

DONNELLY
COLLEGE

Digest

WINTER
2007

a publication for Donnelly College alumni and friends

Looking Into Their Future



One student's journey from Bolivia to Donnelly, *page 4*
Lansing Program teaches more inmates with technology, *page 6*
Donnelly merchandise now available online!, *page 8*

Donors helping to elevate Donnelly to next level

Donnelly College is headed for great places, and you are helping to take us there. Donnelly is growing in so many exciting ways. Here's just a few highlights from the last year:

- Donnelly received a \$2.8 million federal grant to help launch an LPN program and our second baccalaureate degree, this one in teacher education.
- Our campus grew with the addition of a dormitory and Marian Hall.
- New student support centers and activities were launched, including a Career Center and soccer clubs for men and women.

"A very important part of the joy of living is the joy of giving."

- William Buck

The leadership at every level of the school is committed to our growth, particularly adding new student support programs and providing more scholarships so even more students can have access to higher education. In fact, our Board of Trustees has raised the goal for the school's annual fund to make sure that Donnelly reaches its goals to serve more.

This is the time of year when we all take a moment to count our blessings. I know Donnelly is perennially blessed by the talent of our faculty and staff, by the dedication and diversity of our students, by a community that enriches us, and by your generosity. I say it often, but it is so true, Donnelly absolutely could not carry out its mission without the help of each of you who make a gift to support our endeavors.



Emily Buckley,
Director of Development

Because we want to keep a college education affordable for our students, tuition costs are maintained at less than our true costs. Plus, more than 95% of our students need scholarships. We couldn't do this without your donations to help cover those costs. The generous giving of our alumni and friends reminds me of a quote from William Buck, "A very important part of the joy of living is the joy of giving."

In the coming times of growth, we will be asking you to reach a little deeper and give a little more to touch more lives. We will need your help as we try to reach those individuals seeking to better their lives, and to serve them in new ways.

But you can rest assured that your support really does change lives, and that the gift of education you make possible is truly an incredible blessing you share. Take for example Dr. Lewis Cook, who grew up in the inner city, brimming with crime and drugs, and had to deal with his father being murdered when he was seven. After high school and vo-tech school, he knew he wanted to contribute more to society. So he came to Donnelly, graduated and went on to UMKC to become a dentist. He now practices dentistry, and also gives back to the community by volunteering and mentoring young men.

There are so many stories of students just like this, achieving great things for themselves and their communities, all because your support helps us keep our school going. We hope you will remember Donnelly in your holiday and year-end giving this year.

Emily Buckley

www.donnelly.edu

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ON THE COVER

Teacher Joe Multhauf's physical science class viewing mineral cycles through a microscope and charting their effect on greenhouse gases. Students from left are Brenda Ramos, Jessica Lara, Ray Valenzuela, Joe Multhauf, Anis Nyingnak.

A Taste of Culture



Teresa Kriley, faculty director for the Multicultural Scholars program (standing top left), and Dr. Amber Reagan-Kendrick, dean of students and community services (standing top right), prepare to dine with scholars of the program at the Peachtree Restaurant, at 18th and Vine Streets in Kansas City. The scholars program engages in monthly cultural events for the edification of its student participants. From left to right the students are: Yasmin Campbell, Crystal Ellison, La Che Robinson and Delfina Segura.

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One student's journey from Bolivia to Donnelly

Since childhood, Paola Zapata's father, Edgar, impressed the importance upon her of learning to speak English. Growing up in Bolivia did not provide many opportunities to explore the English language.

Finally, Paola got the chance to study English in the United States. Her parents made arrangements for Paola to come to Kansas City, live with her aunt and select a school in which to learn English.

"I did not want to come to the United States," said Paola. "I was afraid to leave my family, friends and country. So the plans were to go to the United States for six months to improve my English and then come back to my country if I could not get used to being away."

Paola chose to attend Donnelly College because international students are not required to pay out-of-state tuition. "Donnelly has a special meaning for me because since the first day, I found here a second home," Paola said. "I love the diversity in this school; there are students from different countries with different languages. Personally, I feel good for being part of this school."

