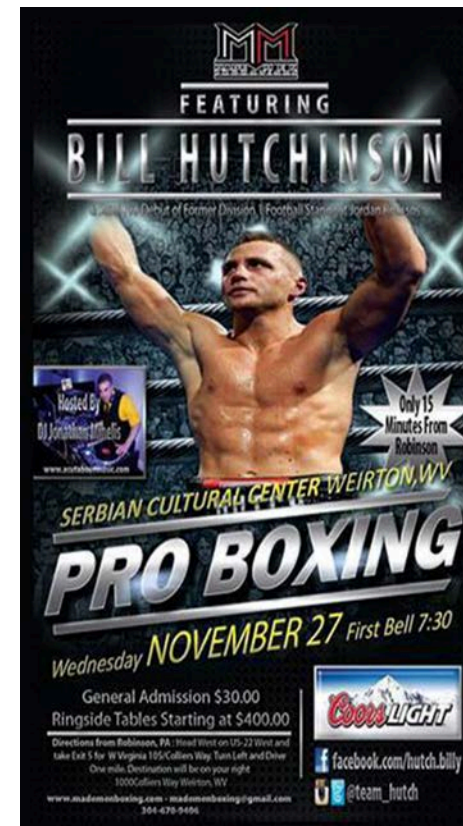
small town they are. It unites the community. I [always] applaud because I know how many months of preparation are required to put on a show. [I had performed] with the Pittsburgh Boys Choir, so I was no stranger to the spotlight. Performing was exciting and the older students in the cast made the kids feel welcome. I have always believed that the arts programs at schools are the reason why creative kids succeed... My love for the arts is why I chose Point Park University. I sang in the choir, attended shows at the Playhouse, and graduated in 2010 with a degree in communications and a focus in broadcasting. I used my current job as a ramp agent to travel to New York and watch the Rockettes in their Christmas Spectacular at Radio City Music Hall."



Jaron Frand (COPA '12) was an actor in Musicals Tonight! revival of *Smile*, which featured music by Marvin Hamlisch, in New York City last fall. Frand has a special connection to the show and the late Marvin Hamlisch. "I worked on this show when I was younger, so I have a little bit of history with *Smile*. It's a quirky show that isn't produced much. I guess that's why Musicals Tonight! got their hands on it and wanted to revive it. They look for forgotten musicals specifically. Not only had I been a part of this specific Hamlisch show before, but I recently had the chance to work with him one-on-one. I was really fortunate to be chosen by the Point Park faculty to audition and then work with him as he gave me coaching in a master class setting. It was a part of Point Park's Distinguished Master

Artist in Residence in the fall of 2011." The most important piece of advice he learned from Mr. Hamlisch? "He mentioned that everyone gets one big break. It's really how you decide to go after it that counts. This has stayed with me during my first year in New York. For me, I try to treat every opportunity that comes my way as my big break. I really push myself to take charge of my career path and be bold. I don't want to miss out on any opportunities, even if it's just my little break. I think it will all add up someday."

William Hutchinson (A&S '11) initiated his career as a professional boxer with a main event fight on Nov. 27. Known by the nickname or fighting moniker "Hutch," Hutchinson writes, "I trained long and hard for this fight, which is just a small step in the direction I want to go in. I am very focused and determined to build my career quickly." A resident of Pittsburgh's West End and a former Boilermaker, he says "I chose Point Park because I loved the location and the unique layout of campus Downtown. I had a great experience at Point Park, meeting classmates who I continue to connect with even today. I also had the opportunity to



Alaska Pioneer

Lynn Mitchell (BUS 1978), who resides in State College, Pa., wore his Point Park sweatshirt to keep warm on a visit to the Mendenhall Glacier during a recent cruise in Alaska. Did you pack Point Park gear to wear during your own travels, whether around town or around the globe? Send us a photo at: thepoint@pointpark.edu.

study under some great professors, particularly P. K. Weston. I graduated with a degree in English focusing on creative writing. It was right around the time I graduated that I began to see opportunities for myself in the boxing world." Hutchinson says, "I use skills that I have developed through my studies quite a bit. From a promotional and managerial aspect it benefits me greatly to have the intellectual skills to maneuver around the business aspect of the sport. Through my time at Point Park, I crafted a creative skill set that directly benefits my marketing ability."

