DePaul contributes academic resources to Chicago’s Olympic bid

DePaul University is leveraging its academic resources and long-term partnerships with community organizations to help Chicago create an equitable and compelling bid for the 2016 Olympics.

Researchers with the Monsignor John J. Egan Urban Center at DePaul University are studying the economic and community impacts of hosting the Olympics.

“Our intent is to help create the best planning model for the 2016 Olympics by tapping into our strong relationships with the Chicago community, studying the experiences of previous Olympic cities, and collaborating with other local organizations and foundations involved in planning for the Olympics,” says Michael Bennett, executive director of the Egan Center.

“Megaprojects like the Olympics can have a great positive or negative effect on the community,” continues Bennett. “Our work will help ensure that community development policy and practice — particularly regarding social and economic justice issues — are addressed and that the right questions are asked during the planning process.”

Assisting with the study are Larry Bennett, professor of political science; Steve Alexander, Egan Center senior research fellow; and DePaul students. The study, which will be released in summer 2008, will include a set of key elements for developing a model for the Olympic games that provides sustained benefits for the host city and its neighborhoods. The research is funded by the Annie E. Casey Foundation as part of its commitment to strengthening families and communities.

DePaul is making several other contributions to Chicago’s Olympic bid. The Rev. Dennis H. Holtschneider, C.M., president of DePaul University, is a member of Chicago’s 2016 Olympic Exploratory Committee. Additionally, in fall 2007, communication professor Michael Conklin’s journalism class explored Chicago’s bid for the Olympics and Paralympics, with work produced by students scheduled for a special section of The DePaulia student newspaper.

The International Olympic Committee will announce the 2016 host city in October 2009.
Environmentalism and market go hand in hand, says CEO

Mike Keiser co-founded and now oversees Recycled Paper Greetings. The greeting card company — the third largest in the United States — was the first leading company in its industry to use 100 percent recycled paper in its products. Keiser sits on DePaul’s Capital Campaign Planning Committee and College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Advisory Board.

Q Why did you introduce greeting cards on recycled paper?

Keiser: We thought the time was right in 1971, the first year Earth Day was recognized by the United Nations. In many ways, the business environment was no different than it is today. Everyone is interested in the environment and recycling. Interestingly, there really isn’t as much recycling today as you would expect, starting with Chicago.

Q What led to the success of your cards?

Keiser: Consumers are increasingly looking for green products, and corporations realize that this is a growth opportunity. When we started Recycled Paper Greetings, stores wanted to be the first to offer recycled cards to their customers. Plus, our cards are funny.

Q What’s the next big area for corporate environmentalism?

Keiser: Corporate activity occurs based on consumer demand or profitability. Right now, there’s a lot of activity around clean energy — from ethanol to nuclear. We should all be watching this.

DePaul celebrates its diversity

Alumni tell us many things when asked what they value most about their DePaul experience. Most often, they talk about their faculty and the high-quality education they received. Quite often, alumni also talk about the diverse environment.

Diversity at DePaul is not new. When DePaul was founded in 1898, almost 80 percent of Chicago’s population was either born abroad or the children of immigrants. Indeed, the university was established to educate this diverse community.

Today, DePaul continues to be a place where students from varied backgrounds learn with and from each other — students of all ages, ethnicities and beliefs. Students of wealth learn with students facing economic challenges; native Chicagoans alongside international students; those who are the first in their families to go to college with students from DePaul legacy families.

Working with people from many different backgrounds deepens students’ understanding of humanity and prepares them to live as citizens of the world. DePaul students choose their course of study from among a variety of excellent academic and professional programs. Quality and diversity continue to be the hallmarks of a DePaul education.

In providing this distinct educational experience we continue the mission of our founders.

Rev. Dennis H. Holtschneider, C.M.

Rev. Dennis H. Holtschneider, C.M.
Developed in collaboration with the College of Commerce’s Center for Financial Services, the conference will “bring together the financial services community, scholars, regulators and leading policy-makers for in-depth discussions of industry-related issues,” according to William A. Obenshain, the center’s executive director. The first conference is expected to take place in the fall of 2008.

LPL Financial, one of the nation’s leading diversified financial services companies, has provided $250,000 to endow an annual conference at DePaul University that will focus on issues of topical interest to the banking, financial and investment services industries.

According to a White House press release, Hooks was honored for dedicating “his life to equality, opportunity and justice. He is a pioneer of the civil rights movement, and his efforts to extend the full promise of America to all its citizens have helped bring our nation closer to its founding ideals.”

Hooks is the former executive director of the NAACP and the first African American to be appointed to the Federal Communications Commission.

A Tennessee native, Hooks attended DePaul’s College of Law as his home state prohibited blacks from entering law school. The College of Law has a long tradition of embracing diversity, including being one of the first law schools in Illinois to admit women and Jewish students.

“Benjamin Hooks is a remarkable leader whose extraordinary accomplishments reflect his dedication to improving equality and justice, as well as his passion for the law,” says Glen Weissenberger, dean of the DePaul University College of Law. “His resolve and exceptional work to advance civil rights in America have helped shape the College of Law’s own understanding of the Vincentian mission.”
Chicago’s global success depends on education, says study

Chicago’s leaders must focus on several key priorities — including education and global engagement — in order to maintain Chicago’s status as a top-tier global city, according to a study released by The Chicago Council on Global Affairs.

The study, “The Global Edge: An Agenda for Chicago’s Future,” was created by a study group of 40 prominent Chicago business and civic leaders, including the Rev. Dennis H. Holtschneider, C.M., president of DePaul University.

