Sweeping Changes to Meal Plans Announced

The spring semester brings good news for students who are hungry for choice in their meal plan and campus dining options, through sweeping changes that include plans for a national food chain and a convenience store in the Gunster Student Center.

A new late night meal option is being offered beginning the spring semester. Beginning this fall, students will be able to substitute their breakfast, lunch or dinner for a late night meal instead. There is no extra fee, and no sign-ups required.

And that's just the appetizer. Beginning this fall, students will be able to choose from a variety of a la carte retail options in a renovated space on the second floor of the Gunster Center.

In what Ted Zayac, Director of Food Services, describes as a “mini food court,” The Commonwealth Room of the Gunster Center will be transformed into a “high-energy” dining area.

The second-floor dining venues are expected to include at least one national chain, as well as several ARAMARK Campus Services operations, including a Grille Works and Béne Pizza. These food outlets will be available to meal plan participants, as well as cash-paying students and employees.

Sign-ups required.

The addition of a convenience store will make it possible for students to get convenience foods and sundry items without having to leave campus.

Meal plan participants will also enjoy “beefed up” Flex Dollars in their plans beginning this fall. Students on the 10- and 14- meal plans will have $200 in Flex Dollars to spend during the year at any food venue, including Java City and Hyland Cafe. This compares to $25 in Flex Dollars offered in previous years. Students on the 19-meal plan will have $300 per year in Flex Dollars.

According to Martin L. Langan, Associate Vice President of Administrative Services, the meal plan and dining enhancements are being made in response to comments made by students in dining service surveys and through the popular “Comment Board.”

In the second floor, the second floor food venues will offer a late night meal option.

The grant money from FCSLA will be used for research supplies for Dr. Sulzinski and for undergraduate students working in (continued on pg. 2)

Biology Professor Receives Grant for Botanical Research

A form of plant bacteria that represents one of the top ten threats to U.S. agriculture is being studied through a research grant presented to Michael A. Sulzinski, Ph.D., Professor of Biology, who has also developed a patented test for detecting this bacteria.

Dr. Sulzinski has received a $25,000 research grant from the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association (FCSLA) to support his research on bacterial blight and Southern bacterial wilt of geraniums.

“This is an important pathogen in that a variant of it, not yet introduced into the United States, can be used as a weapon to attack U.S. food crops, including potatoes, tomatoes, peppers and eggplants,” said Dr. Sulzinski.

First established in 1993, Dr. Sulzinski’s research project has led to the development of a molecular diagnostic test to detect two different bacteria of critical importance to United States agriculture. Dr. Sulzinski, in collaboration with workers at Pennsylvania State University, has been granted a United States Patent for the test, which is now licensed and is commercially available to growers worldwide.

His latest findings will be presented this summer to the American Phytopathological Society, with University of Scranton undergraduate student Christina Giannetti ’04 as first author of a research poster.

Speaking about her work as a research assistant, M.s. Giannetti said, “I am very grateful for being given the opportunity to participate in this research project. It provides a great experience to me as an upcoming medical student and has also emphasized the importance of time, effort and patience.”

Christina Giannetti ’04 assists Michael Sulzinski, Ph.D., in research about a form of plant bacteria.
Task Force Established to Promote Education for Justice

The University has established a Task Force on Education for Justice. The Task Force, appointed by the President of the University, will develop a campus-wide program to promote the development, incorporation and practice of education for justice in all aspects of the life of the University, especially opportunities available to students.

The Task Force will be active for two years, during which time it will audit the University’s existing programs and projects relating to education for justice, investigate education for justice programs at other colleges and universities, and develop a communication program to publicize activities and events about this initiative. The Task Force will also serve as a central point of contact about education for justice issues, and will identify and promote opportunities to advance these initiatives across campus.

By the end of the second year, the Task Force will offer recommendations and strategies to foster an ongoing commitment to education for justice at the University.

