THE MOMENTUM ISSUE
A LOOK AT OUR GAME-CHANGING YEAR
From its record-breaking freshman class to the university’s soaring U.S. News rankings, Temple is red-hot. In this issue, two students take on their first year in Philadelphia; a master of statistics reveals the story behind Temple’s momentum; and a medical researcher discovers a novel therapy inspired by art.
WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Readers share anecdotes, tweets and praise inspired by the fall issue and their Temple pride.

I was looking through the fall edition of Temple magazine, and I noticed you had some great Temple pride photos on page 2. I was on a recent episode of The Price Is Right rocking my favorite Temple Owls shirt. Shelley Feldman, SMC ’49

Dear Coach Rhule and all the Owls,

I’m not sure you fully grasp what you have done.

Many of the 300,000 living Temple alumni are gray, like me, but we still bleed cherry. We have bled cherry across the landscape from one miserable decade to the next. We cheered into the vacuum of that dreary, empty hole called the Vet. Dragged ourselves home, bloodied and battered, and did it again the next week. Put on cherry gear. Got to game. Drag self home.

But we cherished on before #CherryOn.

That’s what you have done. Thank you.

Many of the cherry bleeders have received a transfusion. cherry-bleeders are reviving. It’s a miracle.

We have bled cherry across the landscape that’s not all. In the past four years, we’ve jumped 17 spots.

Our amazing students are matched by Tremendous facilities add to our momentum. We have started work on a 21st-century library in the heart of Main Campus. We’re adding new recreation fields, new classrooms and new green space. All these changes create a better sense of place for our increasingly residential student population.

Finally, momentum is reflected in our rankings. This year, we climbed six spots in U.S. News & World Report’s Best Colleges to reach our highest ever ranking of No. 65 among national universities. But that’s not all. In the past four years, we’ve jumped 17 spots.

Our rising rankings are fueled by the value we create. Temple is a unique place that stands for accessibility, affordability and excellence all at once—something few universities can claim.

Neil D. Theobald
President, Temple University

Theobald, visit president.temple.edu.

To share your opinions with the Temple staff, email templemag@temple.edu or send a letter to Temple magazine, Bell Building, 3rd Floor, 1101 W. Montgomery Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19122.

OWLS RHULE

In response to “1948 Football: Watch ’Em” Temple fall 2015, page 2:

Nice to read that you’ve married 66 plus years. I just wanted to write and tell you I played in that 1948 Temple-Boston University football game [pictured above].

We lost 13-7.

I played in that 1948 Temple–Boston years. I just wanted to write and tell you Shelley Feldman, SMC ’49

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From the President

In this issue of Temple is all about momentum: You’ll learn why Temple is shining on campus, across the city and in the national spotlight.

Temple’s momentum starts with fabulous students. This fall, we welcomed our biggest, most academically qualified and most diverse freshman class ever. They exceeded our expected class size by 9 percent; had an average high school GPA of 3.51; and represented a 20 percent increase in African-American students and 26 percent increase in Latinos.

Our amazing students are matched by great faculty. We hired more than 50 tenured and tenure-track faculty this year, raising the total number of faculty hired over the past three years to nearly 200. With so many brilliant minds on campus, it’s no surprise Temple recently moved into the top 100 for research expenditures, according to the National Science Foundation, and the highest tier of the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education.

Tremendous facilities add to our momentum. We have started work on a 21st-century library in the heart of Main Campus. We’re adding new recreation fields, new classrooms and new green space. All these changes create a better sense of place for our increasingly residential student population.

Finally, momentum is reflected in our rankings. This year, we climbed six spots in U.S. News & World Report’s Best Colleges to reach our highest ever ranking of No. 65 among national universities. But
From historic football victories to unprecedented rankings, Temple is on a roll. The Medical School is named in honor of Lewis Katz, CST ’63; Tamron Hall, SMC ’92, joins the Board of Trustees; and the university hosts an open house for the record books.

OWLS SHINE IN NATIONAL SPOTLIGHT

As ESPN descended on Philadelphia to film College GameDay, support for Temple swelled across campus, the city and the country. With the nation’s attention on the football team, Temple students, alumni and faculty took the opportunity to prove that the university deserves every bit of the attention it has been receiving.

