

# PRIDE PASSION PROMISE

*Transform our campus. Secure our future.* campaign

## Dedication Held for Christopher and Margaret Condron Hall

The University of Scranton dedicated its new 386-bed sophomore residence hall in honor of Christopher and Margaret Condron at a Dedication Ceremony and Open House on Sept. 10.

The 108,000 sq. ft., seven-story residence hall, which opened to students at the beginning of the 2008-2009 academic year, creates a cluster of sophomore housing to replicate the close housing arrangement experienced by first-year residential students at Scranton. The suite-style housing at Condron Hall, with four students living in two-bedroom arrangements that share a bathroom, is consistent with the University's other sophomore housing in Redington and Gavigan halls, which together provide 455 beds. Condron Hall also includes a multipurpose meeting room, shared kitchen spaces and shared multimedia lounges.

Longtime friends and benefactors of Scranton, the Condrons serve as the national co-chairs of the largest capital campaign in the 120-year history of The University of Scranton, the \$100 million Pride, Passion, Promise Campaign to transform the campus and secure its future.

"Right now, we can only glimpse at what kind of long-lasting effects Condron Hall will have on our campus and our community," said Will Grogran, Mount Laurel, N.J., a resident of Condron Hall, who spoke on behalf of students at the dedication ceremony. "But from my sixth floor window, I can see further than that. I see the city of Scranton sprawled out at our feet in the morning. I can see the sun set over those mountains after a long day. I can see generations of Scranton sophomores looking out those same windows. And, just as I do now, they will look out those windows



At the Sept. 10 dedication of Condron Hall, from left, University President Rev. Scott R. Pilarz, S.J., Casey Condron, Margaret Condron, Ph.D., Christopher "Kip" Condron '70, Lindsay Condron, Brett Condron, Erin Doucette and Devin Condron.

and ready themselves to, in our Jesuit tradition, go forth and set the world on fire."

At the dedication, Mr. Condron remarked how proud his father and grandfather would be of this day and of the building that bears the Condron name. "They would be even more proud of the influence the University has had on this city," said Mr. Condron. "The University of Scranton is a catalyst, turning the decline of the coal town into a vibrant, university city."

Mr. Condron is president and chief executive officer of AXA Financial, Inc., a graduate of Scranton's class of 1970,

and a trustee. His wife, Margaret Condron, Ph.D., is an adjunct faculty member at Marymount Manhattan College and has also served as a University of Scranton trustee. She earned a doctorate in environmental studies from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

The founding Chair of the University's President's Business Council, Mr. Condron was awarded the 2006 President's Medal at the President's Business Council's annual award dinner. The event raised more than \$1.5 million to endow full-tuition Presidential Scholarships at the University.

# The Royal Fund

A Message from the 2008-09 Chair

PAUL BIEDLINGMAIER JR. '76

*As Chair of The Royal Fund, I invite you to be part of the mosaic of donors who are promoting and supporting the students studying today at Scranton. This great University is truly worthy of our financial support.*

*When I was invited to serve as the Chair of The Royal Fund for my third term, I didn't hesitate for a second. I simply said yes. . . absolutely! My primary reason for accepting this role is one that may resonate with each of you. Prominently displayed in Brennan Hall are very large words from Luke 12:48 stating, To whom much is given, much is expected. That text is near and dear to me because of my Jesuit education. I feel a deep sense of gratitude for the education I received at Scranton. I have a deep conviction to the ongoing mission of Scranton. And I want to stay connected to my alma mater and classmates and friends because Scranton has enriched my life, both personally and professionally.*

*My main purpose as Chair this year is to convince you to join me in making a gift to The Royal Fund. I hope that you reflect on your experience with this great University. Whether you're one of our 41,000 alumni, a past or current parent, or a great friend or business leader, choose to give because of what this school means to the students, faculty and Scranton community.*

*Let me explain why I think that Scranton is clearly an institution on the move and worthy of our support. I recently had the pleasure of interviewing current Scranton students for Edward Jones Investments. I was struck by the students' enthusiasm for this University, and the level of professionalism and maturity that they exhibited.*

*As alumni and friends of Scranton, we play an integral role in preserving the Scranton tradition we know and love. By supporting the students learning here today, we carry on that important tradition.*

*If you have made a gift in the past, I hope that you will do so again. If you have not yet made a gift, I hope this will be the year that you choose to make one. Like an integral part of Scranton seal, every donor and every gift is vital to maintaining the strength of Scranton. Every gift counts, and every gift helps. Become part of the comprehensive efforts that are the Pride, Passion and Promise of Scranton. Please participate by giving today!*

## John and Jacquelyn Dionne Campus Green Dedicated

On Aug. 30, 2008, The University of Scranton named the newly created, football field-sized green at the heart of its campus in honor of alumni and benefactors John '86 and Jacquelyn Dionne '89.

