"Of those to whom much is given, much is expected."

LUKE 12:48
Beyond All Expectations

The generous gifts of two successful alumni give rise to a resplendent new building housing a comprehensive School of Management.

Young voices singing a cappella filled the grand lobby of Brennan Hall as members of the University and Scranton communities gathered for the 14 October dedication of an extraordinary new building housing the distinguished Kania School of Management.

In his remarks at the dedication ceremony, University President Joseph M. McShane, S.J., likened the “reckless generosity and bravado” of John E. (Jack) Brennan ’68 and Arthur J. Kania, Esq., ’53 to the qualities that characterized John Ogilvie, S.J., during his brief but profound missionary career during the early 17th century.

“They (Mr. Brennan and Mr. Kania) have, of their own goodness and their own generosity, given away a great fortune,” said Fr. McShane. “And they have given it so that a great gift could be given to those who come after them.”

“Their great gift is hope that students ... might be prepared for the future that is theirs,” continued Fr. McShane.

The 71,000 square-foot building, equipped with technologically advanced classroom and instructional spaces, is designed to fulfill the vision of preparing students for the future. The five-story building includes a 148-seat auditorium, nine classrooms (including two tiered case-study rooms equipped for video teleconferencing), an advising center, seminar rooms and 40 faculty offices. There are also suites for emeriti faculty, graduate students and special programs.

An “Executive Center” on the fifth floor will enable the University to attract world-class conferences to campus. At the same time, the Center provides a businesslike environment for the University to host an expanded offering of continuing education programs, particularly in the areas of professional development and training in the use of new technologies.

Most Reverend James C. Timlin, D.D., Bishop of Scranton, blessed the cornerstone of the building and offered the benediction of a building dedicated to “the education of youth, the progress of the sciences and learning.”

Did You Know?

Brennan Hall has about:

- 1,000 linear feet of fiber optic cable
- 13.25 miles of voice data wire
- 7.5 miles of video cable
- 14,500 square feet of raised floor area
- There are 12 teaching stations: three each on the 1st and 2nd floors, one in the auditorium and five on the 5th floor.
“May it (Brennan Hall) become a center where students and teachers, imbued with the words of truth, will search for the wisdom that guides our spiritual lives,” Bishop Timlin remarked.

Construction of Brennan Hall began in June 1999. The project was funded by The Campaign for Scranton, including a $3.5 million gift from Mr. Brennan and $1 million of a $4 million gift from Mr. Kania. Additional Campaign funds came from alumni and friends of the University, as well as corporations and foundations.

Mr. Brennan is President of Activated Communications, New York City. He is also a Director and Vice-chairman of the Board of Southern Union Company and is on the Board of Directors for Spectrum Signal Processing. He is one of the founders of Metro Mobile CTS, Inc., and served as its President and Chief Operating Officer until its sale to Bell Atlantic Corp.

Speaking at the dedication ceremony, Mr. Brennan invited fellow alumni to follow his example of supporting his alma mater. “I would not only like to challenge the alumni, but also urge the community leaders to use this facility to bring business into this community and to Northeast Pennsylvania,” he said.

Mr. Kania earned his juris doctorate from Villanova University. He is a Senior Partner in the Bala Cynwyd law firm of Kania, Linder, Lasak & Feeney, which specializes in corporate and real estate finance. Additionally, he is a Principal in Trikan Associates, which owns and manages various real estate holdings in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware and Florida.

In his remarks, Mr. Kania acknowledged the vision and dream of J.A. Panuska, S.J., President Emeritus of the University, who “elevated our University to its rightful place among America’s best.”

Mr. Kania continued by noting how Fr. McShane carried this vision forward, crossing the threshold to a school of management and a building that will give rise to a new generation of business leaders.

Scholarship Established in Memory of Business School Graduate

Nestled in a corner of the main floor of Brennan Hall is a “quiet study room” bearing a portrait of a young man with a gentle smile. Appropriately, the building that houses the University’s Kania School of Management also houses a room dedicated to the memory of Joseph Ryan, a 1994 graduate of the business school, who died in September 1999 after a battle with cancer.

The memory of Mr. Ryan lives on through an endowed scholarship established by alumni, friends and family members. James Kelly ’00, a longtime neighbor and friend of Mr. Ryan, spearheaded the efforts to establish the scholarship. In addition to their friendship, the two men also shared a commitment to the Jesuit education they received at the University, where they were both members of the Business Leadership Program.

“Joe constantly displayed characteristics that support the Jesuit ideal,” said Mr. Kelly. “When he died, my sister (Kathleen Kelly, M.D., ’96) and I were looking for ways to permanently leave his mark on the University.”

