University News

Applications Exceed 7,500

The University has set a record for undergraduate applications for the sixth consecutive year, receiving 7,575 applications to date for admission to the University’s 60 full-time undergraduate programs for the fall of 2007. This year’s record marks the first time in the history of the University that applications broke the 7,000 mark. It was only three years ago that applications first surpassed 6,000 and five years ago when applications first broke 5,000.

This represents an increase of 20 percent over applications received by the same time last year and more than doubles the 2001 totals for applications received to date.

According to Joseph Roback, Associate Vice President for Admissions and Undergraduate Enrollment, the sustained increase stems from the collaborative effort of the entire University community.

“The University of Scranton has a solid academic reputation, a caring environment, a beautiful campus and a strong sense of community,” said Mr. Roback. “We have a great story to tell and everyone tells it, including our students, admissions staff, faculty, deans, administrators and alumni. We have a lot to offer students. Our numbers prove it.”

According to Mr. Roback, applications have increased across the school’s primary geographic areas, including Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and other east coast areas. Although he is still reviewing data regarding majors, Mr. Roback has noticed increases in students applying to the business programs offered through the Kania School of Management and to the nursing program.

Purchase of South Side Sports Complex Completed

In November 2006 the University successfully concluded the purchase of the William T. Schmidt Sports Complex, also known as the South Side Sports Complex, from the Redevelopment Authority of the City of Scranton.

The University will develop NCAA-regulation fields for soccer, baseball and women’s softball, as well as a community basketball court and a children’s play area.

“The University of Scranton has consistently sought to provide a superb education for our students and to serve the needs of our community,” said Rev. Scott R. Pilarz, S.J., President. “In the end, the fields we develop at this athletic complex will help us to meet a critical need and will give the community an outstanding resource for recreation and league play.”

The final legislation and a memorandum of understanding between the University and the Redevelopment Authority of the City of Scranton guarantee that community organizations and the general public will have access to the renovated fields when not in use by the University. The University will also contribute $100,000 to the construction by the City of Scranton of an additional lighted softball field elsewhere in Scranton.

The 11.39-acre athletic complex located along Broad Street in Scranton will help the University to address long-standing needs for additional space for athletics, intramurals and recreation.

Scranton Profiled in Campus Tours Guidebook

Scranton is one of just 372 colleges nationwide to be included in The Princeton Review’s Guide to College Visits: Planning Trips to Popular Campuses in the Northeast, Southeast, West, and Midwest. The guidebook, released in April, gives high school students and parents the information they need to plan successful trips to college campuses. The universities profiled are selected based on academic reputation and the level of interest from...
students as indicated by visits to online profiles from The Princeton Review’s Web site. These two criteria are balanced by a goal of including a wide representation of colleges, including public, private and military schools, and everything from small to large universities.

This edition marks a new and completely revamped approach to the topic of campus tours based on trends in college visits and enrollment observed by The Princeton Review. With many students choosing a school within a 100-mile radius of their hometown, quality-of-life issues are important in making final enrollment decisions.

For additional information about national recognition received by the University, visit the Web site at www.scranton.edu/recognition.

**DPT Program Receives Accreditation**

The Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) has accredited Scranton’s new Doctor of Physical Therapy Program, paving the way for DPT graduates to take the national exam given by the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy.

The accreditation includes a “substantive change” from accreditation of the Master of Physical Therapy Program to the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program. In addition to approving the change from a master’s-level to doctoral-level program, CAPTE extended the University’s accreditation until 2009.

“This is a considerable accomplishment for The University of Scranton, which is one of just 16 universities in Pennsylvania whose Physical Therapy Program is accredited by CAPTE,” said John P. Sanko, P.T., Ed.D., Associate Professor and Chair of the Physical Therapy Program.

