New admissions micro-website gives prospective students a first look at Temple

By Vaughn A. Shinkus
vshinkus@temple.edu

The micro-site’s launch followed the recent redesign of the university’s main admissions website, admissions.temple.edu. The two web properties complement one another, but take slightly different approaches to organizing and presenting information about the university.

“We know that high school and transfer students considering Temple are evaluating a full range of attributes that will shape their undergraduate experience,” said Karin West Mormando, director of undergraduate admissions. “The new micro-site delivers this information to them in a way that makes it easy to explore the many opportunities Temple provides.”

Each sub-section carries images selected from a series of photos posted by members of the university community on the social media site Instagram with the #TempleMade hashtag. Since announced late last summer, more than 6,800 images have been tagged — some of which were used in a television commercial that debuted at the first home football game.

In addition to the photos, video clips on the site feature students discussing their experiences at Temple. Other areas of the site highlight university fast facts, financial aid and the admissions process.

Developed by the Jenkintown-based web development firm Context, in collaboration with Yeiman advertising agency, the micro-site builds on the popular success of the Temple Made advertising spots.

Temple to launch new full-time freshman program in Harrisburg

By Vaughn A. Shinkus
vshinkus@temple.edu

Beginning next fall, college students in central Pennsylvania can access the benefits of a major urban research university without leaving home.

That’s because Temple is launching a full-time program of General Education courses for freshmen at its campus on Strawberry Square, across from the state capital in downtown Harrisburg.

The new program, Freshman Year at Temple University Harrisburg, was announced at a Nov. 28 news conference attended by Harrisburg Mayor Linda D. Thompson, Temple Interim Provost Hai-Lung D. Dai, Temple Harrisburg Director Link Martin and Vice Provost for University College Vicki Lewis McGarvey.

Freshmen who enroll in the program will complete their first year of GenEd classes in Harrisburg before transitioning to the university’s Main or Ambler campuses. Classes will be held on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays in order to provide students flexibility to manage their studies and work schedules on extended weekends.

“Freshman Year at Temple University Harrisburg will allow students who live in Central Pennsylvania to live and work near home, saving money while completing their initial year as full-time Temple students,” said Martin. “At the same time, the program is a gateway to the multitude of academic, research, recreational and cultural opportunities at Temple and in Philadelphia.”

While attending classes in Harrisburg, freshmen will also have access to cultural opportunities at Temple and in Philadelphia. “Our community of scholars is defined by quality — our students deserve nothing less — and this year’s new faculty members are outstanding. Their arrival isn’t just great for Temple, it’s great for the overall economic health of the region.”

For the ninth consecutive year, Temple has hired dozens of new senior faculty members from the world’s leading institutions, part of an ongoing push to bring top scholars, researchers and creative minds to the university.

The most of tenured and tenure-track recruits — more than 55 for 2012-13 — brings the total number of senior faculty members hired by Temple since 2004-05 to nearly 520, the biggest influx in the university’s history.

With the launch of a new admissions-focused micro-website last month, high school and transfer students considering Temple as their college destination can now view the university through the eyes of those who know it best.

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Developed by the Jenkintown-based web development firm Context, in collaboration with Yeiman advertising agency, the micro-site builds on the popular success of the Temple Made advertising agency.

The design and writing resilience the spirit, sense of pride and roll-up-your-sleeves attitude conveyed in recent outdoor, online and television advertising spots.

Judging by comments on social media channels, the effort has been a success among prospective students. “(I’m) totally applying,” wrote one Facebook user. “I fell in love with this university.”

Another prospect on Instagram expressed her admiration in hashtags: “#TempleMade. #dreamschool.”
Athletes recognizes faculty and students for outstanding contributions

By Laura Kuszek
For the Temple Times

Temple’s Department of Athletics continues to recognize members of the university community at home athletic contests for their extraordinary research, scholarship and creative achievements.

Nora Newcomb, a James H. Glackin Distinguished Faculty Fellow and professor of psychology at Temple, was honored with the Faculty of the Game award during the Nov. 10 home football game against Cincinnati. Newcomb is principal investigator for Temple’s Spatial Intelligence and Learning Center, which was recently awarded a $300,000 grant from the National Science Foundation to form the Thematic Network in Spatial Cognition, a virtual institute that will connect researchers from around the world in support of advancing the study of spatial cognition. She is also co-director of Temple’s Infant Lab, where she has led studies on the connection between spatial skills and children’s ability to excel in science, technology, engineering and mathematics disciplines.

At the first men’s basketball home game this season against Rice University, Chemistry Professor Eric Borget and Fox alumnus Lev Davidson ’11, were recognized. The pair were winners of Temple’s $30,000 Ignite Idea Competition and went on to win the grand prize during the 2011 Be Your Own Boss Row structure startup, PureSANO Technologies.

In the last home football game of the season, on Nov. 19 against Temple, Eveslage, professor of law and ethics in the Department of Journalism, was recognized for his work as an educator, administrator, colleague and mentor during his 32 years at Temple. Eveslage has been the recipient of a Lindback Award at Temple and was one of the initial inductees to the Teaching Academy in 2000.