“DePaul contributes to Chicago’s position as a global city at many levels,” says Holtschneider. “We are helping create the educated, innovative and productive workforce needed for a global city through programs ranging from our nationally ranked entrepreneurship program to our renowned adult education programs.”

More than 80,000 DePaul alumni live and work in the metropolitan Chicago area, many in global industries such as business services, the high-tech industry and management. Top corporate employers for graduates include JPMorgan Chase, Motorola, Deloitte, AT&T, Accenture, Abbott and Allstate Insurance Co.

Holtschneider continues, “Global cities also need educational resources that connect Chicago and the world. DePaul’s reach is worldwide. Our faculty members teach in Bahrain, Jordan, the Czech Republic, Poland, Kenya, China and Thailand and bring their global experiences into DePaul’s classrooms and the Chicago community.”

Additionally, 1,200 international students and alumni living in more than 50 countries contribute to the university’s global reach.

Other key priorities and recommendations identified in “The Global Edge: An Agenda for Chicago’s Future” include significantly increasing efforts to promote Chicago as a global destination, expediting the expansion of O’Hare International Airport and reforming regional public transportation.

www.thechicagocouncil.org
Teitell to headline estate planning advisor luncheon May 7

Nationally recognized philanthropy and estate planning expert Conrad Teitell will discuss recent developments in estate planning legislation and charitable deductions at DePaul University’s financial advisor luncheon on May 7 at the University Club of Chicago.

Teitell, a practicing lawyer, prolific writer and professor of law, has lectured throughout the United States and on PBS television programs. In 2007, Teitell, investor Warren Buffett and two others testified before the U.S. Senate Finance Committee on federal estate tax revision.

Teitell’s presentation, “Philanthropy and Estate Planning Strategies in Uncertain Times…Behind the Scenes and on the Spot,” is supported by a gift from Ernest R. Wish (COM ‘57). For more information, contact DePaul at (312) 362-8268 or plannedgiving@depaul.edu.

DePaul study: Business professors make good executives

An unprecedented study of more than 200 business academics who became executive managers revealed that their companies did quite well — in fact, significantly better — than nearly identical firms with no former academics in their top ranks.

The study’s authors, DePaul assistant professors of management Bin Jiang and Patrick J. Murphy, surmise that academics’ greater knowledge of current scholarship, expertise in a content area and communication skills make for better performance as an executive in a specific business area.

Murphy cites Gary W. Loveman, CEO of Harrah’s Entertainment, Inc., and Richard L. Sandor, CEO of Chicago Climate Exchange, as two examples of professors who have become successful executives.

The study, titled “Do Business School Professors Make Good Executive Managers?”, is in the August-October 2007 issue of Academy of Management Perspectives, a peer-reviewed quarterly journal.

DePaul University launches School of Public Service

Building on its distinguished Master of Public Service program, DePaul University has created the School of Public Service (SPS). DePaul’s newest school provides education for practitioners in both nonprofit management and public administration, while building on the interdependency of the two disciplines.

“It’s an honorable profession to work in government, nonprofit or NGOs [nongovernmental organizations], literally helping the body politic to function well, always with an eye toward those left on the sidelines by our systems,” says the Rev. Dennis H. Holtschneider, C.M., president of DePaul.

“I think Vincent de Paul would be proud that a university under his name is preparing professionals to make this contribution.”

Since 1970 DePaul has provided management education for hundreds of public service professionals.

Entrepreneurship professor wins national teaching award

DePaul University Management Professor Raman Chadha won a national teaching award presented by the Texas-based Acton Foundation for Entrepreneurial Excellence, the first such award to recognize superior entrepreneurship educators.

Chadha, who also is executive director of DePaul’s Coleman Entrepreneurship Center, was among 27 teachers from across the country presented with the first annual Entrepreneurship Education Awards.

“DePaul has an environment in which professors can be comfortable using innovative teaching methods,” says Chada. “It’s very fulfilling when that leads to an atmosphere where students feel comfortable becoming engaged with the learning process.”

DePaul’s nationally ranked entrepreneurship program educates more than 400 undergraduate and graduate students each year.

DePaul News Briefs
DePaul welcomes four new trustees

DePaul University recently named four prominent business professionals, including three DePaul graduates, to its board of trustees.

“One of the most heartening things I encounter as president is so many people who are willing to help DePaul move forward,” says the Rev. Dennis Holtschneider, C.M., president of DePaul. “I’m proud that these very successful people who could do anything with their time and expertise have offered it to DePaul University. It’s a good sign for the future.”

FAY HARTOG LEVIN is a senior consultant at Res Publica Group, a public relations and public affairs firm. She is a published expert on school and employment law. Levin joined the Illinois Arts Alliance Board in 1997 and has chaired it since 2006. She also is a board member of the Merit School of Music in Chicago.

CARLA MICHELOTTI (LAS ’72, JD ’75), executive vice president/general counsel for Leo Burnett Worldwide, is one of the foremost authorities on legal issues pertaining to all forms of commercial communication, self-regulation and intellectual property. In 2004, she received the DePaul College of Law Outstanding Service to the Profession award.

GEORGE RUFF (COM ’74), a 30-year veteran of the domestic and international real estate and hotel industry, has founded or co-founded five companies, including global hotel real estate investment company Trinity Hotel Investors LLC. He is a founding member of the Real Estate Center at DePaul and serves on the Dean’s Advisory Council for the College of Commerce.

JAMES T. RYAN (MBA ’87) is president and chief operating officer of Grainger, a Fortune 500 supplier of facility maintenance products. He is a trustee of Chicago’s Museum of Science and Industry, and he received DePaul’s Distinguished MBA Alumni Award in 1999.