Viewers nationwide were treated to scenes of Philadelphia awash in cherry and white—at Independence Mall for the taping of College GameDay, on campus for a sunrise pep rally with ESPN SportsCenter host Kevin Negandhi, SMC ’98, HON ’15, and at a sold-out Lincoln Financial Field. Despite the football team suffering a tough loss to a strong Notre Dame team (the Owls fell 24-20 to the ninth-ranked Fighting Irish), Temple football still broke records. It was the first time in the program’s history that the team had maintained three consecutive weeks ranked among the nation’s Top 25. In addition, the Temple-Notre Dame broadcast was the highest-rated game of college football’s week 9 across all networks. And locally the much anticipated matchup earned an 18.1 overnight rating, making it the highest-rated regular season college football game ever viewed by a Philadelphia audience.

MEAGHAN BIXBY

Kevin Negandhi, SMC ’98, HON ’15, hosts a sunrise pep rally in Founder’s Garden to kick off the day.

THE LEWIS KATZ SCHOOL OF MEDICINE DEBUTS

On Oct. 13, during a poignant ceremony before a crowd that included governors, senators, trustees and others, Temple University officially named its School of Medicine in honor of late philanthropist and Temple Trustee Lewis Katz, CST ’63, a longtime university benefactor.

Prior to Katz’s untimely passing in May 2014, he had announced a $25 million gift to Temple. His contribution is the largest single donation in Temple’s history and culminates a lifetime of his generosity and advocacy.

“We may never be able to repay the kindness and generosity of Lewis Katz. Instead we will pay it forward by reinvesting in our students.”

—TEMPLE UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT NEIL D. THEOBALD

At his second annual State of the University address on Oct. 8, Temple University President Neil D. Theobald lauded a “historic year” for Temple, citing unprecedented gains in the areas of accessibility, affordability and excellence.

“The state of the university, in a word, is excellent,” Theobald told the standing-room-only crowd in Mitten Hall. Theobald said that Temple’s ability to provide “hard proof” of success defines Temple’s “value proposition” at a time when many question the benefit of a college degree.

“We are positioning Temple to play a unique leadership role in American higher education,” he said.

ASHWIN VERGHESE, SMC ’08

To watch or read the entire State of the University address, visit president.temple.edu.

HONEST VALUE
MAKING HISTORY

Temple toppled Penn State, 27-10, in front of a record home crowd in its 2015 season opener at Lincoln Financial Field. The victory was the first for the Owls over the Nittany Lions since 1941. After allowing 10 points on Penn State’s first two possessions, the cherry-and-white defense took control, holding the Nittany Lions scoreless the rest of the game.

“A HOT START FOR TEMPLE, WHERE THE TEAM MOTO IS ‘WHAT’S NEXT?’”

OPEN HOUSE SETS RECORD

On Sunday, Nov. 8, Temple University shattered its previous record for attendance at an open house event for prospective students. More than 6,000 attendees visited Main Campus, making it the most successful admissions event in university history. The previous record was 4,700, set in 2014.

HAYDEN SAMMAK, CLASS OF 2015

UBER REDUCES DRUNK-DRIVING DEATHS

A study recently conducted by researchers in the Fox School of Business suggests that the driving service Uber has reduced the number of drinking and driving deaths in California. Now that research is receiving attention from both national and international media outlets.

Using publicly available data, Management Information Systems Assistant Professor Brad Greenwood and Associate Professor Sunil Wattal found that alcohol-related deaths decreased by an average of 3.6 to 5.6 percent in cities where UberX service—the least-expensive service offered by Uber—is available. They also found limited evidence of change in conjunction with the use of Uber Black, the most-expensive service, which requires a luxury vehicle.

CHRISTOPHER A. VITO, SMC ’07

ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAMS EARN NATIONAL TOP 10 RANKINGS

In the latest rankings published by The Princeton Review and Entrepreneur magazine, the undergraduate entrepreneurship program in Temple University’s Fox School of Business ranks No. 8 in the country, climbing three spots from its position in 2015. Fox’s graduate-level entrepreneurship program also made the top 10—its No. 10 ranking marked a six-spot improvement from last year.