**Robert E. Reiser, S.J., Named to Board of Trustees**

Robert E. Reiser, S.J., has been elected to a three-year term on the Board of Trustees at Scranton. Fr. Reiser is President of Saint Peter’s Preparatory School in Jersey City, N.J. Previously, he served as Assistant to the President at McQuaid Jesuit High School, Rochester, N.Y.; Director of Vocations for the Society of Jesus, New York, N.Y., and Baltimore, Md.; and Director of Campus Ministry at Canisius High School, Buffalo, N.Y. He served on the faculty at Saint Peter’s Prep from 1990 – 1993.

For additional information, visit the Web at www.scranton.edu/trustees.

**Employment, Salaries Remain Strong for Scranton Graduates**

The results of a post-graduation survey reveal that 98 percent of Scranton’s 2006 undergraduate class members and 97 percent of its 2006 graduate class are either employed or pursuing additional education within six months of graduation.

Of the 2006 graduates earning a bachelor’s degree who responded to the survey, 55 percent are employed full-time, four percent are employed part-time, and 39 percent are pursuing additional education. Only two percent report being unemployed. The average salary reported is $39,301, a 6.2 percent increase over last year’s average.

Of the graduates employed full time, 85.6 percent reported working in fields related to their academic major. Another three percent indicated working for the military and seven percent indicate working in an unrelated field. In an ongoing trend among graduates, four percent are volunteering full time.

For the master’s degree graduates of the class of 2006, 91 percent of respondents are employed full-time, four percent are employed part-time and two percent are pursuing additional education. Only three percent report being unemployed. The average (mean) salary for master’s degree graduates is $51,211, based on the 127 graduates that provided salary information, an increase of 1.7 percent above last year.

View the Report online at www.scranton.edu/careers.

**Campus Center Seeks LEED Certification**

The new Campus Center has been designed and is being constructed to achieve LEED certification as part of the University’s Sustainability initiatives. The Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System™ is the nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction and operation of high performance “green” (environmentally friendly) buildings. Construction of the 118,000 square-foot facility is expected to be complete by this winter. For additional information about the new Campus Center, visit the Web at www.scranton.edu/campuscenter.

Frank Gilmartin, Assistant Director and Information Resources Specialist of Career Services (left), assisted seniors who attended a resume-writing workshop. A recently released survey reveals that 98 percent of Scranton’s 2006 undergraduate class members and 97 percent of its 2006 graduate class are either employed or pursuing additional education within six months of graduation.
On the Commons

New Center Provides Resources for Hispanic Community

The University is playing a major role in strengthening area initiatives for improving Hispanic community resources through the development of the Hispanic Resources Network – Center for Community Initiatives (HRN-CCI). The HRN-CCI has been formed to enhance the effectiveness and cultural competence of non-profit organizations that serve the Hispanic/Latino regional communities.

“The ultimate goal of HRN-CCI is to advance employment and economic opportunities, promote health and educational achievement, and encourage civic participation among Hispanic/Latino individuals,” according to Rhonda Waskiewicz, Ed.D., interim Dean of the Panuska College of Professional Studies.

The University will host, or “incubate,” the HRN-CCI during its start-up period. At the same time, students will have unique opportunities to work with the organization as part of their education. HRN-CCI will collaborate with the University on various outreach activities to identify new teaching, service learning and research opportunities for faculty and students of the Panuska College of Professional Studies.

HRN-CCI is a non-profit outgrowth of a private initiative of Jorge L. Coronel, President of the Coronel Management Group, and Senior Fellow for Hispanic Affairs at the University.

Interdisciplinary Major Announced

Students interested in the newer disciplines of genomics, proteomics and bioinformatics can now explore those fields through a new undergraduate interdisciplinary major at the University beginning this fall.

Building on Scranton’s rich tradition of science education, the Biochemistry, Cell and Molecular Biology program offers a combination of traditional courses in molecular life sciences, as well as proteomics, genomics and bioinformatics, taught by faculty from the Biology and Chemistry Departments. Students will also have the unique opportunity to become familiar with the specific workings of proteomics research with hands-on experience in the proteomics laboratory at the University’s Institute of Molecular Biology and Medicine.

The program is the first major at the University that features combined courses in proteomics and genomics.