When asked if anything about Donnelly College surprised her, Paola was quick to respond. "When my aunt was making the papers to enroll me, she realized Donnelly was the same school my father, Edgar, went to 28 years ago. I never imagined coming to the same school my father did 28 years ago. It was a big coincidence, which I am enjoying everyday."

Paola's father finished Donnelly's Eng-



ESL graduate and B.A. student, Paola Zapata

lish as Second Language program and then decided to work on his masters degree in Colorado.

After Paola completed Donnelly's English as Second Language program, she looked at other larger schools in which to complete her education, following in her father's footsteps. Ultimately, Paola decided to remain at Donnelly and pursue a bachelor's degree, which she hopes to attain by the year 2010. Thereafter, she intends to study for a master's degree in business or management.

Paola summed up her future as follows: "The most important goal in my life is to help my country overcome all its problems, having a good education is going to be the most important tool to achieve it. Donnelly is giving me the best experience of leadership and diversity I would ever have."

There are currently 153 students from 31 countries studying in Donnelly College's English as Second Language program.

"Donnelly is giving me the best experience of leadership and diversity I would ever have."

-Paola Zapata

Stress management the Donnelly Career Center way

The Donnelly career center, established as a resource center, is where students and community members receive assistance in career planning and job searching. A variety of services are provided to give guidance to students as they go about choosing, preparing for, and entering a career.

One of the primary goals of the Career Center is to help alleviate some of the stress students often experience when attempting to make good career and employment decisions.

Career Center services are free, and its consultations include providing guidance in the following areas:

- goal setting
- how to get and keep a job
- developing workplace skills
- networking
- self-esteem
- interviewing
- professional dress
- telephone etiquette
- writing/speaking for success.

The Career Center maintains contact with local and national employers who offer fulltime and part-time jobs. Job openings are posted on the JOBS Bulletin Board located on the fourth floor, and are sent to students via email.

When asked how the Donnelly Career Center keeps Donnelly students abreast of the employment needs of the nationwide employers, Jane Ballagh de Tovar, career center coordinator, responded. “More and more companies are partnering with technical and professional staffing agencies.

The career center facilitates regular communication between our students and the leading technical and professional staffing agencies..”

Students undecided about a major or a career, and individuals wanting to establish or change careers can take interest inventories and assessment tests to help them become more knowledgeable about their value, interests, skills and abilities. Information about educational programs and occupational opportunities is also available.



Students researching career and employment opportunities at Donnelly's new Career Center

“By developing good workplace skills, becoming more self-aware, being knowledgeable about the world-of-work, and having the appropriate tools and resources, the job seeker can make the career decision-making process and the job search journey a lot more manageable,” said Career Center Coordinator Jane Ballagh de Tovar.

Using technology to teach more inmates at Lansing

by Napoleon Crews

“Most significantly, 66 Donnelly students have been released from prison and only one (1.5%) has returned, compared to the national average for recidivism of 53%.”

Steve Jansen, lead instructor and on-site coordinator for Donnelly’s Lansing Prison program, walked me from the Minimum Security yard into the Maximum Security yard, where inmates lifted weights, played basketball and exercised. There were no gates or fences between us.

Steve was there to coordinate an evening class in Business 101 and I to observe.

Darkness had fallen, and fluorescent yard-lights bathed everything in a dim, pinkish glow. The near darkness bothered me, but Steve seemed unaffected by the lack of light. The inmates moved about the bas-

It was in 2001 that Donnelly College partnered with the Lansing Correctional Facility to provide an Associate Degree Program to inmates. The partnership arose out of a challenge made to Dr. Ken Gibson, Donnelly College’s former president, to have Donnelly teach college classes to inmates at the Lansing Correctional Facility.

Studies have shown that earning a college degree is the single most effective tool to lower recidivism, creates self sufficiency and self confidence among inmates.