That “mark” has turned into a scholarship fund totaling $13,550 – well over the original goal of $10,000. A large percentage of the donations came from employees at Ernst and Young, LLP, New York, where Mr. Ryan was employed as an accountant. Andrew Hain, Mr. Ryan’s close friend and co-worker, led the Ernst & Young efforts. As part of its matching-gift program, Ernst & Young matched donations made by its employees.

Through their thoughtful and generous donations, alumni, friends and family of Joseph Ryan have ensured that he will be forever remembered by those whose lives he touched.
Fr. Byron Delivers Inaugural Lecture

William J. Byron, S.J., who was President of the University when the School of Management was formed, delivered the inaugural lecture celebrating the opening of Brennan Hall on 15 November, 2000.

Fr. Byron addressed a crowd of about 90 people, discussing the subject of "Education for Business in the Jesuit Tradition." The lecture was presented through a partnership between the Kania School of Management and Fleet Pennsylvania Services, Inc.

In his lecture, Fr. Byron encouraged those in attendance to follow the Jesuit tradition of using formal education to fulfill human potential.

"Offering an ethical dimension and human dimension is critical to forming men and women for business,... Faith is relevant to business."

Fr. Byron is currently the Pastor of Holy Trinity Church in Washington, D.C. Most recently, he was the Distinguished Professor of the Practice of Ethics at Georgetown University, where he also served as Rector of the Georgetown Jesuit Community. From 1975 to 1982, he served as President of The University of Scranton, leaving in 1982 to become President of The Catholic University of America, a post he held until 1992.
By almost any measure of excellence, the road to success is usually a rather long one. But if you stay the course, you reach your destination.

Like the accomplished alumni who have distinguished themselves in careers in business, the University’s Kania School of Management has earned an enviable place in the halls of higher learning.

Not long after St. Thomas College was founded in 1888, the Christian Brothers began offering studies in English, Arithmetic and Bookkeeping in the “Old Main” building on Wyoming Avenue. In the early years, enrollment for the entire school totaled about 55 students.

A formal business concentration was introduced in 1913, and by 1914 the school’s freshman class topped 100 for the first time. Early faculty members in these years included professors Sheldon Curtis, William Dobson and Donald Gates.

In 1933, the business concentration became a formal department initially announced as a College of Business and Finance. The department was re-established in 1946 and was chaired by Herman Senker, affectionately known as “Doc Senker.” Longtime pillars of the department included Daniel Houlihan, Esq., Professor Charles Buckley, Professor Joseph Zandarski and Professor George Babcock. Beginning in 1947, classes were held in the “Business Building,” a converted military barrack located at the corner of Linden Street and Catlin Court.

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1913

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1933

Christian Brothers begin studies in Arithmetic, Bookkeeping and English in the “Old Main” building on Wyoming Avenue.

1888

“We’ve Come a Long Way”
The Master of Business Administration (MBA) program was introduced in 1961 under the direction of Joseph Rock, S.J., who at the time was Dean of the Graduate School. One year later, the department relocated to the newly constructed St. Thomas Hall. Not long after the University acquired the former Glen Alden Building in 1968, the department moved into what is now known as O’Hara Hall.

A major milestone was reached in 1978 during the presidency of William J. Byron, S.J., when the business department became a School of Management. In 1996, the school’s undergraduate and graduate programs achieved a long-time goal by earning the rigorous accreditation of the International Association for Management Education (AACSB).

The naming of the Kania School of Management in 1998 acknowledged the generosity of alumnus and benefactor Arthur J. Kania ’53. That same year, John E. Brennan ’68, announced a major gift earmarked for the construction of a new building to house the Kania School. Construction of Brennan Hall began in 1999 and was completed in the fall of 2000.

With the opening of a new building rich in technology, the Kania School began offering new majors in Electronic Commerce and Enterprise Management Technology, and announced a new major in Accounting Information Systems. At the same time, the school strengthened its alliance with global software leader SAP to bring technology into every facet of the business curriculum.

The transformation of the University’s business school to a comprehensive School of Management is perhaps best summarized in the words of John McLean, a much-admired Accounting Professor who retired in 1991 after 37 years of service to the University. At his retirement dinner, Mr. McLean compared the early years to the present day with the comment, “Boy, we have come a long way.”

The Scranton Journal wishes to acknowledge Robert McKenage, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Management/Marketing, who compiled information about the history of University’s School of Business. Dr. McKenage prepared an historical perspective of the Business School for the dedication of Brennan Hall. Rose Sebastianelli, Ph.D., Acting Dean of the Graduate School and Director of Research, delivered the speech prepared by Dr. McKenage, who was unable to attend the dedication ceremony.
New Majors Apply Technology in Response to Latest Trends

Responding to the latest industry trends, the University introduced two new majors in the fall of 2000 and announced a new major for the fall of 2001.