Graduates of the new program will be prepared to seek immediate employment as technicians in the biotechnology and pharmaceutical industries and in government laboratories. They will also be prepared to pursue advanced degrees in biochemistry, molecular and cellular biology and related areas of life sciences, or professional degrees in medicine and dentistry.

Student Achievements

Athlete Wins NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship

Senior cross-country athlete John Mercuri, Moscow, was among the 29 male recipients in the nation awarded an NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship for a fall sport. The scholarships are awarded based on academic merit and demonstrated athletic performance during an athlete’s final season of eligibility.

A participant in Scranton’s prestigious Honors Program, Mr. Mercuri was able to maintain a GPA of 3.97 while achieving national recognition for his performance on the varsity cross-country team.

Mr. Mercuri was selected to ESPN The Magazine’s Academic All-American First Team in 2006 and to the magazine’s second team in 2005. He was named to the All-MAC and All-NCAA Mid-East Regional teams in 2003, 2004 and 2005 and as an NCAA qualifier in 2005.

Sixth Goldwater Scholar for Scranton

Coral Stredny of Dallas, Pa., has become the sixth Scranton student in five consecutive years to be awarded a highly competitive Goldwater Scholarship and the first Scranton student to earn this prestigious award as a sophomore.

A biochemistry major, Ms. Stredny is among just 317 sophomore and junior undergraduates in the nation to be awarded the scholarship for the 2007/2008 academic year. Ms. Stredny, a member of the University’s Undergraduate Honors Program, was awarded a two-year scholarship.

The 2007 Goldwater Scholars were selected on the basis of academic merit from a field of 1,110 mathematics, science and engineering students nominated by the faculties of their colleges and universities.

Gilman Scholarships Awarded

Two Scranton students have been granted international scholarships by The Gilman International Scholarship Program.

Pedro Pedraza, East Stroudsburg, and Cynthia David, Bronx, N.Y., have received Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarships. The Gilman Scholarship program received 1,189 applications for only 400 possible awards during the spring 2007 application cycle. Award recipients are chosen by a competitive selection process and must use the award to defray study abroad costs.

Mr. Pedraza, a junior majoring in International Business, with a minor in Japanese, plans to study Japanese at Sophia University, a Jesuit university in Tokyo, Japan. Ms. David, a sophomore Elementary Education major and French minor, plans to study at Suffolk University in Dakar, Senegal, through the
Students with Highest GPAs Honored

The University presented Frank O’Hara medals to first-, second- and third-year students with the highest grade point average in each of the four colleges of the University. The award is named in honor of the late Frank O’Hara, who served Scranton for 53 years in various administrative positions.

Recipients of Frank O’Hara medals from each of the schools are as follows:

Kania School of Management
Bronze Medal: Julia Mariski, Bethel, N.Y.
Silver Medal: Joseph O’Connell III, York; Amy Haring, Staten Island, N.Y.

Panuska College of Professional Studies
Bronze Medal: Noel McFadden, Brick, N.J.; Megan Connelly, Mahopac, N.Y.
Silver Medal: Brian Patchcoski, Scranton; Juliianne Burok, Matawan, N.J.

College of Arts and Sciences
Bronze Medal: Coral Stredny, Dallas; Carmella Calabrese, Exeter
Silver Medal: Gregory Toole, Washington, N.J.; Tricia Ross, Factoryville

College of Graduate and Continuing Education
Bronze Medal: Victoria Kocis, Scranton
Silver Medal: Pauline Palko, Waymart; John Shannon, Pittston

Faculty and Staff

Joseph F. Cimini, Esq., Associate Professor, Sociology/Criminal Justice, has received the Honor Award for Public Service from the American Police Hall of Fame, a trust of the National Association of Chiefs of Police. The Honor Award for Public Service is given to law enforcement officers, elected officials or citizens whose leadership skills are outstanding in reducing crime or assisting departments in volunteer activities. Attorney Cimini was nominated for the award by the Police Hall of Fame Selection Committee of the National Association of Chiefs of Police.