The Task Force reports to the Administrators’ Conference through Rev. John Shea, S.J., Vice President for University Mission and Director of the Center for Mission Reflection. Members are as follows:

- Rev. John Begley, S.J., Faculty, Department of Theology & Religious Studies
- David Christiansen, Vice President, Finance
- Joseph Dreisbach, Ph.D., Dean, College of Arts and Sciences
- Mary Anne Foley, Ph.D., C.N.D., Associate Professor, Theology
- Anthony Giancarlino, Student, College of Arts and Sciences; Member, Justice Club
- Patricia Harrington, E.D.D., Associate Professor, Nursing
- John Krzyzli-Gregg, Director, Counseling & Testing Center
- Dawn Lavalle, Student, Dexter Hanley College Student Government President
- Kristina M. Mardjopic, Student, College of Arts and Sciences; Member, Justice Club
- Michael M. Ensh, Ph.D., Chair, Accounting & Department
- Catherine Seymour, Campus M inister
- Kristina M. Mardjopic, Associate, Center for Social Action and Social Initiatives

Fr. Panuska Returns: Will Help in Pastoral Work and Advancement

Fr. J. A. Panuska, S.J., who served as the 22nd President of the University from 1982 to 1998, has returned to the University as President Emeritus to do pastoral work related to the University’s Campus Ministry Office and to assist in the Office of Institutional Advancement.

"I wish with great enthusiasm that I welcome Fr. Panuska back to his Scranton home," said University President Rev. Scott R. Pilarz, S.J. "He is among the most distinguished Jesuits in the United States, and we are very fortunate that he is returning to us."

The Very Reverend Timothy B. Brown, S.J., provincial superior of the Maryland Province, missioned Fr. Panuska to return to the University. Fr. Panuska has served as rector of the Jesuit community in Wermenville since 2002. He returned to the University in January 2004.

"I know the University very well, have many friends here, and believe in it very deeply that returning is a tremendous opportunity to help the University to continue to advance," said Fr. Panuska. "I look forward to meeting with students and renewing contacts with alumni, faculty and staff."

Under Fr. Panuska’s guidance, the University expanded its academic programs and its national reputation as a leading Jesuit university in the northeastern United States. It has witnessed two capital campaigns and the significant growth of the University’s campus and facilities.

Fifteen buildings were added to the campus during this presidency, including the Weinberg Memorial Library.

In 1998, the University's board of trustees named its College of Health, Education and Human Resources the A. Panuska S.J., College of Professional Studies. Fr. Panuska has held administrative positions for the past 15 years. Prior to his positions at Wermenville and the University, he was Academic Vice President and Dean of Faculties at Boston College, Provincial Superior of the Maryland Province, and Rector of the Georgetown Jesuit Community. He also served as a professor of biology at Georgetown University.

Assistant to the University President, David Christiansen, Catherine Seymour and Keith Williams.

The University of Scranton

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The University of Scranton
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Paul J. Strunk, Vice President for Institutional Advancement
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Patricia Vaccaro, Director, Center for Social Action and Social Initiatives
Keith Williams, Student, Graduate School

The Scranton Record, February 2004


Faculty & Administrators


Beth E. Barnett, E.D.D., Provost, and Academic Vice President; Charles E. Kratz, Dean of the Weinberg Memorial Library and Director of Information Resources; Charles Service and Training; and Marian L. Farrell, Ph.D., Professor of Nursing and Chair of the Weinberg Library Advisory Committee will represent the University at a Weinberg Memorial Library event, a reception held in conjunction with the College Library Workshop, which will take place Feb. 26 - 28, in San Francisco, Calif. The event is sponsored by the Council of Independent Colleges in cooperation with the Council on Library and Information Resources, and is funded by the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, the Carl and Lily Pforzheimer Foundation, and the Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation, and the Association of College and Research Libraries.

Tata M. Igaeta, E.D.D., Assistant Professor, Education Department, facilitated a visit to campus by a Kenyan professor. Dr. Barbara Koche, Department Chairperson, Department of Early Childhood Education at Kenyatta University in Kenya, visited the University from Nov. 23 - 24. The International Center and Education Department held receptions to welcome Dr. Koche.