At the men’s basketball game on Nov. 25 against the University of Delaware, Emily Threnien, director of bands, and Matthew Brunner, director of athletic bands, both from the Boyer College of Music and Dance, were recognized as Faculty of the Game. Students John Leibensperger, who is pursuing a Master of Music degree in tuba performance, and Katie Frueh, a junior accounting and film and media arts double major, were also recognized at the game for their leadership as members of the bands.

During the Dec. 1 men’s basketball game against Wagner, English Professor Eli Goldblatt was recognized along with Diamond Scholar Rachel Ettashon, who has “taught Freshman Seminar” and assisted with “First-Year Writing.” Goldblatt has served as the University Writing director, faculty co-director of the Writing Center, chair of the Core Reform Committee and director of First-Year Writing. A champion for community service through partnerships on literary projects, he has engaged more than a hundred Temple student-volunteers at Tree House Books, where they teach reading and writing to neighborhood kids. In 2007, Goldblatt received a Great Teacher Award.

Faculty members are nominated for the Faculty of the Game award by Intern Provost Hai Lung-Dai and honored by Temple’s Department of Athletics during home football and men’s basketball games.

Provost Search Advisory Committee invites nominations for Provost

Temple University invites inquiries, nominations and applications for the position of provost, the chief academic officer of the university. The incoming president, Dr. Neil Theobald, the deans of the university’s schools and colleges expect the provost as does the dean of University Libraries, the Division of Student Affairs, International Programs, and members of the provost’s senior staff. The provost will work in partnership with President Theobald to define and implement the vision of Temple’s academic strategic vision; work in partnership with the deans and the faculty to shape the faculty and the academic programs for the future, building strength in both disciplinary and interdisciplinary areas; enhance the university’s scholarship, creative activities and research profile; enrich teaching and learning at the undergraduate, graduate, and professional levels; allocate and manage resources in support of the university’s academic goals; and provide leadership for development efforts.

The successful candidate will be a tenured professor in the university and will have a demonstrated record of accomplishments that earn the respect of the academic community. The provost must have academic vision and leadership experience, combined with the ability to inspire faculty, students, staff, and the Board of Trustees with a sense of pride and belief in the future of the university. The provost must focus on academic and research excellence for talented students, the provost will need the ability to work with the president to develop strategic directions and to imagine new possibilities for the university.

Other important attributes include successful management experience in a complex institutional environment that includes budgetary responsibility, the ability to work closely with others on integrated academic and financial planning for Temple, the ability to recruit and retain an outstanding faculty, a collaborative management style, and a commitment to enhancing diversity in all areas of the university community.

Nominations and self-nominations should be sent to provostsearch@temple.edu. Students, faculty and staff may place names in nomination or self-nominate if they have attained the rank of professor with tenure. The deadline for consideration of applications is Dec. 21, 2012, after which the nominees will be contacted by the committee chair and asked to submit materials. The search will be conducted with the highest respect for the confidentiality of candidates. Review of candidates will begin the week of Jan. 7, with an appointment to be made by President Theobald in early 2013.

Temple is an equal opportunity and affirmative action employer committed to achieving excellence through diversity among its students, faculty, and staff.

For more information about Freshman Year at Temple Harrisburg, contact Anne Eckert at 215-232-6400, ext. 422, or ae@temple.edu.

Harrisburg

From page 1

be offered an array of co-curricular activities and advising support to help them transition to Main Campus.

The new pathway was developed in response to growing demand for Temple’s educational options for central Pennsylvania residents, fueled by a growing number of applications and students from the region. For Fall 2012, the university received more than 1,000 applications from the greater Harrisburg area.

The freshman classes will complement Temple’s evening and Saturday evening college classes. Full-time students who come to Harrisburg are able to complete their first-year college studies with a variety of offerings in Harrisburg designed to meet the needs of working adults. The university’s Institute for Public Affairs also sponsors popular Pennsylvania Capital Semester, which brings undergraduates from Main Campus to the state capital to pursue internships in state government affairs and policy.

“The Freshman Year program builds on Temple’s historic strength in Harrisburg, and emphasizes our commitment to providing educational options for students from throughout the Commonwealth,” said Interim Provost Dai. “We look forward to the continued growth of the downtown academic corridor with this exciting new announcement,” said Neal West, president of Strawberry Square Development Corporation.”We believe TUSD already has a significant positive impact in the downtown and this announcement adds to the growing student and academic corridor in downtown Harrisburg.”

For more information about Freshman Year at Temple Harrisburg, contact Anne Eckert at 215-232-6400, ext. 422, or ae@temple.edu.

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New director of Student Financial Services sets sights on service

By Eryn Jestelewicz
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Although many are busy with the holidays at this time of the year, it’s also the time when students and families should start preparing to apply for financial aid. The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form becomes available on Jan. 1 and students are encouraged to complete their submissions as early as possible.