Charles E. Kratz, Dean of the Weinberg Memorial Library and Information Fluency, has been elected to serve a three-year term on the American Library Association (ALA) Executive Board beginning in June. Election to the ALA Executive Board recognizes significant contributions to and experience within the profession. The ALA currently has more than 66,075 members. The 13-member ALA Executive Board manages the affairs of the association, founded in 1876.

Dean Kratz is serving his third term on the ALA Council and is chair of the ALA Nominating Committee for the 2007 election.

John Norcross, Ph.D., Professor of Psychology, was interviewed in a story in the March 5 issue of Newsweek about the book The Secret. Dr. Norcross has also been interviewed on CNN and other media outlets about the new self-help book, which claims people can change their lives by changing their thinking. In the article, Dr. Norcross, who is an expert on self-help books, says, “We find about 10 percent of self-help books are rated by mental-health professionals as damaging. This is probably one of them. The problem is the propensity for self-blame when it doesn’t work.”

Elizabeth Randol, Ph.D., has been named Director of Civic Engagement. Dr. Randol was previously the Director of the University’s Jane Kopas Women’s Center. Her responsibilities as Director of Civic Engagement include developing and coordinating academic collaborations between the University and its neighboring communities, as well as fostering sustainable and mutually beneficial relationships with those communities, and seeking ways to help faculty, staff and students become involved in local community activities.

Margarete Lieb Zalon, Ph.D., RN, APRN, BC, Professor of Nursing, has been elected to serve a four-year term as Director-at-Large of the American Nurses Association (ANA), the nation’s leading professional nursing organization representing the major health policy, practice and workplace issues of registered nurses in the United States. Dr. Zalon was also elected to serve a two-year term as president of the American Nurses Foundation (ANF), a philanthropic organization that supports ANA’s mission by promoting the health of the public and advancing the nursing profession through development and support of programs of excellence.

Speakers and Lectures

Conference Promotes Study of Women and History

The first biennial regional Conference on Women and History in Northeastern Pennsylvania was held on March 3 at the University and was featured on the Pennsylvania Cable Network. The conference promoted and encouraged the study of women and history in Northeastern Pennsylvania and included presentations by university faculty, independent scholars, local historians and students engaged in local history.

The conference was held in conjunction with The Hope Horn Gallery’s Exhibit “Alive to the Call: Women of Northeastern Pennsylvania 1880-1935.” Sessions included presentations and discussion on selected artifacts related to women by the executive directors of six historical societies in Northeastern Pennsylvania.
Pennsylvania. There were also discussions about a range of issues, including women’s labor conditions and suffrage.

The exhibition research and the related conference were supported by a Marywood University/University of Scranton Collaborative Grant and a University of Scranton Faculty Development Grant. The exhibit “Alive to the Call” was supported by a local history grant from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission.

Schemel Forum Offers Educational, Cultural Programs

The Schemel Forum presented a unique variety of educational and cultural programs during the spring semester, including an April lunchtime series and two multi-week courses.

The Oresteia by Aeschylus and plays by Sophocles and Euripides were presented over several weeks by Joseph Wilson, Ph.D., Professor of Foreign Languages. Roy Domenico, Ph.D., Professor of History, presented an eight-week program on “20th Century European History.”

The Schemel Forum Spring Luncheon Seminar Series “Insights into Democratic Transformation” featured guest speakers from Hungary, Poland and the Czech Republic.


The Czech Republic: An Overview of its Democratic Past, Present and Future was presented by Jiri Pehe, Director of New York University in Prague.

Less than two years ago, the Schemel Forum began when a group of community professionals gathered to have in-depth, participatory and informal learning experiences. The Schemel Forum was formally founded in July 2006 through generous gifts to The Reverend George J. Schemel, S.J., Fund by friends and admirers of the late Father Schemel, who was the founder and Director of the former Institute of Contemporary Spirituality at the University.

