Czechs endow Vincentian scholarship with $750,000 gift

DePaul University Trustee James L. Czech (COM ’61) and his wife, Diane Czech, recently gave $750,000 to establish the Czech Vincentian Scholar Society Endowed Scholarship in DePaul’s College of Commerce.

The full scholarship will be awarded to a qualifying incoming freshman, who will be required to take a Vincentian Studies class and perform community service.

According to the Czechs, the gift is a response to a DePaul Board of Trustees decision a year ago to prepare for the day when DePaul’s mission would likely be carried on by leaders from outside the ranks of the Vincentian Catholic missionaries who founded DePaul.

“We can pray for vocations, but in this way we can ask people to specifically look at community and mission and study it,” says Diane Czech. “Hopefully when they go forth in their lives, they can influence people to do more in their community.”

“Our gift will impact just one person,” Jim Czech explains. “Diane and I would like to see more of these scholarships awarded each year in every college at DePaul. If we can get 10 to 15 other folks interested in giving at this level, then the university could be offering 10 to 15 opportunities a year.”

“This scholarship gift will enable students to immerse themselves in the values that inspired St. Vincent de Paul to serve and change the lives of the poor,” says the Rev. Dennis H. Holtschneider, C.M., president of DePaul. “I am deeply grateful to Jim and Diane for the more than $1 million in gifts they have made to DePaul over the years.”

For more information about the College of Commerce, contact Denny Moller, senior director of development, at (312) 362-6307.
The Mazza Foundation pledged $600,000 over five years to create the comprehensive Mazza Scholars program at DePaul University.

The five-year scholarship supports highly promising students who demonstrate financial need and who either graduated from a Chicago Catholic high school supported by the Big Shoulders Fund or previously received a Mazza Foundation scholarship. DePaul selected the first six Mazza Scholars in May.

The scholarship at DePaul complements the Mazza Foundation scholarships at Catholic grade schools and high schools supported by the Big Shoulders Fund, according to Joseph O. Rubinelli Jr., a foundation board member.

“Our partnership with DePaul is a natural fit,” says Rubinelli. “Like the Mazza Foundation, DePaul is deeply committed to Chicago, supports the education of inner-city and first-generation college students, and has a strong Catholic identity.”

In addition to tuition support, the Mazza Scholars program will help scholars reach graduation by pairing them with peer mentors at DePaul and providing monthly workshops to help scholars improve their study skills and adjust to college life.

The program brings scholars full circle by asking them to serve as mentors for students at high schools supported by the Big Shoulders Fund.

Anthony Colon, a Mazza Scholar and the first in his family to attend college, sees the scholarship as a stepping stone to a successful academic and professional career.

“I almost stopped breathing when I learned that I might receive the scholarship,” he says. “It feels so good to focus on my studies and not on loans, and to have the opportunity to mentor other students. I intend to take full advantage of what the scholarship program offers.”

For more information on creating a scholarship at DePaul, contact Jennifer Keller, senior director of development, at (312) 362-7517.

Learn more at giving.depaul.edu
DePaul raises $20.3 million, expands philanthropic initiatives

Despite an uncertain economy, DePaul University’s Office of Advancement raised $20.3 million during the fiscal year that ended June 30, making it the university’s third-best fundraising year.

More than 8,700 donors made gifts ranging from less than $100 up to $2 million.

Under the direction of DePaul’s president, the Rev. Dennis H. Holtschneider, C.M., the university has focused its fundraising efforts during the past few years on increasing support for student scholarships, faculty, programs and facilities that enhance the educational experience.

The most tangible sign of the successful fundraising year is the new environmentally friendly Monsignor Andrew J. McGowan Science Building on the Lincoln Park Campus, which opened for classes Jan. 5.

The facility was the centerpiece of the $20 million Campaign for Excellence in Science. The campaign also funded scholarships for students studying science and math, as well as science programs, including initiatives intended to boost science education among K-12 teachers and encourage minorities to pursue doctorates in the sciences.