Craig Fennell was appointed the new director of Student Financial Services (SFS) at Temple. April replacing former director John Morris who retired but still assists part-time. Fennell said that he’s planning for the future, and his he’s already in the SFS office as well as those things that might be big in five years.

Craig Fennell, director of Student Financial Services

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Surprise scholarship announcement at Musser Awards leaves student spectators speechless

Korman Communities
Founder Steven H. Korman
$10,000 scholarships to 20 students from Temple University's School of Tourism and Hospitality Management
Fox School of Business, Golden Ticket, Musser Awards dinner.
Ryan S. Brandenberg

By Brandon Lausch
blausch2@temple.edu

Twenty Temple School of Tourism and Hospitality Management sophomores competed for a single $10,000 scholarship from an anonymous donor heard a series of stunning announcements at last month's Musser Awards dinner.

Not only did Korman Communities Founder Steven H. Korman reveal himself as the donor on the night he was honored with the prestigious Golden Ticket at the Fox School of Business, he also raised the amount to $12,000.

And then he awarded the scholarship to two students.

Korman's $240,000 donation --- in support of Temple's recently announced five year, $100 million fundraising campaign for student scholarships --- capped a night emphasizing the university's commitment to reducing student debt.

Board of Trustees Chairman Patrick O'Connor highlighted the university's unprecedented fundraising effort to more than double the current financial aid budget and stressed the importance of providing affordable access to excellence.

President Noreen Frisby-Thobald then told the crowd of nearly 400 people, many of them business leaders in the Delaware Valley, that they "cannot wait to get here in January so we can work with all of you to build an even stronger business school and a campus that will continue to propel our regional economy."

In his acceptance speech, Korman said he was attracted to support Temple because it takes raw talent and provides a chance to succeed. He has chaired the School of Tourism and Hospitality Management Deans Council for 12 years.

Korman said each finalist was sent a letter to their then anonymous donor. Common themes were the students' gratitude for their families' sacrifices to help them attend college and a desire to give back to Temple.

"Through a generous donor, I have been nominated to receive a scholarship that would greatly help me continue my education," the letter read.

"Serving the community, " Korman said, "we’re lucky the next generation is going to be amazing. And all 20 of you, when you think about it, are winners."

By Preston Moretz
pmoretz@temple.edu

Mathematics conference honors late professor

By Preston Moreetz
pmoreetz@temple.edu

Leading mathematicians, including some of the world’s foremost number theorists, came to Temple last month for the 20th annual conference on Finite Fields and Applications organized by Marvin Knopp, the holder of the Tempele Mathematics faculty member from 1976, was a leading expert in the theory of Eichler cohomology, modular forms and related subjects.

Knopp passed away last December at the age of 78.

The two-day Marvin Knopp Memorial Conference featured talks discussing Knopp’s work in analytic number theory. Participants were some of the major figures in contemporary mathematics, including several members of the National Academy of Sciences and a number of several of the prestigious awards in mathematics such as the Cole Prize, AMS Steele Prize and Euler Medal.

"Marvin Knopp has tremendous stature within the number theory community, both for the quality of his work and because he was so very well liked," said Edward Letzter, chair of Temple’s Mathematics Department and conference co-organizer.

Knopp was the author of more than 70 publications and three books, including the foundational Modular Functions in Analytic Number Theory. He never addressed to meetings of the American Mathematical Society, and in 2007 the American Mathematical Society dedicated a volume in his honor.

During his 35-year tenure as a Temple faculty member, Knopp, along with several others, played a key role in helping to elevate the mathematics department’s stature as a research-oriented department, both at the university and within the mathematics community.

"As the kids would say today, but Marvin would probably not approve, it was a ‘no-brainer’ to have this conference for him," said Vladmir Pribitkin, a professor of mathematics at the City University of New York College of Staten Island and a conference co-organizer.

Pribitkin was a doctoral student under Knopp, earning his Ph.D. from Temple in 1995, said the turnout was so many because of the importance of the event.

"Marvin was a true gentleman, a very special person. I have no words to express how much I am going to miss him," said Pribitkin. He helped them out and they remembered this, so they came here to pay tribute to the man. He was definitely a guide and a mentor to many people."

Pribitkin, who called Knopp a “powerhouse mathematician,” became a collaborator and said he is finishing several problems that he and Knopp, including a joint paper and book.

Temple Mathematics Professor John Musser is the man who introduced Knopp as an undergraduate student at the University of Wisconsin, where Knopp studied with the famous mathematician and businessman.

Event proceeds supported another scholarship: the School of Tourism and Hospitality Management Endowed Scholarship Fund.

By Ryan S. Brandenberg

Apps and maps studio will help underserved kids solve community problems

By Preston M. Moreetz
pmoreetz@temple.edu

Young adults from Philadelphia’s underserved communities will soon get this help they need to tackle the pressing problems their neighborhoods face. The Temple Urban Apps and Maps Studio will provide a space for them to engage with real-world challenges and develop the skills and knowledge they need to make a difference.