All of the new majors take advantage of extensive software and hardware resources that were incorporated into Brennan Hall, home of the Kania School.

In the fall of 2001, the Kania School will accept its first freshman students in a new major in Accounting Information Systems.

In the fall of 2000, the University became the only higher education institution in the region to offer degree programs in Enterprise Management Technology and E-Commerce. These new programs integrate traditional business core courses with emerging management concepts and technology.

“Brennan Hall offers unparalleled teaching labs and other instructional resources that were designed to support our new applied-technology majors,” said Ronald Johnson, D.B.A., Dean of the Kania School. “In addition, our alliance with global software leader SAP America gives our students access to the very tools they can expect to find when they graduate.”

The University is the only institution in Northeastern Pennsylvania and one of the first in the nation to participate in the SAP alliance program. SAP is the world’s leading Enterprise Information and Management Package. Use of this package makes it possible for businesses to track and manage sales, production, finance, accounting and human resources in real-time.

SAP provides the software and training for faculty, and the Kania School provides the computer hardware and network assets. As a result, the SAP system is integrated into business courses so that students can develop an awareness of the Enterprise Management Systems.

ACCOUNTING INFORMATION SYSTEMS MAJOR

The Accounting Information Systems major was developed to meet a demand for accounting graduates with informational technology skills—a trend that is expected to grow dramatically in the years ahead.

“Accounting is a changing field,” said Michael Mensah, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Accounting and Department Chair. “Firms are telling us that they need people who are trained in accounting technology when they graduate from college so that they don’t need to go back to square one. You need to be proficient in your first year out.”

In addition, the new major’s technology-oriented courses will enrich offerings for the traditional accounting program, the department’s new five-year bachelor’s/master of business administration program, and other majors in the Kania School.
The Enterprise Management Technology major focuses on the integrated management of the whole business enterprise, rather than the management of individual functional areas. Students are trained to use advanced computer systems that integrate the management of all processes of a complex business, including materials, production, quality control, human resources, finance, accounting, maintenance and special projects.

The 136-credit major will include a strong core of five general accounting courses, four courses in technical information systems and three information systems specialty courses. The curriculum was based in part on a model developed by the Information Systems Audit and Control Association, the leading developer of curricula in the field. It is designed to satisfy the accrediting standards of The International Association for Management Education (AACSB).

Electronic-Commerce Major

The new E-Commerce program affords graduates the opportunity to explore a variety of opportunities in the rapidly expanding world of e-based business. The program prepares students to be both business-savvy and well-educated about the electronic commerce infrastructure.

Instructional areas of the E-Commerce program include the integration of information and telecommunication technology, the Internet, the World Wide Web, and business models that incorporate security, privacy and legal issues. Students also study management perspectives and obtain hands-on experience in building an interactive e-commerce site.

In 1998, the University names the Kania School of Management in recognition of a lifelong commitment to the University by Arthur J. Kania, Esq., ’53. Pictured from left: Richard H. Passon, Ph.D., Provost and Academic Vice President; Mr. Kania; Angela Kania; J.A. Panuska, S.J., President; Ronald D. Johnson, D.B.A., Dean of the School of Management; and Robert J. Sylvester, Vice President for Institutional Advancement.

Brennan Hall features two tiered case-study rooms equipped for video teleconferencing.

John E. (Jack) Brennan ’68 announces a gift of $3.5 million for construction of a new building to house the Kania School of Management.
Words of Wisdom

Benefactors of Brennan Hall and the Kania School of Management challenge alumni, students and friends to make full use of the University's newest educational resource.

Excerpts from remarks made at the 14 October dedication of Brennan Hall.

ARTHUR J. KANIA ’53

“This new, dynamic learning environment we dedicate today will bring to our campus faculty and students from all over the world. The students and faculty who come here will no longer be limited by the boundaries of classroom or geography. Faculty will be challenged to keep pace with technology. Students will be challenged to become more involved, more inquisitive...

“In this new global challenge, students will aspire to become citizens of the world. And with the dedication of Brennan Hall, we now provide the forum needed to prepare such citizens as the new leaders of tomorrow.

“There is something very special about Scranton … the region, this school, the Scranton students, the faculty and administration, the entire University family. I have heard this same thing from the Presidents of our University: Father Byron, Father Panuska and now Father McShane.