Future fundraising initiatives will help fund new School of Music and Theatre School performance facilities, which are major components of the university’s 10-year strategic plan to redevelop the Lincoln Park Campus.

“With the continued support of our donors, FY2010 promises to be another good year,” says Mary Finger, DePaul’s senior vice president for Advancement. “We will be in an even better position to expand opportunities for all students, particularly those of modest means, who seek a stellar education.”

Learn more at giving.depaul.edu

DePaul professor, family endow scholarship with $50,000 gift

Kevin T. Stevens (COM MST ’86), director of the School of Accountancy and Management Information Systems at DePaul University, has listened to too many outstanding students tell him they are dropping out because they cannot afford tuition or rent.

In response, Stevens and his wife, Marietta Nolan Stevens, have established a scholarship to enable such students to complete college.

Named for his parents, The William C. and Eileen B. Stevens Endowed Scholarship is funded with a $50,000 gift from Stevens and his wife, siblings Daniel (COM MST ’83) and William (a former DePaul professor), and lifelong friend Roger Brice (LAS ’70).

“I wanted to set up something that would honor my parents, two extraordinary, hardworking people, who lived paycheck to paycheck but were committed to family and determined to give all of their 12 children a good education,” says Stevens. “The other part is that I feel it is my responsibility to help our students financially, not just to teach them.”

For Stevens, stepping up to the plate is also a matter of principle. “How can I go out and ask people to give money to scholarships if I’m not willing to put some skin in the game?” he asks.

For more information about the College of Commerce, contact Denny Moller, senior director of development, at (312) 362-6307.

Learn more at accountancy.depaul.edu
Deloitte launches campaign to endow faculty fellowship

DePaul University alumni at accounting giant Deloitte are creating a permanent fund in support of the university through the Deloitte Faculty Fellowship.

Fundraising began last year for the endowed fellowship, which will provide perpetual recognition and financial support to a faculty member in the School of Accountancy and Management Information Systems (MIS).

“It is critical that the accounting profession supports its professors, especially DePaul graduates who benefited from the university’s many talented faculty,” says Stacy Janiak (COM ‘92), vice chairman and U.S. retail leader at Deloitte. “DePaul’s excellent education combined with practical experience is still a unique combination in higher education.”

Janiak; Scott Steffens (COM ‘89), who recently joined Grant Thornton; Deloitte Audit Manager Jenny Ciszewski (COM ‘02); and Deloitte Senior Manager Tyson May (COM ‘00) have been the driving force behind Deloitte’s support of DePaul through both their personal philanthropy and Deloitte’s annual Corporate Giving Campaign. The campaigns create a DePaul community within companies by connecting alumni to each other and DePaul.

The Deloitte Corporate Giving Campaign continues to raise some $30,000 annually to fund the Deloitte Alumni Distinguished Professorship of Accountancy currently held by Professor John E. McEnroe. The Deloitte Foundation matches all gifts, more than doubling Deloitte employees’ support of DePaul.

To learn more about the Deloitte Faculty Fellowship, contact Amanda Van Zee, associate director of development, at (312) 362-5563.

Telefund students win Student Philanthropy Award

DePaul student groups competed for the Student Philanthropy Award during DePaul’s Philanthropy Week 2009. The Telefund Group, represented by Maria Vulo (left) and Rachel Poole, won for its efforts to fundraise for DePaul’s art programs in memory of student Fausto Manzera, who died in a car accident. To learn more, contact Rabya Anees, assistant director of annual and special giving, at (312) 362-7107.