"Students and young adults are quite savvy in the use of technology. By showing them how this technology works from the development and innovation side, we can help convert that passion into job skills and, even more importantly, in helping them in the community," said Interim Vice Provost for Research Michele Masucci, who is also professor and chair of Geography and Urban Studies.

Masucci said that Temple will work with the School District of Philadelphia and surrounding communities to connect students with real-world challenges. She added they will work with the School District of Philadelphia to serve, "Frisby-Greenwood said.

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TJU anniversary symposium explores global citizenship

By Masami Nakagawa

For the Temple Times

More than 300 people from a broad spectrum of Japanese society celebrated Temple University Japan (TUJ)’s 30th anniversary at a Nov. 16 symposium titled “Liberal Arts: Developing Competency, Leadership and Global Citizenship.”

Each of the symposium’s three panels was chosen to represent the varying views of the public, business and education sectors. U.S. Ambassador Robert M. Orr, executive director of the Asian Development Bank, presented “Outside the Box or Boxed In? Specialized Training or Liberal Arts Education.” Yuraka Morohoshi, a professor at J.F. Oberlin University, presented “Major Deficiencies of Japan’s Higher Education Institutions;” and Yoshiki Fujiyoshi, president and CEO of LIXIL Group Corporation, presented “Second Global Era.” The presentations were followed by a lively discussion moderated by TUJ Dean Bruce Stronach.

After the symposium, about 200 participants stayed for a 30th anniversary reception. TUJ was established in 1982 in Tokyo as Japan’s first foreign university. While approximately 40 foreign universities have opened and closed in Japan over the past 30 years, TUJ has remained, establishing a unique position in the landscape of Japan’s higher education.

“In Japan, commitment is highly valued, and the fact that TUJ has stuck with Japan through thick and thin has created a great deal of support for us and our mission as an American university here,’’ said TUJ Dean Bruce Stronach. “This was reflected in not just the size of the audience that turned out for the 30th Anniversary Symposium, but also in their interest in us as an international education leader in Japan.”

Combining a liberal arts approach characteristic of an American university and an international environment characteristic of an overseas branch campus, TUJ has been producing graduates who are sought after in Japan and worldwide. All classes are taught in English, classes are small, with an average of 10 to 15 students per class, and students come from more than 50 countries.

The programs emphasize critical thinking and creative thinking skills as a foundation for deep learning.

In recent years, TUJ has been increasing its contribution to Japanese society through education by actively partnering with Japanese universities. Such initiatives include a credit exchange program recently started with Musashi University.

The symposium and reception were part of a series of TUJ 30th anniversary events held throughout the year. A 30th anniversary student festival at Tokyo International School on Oct. 29 attracted more than 300 visitors. A lecture series gave undergraduate students opportunities to learn from the life stories of the distinguished lecturers. “Careers in Your Field” featured three guest speakers, including Jasper Cheung, CEO of Amazon Japan; Kuniko Inoguchi, a member of the House of Councillors; and Nakatani Wadakuri, a producer at CNN.

Annual conference highlights Temple’s global connections

By Bri Bosak

For the Temple Times

From anthropology to public health, from business to theatre, there is scarcely a department or program at Temple that does not engage in some form of international inquiry. Now in its seventh year, the Global Temple Conference highlights that diversity by showcasing the university’s range of international programs and creative ventures.

This year’s event, held Nov. 14 in the Howard Gittis Student Center, was designed to demonstrate the many ways that Temple and Philadelphia multicultural communities reflect broad global connections. Titled “Global and Local: Temple’s Dynamic Mix,” the conference featured student and faculty projects focusing on worldwide issues, with more than 100 individuals presenting posters and films or participating in panels and creative performances.

One presentation that truly embodied the conference theme was “Cultural Collaboration for Disaster Relief.” Making Fukakatsu no Uta (The Song of Rising?)” Panelsists Jack Klotz, a School of Media and Communication (SMC) associate professor; Naoko Masuda, former SMC senior web developer; and Vincent Leonard, a music producer and orchestrator, discussed the creation of the song that was developed in the wake of the 2011 earthquake, tsunami and nuclear crisis that devastated parts of northeastern Japan. The project incorporated more than 100 people throughout the production process.

Planning committee member Erin Palmer, director of Study Away Programs in the School of Media and Communication, said that many of this year’s conference presentations stemmed from students’ experiences abroad.

Senior religion major Dan Mokris created a poster called “Dhramaganta Sign the Divine” as part of his internship. Because he studied religious rituals in homes and temples, Mokris says that the other students in his program studied everything from public health to music, which gave him a perspective apart from his discipline.

“Everything I encountered had significant religious meaning,” said Mokris. “I wanted to present today as another way of giving my experiences tangible meaning.”

Like Mokris, many students participated in the day-long symposium as a way of framing their experiences abroad within the context of Philadelphia.

Nicole Gigliotti, a junior public relations major with a Spanish minor, presents her project, “Home vs. Home.”