“I see it in the way our faculty respects and feels the aspiration of our students, knows their names, responds to their individual needs, teaches them to dream, and encourages and energizes them to be all they can be. This is what Father McShane has labeled The Scranton Way.

“...the walls of Brennan Hall are built upon the strongest of foundations – the values, virtues and ideals that we all share. That is why I am confident that this building – this School, those ideals – will last forever. After all, they were built the right way, The Scranton Way.”

JOHN E. (JACK) BRENNAN ’68

“While I attended this prestigious school, I was one of the few students who did not utilize all the resources that were available to me. In fact, the school was gracious enough to give me a rebate for not attending the science labs or the library! I urge the students of today, though, not to make the same mistakes that I did, but to utilize to the fullest the facilities and the campus life resources that are so critical to their future success.

“I hope this (building) will be an example for my fellow alumni to follow in my footsteps. I would not only like to challenge the alumni, but also urge the community leaders to use this facility to bring business into this community and to Northeast Pennsylvania.

“A quote from Trusteeship magazine: ‘The University that contributes to their community provides important lessons about citizenship to students. They serve as a model for other organizations and they demonstrate that great things are possible when politics are shunted aside...’

“In closing, I would like to dedicate this building to three of the most important influences of my life: the faculty, fellow students and the people of Scranton/Wilkes-Barre that were so kind and generous to me; to my parents who sacrificed dearly to give me a fine Jesuit education; and lastly, to my wife who encouraged me.”

The Kania School of Management at Brennan Hall is dedicated on 14 October.
The view from the top is magnificent.

From the fifth floor of Brennan Hall there are panoramic views of the City of Scranton and the Lackawanna Valley. There is also an equally spectacular vista of human knowledge shared in the University’s new Executive Center, a place where people and ideas come together to build strong business and civic communities.

“The new economy trades in ideas and agile collaborations. The University’s Executive Center, a meeting place for Northeastern Pennsylvania’s professional community, is designed to foster both,” said Glenn Pellino, Executive Director of Urban and Government Affairs.

The Executive Center includes five main areas: a dining room, a board room, a meeting room, a large reception area, and an auditorium on the second floor. The Center provides the University with a facility in which to host conferences and continuing education programs. The building’s technology resources make the facility well-suited to educational programs in the area of professional development and training in the use of new technologies.

The seminar and dining room accommodates more than 200 people. University events held in the room since its opening have included two President’s Breakfasts featuring internationally recognized speakers, a Society of Accounting Students dinner, an alumni holiday reception and the launch of “Building Community,” a partnership project of the University’s Nonprofit Resource Center.
In October 2000 the University’s Board of Trustees met for the first time in the board room of Brennan Hall.

The Executive Center features a 50-seat board room equipped for two-way audio and video teleconferencing.

“Building Community” partners gather for a luncheon in the Executive Center to announce the launch of the program. Seated, from left: James McHale III, Dr. Alice McDonnell and Elaine Geroulo, all representing the United Way of Lackawanna County. Standing, from left: Glenn Pellino, the University’s Executive Director of Urban and Government Affairs; Jeanne Bovard, Scranton Area Foundation; Barbara Thomas Parkman, Coordinator of the University’s Nonprofit Resource Center; John Nalevanko, Lackawanna County Department of Human Services; and William Calpin, the Margaret Briggs Foundation.

In October 2000 the University’s Board of Trustees met for the first time in the board room of Brennan Hall.

The seminar and dining room has also been used by diocesan, community and business groups for such events as the Annual Professional Development Program of the Diocese of Scranton, the Greater Scranton Chamber of Commerce’s student program, “Tomorrow’s Leaders Today,” and Scranton Tomorrow’s Appreciation Luncheon.

The board room, which seats 50, has already been used by various governing boards of the University, including the Board of Trustees, University Council and University Senate.

The 148-seat auditorium is equipped with the latest technology, including a network connection at every seat. The auditorium features Dolby surround sound, theater-style seating, a portable lectern with a touch screen control system and teleconference capabilities.

Additional facilities of the Executive Center, which is available to organizations outside the University, include a lobby and reception area, and a meeting room accommodating 20 people.

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Throughout Brennan Hall are reproductions of stained glass windows from churches in Northeastern Pennsylvania. Many of the windows were produced by The Tiffany Glass Co. Shown above is a tile mosaic on the wall of the University’s Smurfit Art Gallery. It is believed to be a Tiffany.

Treasures in Glass
Windows and images from the churches of Northeastern Pennsylvania

“Herald Angels,” First Presbyterian Church, Wilkes-Barre

“Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem,” Covenant Presbyterian Church, Scranton