"John and Jacquelyn Dionne exemplify the Jesuit ideal of the *magis*, the restless desire for excellence grounded in gratitude," said Rev. Scott R. Pilarz, S.J., president of the University. "Successful in their careers and blessed in their personal lives, they have generously given of their time, expertise, friendship and support to help the University realize our dreams. Personally, and on behalf of the University, I am pleased to name this campus green in their honor as an acknowledgement of the sustained friendship, service and care that they have so enthusiastically given to the University from which they graduated and where they met."

A native of Scranton and University of Scranton alumna, Jacquelyn Raseleski became a Registered Nurse upon graduating from Community Medical Center in 1986. She continued her education at The University of Scranton and earned a bachelor of science degree in health administration in 1989. Her 13-year career as an intensive care nurse included several certifications, and several years working at Mount Auburn, a

Harvard University teaching hospital, and later the New Hampshire Heart Institute. Today she is active in several charitable organizations, including The National Charity League for Mothers and Daughters, as well as raising the couple's three children, Courtney, Kristen, and Jonathan.

A 1986 graduate of The University of Scranton and a former trustee, Mr. Dionne is senior managing director of The Blackstone Group and founder and chief investment officer of Distressed Securities Advisors, LLP. Mr. Dionne served as chair of the University's Board of Trustees from 2004 to 2007. He currently serves on the executive committee of Scranton's Pride, Passion, Promise Campaign, a \$100 million capital campaign.

Mr. Dionne serves as vice chair of the President's Business Council and previously served as co-chair of the council's annual award dinner. Prior to joining Blackstone in 2005, Mr. Dionne was a partner at Bennett Restructuring Funds, a \$1 billion hedge fund. He was also a partner at Saugatuck Capital and director of corporate development for Fisher Scientific International, Inc. He began his career at Price Waterhouse as a public accountant. Mr. Dionne earned a bachelor's degree from The University of Scranton and an MBA from the Harvard Business School.



At the dedication of the Dionne Campus Green, from left: Courtney, Kristen, Jonathan, Jacquelyn '89 and John Dionne '86, and University President Rev. Scott Pilarz, S.J.

## Campaign Dedications Held for Three Prominent Spaces in Brennan Hall

On Sept. 11, the University dedicated and named three prominent spaces in Brennan Hall to recognize the generous leadership and philanthropy of three prominent alumni: Jack Sweeney '61, Frank Pearn '83 and Harry Rose '65. The three dedications are part of the Pride, Passion, Promise Campaign, a \$100 million effort launched in April.

The John P. '61 and Jean Blackledge Sweeney Classroom was dedicated on the first floor of Brennan Hall. John P. Sweeney Sr. '61 is the retired president of Special Defense Systems in Dunmore, which he co-founded. Sweeney began his career in New York City, living with other Scranton alumni, working for the accounting firm, Deloitte and Touche. He is a member of the Pride, Passion, Promise Campaign Executive Committee and part of an active "Scranton" family.

The Pearn Auditorium is located on the second floor of Brennan Hall. The auditorium is used for various lectures, presentations and community events. Frank Pearn '83 is the managing director of Barclays Capital. He has held several banking and finance positions throughout his career, including a position in Milan, Italy. He serves currently as the chair of the University's Economic Strength Committee of the Board of Trustees and is a member of the Campaign Executive Committee.

The Rose Room, located on the 5th floor of Brennan Hall, is used for lectures, dinners, and other campus/community events. Harry T. Rose '65 is the president and chief executive officer of The Rose Group, a restaurant management company established in 1985, under which he has operated such nationally recognized brands as Roy Rogers, Boston Market, Einstein Bros. Bagels, Applebee's and Corner Bakery. He is a current member of the University's Board of Trustees and is a member of the Campaign Executive Committee.

From left: John P. Sweeney '61 and Jean Blackledge Sweeney join University President Rev. Scott R. Pilarz, S.J., at the dedication of a classroom named in their honor in Brennan Hall.



From left: Frank Pearn '83, Jordan and Suzanne Pearn, and University President Scott Pilarz, S.J., stand outside the newly dedicated Pearn Auditorium in Brennan Hall, which is named in memory of Frank's father, James. F. Pearn.



At the dedication of The Rose Room in Brennan Hall, from left: University President Rev. Scott Pilarz, S.J.; Harry Rose '65 and his wife, Carol; Kelly Rosenberg; and Stephen Rose, son of Harry and Carol Rose.