Students

Michael P. Hill '05 has been selected as a Dow Jones Newspaper Fund Intern. The internship begins with a two-week training and lecture residency at Penn State University and continues with a 12-week internship at The Patriot-Record, Scranton.

Now Staff

The following is a list of full-time staff hired at the University in Nov. and Dec., 2003.

Stevon A. Jones, Custodian, Loyola Hall
Catherine H. King, Accounts Receivable Representative

Thomas W. Lane, Custodian, Loyola Hall
Valerie A. Taylor, Research Analyst, Institutional Research Office
Allison L. Wrightson, Secretary, O’Hara Hall

The following is a list of part-time staff hired at the University in Nov. and Dec., 2003.


Fr. Panuska Returns: Will Help in Pastoral Work and Advancement

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Under Fr. Panuska’s guidance, the University expanded its academic programs and its national reputation as a leading Jesuit university in the northeastern United States. It has witnessed two capital campaigns and the significant growth of the University’s campus and facilities.
Michele Currie, S.J., President of Sophia University, a Jesuit university in Tokyo, Japan, has been chosen as the recipient of the University’s ninth annual Pedro Arrupe, S.J., Award for Distinguished Contributions to Ignatian Mission and Ministry.

Fr. Currie will receive the Arrupe Award at a University ceremony to be held Feb. 17 at 3:30 p.m., as part of Ignatian Heritage Week. The Arrupe Award is named in honor of the late Very Rev. Pedro Arrupe, S.J., the Superior General of the Society of Jesus from 1965 to 1983. The University of Scranton instituted the award in 1995 to further its namesake’s vision by recognizing men and women for outstanding contributions in a wide variety of Ignatian-inspired ministries.

“I am delighted that Fr. Currie will receive this year’s Arrupe Award,” said Rev. Scott R. Pilarz, S.J., University President. “During his more than three decades as both a Jesuit and an educator, he has come to represent the very spirit of Father Pedro Arrupe and Ignatian ministry.”

Father Currie has served as a teacher and administrator at Sophia University since the early 1970s. In his 30-year career there, he has been a professor of literature, vice president of general affairs, and dean of comparative culture.

Mr. Geiger ‘81, the first of six members of the Geiger family to graduate from the University, has established a scholarship in honor of his parents.

“Matthew Geiger, Vice President and co-owner of Response Environmental, Inc., works and resides in Worcester, Massachutes.”

Announcing the Katherine E. and James A. Geiger Scholarship, from left: Rev. Scott R. Pilarz, S.J., University President; Matt Geiger ‘81 and his parents, Katherine Geiger and James Geiger; and Tim Pyte, Senior Development Officer.

To build a fully-endowed scholarship that will fund the full tuition of a student for all four years of undergraduate studies at the University.

Beginning in the 2004-2005 academic year, the scholarship will be presented as a partial-tuition award to an eligible recipient from a family of four or more children.

“In establishing this scholarship, I am recognizing the sacrifices that my parents have made in raising eight children and sending all of them to college,” said Mr. Geiger.

Six of the eight children in the Geiger family graduated from the University: Matt, Daniel ‘85, Lawrence ‘87, Gabrielle Geiger Hamsley ‘89, Katherine Geiger Gallagher ‘93 and Mary Geiger Kozak ‘96. For almost two decades – from 1977 to 1996 – at least one member of the Geiger family was enrolled at the University.

“I understand the sacrifices that parents make to send their children to the University, and I am especially grateful that Matt has chosen to recognize the love and dedication of his parents in this way,” University President Scott R. Pilarz, S.J., said of the scholarship.

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The University has announced the Dean's List, which recognizes students for academic excellence during the fall semester of 2003. In order to be named to the Dean's List, a student must have a grade point average of 3.5 or better with a minimum number of credit hours.