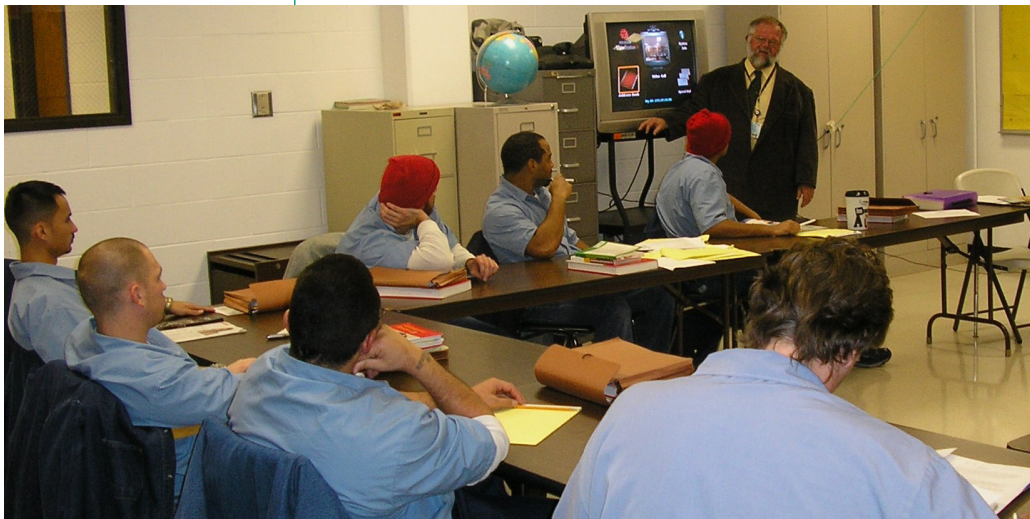
It wasn’t long until the project gained the support of Lansing prison officials, area business leaders and community members.

After a lengthy process, Donnelly obtained accreditation for the prison education program, and the Lansing Correctional Facility donated classroom and office space. The result is that the correctional facility was designated as Donnelly College’s second campus, further fulfilling Donnelly’s mission of providing education to those who might otherwise not be

served.

In 2006, for cost efficiencies, the Lansing program was reorganized, resulting in a new requirement that each class offered must have a minimum of 12 students enrolled in it before the class could be taught.

It often proved difficult to meet the 12-student-minimum within each of the three



Dr. Steve Jansen, Lead Instructor and on-site coordinator of Donnelly’s Associate Degree Program at Lansing Correctional Facility in Lansing, Kansas, is coordinating a simulcast of a Business 101 class to medium security inmates.

ketball court and weight machines without missing a step.

“These guys are ripped with muscles and they need to be as you can imagine,” said Steve, reading my mind. “Great pains are taken to make sure the inmates have all of the bodybuilding equipment they need. I’m happy to say that since 2001, Donnelly College has devoted similar effort to develop their minds.”

separate prison cell blocks - minimum, medium and maximum security levels. Further it was also challenging to move prisoners through the layers of security in order to get them to a class in another cell block.

In early 2007, the Donnelly College and Lansing Correctional Facility partnership again combined forces to provide multi-classroom linking as a new feature of the Lansing program.

The separate minimum, medium and maximum security classrooms were linked with cameras and video equipment to allow each facility to host a course being taught and simultaneously broadcast from a single classroom.

Gone were the problems of navigating layers of security precautions from one facility to another. The 12-student minimum became much easier to reach since the same class could now be taught at the same time in each of the three security levels.

New Student Orientation at the Lansing Correctional Facility includes the administration of placement tests to inmates seeking admission. The tests are designed to assess the readiness of prospective students to do college-level work.

“As one can imagine,” said Steve, “time in prison weighs heavy on the inmates. Providing the means for inmates to be successful college students and obtain a degree, produces positive results.”

One graduate from the Lansing program captured the essence of what this unique program meant to him.

“Thank you for providing me with the wonderful opportunity to utilize my time efficiently by helping me to achieve the first step in the pursuit of my academic goals. Donnelly not only provided me with the opportunity to develop my academic potential, but also the opportunity to become a better person.”

“I believe that teaching inmates in the Lansing program has been a rewarding learning experience for me as well as for the inmates,” said Steve.