CHRISTOPHER A. VITO, SMC ’07

“NO QUESTION, THIS IS TEMPLE’S MOMENT… BY NO MEANS ARE THE GAINS JUST ABOUT FOOTBALL.”

STUDENT-RUN WEBSITE NAMED NATION’S BEST

PhiladelphiaNeighborhoods.com, a student-run publication produced by the Multimedia Urban Reporting Lab at Temple, won the 2015 Editor & Publisher EPPY Award for Best College/University Newspaper Website. Philadelphia Neighborhoods is dedicated to telling stories that represent the diverse voices in the city’s undercovered and underserved neighborhoods.

The site edged out the competition—which included websites produced by Columbia University’s Graduate School of Journalism and Arizona State University’s Walter Cronkite School of Journalism. This is the fourth consecutive year Temple student-journalists have won an EPPY.

SIENNA VANCE, CLASS OF 2016

TAMRON HALL, SMC ’92 ELECTED TO TEMPLE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Temple University’s Board of Trustees unanimously elected Tamron Hall, SMC ’92, a university trustee Oct. 13. Hall anchors MSNBC’s NewsNation with Tamron Hall and co-hosts the 9 a.m. hour of NBC’s Today.

“I am grateful to the Board of Trustees at Temple University for this opportunity,” Hall says. “As a kid from Luling, Texas, I never imagined this could happen. I only hope to inspire other students to face the unknown, believe the future includes you and never feel excluded.”

BRANDON LAUSCH, SMC ’06

TEMPLE ADVANCES TO TOP TIER FOR RESEARCH

President Neil D. Theobald’s commitment to strengthening Temple’s research enterprise paid off in December, when the university rose to the highest tier of the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education. It’s now one of only 122 institutions nationwide in an elite group of highly active research universities.

ASHWIN VERGHESE, SMC ’08

Also see Temple, fall 2015, “Leading the Conversation,” pages 16–21, or news.temple.edu/leading-conversation.
ALUMNI NEWS

One unwitting Owl is surprised with a big helping of cherry-and-white pride, and alumni celebrate Temple’s winning fall.

TEMPLE THROWS A POP-UP PARTY

On a Tuesday last fall, Nicolas Jimenez, FOX ’08, walked into a 46th-floor conference room in the Comcast Center for a meeting of the Comcast Temple Alumni Network. What he didn’t know was that he was also walking into Temple University’s first-ever pop-up pride event, during which a spirit squad—ranging from cheerleaders and Diamond Gems to Hooter and Cherry Crusade members—surprises Owls with a healthy dose of cherry-and-white cheer.

Jimenez, who started at Comcast as an intern while at Temple, is senior manager of outreach and partnerships for Internet Essentials, Comcast’s signature community investment initiative that connects low-income Americans to the internet.

“Getting ambushed by the Temple pop-up pride team was amazing.”

He helped create the Comcast Temple Connectors, a group of dedicated alumni who work for Comcast and support the university in a multitude of ways. An Owl Club member and a season-ticket holder for football and men’s basketball, Jimenez was selected by Alumni Relations for his enthusiasm.

BRANDON LAUSCH, SMC ’06

> Who do you want to shower with cherry and white? Nominate your favorite Owl by tagging them with #TemplePopUp or emailing social@temple.edu. (Students, alumni, faculty and staff are all eligible.) View all pop-up pride videos at news.temple.edu/PopUpPride.

FANTASTIC FALL!

Alumni contributed to Temple’s momentum by participating in events in record-breaking numbers.

For the third annual Global Day of Service, 477 Owls united in the name of volunteerism to participate in 30 events held in three countries, eight states and 15 cities.

MAKE PLANS

FEB. 15:    TEMPLE TOAST
JAN.–MARCH: REGIONAL BASKETBALL GAME WATCHES
MARCH 29:    STUDENT & ALUMNI NETWORKING NIGHT
MAY 5–7:    ALUMNI WEEKEND 2016

For a complete listing of events for Temple alumni, visit alumni.temple.edu/events.