Freshman

John W. Doyle
Kristin M. Doyle
Dianna E. Douglass
Barbara S. Durkin
Calvin D. Dyer
Courtney S. Dwyer
Theresa M. Evans
Polly S. Evans
Donna M. Fontanuto
Stephen M. Fredorskani
Sarah J. Friday
Kimberly B. French
Matthew B. Gautier
Peggy M. Gaviria
Steven Bl. Gazzola
Louisa G. Gelfand
Lynn A. Garofalo
Jennifer L. Wilcox
James J. Zelenko
Jania M. Zembras
Fathi A. Miller
Erin E. Miller
Sherry A. Miller
Kathleen A. Miller
Andrew M. Miles
Stephanie M. Miller
Peter M. Mink
Lourdes Maria Mink
Barbara J. Minnick
Kimberly A. Ming
Mary M. Ming
M. B. Minnick
Margaret M. Minnick
Michelle J. Miller
Kurt M. Miller
Nicholas Miller
John M. Miller
Jeffrey M. Miller
Katherine E. Miller
Gary A. Miller
Anna R. Milloy
Kathleen A. Mines
Charles A. Mines
Jeanne E. Mines
Kevin D. Minnick
Jennifer L. Minnich
The Scranton Record
AND
William D. Dennis
Joseph J. printable
Anthony W. DiMaggio
Jill M. Phelan
Catherine R. Phillips
Kathleen M. Panuska
"College of Arts and Sciences, Dexter Hanley Te...
By Kevin Southard
Sports Information Director

EIGHT ATHLETES TO BE INDUCTED TO WALL OF FAME

The University will induct eight members into its athletics Wall of Fame on Feb. 7. The Class of 2003 includes Joe Conley ’76, MS ’78, a forward on the 1976 NCAA Division III men’s basketball national championship team; swimming sensation Tim Di Marco ’89; Dave Hair, the founder and former coach of the Royal men’s and women’s swim programs; basketball all-American Jason Hoppy ’93 and Lynne Kempski-Halligan ’93; lacrosse standout Steve Michel ’92; and soccer all-Americans Magnus Ojert ’87 and Renee (Zizza) Weikel ’93.

In 1970, the Wall of Fame was founded to honor former student-athletes, coaches, administrators and those in the community who have been instrumental in the overall development of the University’s athletics program.

Conley is credited with being the glue that held the Royals together in their run towards the University’s first-ever NCAA championship in any sport. In what may be his most memorable performance of his career, Conley scored 17 points as the Royals defeated Augustana (Ill.), in a Final Four game of the 1976 NCAA Division III tournament. Conley wrapped up his distinguished career by being named the team’s most valuable player (MVP). He holds a bachelor’s and master’s degree from Temple University.

Di Marco’s accomplishments in the pool rank him as the finest male swimmer in Royals history, to earn second-team all-America honors by the National Association of Collegiate Athletics Coaches (NABC). He is currently 6th all-time in scoring (7,177) in Royals history. He set the Scranton single-game record for most points in an NCAA playoff game by scoring 33 in a 78-62 win over Hunter College. The 1993 male recipient of the Frank O’Hara Award, which is presented annually to the top athlete at the University, he holds a bachelor of science degree in accounting.

Kempski-Halligan was an integral part of a Lady Royals women’s basketball team that posted an incredible 56-20 record (.763), won two MIddle Atlantic Conference overall championships and advanced to the NCAA Division III tournament three times, including a 3rd-place finish in 1993. She was a three-time all-Middle Atlantic Conference selection in addition to being the league’s most valuable player (MVP) her senior year. She concluded her standout career by being named to the 1993 Kodak all-America team and was selected the 1993 female recipient of the Frank O’Hara Award. She holds a bachelor of science degree in elementary education from the University.