Nicole Gigliotti, a junior public relations major with a Spanish minor, presents her project, “Home vs. Home.”

“When I was there I found a lot of parallels between Philadelphia and Rome,” Gigliotti said. She wanted to showcase the similarities in the hope that others would approach new places in the same way.

The conference was attended by more than 300 people in prior years, said Palmer, perhaps in part due to the inclusion of a keynote speech by Peter Watson, former chairman of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

Titled “The Next President’s Greatest Global Challenge: Preventing Conflict in Asia/Pacific as Pacifies for U.S. Regional Leadership,” the lecture kicked off the conference at 9 a.m. and was followed by a series of presentations throughout the day. The conference concluded with a reception for participants and attendees.

The Global Temple Conference is organized by the Faculty Senate International Programs Committee and the Office of International Affairs and is supported by schools, colleges and programs across the university. It is one of many events organized nationally as part of International Education Week, held annually in November.
Violence and unintended pregnancy are focus of NIH-funded Temple University study

By Anna Nguyen

Is violence related to unintended pregnancy or is it just a coincidence? That’s the question Temple researcher Deborah B. Nelson hopes to answer with a study that could provide new answers to a long-standing question. Nelson is working with a team to ask women with limited education, women with limited education, women living in poverty, younger women, and women who have experienced interpersonal violence. Nelson’s study will explore how a woman’s experience with violence can affect her ability to negotiate regular contraception. We’re encountering women who don’t want to get pregnant, but are not using any contraception. Where’s the gap?” said Nelson, an associate professor of public health in Temple’s College of Health Professions and director of the Maternal and Child Health Wellness Lab at Temple University.

“Women who have experienced childhood violence usually suffer long-term consequences such as lower self-esteem, higher rates of depression and the inability to regulate their emotions as effectively. In turn, this could affect a woman’s sexual self-efficacy — whether she can maintain consistent contraceptive use such as the pill, or insist her partner use a condom,” she said.

“We want to determine how strong the relationship is between high levels of violence and unintended pregnancies in these communities, and if attributes such as high self-esteem, high levels of family and peer support help young women take charge of their sexual health,” she said.

Nelson’s research for the past decade has focused on what causes early pregnancy and adverse pregnancy outcomes among urban women, including preterm delivery and miscarriage. She is currently studying how bacterial vaginosis, or BV; a vaginal infection caused by imbalance of bacteria, presents complications during pregnancy such as preterm delivery. Pregnant women with BV more often have babies who are born premature or with a low birth weight of less than 5.5 pounds.

Unintended pregnancy is associated with an increased risk of problems for the mother and baby. If a pregnancy is not planned before conception, a woman may not be in optimal health at the time of conception. For example, women with an unintended pregnancy could delay prenatal care that may affect the developing fetus.

Nelson’s newly funded NIH study will begin by enrolling 360 sexually active women between the ages of 18 to 30 at Temple’s Family Planning Clinic next month. At the clinic, women will complete a questionnaire about prior experiences and current experiences with violence such as childhood violence or current violence of self esteem and susceptibility to depression. The surveys — designed by the Institute of Survey Research at Temple — will let participants choose whether to fill out the survey on a tablet as they hear the questions on a headset. Interviewers will provide all information in a language that women report that they have or are currently experiencing violence, said Nelson.

In a follow-up survey nine months later, the same women will answer questions about their sexual health, including whether they have had sex since the initial questionnaire, so how many professional fields, including birth control and how consistently. The surveys will reveal if women who initially reported violence in their lives were more likely to be inconsistent birth control users. Also, researchers want to know what skills women possess who regularly use birth control, said Nelson.

“If we discover that young women are lacking in the confidence and ability to discuss contraception, then we aren’t doing a good job educating young, urban women on their reproductive health,” she said. “If we find that low self-esteem is a factor contributing to unintended pregnancy, we need to find ways to build self-esteem among these young women before they become sexually active.”

“The overall goal is to make women more resilient so they are more able to take control of their sexual health, and empower them with the skills to use contraception effectively and choose partners who will also use contraception consistently.”

Spatial cognition researchers will connect through grant-funded virtual institute

By Kim Fischer

The Spatial Intelligence and Learning Center (SILC) at Temple University, has been awarded a $300,000 grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to establish the Thematic Network in Spatial Cognition (TNSC). The overall aim of TNSC is to establish spatial cognition as an enduring scientific field, said Nora Newcombe, the James McKeen Cattell Professor of Psychology and neuroscience, linguistics, psychometrics and robotics. Its findings have relevance for education in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, as well as in a wide range of fields such as medicine and dentistry, urban planning and traffic modeling and astronomy, she said. But, says Newcombe, despite the fact that these different disciplines use different terminology and different research methods — which can hinder collaboration and interdisciplinary communication, spatial cognition is central to many human activities, including navigation and mathematical thinking. Research on spatial cognition draws on many disciplines, including geography, information science, neuroscience, linguistics, psychometrics and robotics. The surveys — designed by the Institute of Survey Research at Temple — will let participants choose whether to fill out the survey on a tablet as they hear the questions on a headset. Interviewers will provide all information in a language that women report that they have or are currently experiencing violence, said Nelson.