Alumni Speak at Breakfast Series

LEFT: David J. Lukiewski ’75, President and Chief Executive Officer of Welch’s, the world’s leading manufacturer and marketer of Concord and Niagara grape-based products such as juices, jams and jellies, spoke on “Change Leadership in an Iconic Organization” at the inaugural PNC Breakfast (formerly the President’s Breakfast) on March 27. Prior to being named President and CEO, he held several key positions with Welch’s, including Senior Vice President of Sales, Vice President of Sales, and Senior Vice President of Global Sales and Marketing.

Armond T. Mascelli ’70, Vice President for Domestic Disaster Response of the American Red Cross, returned to his alma mater to speak at the President’s Breakfast (now the PNC Breakfast) in December. Executive Directors from regional American Red Cross chapters attended the breakfast. From left: Joyce Bradbury, Hazleton Chapter; Robert Cherundolo, Scranton Chapter; Mr. Mascelli; Patrick Leahy, Vice President for University Relations; Pete Danchak, President of PNC Bank Northeast Pennsylvania and corporate sponsor of the breakfast series; Marita Wenner, Wayne/Pike Chapter; Michael Zimmerman, Wyoming Valley Chapter; and Kathy Felker, Northeast Service Area Chapter Solutions Manager.

Roy Domenico, Ph.D., Professor of History (left), presented an eight-week program on “20th Century European History” as part of a spring series offered by the Schemel Forum. Dr. Domenico is the author of The Regions of Italy: A Reference Guide to History and Culture.
The Arts

Hope Horn Gallery

The Hope Horn Gallery’s 2006-2007 season concludes with “Ash Cans and Art Spirits: Amy Londoner and the Henri School.” In the years before the Armory Show of 1913, Amy Londoner and her classmates Edith Reynolds and Carl Sprinchorn studied with Robert Henri in New York City. This exhibition, which features paintings and pastels by Londoner, traces the impact of Henri’s teaching on her life, art and friendships. A complete exhibition and program schedule are available online at www.scranton.edu/gallery.

Performance Music

It was a reunion of sorts when trumpeter Dominick Farinacci, a member of the inaugural class of The Institute for Jazz Studies at The Juilliard School, “returned home” to the site of his first tour performance with the Juilliard Jazz Orchestra, this time with his own acclaimed quartet featuring his fellow graduates of the program. At 24 years of age, Mr. Farinacci already has five solo CD’s to his credit, and has won the “International New Star” Award from Swing Journal Magazine.

During the spring semester, Performance Music also hosted a variety of guest performers, including brother-sister performers trumpeter Jeffrey Curnow and soprano Lauren Curnow; husband-and-wife team cellist Mark Kosower and pianist Jee-Won Oh; and guest composer/conductor Matthew Herman, who led the University Concert Band and Concert Choir in the 24th Annual World Premiere Composition Series Concert. Visit the Web at www.scranton.edu/music for information about upcoming events.

University Players

The University Players continued their 2006-07 theatre season with Yasmina Reza’s dazzling array of language in ART. This Tony-award winning play was performed by the Players in February. The season also included William Inge’s Bus Stop in April and concluded with the New Director’s Workshop in May. Visit the Web at www.scranton.edu/players for more information about the University Players.

Conference will Explore Catholic and Georgist Economic Views of Social Justice

Distinguished presenters from across the United States and Canada will come to Scranton to compare Catholic views to those of the 19th century American economist and social reformer Henry George on a variety of social justice topics. Presenters will examine topics such as the causes of war, immigration, wealth and community development, during a four-day conference.

Sponsored by The University of Scranton, the Robert Schalkenbach Foundation and the Council of Georgist Organizations, the conference, entitled “Two Views of Social Justice: A Catholic/Georgist Dialogue” will be held from July 24-26 at the Pennsylvania Anthracite Heritage Museum and The University of Scranton.