Michel missed virtually all of his freshman year with a shoulder injury, but came back in 1990 to lead the team in scoring for the first of two times in his career with 42 goals and 39 assists for 81 total points. In addition, he and teammate Dennis Hyatt became the first Royal lacrosse players to earn all-Middle Atlantic Conference honors. He had 31 goals and 31 assists in 1992, and combined with fellow senior Jim O’Hara and Hyatt to lead the Royals to their first winning season, as he and Hyatt were once again named all-conference. To this day, he still is the Royals all-time leader in total points (218) and assists (108). He holds a bachelor of arts degree in history from the University.

Ojert transferred to the University in 1985 and immediately made an impact on the men’s soccer program. He led the team in scoring on a 17-2-4 Scranton team that won the Mid-Atlantic Conference overall championship and advanced to the NCAA tournament. He earned all-Middle Atlantic Conference honors and was named all-Mid Atlantic region by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NCAA). He suffered a season-ending knee injury and was forced to sit out the entire 1986 season. He returned to the lineup the following year, where he scored seven goals as the Royals won their first 20 matches before losing to Elizabethtown in the MIddle Atlantic North championship match. Ojert’s injury did not hamper his play.

He became the sixth player in Scranton history at the time to be named to the Mid-Atlantic Conference most valuable player (MVP) and joined Wall of Fame inductee Michael Capasso on the 1987 NCAA all-America team. He holds a bachelor of science degree in economics and finance from the University.

(Zizza) Weikel, like Ojert, overcame a serious knee injury to excel in soccer. She earned the first of two all-Middle Atlantic Conference honors in 1990 as Scranton went 15-5-1, won its second straight Mid-Atlantic Conference championship and advanced to the NCAA Division III tournament. During the off-season (Zizza) Weikel sustained a serious knee injury and was forced to sit out the entire 1991 season. She returned to the lineup the following season and scored seven goals and had eight assists as the Royals put the finishing touches on a 15-6-1 campaign by winning its fourth straight M AC title and advancing to the NCAA tournament. That year, she became the fourth player in Scranton women’s soccer history to earn all-America honors by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America. A consistent scoring threat, she finished her career with 18 goals and 18 assists. She holds a bachelor of science degree in biology from the University and will receive a master’s degree in chemical biology from Stevens Institute of Technology later this year.

The University unveiled its new athletic logos during the men’s and women’s basketball games against Lycoming College on Dec. 3. The athletic marks feature a capital “S” for Scranton and a logo for the University’s mascot, the Royal Wolf.

Student Athletes Score High In Service

Members of the University’s Swim Team, led by Head Coach Tomm Evans (back row, left), served as volunteers for the Northeast Regional Cancer Institute’s fundraiser, It’s All in the Game!

Student athletes turned team spirit into community spirit during the 2003 holiday season.

On Dec. 13, Head Coach Tomm Evans and the Royal men’s and women’s swim teams volunteered to help out at the second annual It’s All in the Game fundraiser to benefit the Northeast Regional Cancer Institute.

“We take great pride in emphasizing community service to our student-athletes,” says Evans, who is in his seventh season as head coach. “I encourage our student-athletes to become part of the community, and that there is more to being a member of a team than just practice and competition.”

On Dec. 3, the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) held its annual toy and food drive in conjunction with a men’s and women’s basketball double header at the Long Center. Fans were asked to donate either a toy or non-perishable food item, which were donated to those less fortunate in the local community.

In addition, the athletics department donated $400 to St. Francis of Assisi Kitchen, Scranton. The funds donated represented proceeds of the 2004 D versified Invitational, a women’s basketball tournament held Jan. 2-3, featuring Hartwick College, Rowan University, the University of Pittsburgh-Greensburg and the Lady Royals.