In a follow-up survey nine months later, the same women will answer questions about their sexual health, including whether they have had sex since the initial questionnaire, so how many professional fields, including birth control and how consistently. The surveys will reveal if women who initially reported violence in their lives were more likely to be inconsistent birth control users. Also, researchers want to know what skills women possess who regularly use birth control, said Nelson.

“If we discover that young women are lacking in the confidence and ability to discuss contraception, then we aren’t doing a good job educating young, urban women on their reproductive health,” she said. “If we find that low self-esteem is a factor contributing to unintended pregnancy, we need to find ways to build self-esteem among these young women before they become sexually active.”

“The overall goal is to make women more resilient so they are more able to take control of their sexual health, and empower them with the skills to use contraception effectively and choose partners who will also use contraception consistently.”

As part of a study exploring linkages between unintended pregnancy and high rates of domestic violence, researchers recently surveyed women about their experiences with violence, measures of self esteem and susceptibility to depression.

“We’re encountering women who don’t want to get pregnant, but are not using any contraception. Where’s the gap?” said Nelson, an associate professor of public health in Temple’s College of Health Professions and director of the Maternal and Child Health Wellness Lab at Temple University.

“Women who have experienced childhood violence usually suffer long-term consequences such as lower self-esteem, higher rates of depression and the inability to regulate their emotions as effectively. In turn, this could affect a woman’s sexual self-efficacy — whether she can maintain consistent contraceptive use such as the pill, or insist her partner use a condom,” she said.

“We want to determine how strong the relationship is between high levels of violence and unintended pregnancies in these communities, and if attributes such as high self-esteem, high levels of family and peer support help young women take charge of their sexual health,” she said.

Nelson’s research for the past decade has focused on what causes early pregnancy and adverse pregnancy outcomes among urban women, including preterm delivery and miscarriage. She is currently studying how bacterial vaginosis, or BV; a vaginal infection caused by imbalance of bacteria, presents complications during pregnancy such as preterm delivery. Pregnant women with BV more often have babies who are born premature or with a low birth weight of less than 5.5 pounds.

Unintended pregnancy is associated with an increased risk of problems for the mother and baby. If a pregnancy is not planned before conception, a woman may not be in optimal health at the time of conception. For example, women with an unintended pregnancy could delay prenatal care that may affect the developing fetus.

Nelson’s newly funded NIH study will begin by enrolling 360 sexually active women between the ages of 18 to 30 at Temple’s Family Planning Clinic next month. At the clinic, women will complete a questionnaire about prior experiences and current experiences with violence such as childhood violence or current violence of self esteem and susceptibility to depression. The surveys — designed by the Institute of Survey Research at Temple — will let participants choose whether to fill out the survey on a tablet as they hear the questions on a headset. Interviewers will provide all information in a language that women report that they have or are currently experiencing violence, said Nelson.

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“Currently, the study of spatial cognition is fractured and isolated,” she said. “We think that bringing these researchers together to speak the same language and share ideas will facilitate a collaborative and translational research directions.”

With this in mind, TNSC will support scholarly exchanges, lab visits, a series of thematic conferences and a summer school to provide common training for junior researchers at a crucial phase in their professional development. The focus for the first thematic conference, scheduled for December 2012, is Spatial Thinking Across the College Curriculum. “This is an exciting opportunity for collaboration on a global scale,” said Newcombe. “It acknowledges that spatial cognition is fractured and isolated, provides researchers with new ways to exchange ideas, shares findlings and connections and collaborations that will have real-world impact.”
New fitness options among many recent renovations to Pearson-McGonigle

By Britt Bosack
For the Temple Times

A new place to fight the winter blues has been born after some winter pounds — opened up on Main Campus last month.

The Fitness Mezzanine at Pearson-McGonigle Hall offers students and employees a few unique workout opportunities and economic reasons from large windows overlooking North Broad Street.

Two cardio machines — both treadmills and elliptical trainers — are tied to a Re-Rev system, which recycles the kinetic energy from workouts by sending power back to the building grid.

The recycled energy is used to light a neon Temple 5 sign. The state of the industry Woodway treadmills are self-generating and contour to the running and walking motion of the user-minded fitness enthusiasts.

For those interested in conditioning through boxing, there are two speed bag and two heavy bag stations. And, along with a full line of strength equipment, there are two flat-screen gaming stations that provide interactive Wii, EA Sports and X-box competitions and workout options.

“The Fitness Mezzanine provides students that are part of the building with a new fitness opportunity,” said Steve Young, director of Campus Recreation. “With nearby shower and locker facilities on site, patrons interested in cross training can get cardio, strength and boxing workouts and finish it off with a swim in the pool — all under the same roof.”

The new 200-square-foot fitness area will be open weekdays from 11 a.m. until 8 p.m. and is available to any student or employee who has paid the Campus Recreation access fee. It is located on the second floor of Pearson Hall and must be entered through room 200.