Since 2001, 120 classes have been taught, 256 men have completed class, 13 have graduated with associate's degrees and several are working on bachelor's degrees.

“Great pains are taken to make sure the inmates have all of the bodybuilding equipment they need. I am happy to say that since 2001, Donnelly College has devoted similar effort to develop their minds.”



Dr. Jansen is using the new technology to simulcast his teaching in the Maximum security classroom to classes that are being chaperoned in the minimum and medium level security sites.

Most significantly, 66 Donnelly students have been released from prison and only one (1.5%) has returned, compared to the national average for recidivism of 53%.

To learn more about this program or how you can help, call Emily Buckley, (913) 621-8731 or email ebuckley@donnelly.edu.

Donnelly College Merchandise is now available for sale!

*Makes a
great gift!*

Donnelly College has added a new line of merchandise for sale. Whether you are an alumnus, parent of a student, or friend of the school, we hope you'll take advantage of the great new items and show your support for the school!

Place your order online at www.donnelly.edu and request direct shipment or pickup in Donnelly's business office.



**License Plate Frame
\$11.00**



**Heavy Duty Sweatshirts
\$24.00**



**Gildan T-Shirts
\$8.00**



**License Plate (full)
\$15.00**



Lapel Pin, \$4.00



Deluxe Polo Shirt, \$18.00



**Embroidered
Ball Cap \$8.00**



**Lanyard
\$3.00**

Donnelly soccer clubs spur school spirit

The men and women's soccer clubs began the year with high expectations, driven by a strong desire to compete, the will to



juggle yet another responsibility in addition to work and school, and the heart to continue slugging it out, week after week, against teams with fancy uniforms, trainers and grass or indoor practice facilities. Many times, the Donnelly men's team was outnumbered. The north parking lot, with its concrete barriers, served as Donnelly's practice field and the city sidewalks their exercise track.

When asked how the teams managed to keep their enthusiasm, in the face of losses week after week, Soccer Coach Jaime Fuentes was quick to respond. "Both teams demonstrated that they have courage and a love for the game. We have a lot of skilled players but they have not played together



before. More time on the practice field will help them come together as a team."

One has only to attend a soccer game to witness the courage, skill and love for the game of which coach Fuentes spoke. It is also quickly evident that many of the soccer team members speak English as a second language.

"A lot of our students came from foreign countries where soccer is the national sport and playing soccer is important to them," said Sister Lucy Kramer.

Coach Fuentes' plans for the spring 2008 season include registering the men and women's teams in both the indoor and outdoor leagues. "I hope more games and practice time will help keep the players excited and our faithful fans coming to the games," said Coach Fuentes.

"Soccer at Donnelly, what an exciting time!," said Amber Bloomfield-Martinez, Donnelly Soccer fan and the school's Admissions Coordinator. "The students played their hearts out. It wasn't about winning, it was about having fun and being together."



Top Left: The womens team and coaches waiting to take the field against the Oneders at Lenexa.

Top Right: Womens team on the Donnelly practice field.

Above: Father Michael Hermes praying with the men's team before they compete against the Eagles at Overland Park.

Bottom Left: Men's team mapping out their pre-game strategy against the Vermont FC at Overland Park.

Donnelly celebrates “Thanks & Giving” tradition

The roots of Donnelly College’s Thanks and Giving celebration extend back to the early 1980s. In those days, faculty members Cyrus Shadfar and Max Sullins carved turkeys for Donnelly’s international students sharing their foods and traditions at the St. Mary/St. Anthony Church on 7th Street.

“It was a wonderful idea for our ESL (English as Second Language) students to learn about Thanksgiving traditions in the United States,” said Cyrus Shadar, dean. “Some of our students celebrate it differ-

ently; however, the theme of sharing exists in every culture around the world.”

Through the hard work and persistence of another Donnelly faculty member, the late Dolores

Podrebarac, Thanks and Giving became a tradition for the entire Donnelly community and grew to include the sharing of prayers, food and culture by students, staff, alumni and friends.

This year’s event was held on November 20, 2007. Prayers were offered in Swahili, Arabic, Hungarian, Dinka, English, Ukranian, French, Spanish, Romanian and Ndumu. Bright cultural dress splashed color throughout the Chapel Meeting Room.