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JANUARY

28 8:30 a.m. Transfer and New Student Orientation, various campus locations. 941-6233
6 p.m. Women's Basketball hosts Delaware Valley, Long Center
8 p.m. Men's Basketball hosts Delaware Valley, Long Center
29 Spring Semester Classes Begin
30 8 p.m. The University of Scranton Players present, “The Twelfth Annual Playwright's Festival,” Royal Theater, McDade Center, today through January 31 and at 2 p.m. on Sunday, February 1. Free and open to the public. 941-6237
31 1 p.m. Women's Basketball hosts FDU-Florham, Long Center
2 p.m. Greater Philadelphia Alumni Chapter Young Alumni Gathering, 6:30 p.m. Florida Alumni Chapter Reception, The Diplomat Country Club, 501 Diplomat Pkwy. Hollywood. 1-800-SCRANTON
3 p.m. Men's Basketball hosts FDU-Florham, Long Center
5:15 p.m. Ice Hockey hosts West Chester, The Ice Box, Pittston
6 p.m. Women's Basketball hosts Oneonta State, Long Center
7 p.m. Wrestling hosts Wilkes/U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, Long Center
8 p.m. Social Justice Club presentation on "Jesuit Refugee Service," Center for Eastern Christian Studies. 941-7419
9 p.m. Performing Arts Series presents Warren Vache and James Finnegan's Wake, 537 N. 3rd St., Philadelphia. 1-800-SCRANTON
10 1 p.m. Women's Basketball hosts DeSales, Long Center
5:15 p.m. Ice Hockey hosts Drexel, The Ice Box, Pittston

FEBRUARY

Hope Horn Gallery Exhibit, "Successions: Prints by African American Artists in the Jean & Robert Steele Collection," on display through March 12, Fourth Floor, Hyland Hall. 941-6233

2 1 p.m. Fifth Annual Brain Bee Competition for high school students, Room 228, Brennan Hall. 941-4246
1 p.m. Men's Basketball hosts Drew, Wall of Fame Ceremony before game, Long Center
5:15 p.m. Ice Hockey hosts Villanova, The Ice Box, Pittston

5 1-2 p.m. Hope Horn Gallery Lecture, "African American Art," David C. Driskell, Distinguished University of Maryland Professor Emeritus of Art, Fifth Floor, Brennan Hall. 941-4214
Last Day to request Credit/No Credit Option (Undergrad only)

6 Last Day 75% Tuition Refund (non-flat rate only)
1 p.m. Women's Basketball hosts Maywood, Long Center
1-2 p.m. Hope Horn Gallery Opening Reception, Fourth Floor, Hyland Hall. 941-4241
7 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Royal Carnival, Byron Complex, 941-6233
1 p.m. Women's Basketball hosts Drew, Long Center
3 p.m. Men's Basketball hosts Drew, Wall of Fame Ceremony before game, Long Center
5:15 p.m. Ice Hockey hosts Villanova, The Ice Box, Pittston
8 1-2 p.m. Hope Horn Gallery Lecture, “African American Art,” David C. Driskell, Distinguished University of Maryland Professor Emeritus of Art, Fifth Floor, Brennan Hall. 941-4214
Last Day 100% Tuition Refund (non-flat rate only)
2-4 p.m. Hope Horn Gallery Opening Reception, Fourth Floor, Hyland Hall. 941-4241

11 Lincoln's Birthday
Last Day to request Credit/No Credit Option (Undergrad only)

12 1 p.m. Women's Basketball hosts Wilkes, Houlihan-McLean Center. Free and open to the public. 941-4318
8 p.m. The University Players present, "Some Enchanted Evening: The Songs of Rodgers & Hammerstein," today through February 15, with a 2 p.m. matinee on Sunday, Royal Theater, McDade Center. 941-4318
9 p.m. Comedian John Reep, Wolves Den, Gunster Student Center. 941-6233
13 7 p.m. Wrestling hosts Wilkes, M.orschert Marine Academy Long Center
8 p.m. The University Players present, "Some Enchanted Evening: The Songs of Rodgers & Hammerstein," today through February 15, with a 2 p.m. matinee on Sunday, Royal Theater, Mcdade Center. 941-4318
9 p.m. Comedian John Reep, Wolves Den, Gunster Student Center. 941-6233