Among the presenters are University of Pennsylvania Professor John Dilulio, Jr., Ph.D., and Joshua Vincent of Philadelphia’s Center for the Study of Economics, who will discuss neighborhood revitalization. Catholic and Georgist perspectives on immigration will be presented by Rev William O’Neill, S.J., Associate Professor of Social Ethics at the Jesuit School of Theology at Berkeley, Calif., and John Beck, Ph.D., Professor of Economics at Gonzaga University in Spokane, Wash. A comparison of the perspectives on human nature will be presented by the Rev. Joseph Koterski, S.J., Associate Professor of Philosophy at Fordham University, N.Y., and James Dawsey, Ph.D., Chair of the Religion Department at Emory and Henry College, Va. University of Scranton professors presenting at the conference include William Parente, Ph.D., Professor of Political Science, and Brian Benestad, Ph.D., Professor of Theology.

The conference will include several presentations on local history, including “The Molly Maguires and Catholic Condemnation of Secret Societies” and “Henry George on Coal Mining in Pennsylvania.” The conference follows the Council of Georgist Organizations’ annual meeting, which will be held at the Hilton Conference Center and the University from July 21-23.
The President’s Business Council will present Louis A. DeNaples Sr., H’05, President of DeNaples Auto Parts, Keystone Sanitary Landfill and Mount Airy Resort & Casino, with the President’s Medal at the Council’s Sixth Annual Award Dinner, to be held on Thursday, October 4, 2007, at the Pierre in New York City.

A past parent and longtime friend of the University, Mr. DeNaples was a member of the University’s Board of Trustees from 1987-1993 and 1995 to 2002, serving as Chair of the Board for the final two years of his tenure. He received an Honorary Degree from the University at the 2005 Commencement ceremonies.

Rev. Scott R. Pilarz, S.J., University President, commented, “Mr. DeNaples’ professional successes and personal compassion for others, including The University of Scranton, make him most deserving of this honor.” Christopher M. “Kip” Condron ’70, President and Chief Executive Officer of AXA Financial, Inc., and Chair of the President’s Business Council, added, “We are grateful that Louis agreed to be honored in this way. While he is often asked for such an opportunity, he rarely, if ever, accepts.”

A native and resident of Dunmore, Pennsylvania, Louis DeNaples is a self-made businessman and philanthropist. His career began with the founding of DeNaples Auto Parts and has grown into a Northeastern Pennsylvania empire with operations and interests in more than 200 companies, including towing, heavy equipment sales and rentals, landfills, waste hauling, transportation, banking and real estate. In December of 2006, Mr. DeNaples’ business interests expanded when the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board selected his application for one of the slot machine licenses that the state was awarding. The Mount Airy Resort & Casino in the Poconos will open in the fall of this year on the site of the former Mount Airy Lodge. He is a highly visible and very active member of the local community. He is Chairman of the Board of both First National Community Bank and Allied Services. He has served on numerous boards and currently sits on the boards of Community Medical Center and Blue Cross of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

The President’s Business Council was formed in January 2001 by the University and a prominent group of alumni and friends whose purpose is to advance the mission of the University. Its existence fulfills the interests of the University and of these alumni and friends in the business community to form an organized, national affiliation that strengthens the Scranton network in the business sectors. The Council’s objectives are to provide networking opportunities for alumni and friends; to provide mentoring, internship, educational and career opportunities for current students; and to provide a fundraising source for the Presidential Scholarship Endowment Fund. In its first five dinners, the Council has raised over $4.7 million in support of the Presidential Scholarships, which are full-tuition, merit-based scholarships awarded to the top students entering the University’s freshman class each year.

The Council is also committed to regional receptions to promote local networking and to inform the attendees of the Council’s objectives in an effort to strengthen and promote membership. This year, receptions will be held in Boston, New York City, Philadelphia, Scranton and Washington, D.C. The Council, in cooperation with the Kania School of Management, also launched its inaugural “President’s Business Council Day” on campus in April.