Deirdre Kane (BUS'13) is owner of 52nd Street Market and a production analyst for Highmark. Kane says her experience in earning a master's degree in organizational leadership, with a concentration in community leadership, inspired her to open a new grocery store in Pittsburgh's Lawrenceville neighborhood. Kane says she is "hopeful that our partnership with the local schools will blossom, offering educational opportunities to local youth" and that Lawrenceville Organic Community Gardens will continue to flourish.

Amadeo Fusca (COPA '09) returned to his hometown of Pittsburgh for a screening of his new film *A New York Heartbeat* last November at the Oaks Theatre in Oakmont. Fusca, who plays a supporting role in the movie, recently spoke at a Point Park alumni event in New York City. He also won the "So You Think You Can Roast" national online talent contest, awarding him the opportunity to roast comedian Jack Black at the Friars Club in New York City last April. For more information about *A New York Heartbeat*, visit <http://anewyorkheartbeatmovie.com/>. Correction/clarification: In the fall issue of *The Point*, Fusca's last name was spelled incorrectly. *The Point* regrets the error. ❖

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ALL THE BEST

Pioneer Athletic Hall of Fame Inducts Four in 2013,

by Kevin Taylor

Point Park University's Pioneer Athletic Hall of Fame celebrated the 40th anniversary of its inaugural class during the 2013 Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony held Sept. 28, 2013 in Lawrence Hall.

The Pioneer Athletic Hall of Fame Class of 2013 welcomed another strong class of four inductees to bring to 49 the number of individuals who have been enshrined as the best student-athletes in Point Park history. The Class of 2013 included **Joe Emanuele** (Baseball, 1971-73), **Alisa Favero-Lucarelli** (Women's Basketball, 1988-93), **Bryan Neal** (Baseball, 1994-97) and **Chivas Whipple** (Men's Basketball, 2005-08).

The year 2013 marked 40 years since the Hall of Fame Class of 1973 was inducted as the very first honorees in the illustrious group of Pioneer greats.

A Strong Start

There were eight inductees in the Hall of Fame Class of 1973, and many of them were on hand Sept. 28 at the 2013 Induction Ceremony. The inaugural class was recognized for its significant place in Point Park athletics history, and their accomplishments were revisited with a reading of their biographical sketches. Among the Hall of Fame Class of 1973 were **Tyrone Anderson** (Men's Basketball, 1963-65), **Dr. Marvin Buncher** (Dean

of Students), **Frank Gustine** (Baseball Coach, 1968-74), **Ed Josefowski** (Men's Basketball, 1967-71), **Jim Masserio** (Men's Golf, 1969-71), **Dan Moriarty** (Men's Cross Country, 1969-72), **Joe Ogrodnik** (Baseball, 1968-71) and **Paul Temcio** (Men's Basketball, 1964-66).

The Hall of Fame certainly got off to a great start with its inaugural induction in 1973. Although Point Park was a little more than a decade old at the time, those eight inductees were, and still represent, some of the best ever to play for the Pioneers.

Celebrates 40th Anniversary of Inaugural Class

Enshrined in the Student Center

But after the initial Class of 1973, Point Park did not hold another Hall of Fame induction until the year 2000. That left the Class of 1973 in unique territory, one that had lost a bit of its place in history when the modern-day Hall of Fame came about at the turn of the millennium.

With the 2000 induction came Hall of Famers such as men's basketball coaching legend **Jerry Conboy** and all-time leading hoops scorer **Bobby Franklin**. As the years passed, more Pioneer all-timers were enshrined,

such as baseball greats **Lou Abel** and **Harry Westwood** in 2003 and women's basketball all-time leading scorer **Melissa Charles-Kubisceck** in 2009.

But it all started 40 years ago with the Class of 1973. And on the 40th anniversary of their induction, those honorees were given their proper place at the forefront of the Hall of Fame. They and the other inductees are enshrined in the Hall of Fame display area on the second floor of the Student Center for all to see and admire.

Nominate an Alumni Athlete

As 2014 begins, the Hall of Fame has initiated its annual search for a new group of potential inductees to add to the list. Nominations can be made by anyone in the general public and should be submitted by Feb. 15, for consideration in the Hall of Fame Class of 2014.