14 Valentine's Day
1 p.m. Fifth Annual Brain Bee Competition for high school students, Room 228, Brennan Hall. 941-4246
1 p.m. Women's Basketball hosts DeSales, Long Center
3 p.m. Men's Basketball hosts DeSales, Long Center
5 p.m. University Players Alumni Reunion, celebrating 10 years in the Royal Theater, Fifth Floor, Brennan Hall. 1-800-SCRANTON
5:15 p.m. Ice Hockey hosts Drexel, The Ice Box, Pittston

15 Royal Nights I, today and tomorrow, various campus locations. 941-5921

16 Presidents' Day
Last Day 75% Tuition Refund (non-flat rate only)
7:00 p.m. Trustee Day discussions. Various campus locations. 941-7500

17 11:30 a.m. Trustee Day luncheon, Eagen Auditorium, Gunster Center. 941-7500
3:30 p.m. University Assembly, Fifth Floor, Brennan Hall. 941-6153
7:30 p.m. Multicultural Concert with vocalist Phillip Mentor, Houlihan-McLean Center. 941-7680
8 p.m. Film presentation of “The Mission,” Center for Eastern Christian Studies, 941-7419

18 7 p.m. Jesuit Community at Scranton hosts panel discussion on Jesuit life, Collegiate Hall. 941-7419
19 11:30 a.m. Information Resources Forum, “Desktop Maintenance,” Room 509, Brennan Hall. 941-6185 or e-mail: salitskyk1@scranton.edu
6 p.m. Southeast Chapter Alumni Reception, The Ritz Carlton, Atlanta, Ga. 1-800-SCRANTON
8 p.m. Film presentation of “The Mission,” Center for Eastern Christian Studies, 941-7419

20 8 p.m. The University Players present, "Some Enchanted Evening: The Songs of Rodgers & Hammerstein," today through February 22, with a 2 p.m. matinee on Sunday, Royal Theater, McDade Center. 941-4318

22 Washington's Birthday
Royal Nights II, today and tomorrow, various campus locations. 941-5921
11:30 a.m. Florida Alumni Chapter Brunch, Admirals Cove, 200 Admirals Cove Blvd., Jupiter, preceded by 9:30 a.m. Mass at St. Patrick's Church, Juno Beach. 1-800-SCRANTON
23 Last Day 50% Tuition Refund (non-flat rate only)
24 6:30 p.m. Florida Alumni Chapter Reception, The Diplomat Country Club, 501 Diplomat Pkwy. Hollywood, 1-800-SCRANTON
7:30 p.m. Performance Arts Series presents Warren Vache and James Chichillo, Houlihan-McLean Center. Free and open to the public. 941-7624

25 12:05 p.m. & 4:40 p.m. Ash Wednesday Masses, Houlihan-McLean Center
26 6:30 p.m. Florida Alumni Chapter Family Dinner, Hilton Naples, 5111 Tamiami Trail North, Naples. 1-800-SCRANTON

Annual Fund Attains Goal of $3.25 Million
The University announced the successful completion of its 2003 Annual Fund. Thanks to the contributions of alumni, parents, employees and friends, the Annual Fund reached its goal of $3.25 million.

The Annual Fund provides financial assistance for many activities, including financial aid and scholarships, library acquisitions, Catholic and Jesuit identity programs, technology and equipment, and faculty development programs.

Announcing the successful completion of the 2003 Annual Fund, from left: Anthony Labranda, University Community Chair; Karen Golding ‘91, Annual Fund Chair; Rev. Scott R. Pilarski, S.J., University President; Peter Galbraith, Executive Director of Development; and Kathy Statsman, Annual Fund Director. Absent from photo are Thomas Hogan ‘79 and Susan Hogan ‘79, Chairs of the Parent Campaign.
Service Trip Provides Pre-med Students the “Chance of a Lifetime”

Packing medical supplies donated for the Haiti service trip by University alumnus Dr. Lear Von Koch, Moses Taylor Hospital and Wyoming Valley Health Care/Wilkes-Barre General Hospital are, from left, Han Li, Rachel Bognot and Bryan Murtaugh.