## President's Medal Awarded to Eugene Kane Sr. '54 at Annual Dinner

The University's President's Business Council (PBC) held its *Seventh Annual Award Dinner* at The Pierre Hotel in New York City on Oct. 9. This year's Honoree, Eugene J. Kane Sr. '54, chairman of Kane Is Able, Inc., was presented with the University's President's Medal before a crowd of 550 alumni and friends.

This year's dinner raised \$1.03 million. Ralph J. DiRuggiero '73, vice president of Paramount Group Inc. based in New York City, made the financial announcement and highlighted that this marked the third year in a row, and fourth overall, that proceeds exceeded \$1 million. DiRuggiero also acknowledged the efforts of his fellow dinner co-chairs: Joseph M. Ferrario '87, president of The Ferrario Agency based in Scranton, and Brian A. Kilcullen '85, president of the Radnor-based Kilcullen & Company.

Proceeds from the annual dinner go directly to Scranton's Presidential Scholarship Endowment Fund, which was created prior to the inaugural dinner in 2002 and supports full-tuition scholarships awarded by the University to its most academically qualified incoming students. In the seven-year history of this event, over \$7.25 million has been generated for the endowment.

Alexandra L. Biga, a senior majoring in biochemistry and philosophy, from Kingston, offered remarks on behalf of the Presidential Scholars. She noted how the Presidential Scholarship made her take a closer look at the University. "I took a second look and was highly impressed with the ideals of Jesuit education and the close-knit community described by Scranton students. I am confident enough to say that choosing to attend the University was the best decision I have made in my life thus far," said Biga.

Mary Beth Farrell '79, executive vice president of AXA Equitable, and chair of the President's Business Council, and Christopher M. "Kip" Condron '70, president & CEO of AXA Financial, Inc., and



Christopher M. "Kip" Condron '70, University trustee and founding chair of the PBC, kicks off the dinner program with his opening remarks at the President's Business Council 7th Annual Award Dinner on Oct. 9.

founding chair of the President's Business Council, shared the role of Master of Ceremonies for the evening. Monsignor Joseph G. Quinn '72, pastor of the Church of St. Rose of Lima in Carbondale, provided the Invocation. In his blessing, Msgr. Quinn recognized the "gift and challenges of servant leadership" that Gene Kane possesses.

University President Rev. Scott R. Pilarz, S.J., updated dinner guests on

the "remarkable" year that 2008 has been thus far for Scranton. "Tonight marks another milestone in a remarkable year as we celebrate a man whose life and work epitomize the University's highest ideals and aspirations," he said.

Kane has been at the helm of the Scranton-based Kane Is Able, Inc., for over 53 years. During his tenure, the company has grown from a fleet of 200 trucks and a single warehouse in 1956, to include more than 900 trailers and a constellation of 16 warehouse operations in the Northeast and California. Today, Kane Is Able, Inc., provides transportation, distribution, packaging, cross-docking, load consolidation, inventory management and real estate development services to a virtual who's-

who of *Fortune 500* companies. The company was founded in 1930 by Mr. Kane's father, Edward J. Kane, and remains a family-owned and operated business with all of Gene's children playing active roles in the company.

Along with his business success, Kane has been committed to numerous community affiliations and organizations. A current member of the University's Board of Trustees, he and his wife, Joan, are the proud parents of eight children, four of whom are University alumni, and 22 grandchildren.

In his remarks, Kane expressed "how much this award means to me because of the direct support this event gives to Presidential Scholarships. The University does not seek simply to educate the next generation, but to form young people. So, I am truly and deeply honored by this award."

Prior to the President's Medal presentation, United States Senator Robert P. Casey Jr., the junior senator of Pennsylvania, a Scranton native and a resident of the city's Hill section, offered remarks about Gene Kane, a close friend of the Casey family, especially the Senator's late father, Governor Robert P. Casey Sr. "Gene Kane's life has been a remarkable life of hard work and sacrifice. A life of real struggle and tremendous achievement. A life of boundless generosity. Too, a life of faith and family," said Senator Casey.

For more information on the President's Business Council, please contact Timothy J. Pryle '89, Director, at 570-941-5837, or e-mail [prylet2@scranton.edu](mailto:prylet2@scranton.edu).



Gene and Joan Kane, center, are surrounded by their children, including, from left, Kelly Stark, Edward "Ned," Gene Jr. '84, Michael, Dick '80, Kathleen Calpin and Chris '86.



The Honorable Robert P. Casey Jr., U.S. Senator for Pennsylvania, provides comments on Gene Kane, a longtime friend of the Casey family.



University President Rev. Scott R. Pilarz, S.J., left, and Mary Beth Farrell '79, chair of the President's Business Council and vice chair of the University's Board of Trustees, present Gene Kane Sr. '54 with the President's Medal.