Music Gala supports scholarships

The annual School of Music Spring Concert and Gala, which is organized by the Music Advisory Board, raised $88,000 for music scholarships. Guests enjoyed a DePaul Symphony Orchestra performance of Brahms, Tchaikovsky and Stravinsky in the Chicago Symphony Center. Pictured are Sasha Gerritson (left), a School of Music Advisory Board and Performing Arts Campaign Committee member, and Eugene Jarvis. To learn more, contact Stephanie Oberhausen, director of development, at (312) 362-6331.
DePaul strengthens its commitment to alumni

Patricia O’Donoghue, a professor, clinician and former president of Mount Mary College in Milwaukee, has been appointed vice president for Alumni Outreach and Engagement at DePaul University. Her appointment to the newly created post marks DePaul’s commitment to connecting with alumni, parents and other university stakeholders. This fall, O’Donoghue will be meeting with alumni and friends at a series of receptions nationwide. Learn more at alumni.depaul.edu.

Richardson welcomed back to DePaul

DePaul faculty, staff, alumni and friends welcomed the Rev. John T. Richardson, C.M., back to DePaul at a July reception on the Lincoln Park Campus. Richardson, who served as DePaul’s ninth president from 1981 to 1993 and is currently DePaul’s chancellor, has taught theology at Christ the King Major Seminary in Nyeri, Kenya since 1997. Pictured from left are Harlene Cohen, Richardson and Ed Cohen, a DePaul accounting professor.

Theatre faculty member creates costume technology scholarship

Janet Messmer, head of Costume Technology for The Theatre School at DePaul University, recently created a bequest to endow a scholarship in costume technology, the process of translating costume designs into the clothing actors wear.

“I want to assist talented students majoring in the branch of the theatre where I have spent my entire working life, but who might need some financial help,” says Messmer. “I also want to give back to DePaul, as I am grateful that the university has supported me for 31 years and helped me achieve my career goals.”

A native of Peoria, Ill., Messmer managed the costume shop and taught at the Goodman School of Drama in Chicago before joining DePaul in 1978, when the Goodman School of Drama became The Theatre School at DePaul University.

“Our students are fantastic,” says Messmer. “We work with an unusual group of very talented young people who, at 18 years old, have committed to a specific career path in theater, like costume technology, and come to us to train them to work at the highest levels of their profession.”

In addition to teaching, Messmer has served as a costume draper and cutter for many productions in Chicago and around the nation. She also is the costume curator for the Evanston History Center, where she has curated numerous exhibits.

For more information on making a planned gift to DePaul, contact Joel Schaffer, assistant vice president of planned giving, at (312) 362-5319.

Learn more at giving.depaul.edu
Larry Stack

Larry Stack (LAS ‘63, MA ‘65) (right) was recently elected co-chair of the President’s Club Advisory Council, along with fellow co-chair Stacia Taylor (COM ’76) (center) and secretary Daniel Hayes (LAS MS ’91, MBA ‘98) (left).

A native of Chicago’s Southside, Stack was the first in his family to attend college. Today, he is chairman emeritus of Brownson Rehmus and Foxworth, a national investment advisory firm, and an adjunct professor of history at the University of Illinois-Chicago.

Tell me about your DePaul experience.

Stack: As a student of modest means, I could not afford to attend DePaul, even though my parents placed great value on Catholic education. Fortunately, I learned of an examination for a few competitive scholarships for DePaul and won one. I took away from DePaul two great things. The first was my lovely wife Nancy, whom I met in the laboratory of Professor Dan Posin. The second was the understanding that learning must be continuous if one is to be a success in any field.

Why do you support DePaul?

Stack: I support this great school because it continues to do what it has always done: give young people a chance to acquire the skill and the spirit and the attitude that will make them successful, whatever path they happen to choose.

Beaudoin continues giving in retirement

During her 45-year affiliation with DePaul, Elaine Beaudoin (LAS ‘68, MBA ‘79) has pretty much done it all.

She was a student, librarian, associate library director, creator of DePaul’s procurement office, head of its physical plant and security department, vice president for Administration, and the first woman and second non-Vincentian to be secretary of the university.

Since retiring in 2002, Beaudoin founded the Staff Emeritus Society and when it combined with the Emeritus Professors Society in 2008 to form the DePaul Emeritus Society (DES), she served and continues to serve as its president. Numbering some 260 retired faculty and staff members, DES is dedicated, she says, to “helping retirees maintain their connection to DePaul and to each other.”

