Beginning this fall, finance students at DePaul University will gain hands-on experience with the latest financial technology in a new virtual electronic trading room on the Loop Campus.

“The classroom will simulate the look and feel of a real trading room and teach the students how to use financial data, generate trades, manage portfolios and monitor the risk of their positions,” says Ali Fatemi, chair of the finance department. “This exposure will help them be more competitive for the jobs of today and tomorrow.”

According to Fatemi, some 400 students annually will attend classes in the trading room to learn about trading, financial consulting, investment banking, corporate finance and investment management.

The facility features state-of-the-art technology and financial data services, including a live electronic stock ticker and 18 dual-monitor computer stations where students will have access to feeds from newswire services, analytical tools, trading platforms, portfolio analytics and risk management software.

Data services will include Morningstar Direct, Morningstar Advisor, Bloomberg, Bara, Thompson Financial, Capital IQ and Aspen Graphics.

“We are committed to providing the best possible education for our students,” says Fatemi. “The trading room is one of the many ways we integrate practical tools into our conceptually grounded education.”

finance.depaul.edu
From the desk of the president

Arts at DePaul contribute to Chicago’s cultural fabric

Chicago is a world-class cultural center. DePaul’s innovative arts programming adds to this vibrant artistic environment and offers numerous cultural opportunities to the community.

Established in 1912, the School of Music is one of the best programs of its kind. Students learn from educators who are some of the world’s finest and most respected conductors, composers, performers and recording artists. We annually present more than 300 public performances in a variety of musical styles, providing 20,000 people with wonderful opportunities to experience our work.

The Theatre School at DePaul, founded as the Goodman School of Drama, produces public programs and performances from a wide repertoire of classic, contemporary and original plays. Students are involved in every aspect of production — set design, lighting, costume, make-up, ticket-taking, ushering and, of course, performing on stage. The Chicago Playworks for Families and Young Audiences, one of America’s first continuously operating children’s theatres, offers many young Chicagoans their first theatrical experience.

Another jewel is the DePaul University Museum on our Lincoln Park Campus. The museum is a focal point for teaching and discussion through visual arts and material culture. It is the only museum in Chicago systematically collecting works by local artists. It also holds distinguished modern photographs and Old Master paintings and prints.

I invite you to experience the culture DePaul has to offer. It is one of the ways we reach out to our community and extend the DePaul family.

Rev. Dennis H. Holtschneider, C.M.
President

i president.depaul.edu

Seven strategies for strengthening Chicago’s economy

Joe Balasa (COM ‘70), chief operating officer of the Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce and DePaul University alumnus, identifies seven key strategies for strengthening the region’s position in the global economy.

1} Innovate and accelerate.
Chicago businesses must make innovation part of their culture, as regions that foster innovation experience higher economic performance. Strategic investment can accelerate this innovation.

2} Inspire the entrepreneurial spirit.
Because entrepreneurs create the vast majority of new jobs, we must find ways to support them.

3} Increase exports.
Illinois exports increased between 15 percent and 20 percent last year. Businesses should continue to take advantage of the weak dollar to enter new markets around the world.

4} Encourage educational achievement.
Lifelong education and worker training is critical for the success of the region’s economy. Businesses are scrambling to find skilled workers, and Chicago’s students must have the education to compete with people around the world for jobs.

5} Invest in transportation and infrastructure.
We must improve our ability to transport people and goods in our region.

6} Market Chicago to the world.
Chicago must continue to cultivate an image that attracts global trade and investment and entices professionals to relocate and stay here. We should talk more about our incredible assets, such as McCormick Place and O’Hare International Airport.

7} Enhance the business climate.
Our biggest challenge is ensuring that taxes and regulatory policies foster entrepreneurship and innovation and encourage businesses to stay in the region.

i chicagolandchamber.org
DePaul launches legal clinic to protect students with developmental disabilities

Students with developmental disabilities gained a powerful advocate for their educational rights when the new Special Education Advocacy Clinic opened in the DePaul University College of Law.