The Hall of Fame Committee makes its selections in the spring, with the induction ceremony held in the fall of every year. Visit www.pointpark.edu/athletics/halloffame for more details and a form to make your nomination. ❖

Hall of Fame Class of 2013 with Keith Paylo, Associate Vice President of Student Affairs (far left) and Dan Swalga, Director of Athletics (far right) are (L to R): Bryan Neal (Baseball, 1994-97), Chivas Whipple (Men's Basketball, 2005-08), Joe Emanuele (Baseball, 1971-73) and Alisa Favero-Lucarelli (Women's Basketball, 1988-93).

Former basketball player Ed Josefowski, Hall of Fame Class of 1973 & 2004.

Hall of Fame Class of 1973 inductee Tyrone Anderson (Men's Basketball, 1963-65)

Former Point Park basketball head coach Jerry Conboy (HOF Class of 2000), left, with Hall of Fame Class of 1973 inductee Paul Temcio (Men's Basketball, 1964-66), center, and former men's basketball player and assistant coach Larry Anderson (HOF Class of 2013), right.



HOME FIELD ADVANTAGE

Men's and Women's Soccer Teams Play Close to Home at Highmark Stadium on Pittsburgh's South Side

Text and photos by Kevin Taylor

The Point Park University men's and women's soccer teams are enjoying a major upgrade to their programs – the addition of Highmark Stadium as the new home venue for both teams.

Highmark Stadium, the newest professional sports stadium to join the Pittsburgh skyline, became the new home field of Pioneers men's and women's soccer beginning in the fall 2013 season.

On the Waterfront

Highmark Stadium is located in Station Square on the South Side of Pittsburgh and is visible from the Point Park's Downtown campus. The state-of-the-art, 4,000-seat stadium is the home venue

of the Pittsburgh Riverhounds, the city's professional soccer team of USL Pro.

The soccer-specific facility was built during the winter of 2012-13, and it officially opened on April 13, with the Riverhounds' 2013 home opener. Highmark Stadium soon became the place for soccer enthusiasts in Pittsburgh to gather, with the Riverhounds selling out numerous games in the summer of 2013.

With Pittsburgh's new epicenter of soccer in place within walking distance of campus, it became a

natural fit for Point Park to make Highmark Stadium its new, official home venue of Pioneers soccer.

The Point Park men's and women's soccer teams officially moved into the Highmark Stadium when the teams reported for preseason training in August 2013. Both Point Park teams played 10 regular season games there during the 2013 season, and they even hosted playoff games in their first year there.



Point Park men's junior forward Ousman Jaiteh in a game versus Asbury (Ky.) University Oct. 12, 2013.



Point Park junior Angie Abel in a game Sept. 13, 2013 versus Berea (Ky.) College. The Point Park Bison Mascot in the stands.



Point Park junior Kari Kowalski in the inaugural game at Highmark Stadium Sept. 5, 2013 versus West Liberty.



Point Park's Jonty Loukes goes for a header versus Asbury (Ky.) in a 1-0 victory Oct. 12, 2013.

Premier Facility, Spectacular Views

A major appeal of Highmark Stadium is its spectacular views. With an entire sideline open to the Pittsburgh skyline, it provides a backdrop that rivals any stadium in the country. The team benches and stands face the city, and there is also a large, electronic scoreboard on the opposite side.

The playing surface is professional grade with artificial turf providing a consistent and playable pitch for the

Pioneers to hone their craft. All in all, the Pioneers are glad to call the premier soccer facility in Pittsburgh their new home venue.

Point Park's home soccer fields in recent years have been Founders Field in Cheswick, Pa., Century United in South Park, and Cupples Stadium on the South Side.

"We are very excited to play at Highmark Stadium because the quality of the turf and also the venue itself are second to none," said Point Park men's soccer

head coach Jeroen Walstra. "The players love it, and they are proud to be Pioneers. They talk very positively of their experience here, and it will really help in recruiting.

"The close proximity to campus is also a great thing not only for our student-athletes but also for our fans, who now have a much more hospitable place to root for the Pioneers." ♦

Kevin Taylor is director of athletics communications.



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

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