DES is sponsoring two projects: an oral history of the university and a collection of DePaul memorabilia for the archives. DES members also gave some $121,000 to DePaul during the 2009 fiscal year, as well as awarded its first $2,000 scholarship.

A steady giver to the university before her days with DES, Beaudoin admits she had not always been so generous.

“Well, I used to say that I gave every day at work,” she says. “But in reflecting on my time here, I realized that DePaul not only educated me twice but gave me an opportunity of a lifetime. And besides, I don’t think there’s anything better than education to change the world.”

For more information on DES, contact Alice Farrell of the Office of Mission and Values at (312) 362-8822 or afarrell@depaul.edu.
DePaul celebrates Burnham Centennial with city schools

Up to 174 grade schools in the Chicago Public Schools (CPS) system are celebrating the Burnham Plan Centennial through a learning project spearheaded by the Polk Bros. Foundation Center for Urban Education in DePaul’s School for New Learning.

Historically significant for its impact on urban development, the 1909 plan by architect and urban planner Daniel Burnham and his colleague Edward Bennett shaped Chicago’s growth and character throughout the past century.

The foundation’s support has enabled the center to organize and introduce curriculum and projects that link the core CPS curriculum with the city’s progress.

The center has developed two units built around the Burnham Plan to help schools teach third- and eighth-grade students about Chicago’s development and challenge them to create their own plan for improving their neighborhoods.

To introduce and support use of the curriculum, the center has organized a series of centennial-themed workshops for teachers and area coaches of literacy, bilingual education and special education.

“These workshops continued this summer so that the project has teachers’ support for ongoing implementation,” says Barbara Radner, associate professor and center director.

As part of the initiative, the center also is helping Chicago schools develop and implement projects based on the centennial themes. These will include school-wide service learning projects.

For more information about the School for New Learning, contact Jim Dauer, director of development, at (312) 362-6374.

INVEST IN STUDENTS’ FUTURES

Help students attend college by contributing to DePaul’s general scholarship fund. Scholarship awards named for donors or in honor of an individual or family can be created with gifts of $10,000 or more.

» giving.depaul.edu

BURNHAM CENTENNIAL ACTIVITIES AT CPS SCHOOLS

- Exploring the Burnham Plan’s relevance to Chicago’s future
- Learning how civic choices affect Chicago’s growth
- Discussing students’ ideas for changes to Chicago
- Performing service learning activities
- Writing letters to Chicago’s mayor

Learn more at snl.depaul.edu

Students in the third-grade bilingual class at Sabin Magnet School designed a new flag for the Chicago of their dreams.

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FAST FACT

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DePaul University
Events at DePaul

October

8  Alumni Reception in Boston, featuring Patricia O’Donoghue, vice president for Alumni Outreach and Engagement at DePaul University

16-18  Reunion Weekend
Reconnect with classmates and friends, share memories and revisit your alma mater during an event-filled weekend. Learn more and register at alumni.depaul.edu/events/reunion.

20  Alumni Reception in Denver, featuring Patricia O’Donoghue, vice president for Alumni Outreach and Engagement at DePaul University

22  Alumni Reception in Seattle, featuring Patricia O’Donoghue, vice president for Alumni Outreach and Engagement at DePaul University

November

12  Alumni Reception in St. Charles, Ill., featuring Patricia O’Donoghue, vice president for Alumni Outreach and Engagement at DePaul University

December

3  President’s Holiday Celebration
on DePaul’s Lincoln Park Campus

Connect with DePaul and friends online!

LinkedIn: DePaul University Alumni Association
Demon Tracks blog: depauldemontracks.wordpress.com
Flickr: flickr.com/groups/depuul_spirit
Facebook: facebook.com/depaulalumni
Twitter: twitter.com/depualalumni
YouTube: youtube.com/depaulalumnifriends

Learn more at alumni.depaul.edu/SocialMedia