“The Special Education Advocacy Clinic addresses the needs of children with developmental disabilities who may have otherwise never had a voice,” said Glen Weissenberger, dean of the College of Law. “The most attractive component of this clinic and the law school’s other clinical programs is that they serve as a rich resource for practical education for students while simultaneously benefiting the community at large.”

The Special Education Advocacy Clinic protects the educational rights of children with disabilities such as mental retardation, autism, cerebral palsy, epilepsy or specific learning disabilities.

The clinic provides legal representation to financially distressed parents of these children and increases educational opportunities for law students in the area of special education law. It also promotes policies favorable to the educational needs of the children.

The clinic is funded in part by the Illinois Council on Developmental Disabilities through a $123,000 Cultural Diversity at the Policy Table grant.

Established in 1912, DePaul’s College of Law is ranked among the top 100 law schools in the country by U.S. News & World Report. The college has eight clinical programs, including special education advocacy, asylum and immigration law, civil rights, criminal appeals, justice in capital cases, family law, misdemeanor defense, and intellectual property law.

More Americans are taking the bus, says DePaul study

Joseph Schwieterman, executive director of DePaul’s Chaddick Institute for Metropolitan Development, along with Christine Towles and Lauren Fischer, graduate students at DePaul’s School of Public Service, led the team that conducted an exhaustive study of decades of intercity bus schedules for selected markets across the nation.

They found a roughly 13 percent growth in route miles traveled in 2007 compared to the prior year. The biggest beneficiary of this increased traffic is Chicago due in large part to new carriers, such as Megabus. A variety of carriers expanded along the nation’s coasts as well.

The study, which gained national media coverage, was triggered by the 25th anniversary of federal deregulation of the intercity bus industry, as well as strong hunches by students that a combination of factors—including growing environmental awareness—may have resulted in a better operating environment for the bus industry.
DePaul celebrates the Burnham Plan centennial

In celebration of next year’s centennial of Daniel Burnham’s Plan of Chicago, DePaul University is integrating the plan and related themes, from community development to American history, into a variety of university programs and initiatives.

The first comprehensive plan for the development of Chicago, the Burnham Plan led to the creation of the lakefront parks and the systematic arrangement of the city’s streets.

“The Burnham Plan and DePaul’s urban and Vincentian mission are a perfect match, as Burnham’s vision and DePaul help make Chicago a world-class city,” says Joseph Schwieterman, director of DePaul’s Chaddick Institute for Metropolitan Development. “This effort celebrates the past and continues the conversation among scholars, students and the community about how to continue improving Chicago.”

DePaul’s centennial celebrations are held in collaboration with Chicago Metropolis 2020 and its 150 partner organizations, the Harry F. Chaddick Foundation, other universities and civic leaders.

During the 2008-09 academic year, more than 35 undergraduate and graduate courses will incorporate Burnham themes. DePaul also is planning several urban planning programs for high school students, faculty conferences, research seminars and a September 2009 birthday celebration for Daniel Burnham.

To help Chicago Public School (CPS) students learn about the city and improve their ability to read, write and think, the Center for Urban Education in DePaul’s School for New Learning created a third-grade curriculum around the choices that led to the development of Chicago. Sponsored by the Burnham Plan Centennial, the curriculum was tested in five CPS schools in spring 2008 and will be taught in all CPS elementary schools in spring 2009 in conjunction with the centennial of the Burnham Plan.

DePaul geography students explore Chicago’s transition from an industrial city to global metropolis during a field trip to Millennium Park.

DePaul freshmen are learning about Burnham, his architecture and his plan’s contributions to Chicago through “Discover Chicago,” an experiential learning program that acquaints first-year students with the city. “We believe that studying Burnham and his plan is a fantastic way to understand our city and a great way for new students to approach college-level work,” says Program Director Mark Pohlad.