More than 2,500 alumni registered for Homecoming 2015, an increase of 23 percent over the previous year.

The university’s inaugural Parents & Family Weekend 2015 was a resounding success with registration topping 4,000 for the array of festivities.

SAVE THE DATE!


For a complete listing of events for Temple alumni, visit alumni.temple.edu/events.

facebook.com/TempleAlumni
 twitter.com/TempleAlumni
 Temple University Alumni Group
 instagram.com/TempleAlumni

One unwitting Owl is surprised with a big helping of cherry-and-white pride, and alumni celebrate Temple’s winning fall.

8 TEMPLE WINTER 2016
Students edit multimedia recordings in the TECH Center, complete laboratory experiments in the new Science Education and Research Center, blow glass in the Tyler School of Art, scale the rock-climbing wall in Pearson and McGonigle Halls, enjoy open mic nights in Sñddy’s coffee shop, and compete in informal glow-in-the-dark hula hoop competitions at the Bell Tower.

Sounds like a typical day at Temple. What’s different is that it’s all happening long after dark. The hours after sunset offer an intimate look at student life at Temple and provide spectacular views of the many recent changes to facilities that range from the stunningly large to the beautifully subtle.

Most noticeable is the empty space where Barton Hall once stood. That’ll soon be home to a state-of-the-art $170 million library. Smaller details like modern lighting treatments, paving and signage make navigating campus easier day and night.

The upgrades touch practically every corner of campus. Academic spaces, such as Wachman Hall and the College of Engineering, are being refreshed with additional classrooms and more pronounced entranceways, while paths and walkways are being beautified with updated landscaping and more green space.

Changes aren’t only evident on Main Campus. The East Park Canoe House on Kelly Drive is being historically restored for the men’s crew and women’s rowing teams. Temple is also moving forward with plans to bring several sports closer to Main Campus. Intercollegiate field hockey, lacrosse, soccer, and track and field will find new homes at the former William Penn High School site two blocks south of Morgan Hall, as will a number of intramural and club sports. And preliminary discussions continue for a potential on-campus football stadium.

Temple’s electric, eclectic life after dark proves it’s a university on the move.

To learn more about Temple’s campus development plan, visit news.temple.edu/VisualizeTemple.

Now more than ever, Temple’s vibrant residential campus is also buzzing when the sun goes down.
1. Students work around the clock in the Architecture Building. Opened in 2012, the LEED-certified building features state-of-the-art labs and studios for digital and analog fabrication, facilities management, and historic preservation.

2. Philadelphia’s college students participated in Battle on Broad, a dance competition held in the Temple Performing Arts Center. Sponsored by Temple Student Government, the fundraising event united the local dance community in support of the Lucy Fund for cancer research.

3. A friendly game of table tennis helps students unwind in Pearson and McGonigle Halls, where renovations including a 140,000-square-foot addition that contains a climbing wall, fitness and recreation facilities, a pool and smoothie bar, a new men’s locker room, the Nancy and Donald Resnick Academic Support Center, and practice courts for men’s and women’s basketball were completed in 2012.

4. Pearson Pool became the site of excitement, competition and mayhem during a live-action Battleship tournament, sponsored by Campus Recreation.

5. Students on the go can grab a quick bite to eat or a cup of coffee at the food pad located along 12th Street next to the TECH Center.

6. Well-lit walkways make navigating at night easier for students traveling to and from evening classes campuswide.

Ryan S. Brandenberg, CLA ’14

Betsy Manning, SMC ’87, CLA ’08

WINTER 2016
Two students in Temple’s record-breaking freshman class take charge of their first year in Philadelphia.

STORY BY KATE O’NEILL  PHOTOGRAPHY BY JOSEPH V. LABOLITO

Clockwise from top left: Cassie Semyon (left) and Mary Cosentini (right) visit the Fairmount section of the city, share a laugh in their dorm room and jog up the steps at the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

The 1940 Residence Hall dorm room shared by Cassie Semyon and Mary Cosentini, both Class of 2019, is typical of most college students. The walls are decorated with posters of musicians, photos of friends and a row of vintage 45s. Coupons for local restaurants are pinned to the mini-fridge; their beds are made with colorful duvets. But Semyon and Cosentini, like their fellow members of the newest class of Owls, are anything but typical.