For more information regarding the Council or the October 4 dinner, please contact Timothy J. Pyrel ’89 at (570) 941-5837 or prylet2@scranton.edu. Please refer to the last page of this magazine for ticket reservation information.
Msgr. Joseph Quinn ’72 Named Honorary Reunion Giving Chair for 2007

To encourage friendly competition among classes, three awards will be presented during Reunion Weekend. The Distinguished Reunion Class Attendance Award will be presented to the class with the highest percentage of members in attendance at reunion. The Distinguished Class Participation Award will be presented to the class with the highest participation rate or number of people in the class who made a gift to reunion giving. The Distinguished Reunion Class Leadership Giving Award will recognize the class with the largest reunion gift.

Reunion gifts support the University in many ways, including student scholarships and important resources that enhance the learning environment on campus, from lab equipment and classroom technology to faculty development initiatives and Catholic and Jesuit identity programs. Collectively, these initiatives advance the University’s position as a national leader in Jesuit higher education.

“Whether attending University activities, participating in alumni events, or merely being on campus, I continue to be inspired by the way our alma mater has become an institution that is recognized throughout the world,” said Msgr. Quinn. “I invite all alumni, particularly those celebrating their anniversary year, to consider a gift to the University.”

Msgr. Joseph G. Quinn ’72 is leading an initiative to encourage gifts from alumni celebrating their reunion year.

Msgr. Joseph G. Quinn ’72 has been named Honorary Reunion Giving Chair for Reunion 2007, which will be held on campus June 8-10.

Msgr. Quinn is Pastor of St. Rose of Lima Church, Carbondale, and St. Pius X Church at the foot of Elk Mountain. He is a former University Trustee who has held many leadership roles at Scranton and in the broader community. At Scranton, he served on the Board of Trustees from 1972 – 1977 and 1994 – 2003, and was Chair of the Search Committee for the 24th President of the University. He was a keynote speaker of the Alumni Society’s Leadership Conference in 2006 and has served on numerous committees with his alma mater.

As Honorary Reunion Giving Chair, Msgr. Quinn is leading an initiative to encourage gifts from alumni celebrating their reunion year.

“Giving to the University is an important way of creating an alumni connection while working to sustain our beloved alma mater in the ongoing fulfillment of its mission,” said Msgr. Quinn, who is celebrating his 35th reunion this year.

The goal for Reunion 2007 giving is a 20 percent participation rate among alumni celebrating their reunion, for a total of $260,000 in reunion gifts. Milestone classes for Reunion 2007 are classes ending in “7” and “2.”

I am pleased to report that The Royal Fund is well on its way to surpassing its $1.9 million goal for this year. This overwhelming success is due to the support of thousands of alumni, parents and friends who are committed to Scranton in so many ways.

The responsibility for shaping The University of Scranton’s future rests with each of us. Unrestricted gifts of all sizes are essential if Scranton is to further its mission of academic excellence in the Jesuit tradition - educating women and men in service of others. We must continue to make giving to Scranton a priority. By meeting or surpassing its goal, The Royal Fund will signal to the entire University community that Scranton is a growing institution that is both innovative and vibrant.

As a leadership volunteer, I am honored to serve my alma mater and to give my time to help secure financial resources for a school that I believe in. The Development team and volunteers with whom I work are talented people who embrace a new culture of philanthropy. Together we are working together to support the University’s mission of challenging and cherishing young minds.

As The Royal Fund nears its year-end, we ask all those who have not yet contributed to make their donation today. Send your gift in the envelope in this issue of The Scranton Journal, visit our secure giving site, www.scranton.edu/TheRoyalFund or call us at (570) 941-7725. If you have any questions that you wish to direct to me, then please send me an e-mail at biedlingmaier@aol.com. I appreciate your current and future support. I’m available to help steward your loyalty to Scranton.

Sincerely,

Paul Biedlingmaier Jr. ’76
Scholarship Provides a Way to Say “Thank You” to the University

In establishing a full-tuition scholarship at Scranton, Joan Lonsdorf has a very clear vision of what she wants to accomplish with her gift.

“I want to provide a bright young woman or man with a wonderful education under the Jesuits,” she says.