Dinner attendees included Scranton classmates and alumni, from left, Jack Lynch III '83, Tom Grech '84, Bob Tuite '84, Rachele Mackin Browning '84 and John Daly '84.



University trustee Michele Finn, second from left, is joined by Joe Ciancaglini (left), her son, Will '11, and Casey Pavlick '11. Michele's late husband, Bill '67, was honored in memoriam at the 2004 PBC Dinner.



Alexandra L. Biga '09, left, who provided remarks as a Presidential Scholar, is joined by her parents, Bernard and Lynn.



A crowd of 550 alumni and friends filled The Pierre in New York for the President's Business Council 7th Annual Award Dinner.



## Profiles in Giving

### *Alan J. Griffith '76*

#### Helping Scranton to Sustain and Grow its Current Success

Five years ago, Alan J. Griffith '76 was speaking to senior business majors at a Scranton career day. Recalling the impact of his University degree, he delivered two primary messages to the students.

First, he said, their education meant they were ready to succeed, no matter whom they were pitted against.

"I felt, coming out of Scranton, that I could compete with anybody," Griffith says today. "In the business world, I was working with the best of the best from other firms – investment banking firms, corporate acquisition and development firms, financial institutions – and I felt I was prepared to compete with any of them."

Second, he told them, don't assume that you know everything you need to know. You've only just begun.

"Scranton teaches you that education is a lifelong process," Griffith says. "I learned more since I left Scranton than

I did in my time there – but it prepares you to learn and gives you the confidence that you don't need to take a back seat to anyone you're working with."

After a successful corporate career, Griffith retired last year as senior vice president for finance and administration in ARAMARK's food and support services unit. With time on his hands and the financial means to give back, he and his wife, Marla, began prioritizing their list of charitable beneficiaries. The University of Scranton was at the top of their list.

"This is a transformative time," Griffith says, citing new student activities facilities, academic buildings and residence halls. "Scranton is a happening place, and what's happening now is going to change the campus for the next 50 or 75 years."

The Griffiths say they chose to augment their annual donation to the University with a significant gift to the Pride,



Alan J. Griffith '76 and his wife, Marla

Passion, Promise Campaign because its emphasis on physical infrastructure and endowment will allow Scranton to sustain and grow its current success.

"If you haven't been back to campus in a while, come back and take a look," he urges. "You won't recognize the place. You ought to get yourself up to date on the things the school has accomplished. Look at the number of Fulbright scholars it's producing and the rankings it gets. The school is making a difference in young people's lives, and it's being recognized for that. You have an opportunity to continue that and to build that legacy."

### *John J. Gallagher, Esq. '69*

#### Paying it Forward

Like many students of his generation, Jack Gallagher '69 commuted to classes at Scranton. That didn't keep him from participating in a full slate of extracurricular activities that he recalls to this day with incredible fondness – and gratitude.

A four-year member of the student government, Gallagher also served on the *Aquinas* and in the political science club and prelaw society. Such immersion in Scranton's cocurricular life so prepared him for a successful career in law that he and his wife, Kathy, have made a leadership gift commitment to the Pride, Passion, Promise Campaign. Furthermore, they have decided to name the student forum, a hub for the University's current student activities in the new Patrick & Margaret DeNaples Center, in honor of Rev. Henry J. Butler, S.J., a former executive vice president for student affairs at the University

who died in office in 1981. Gallagher said "In the Jesuit tradition, Father Butler was a great mentor and role model for all of us who were involved in student activities; it is quite fitting to honor his memory in this way."

"I got a very good education and very good preparation for law school, and I was very involved in student activities, which helped me learn a lot outside the classroom, as well," Gallagher notes. "It gave me the self-confidence that I could compete in the broader world around us."

In addition to his current support of Scranton, Gallagher has included the University in his estate plans, a move he calls not only convenient for him and beneficial to Scranton, but also inspiring



John J. Gallagher, Esq. '69

to others who may not be aware of the plusses of planned giving.

"By including a bequest in my will and communicating it to the University, I'm able to make them aware of it and have them count it and use it as a way to show others there are creative ways of giving," he explains.

Gallagher believes it was only through the generosity of those who came before him that he was able to enjoy the fruits of a Scranton education. Without those courses, without the Jesuits' influence, and without, of course, the opportunities presented to him through his participation outside the classroom, he does not feel he'd be where he is today. Future generations, he feels, deserve that same chance.

"I have a deep loyalty and a sense of obligation," Gallagher says. "I went to the University on scholarship because I didn't have any money and couldn't afford it on my own. That heightens my sense of obligation to pay it forward, as they say in the movies."