The Fitness Mezzanine and the newly opened Fit Bar are among several recent renovations to the building’s atrium. Completed this summer, additional renovations to Pearson-McGonigle Hall include updated training and support spaces for Campus Recreation and NCAA sports, new practice and training facilities for men and women’s basketball, four full basketball courts for the Midnight Rock climbing wall and new academic and advising space.

Temple, elected officials collaborate to host community job fair

By Laura Kuserk
For the Temple Times

On Nov. 19, Temple University and the offices of Philadelphia City Council President Darrell L. Clarke and State Sen. Shirley M. Kitchen hosted a community job fair to provide employment opportunities for members of the North Philadelphia community.

Held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Mitten Hall’s Great Court, the event attracted more than 40 employers, including Walmart, SEPTA, the Philadelphia Police Department, KWW News Radio, the Philadelphia International Airport and R&M Technologies.

Attendees from the community were able to interact directly with company representatives and apply for open positions immediately at one of several computer stations set up nearby.

“Most jobs you have to apply online,” said Vicki Kitchens. “I’m really glad that computers are here so that the people have access (and) actually apply for them.”

“People are really excited,” said Councilman Clarke. “They’re bringing in their resumes, they’re dressed for success.”

Job fair organizers said events like this are especially important at a time when many members of the community are recovering from a shaky economy.

“I have been looking for a job for awhile,” said Tamisha Wright, who is seeking employment in the healthcare industry. “I try to attend every event like this that I can.”

“We think this is an important way for Temple to connect employers and people who are seeking jobs,” said Beverly Colmes, acting vice president of community relations and economic development. “This is a great opportunity for us to collaborate with the public sector and bring employers into this community.”

The event is one component of a full program of workforce readiness activities sponsored by the university.

“Temple University has a significant number of social programs through which they interact with the local residents,” said Councilman Clarke. “We have brought in a lifelong resident of North Philadelphia I’ve seen some of the great things they do.”

Fighting holiday hunger mission is mission of Temple community service effort

By Jazmyn Burton

Monica Hankins-Padilla stood over a lunchroom table in the New Center, packing food into large cardboard boxes, using extra care to place soft items on the top so that delicate desserts and breads would not be ruined before reaching their destination.

“We have more than enough fruit but we need more canned goods,” said Hankins-Padilla as she surveyed the large packages to make sure that each box was filled with enough food to make a holiday meal.

The weekend before Thanksgiving, Hankins-Padilla and more than a dozen volunteers were packing boxes with food for the holiday to be donated to families in need throughout the community.

“Volunteering really reminds you of what you’re thankful for,” said Hankins-Padilla, external coordinator for Campus Safety and Community Services, while packing the last large donation box with a sweet potato pie.

Hunger is a silent but common problem in the Greater Philadelphia region. According to census data, more than 600,000 people live in poverty, putting them at risk for hunger. In an effort to make the holiday season a bit easier, Campus Safety and Community Services and Community Relations teamed up to donate more than 70 boxes filled with fruits, canned goods, dessert and a turkey to faith-based institutions, nonprofit organizations and local families.

After each box was packed, Capt. Eileen Bradley, project coordinator for Campus Safety and Andrea Swan, director of community and neighborhood affairs, loaded their vehicles to make personal deliveries. Guadenzia House, a substance abuse facility located in North Philadelphia that serves more than 7,000 residential and outpatient clients annually, was one of the stops along their route.

“I’m always so proud to see the campus come together to help our neighbors and community members,” said Bradley.

In addition to Guadenzia, Bradley and Swan delivered boxes to the Norris Homes Towne Team, HERO Community Center, Tenth Memorial Baptist Church, Faith Tabernacle/Baptist Church and St. Malachy’s Church.

Several students also got involved in the donation efforts this year. Temple Student Government, the Temple University Community Service Association (TUCSA), the Student National Medical Association and the National Council of Negro Women, Inc. (NCNW) assisted in the collection and packaging of food.

In addition to stuffing baskets, TUCSA and NCNW held a canned food drive to replenish the Bright Hope Baptist Church community kitchen.

“Bright Hope’s community kitchen has been receiving more requests for food assistance than it could handle,” said Swan. “When students found out that Bright Hope’s pantry needed to be replenished, they jumped right into it. The donation will help support them through the holiday and the rest of the year.”

Faculty

From page 1

teaching students with learning disabilities (Joseph Boyle, who joined the College of Education from Rutgers University), and choral music (Munos Andaya, who was hired by the Boyer College of Music and Dance from the University of Georgia).

Several new faculty recruits are heading academic units at Temple, including the School of Medicine’s Walter Koch (formerly of Thomas Jefferson University), who directs the new Center for Translational Medicine, and Ronald C. Anderson (formerly of American University), who was hired to chair the Department of Finance at the Fox School of Business.