Mrs. Lonsdorf is establishing The James J. and Joan Lonsdorf Scholarship in memory of Nancy Lonsdorf to support educational diversity at Scranton, consistent with the University’s mission and admissions policy. The Scholarship will be used for the benefit of students of African-American heritage.

Mrs. Lonsdorf and her late husband, Jim, were educated in Catholic and Jesuit schools. She graduated from Chestnut Hill College in 1950, and he graduated from The University of Scranton that same year.

“Jim loved the school,” she recalls of her late husband. “If I could do this with the money he left me I’d be saying ‘thank you’ to the University.”

The couple met in Washington, D.C., while Joan was working as a translator for the CIA. One day, she was approached by Jim, who was an Officer of Special Investigation. He had mistaken Joan for her twin sister, but the two hit it off. The rest, as they say, is history.

“He was a great date because he got invitations to special events like the Eisenhower inauguration,” she quips.

Other memories of their years together are vivid in a different way. “Throughout the careers we shared, we both witnessed lots of discrimination. It was disturbing to see this,” recalls Mrs. Lonsdorf.

After finishing his service with the Pentagon, Mr. Lonsdorf worked for Mutual Benefit Life. A native of Scranton, he would often return to the area to visit his parents. It was during these visits that Mrs. Lonsdorf was first introduced to the University.

After his retirement, Mr. Lonsdorf redopted the University, serving as a volunteer in various capacities, including hosting a gathering of Scranton alumni at his home in Honesdale and serving as an active member of the Scranton Alumni Club and later, a member of the Alumni Society’s Board of Governors.

“Through Jim’s involvement with the University I got to meet some wonderful people like Fr. Panuska and, later, Fr. Pilarz,” says Mrs. Lonsdorf. “But what moved me most was a tour of campus. I loved the warmth of the students.”

As for the scholarship, Mrs. Lonsdorf says it makes her feel “marvelous.” “It gives me a feeling that I can die knowing I’ve done something good with our money,” she says.

Estate Society Provides Opportunity to Fulfill Philanthropic Goals

Have you ever wanted to make a real difference in the world but could not find the right time or the appropriate avenue to invest your resources? Time has always been a determining factor with charitable giving. Perhaps it is a deterrent from giving at the capacity that you would ideally like to be recognized. However, with planned giving at The University of Scranton, you can make a gift without having to interrupt your current lifestyle. You may defer your gift while still becoming a full member of our Estate Society, obtaining all of the benefits of this elite society.

With careful planning, your philanthropic goals can be fulfilled in your estate plan. Your generous contribution to The University of Scranton will assist in elevating our academic standards and preserving our Catholic and Jesuit heritage. Now more than ever, the University needs your support to provide the critical resources needed to address our many growing needs, such as the improvement of our facilities and the augmentation of our faculty and student endowments. Through such generosity, you will have the satisfaction of helping students achieve their own noble aspirations by receiving a high-quality Scranton education.

The Estate Society honors alumni, parents, and friends who have designated The University of Scranton as the beneficiary of a bequest, trust, retirement assets, life insurance policy or other planned gift. These visionaries have given unselfishly of their resources to further the mission of the University and support our students for years to come.

Members of the Estate Society enjoy the following benefits:
- Recognition in the Annual Donor Report of Gifts
- Invitation to our annual Estate Society event
- Name recognition on the Estate Society donor plaque
- Personal assistance with your charitable and estate planning questions
- Planned giving newsletters and planned gift updates
- Estate Society lapel pin
- Invitations to special University events
- Estate Society certificate

If you have already included the University in your estate plans, but have not yet notified us, please let us know. We would like to have the opportunity to thank you and to show our appreciation. Your willingness to be listed as a member of The Estate Society encourages others to follow your example. Members also have the option of remaining anonymous.

If you would like to receive personalized assistance with your gift planning, or would like more information about the Estate Society, please contact Marise Garofalo at (570) 941-4144 or e-mail plannedgiving@scranton.edu. We will be happy to assist you on a confidential basis.