Haiti is a place where tuberculosis is common; one room shacks without windows and doors are called homes; and political unrest makes international headlines. Yet, to a group of University of Scranton students, it was the “chance of a lifetime.”

In January, three pre-med students joined three alumni physicians for a mission trip to staff a clinic in the remote mountain region of Bonne Fin, Haiti. University of Scranton seniors Bryan Murtaugh, Scranton, Han Li, China, and Rachel Bognot, Nesquehoning, accompanied University of Scranton alumni Richard Bevilacqua, M.D., D. M. D., Michael Piatt, M.D., and Gregory Lynch, D.O., on week-long service trip.

“This is the chance of a lifetime,” said M.R. Murtaugh. “This trip provided the opportunity to see medicine practiced in an entirely different way – in a Third World setting. It is something you cannot experience in the United States.”

He assisted the doctors with medical procedures ranging from tooth extraction to leg amputations and appendectomies. They even performed emergency surgery on a five year old boy, removing his mega ureter and non-functional kidney and that saved his life.

In addition to the medical experience, the service trip gave the students the chance to help those less fortunate.

“In the United States, we are upset if we have to wait for an hour to get medical attention. In Haiti, people wait all day because medical services are so scarce,” said Rachael Bognot, who also participated in the Haiti trip last year.

It is a trip M.R. Murtaugh also intends to make again.

“One day I will go back. Only next time it will be as a physician. I want to offer whatever expertise I have to the Haitian people,” said M.R. Murtaugh.

This is the third year for the service trip to Haiti, which is sponsored by the University’s Medical Alumni Council. Donations made by University of Scranton medical alumni fund the students’ travel expenses. The doctors pay their own travel expenses.

Economic Impact Exceeds $234 Million

The University’s annual economic impact on northeastern Pennsylvania totals $234,102,000, according to a report issued by the University. The report is based on established economic impact studies and formulas, including those used by the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Pennsylvania since 1997.

University expenditures for 2003-2004 will be $117,051,000. Economic impact studies used by the University in preparing this report estimate that for every dollar in expenditures, an additional dollar’s worth of economic activity is generated in the local economy. By this measure, the University’s financial impact for the year will be $234,102,000.

In addition to this amount, The University of Scranton recently presented the City of Scranton with its annual voluntary contribution of $110,000, and Lackawanna County with its annual voluntary contribution of $58,500.

In job creation, the University report found that more than 2,000 jobs can be directly or indirectly attributed to the University’s presence. The figure is based on formulas that are consistent with those used by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, a division of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

The report shows that for each full-time employee at the University, 1.4 additional jobs are created in the local economy. As of the fall of 2003, the University employed 845 full-time faculty and staff.

Income Tax Assistance Service Offered

The University is partnering with the United Way, Catholic Social Services, United Neighborhood Centers and the Volunteer Action Center to offer the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program. VITA is a free tax service for clients with low and moderate incomes who need help with their basic tax returns.

The University has been offering this program for well over 15 years. Accounting students from the University will be on hand to assist clients with their tax returns on the dates, times and locations indicated below. No appointments are necessary for the regular weekday sessions.

This year’s program includes two Saturday sessions for lower-income clients. Interpreters will be on hand, and tax assistance services will be offered by appointment only for these two sessions. No appointments are necessary for the regular weekday sessions.

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AMIGOS Group Wins Awards

The AMIGOS cultural understanding and exchange group sponsored by the University, the EOTC Scranton Area Family Center and the Scranton School District won awards in the “Festival of Trees” competition held by the Electric City Trolley Museum in Scranton. The “Hispantia” tree, which won Best of Show, was decorated with “ojos de díos,” a Mexican craft made with yarn and sticks. The “Antarctica” tree, being decorated at right by Lyzanka Garcia, a student in the Scranton High School ESL class, placed third.

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