The DePaul Museum recently acquired 57 architectural drawings by D.H. Burnham and Company with funds from the Richard H. Driehaus Charitable Lead Trust. The drawings, which range from façade drawings to engineering plans, will be exhibited in the summer of 2009. According to Museum Director Louise Lincoln, the drawings provide students with resources for study and contribute to the museum’s growing collections of Chicago art and architecture and design.

A 1927 D.H. Burnham and Company drawing for the terra cotta façade of Chicago’s Carbide and Carbon Building, now the Hard Rock Hotel.
Instructor receives national award for internship program

Karen M. Roloff, director of internships for DePaul University’s College of Communication, recently received the inaugural Michael Steuerman Award for Distinguished Service from the National Society for Experiential Education.

The national award recognizes her distinguished work in the field of experiential education and her leadership within the organization.

The College of Communication’s internship program provides students with nearly 900 internship opportunities at network radio and television outlets, public relations and advertising agencies, retail and nonprofit organizations, independent film companies, local and national political offices, entertainment venues, and sports franchises.

Cappos create first endowed scholarship in communication

Longtime Chicago journalist and DePaul alumnus Joe Cappo (LAS ’57) and his wife, Mary Anne, created the first endowed scholarship for DePaul University’s new College of Communication.

Beginning this fall, the Joe and Mary Anne Cappo Endowed Scholarship will be awarded to a College of Communication junior or senior who is the first in his or her family to attend college, reinforcing DePaul’s commitment to first-generation college students.

A member of the Chicago Journalism Hall of Fame, Cappo is a former editor, writer, columnist and publisher for Crain’s Chicago Business, Chicago Daily News and Advertising Age.

Accounting professors recognized for advancing diversity and lifetime achievement

Two DePaul University accounting professors recently were recognized by the Illinois CPA Society. Associate Professor of Accountancy Elizabeth Murphy (COM ’74, MBA ’77) received the first Outstanding Leadership in Advancing Diversity Award. The new annual award recognizes an Illinois certified public accountant who has made a “marked contribution to diversity within the accounting profession.” Murphy advises the DePaul student chapter of the Midwest Association of Hispanic Accountants.

Belverd Needles Jr., the Ernst & Young Professor of Accountancy at DePaul, received the Lifetime Achievement Award. Needles is the author of the textbook “Principles of Accounting,” which is used in classrooms throughout the world.

Trustee recognized for commitment to public service

DePaul University trustee and alumnus John Simon (JD ’67) was awarded the prestigious John Paul Stevens Award for his contribution to public service.

The award, given by The Chicago Bar Foundation and The Chicago Bar Association, is named for the Illinois Supreme Court justice in honor of his dedication to improving the system of justice.

A partner at law firm Jenner & Block since 1986, Simon has held leadership positions in a variety of civic and legal organizations and is dedicated to providing pro bono legal representation. He recently ended his term as chair of DePaul’s board of trustees.
Business school launches innovative course in Islamic banking

One of the fastest growing areas of finance — Islamic banking — is the subject of a new course at DePaul University’s business school.

The course, which debuted in fall 2007, puts DePaul’s Kellstadt Graduate School of Business at the forefront of American business schools offering opportunities to study Islamic banking. Only a few universities nationally have any programs focusing on this topic, despite the fact that Islamic banking has grown 10 percent to 15 percent each year during the last decade and is expanding rapidly into countries that are not majority Muslim.

The industry currently comprises 300 Islamic financial institutions in 51 countries, and more than 250 mutual funds adhere to Islamic principles, according to the International Monetary Fund.

Islamic banking is guided by Sharia, or Islamic law, which emphasizes socially equitable investing, prohibits charging interest and investing in alcohol- or pork-related industries, and abides by other accounting rules unique to Islamic institutions.

“DePaul has always been a strong proponent of multicultural education, and this is especially important for finance students because the business world is so globally intertwined,” says Ali Fatemi, chair of DePaul’s finance department. “Knowledge of the growing Islamic banking and finance industry is essential for students who seek a well-rounded business education.”