Tasty dishes from Somalia, India,



Nicaragua, Mexico, Korea and the United States provided a memorable feast. A procession of food baskets from the Organization of Student Leaders’ food drive evidenced that provision had also been made for the needy.

“ESL students are always fascinated with Thanksgiving,” said faculty member Denise Johnson. “Why do we have Thanksgiving? How do we celebrate it? What is pumpkin pie? These are a few of the common questions that students always ask. For many of them, Donnelly College is a place they can ask about and experience the cultural traditions surrounding Thanksgiv-



Top Right: Viktoriay Miftakhova offering her prayer in Ukranian.

Above: Students, staff, alumni and friends enjoying the Thanks and Giving feast.

Bottom Right: Carrying their Thanks and Giving basket as their gift to the needy.



ing. The Thanks and Giving program allows them to participate in American culture while sharing their own and giving to their classmates which is important to them.”

Interesting insight into the effect of the Donnelly Thanks and Giving celebration on Donnelly students is gained from the following:

Ornella Deing Ozumett from Gabon - “It was a new experience for me. The food we shared and ate at Donnelly was great. It was nice to hear about other cultures.”

Nabi Agzamov from Uzbekistan - “It was a great opportunity to learn more about American culture, the food was great!”

Mohammad Ghanim from Jordan - “It was great and beautiful to see people from another country sharing their prayers in different languages. The food was great too!!!”



Many guests attended the program, including (from left to right, front to back rows) Willie Etta Jennings and Mary Pat Beals, Sr. Mary Lucy Kramer, Tony Skabialka '60, Emily Buckley, Jim Owens, Sr. Marie Kathleen Daugherty, Pat and B.J. Callaghan, '59 and '59, Belinda Ogan and Danial Braum, '71.

Dorottya Pap from Hungary added, “It was nice. We do not celebrate Thanksgiving in my country. It was my first time experiencing something so nice and beautiful.”

Creating a Legacy of Caring

Why?

There are many reasons for making a gift to Donnelly College:

- to support of our mission and programs
- to invest in education to change the community - and lives - one student at a time
- to continue the Catholic tradition of education rooted in values
- to give back to the next generation, particularly those needing an extra hand
- or to take advantage of charitable deduction tax credits.



Ways to Give Back:

- Checks, Cash, Credit Cards
- Stocks, Bonds, Mutual Funds
- Wills & Bequests
- Donate your Time and Talent - VOLUNTEER at Donnelly!
- Charitable Gift Annuity
- Charitable Remainder Trust
- Life Insurance

There are many easy ways to contribute, several of which can also generate annual income for yourself.

More Information:

If you would like more information about making year-end gifts to Donnelly College, **contact:**

Emily Buckley, Director of Development,
at **913-621-8731** or **ebuckley@donnelly.edu**.

Your support will help continue Donnelly College's tradition of offering the opportunity of quality higher education to all!

Join others in Donnelly's Legacy Society

**Already made a planned gift for Donnelly?
Please let us know so we can add your name
to our growing Legacy Society!**



ALUMNI ASSOCIATION KCK CHURCH TOUR

On October 24th a group of Donnelly alumni and friends visited six of the Catholic churches in the Donnelly neighborhood. Michael Rebout, class of 1972, provided a fascinating guided tour of the Cathedral of St. Peter.

Future Alumni Association trips include a tour of the Strawberry Hill Museum in January and a visit to Atchison, Kansas in April.

For more information on Alumni Association activities visit www.donnelly.edu and go to the alumni section.



Calendar of Events

JANUARY

January 7-11 Registration
January 14 Semester Begins
January 21 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
(closed in observance)
January 24 Strawberry Hill Museum Tour

FEBRUARY

February 13 Black History Month lecture
J. Edgar Tidwell "Against all odds"
February 22 TRiO Day

MARCH

March 2 & 3 Donnelly Alumni Phonathon
March 17-21 Spring Break

APRIL

April 24 & 25 Donnelly Multi-Cultural Fair



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