Temple’s recent faculty hiring boom has been made possible by several factors. The retirement of a large number of faculty members hired in the 1960s has opened the number of vacancies. Enrollment increases since 2000 also spurred investment in faculty. In addition, the hiring of online courses and Renfert credited the energy and vision of Temple’s deans, many of whom also came to Temple in the last decade.

New faculty — and why they chose Temple

By Jazmyn Burton

New position: Professor and chair, Department of Finance

Last stop: American University

What attracted me to Temple: The first thing that I found attractive was the strides that the Fox School of Business has made in attaining a national reputation in the last 15 years. They’ve done it with research and quality teaching. It was clear that the dean really wants to make a difference here.

MARILENE A. JACOBSON
New position: Associate professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences; associate director, Molder Center for Drug Discovery Research

Last stop: Merck & Co.

What attracted me to Temple: To be able to do drug discovery in a place like the Moulder Center — an academic environment with dynamic, talented individuals — is amazing. I see opportunities to do great science, to impact human health in a positive way and to pass the knowledge I’ve acquired to students learning to be pharmacists.

MIGUEL MUÑOZ-LABOY
New position: Associate professor; School of Social Work

Last stop: Columbus University

What attracted me to Temple: Department Chair Jeffrey Draine was the main reason. I have been working on the health of formerly incarcerated men, and he is working with [similar] vulnerable populations. I am never going to the knowledge I’ve acquired to students learning to be pharmacists.

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Faculty
Temple honors faculty for service contributions

By Laura Kuserk
For the Temple Times

Eighteen Temple faculty members were honored by the Office of the Provost and Faculty Senate Steering Committee for their many service contributions to the university during the second annual Outstanding Faculty Service Awards brunch held on Nov. 8.

Awards were presented to one faculty member from each of Temple’s schools, colleges, and programs, including the newly established Division of Theater, Film and Media Arts. Honorees were presented with a certificate recognizing their outstanding efforts.

Despite last-minute rescheduling due to Hurricane Sandy, the event was attended by more than 60 people, including Acting President Richard M. Englert, Interim Provost Hai-Lung T. Gonzalez Del Valle, College of Liberal Arts; Daniel W. Boston, Temple University School of Dentistry; Arshamol Kaplan, College of Education; Elizabeth Lebron Tuttleman, School of Media and Communication; Kathleen A. Reeves, Temple University School of Medicine; Christine P. Miller, Temple University School of Podiatric Medicine; Scott E. Rutledge, School of Social Work; Robert Hedley, Division of Theater, Film and Media Arts; and Debra K. Blair, School of Tourism and Hospitality Management. Not shown are: Dennis A. Slagle, College of Engineering and Nancy J. Knauer, Beasley School of Law.

Diamond Marching Band will perform at 2014 London New Year’s celebration

By Bri Bosak
For the Temple Times

A special visitor from abroad joined Diamond Marching Band members in rehearsal last month. And she came bearing exciting news.

Catherine Longworth, former Lord Whitehall, passing Piccadilly Circus and the Columbia North YMCA and the Great North Road, passed the shadow of the Houses of Parliament and Big Ben.

While in London, students will have the opportunity to appear in one of the MUCfor London gala concerts and other presentations that are part of the festival, as well as to take in the rich culture of the city.

Matthew Brunner, Temple’s director of athletic bands, said the Diamond Marching Band’s growth in size and stature over the past several years has made the honor possible.

“We really need additional hands,” said Brunner. “This year, students from across the university will have the opportunity to perform in the 2014 London New Year’s Day Parade and Festival as one of the most well-known events in the world. This is a wonderful opportunity for our students to grow and gain exposure, “he said.

Both concerts are free and open to the public.

Teaching and Learning Center focuses on teaching excellence

The Faculty Conference for Teaching Excellence is a regional conference that focuses on challenges in teaching and learning and to have them meet and share research and exposure,” he said.

Robert Bone, executive director of the London New Year’s Day Parade and Festival, joined Longworth in extending the invitation.

The day of service evolved from a discussion in 1988 with former U.S. Sen. Harris Wofford of Pennsylvania. Wofford co-authored federal legislation with Atlanta Congressman John Lewis, both close friends and colleagues of King during the Civil Rights Movement.

President Bill Clinton signed the King Holiday and Service Act into law on August 1, 1994. The King Day of Service has been a part of the event every year since.

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The keynote presentation will be followed by a luncheon and breakout sessions on related topics, facilitated by Temple University faculty.

For more information and to register, visit the Teaching and Learning Center website, temple.edu/te/events/main.htm.

Men’s and women’s basketball teams continue to heat up during winter months

The semester may be coming to a close, but the men’s and women’s basketball seasons are just getting started. Below is a schedule of home and regional games during the winter months.

Temple will host projects at Penrose Elementary School, the Newman Center, Tree House Books, St. Malachy Parish, Berenice Presbyterian Church and the Columbia YMCA.

To register for a volunteer site contact Swain at 215-204-7409 or via email at swain@temple.edu.

For a complete listing of upcoming public Temple events, visit the online university calendar at calendar.temple.edu.