Temple’s Class of 2019 is one of superlatives. It is the largest and among the most diverse classes at Temple, and students have the highest high school GPA and highest ACT and SAT scores of any class in university history. There are more Honors students in this class than ever before. And more members of the Class of 2019 graduated in the top 10 percent of their high school class.

The Class of 2019 is, of course, more than just stellar statistics. It’s Philadelphia native Levan Alston Jr., who followed in his father’s footsteps and enrolled at Temple on a basketball scholarship. It’s Jessica Ilogho, originally from Nigeria, who is studying neuroscience because she “wants to figure out the whole human race.” And it’s Semyon and Cosentini, who are taking charge of their freshman year.

A WORLD OF ITS OWN

Cosentini and Semyon grew up in Old Forge and Moosic, Pennsylvania, respectively, where they attended rival high schools and knew of each other but didn’t actually know each other—until they discovered they’d both been accepted at Temple and decided to room together their freshman year.

The two young women, who have different passions (Semyon, a media studies major, wants to be a multimedia journalist; Cosentini loves math and music), were attracted to the university for different reasons.

“I was interested in the [Media Studies and Production] program,” Semyon says, “but the attention I was given by professors when I visited made me really want to come here.” Assistant Professor of Instruction Amy Caples spent over an hour with Semyon and her family, answering questions and showing them the studio. “That she would dedicate her time just to me...after that I knew this is where I wanted to be.”

Cosentini wasn’t so sure. Her much older brother attended Temple, but she didn’t
 stocks of Philadelphia. Cosentini and Semyon enjoy the Fairmount section of Philadelphia.

“If you like the city, if you're willing to push yourself out of your comfort zone...this is the place.” —MARY COSENTINI, CLASS OF 2019

As they arrived in the fall, the pair has taken full advantage of everything the city has to offer. “We went in head first,” says Cosentini. “We could ride the subway into the city, but it also has the benefits of a college town with all that fun college cliché stuff.”

Fun college cliché stuff for Semyon and Cosentini included pep rallies and football games (they attended almost all of them), a trip to Six Flags organized by the Main Campus Program Board, and free movie screenings and lectures.

“We’ve been spoiled by all this opportunity and things to do and see,” says Semyon.

But their first-semester experience was about much more than painting the town cherry. The two have also harnessed the power of Temple’s academic excellence. Semyon, who came to Temple knowing she wants to be a multimedia journalist—Barbara Walters is an idol—spends at least 10 hours a week volunteering for TUTV, where she gained experience assistant directing, editing, filming, producing and writing. “I go out with a camera and film,” she says, “and then come back to the studio and edit and put it online.” It’s such a gratifying feeling to see what you’re working on actually become something. When I tell people what I do as a freshman, they’re like, ‘That’s amazing. Temple is a very hands-on place.’”

Cosentini, on the other hand, didn’t have a specific career or major in mind when she entered Temple. “I’m undecided,” she says, “but all of my professors are so passionate, and Temple has so many opportunities for me to figure out what I want to do.” And she has—she plans to declare a computer science major this spring.

The two agree that Temple and Philadelphia have surpassed their expectations. “If you like the city, if you’re willing to push yourself out of your comfort zone—in a good way—this is the place,” says Cosentini. “If you told me a year ago that I would have been doing all of this, I wouldn’t have believed it.”

“It’s been totally life changing,” says Semyon. “The opportunities at Temple to find out what you want to do are endless, and so are the resources. It’s a great place to grow up and figure out who you are and what you like to do.”

Their future plans include visiting the Mütter Museum, hitting up every concert venue in the city and going to the top of City Hall. “There’s still so much to be done,” says Semyon. But for her and Cosentini, never stopping is just the start.

Watch a video about Cosentini and Semyon at news.temple.edu/firstyear.
Some of Temple’s momentum as an institution is visible to the naked eye. Visit campus, for example, and you’ll see gleaming new buildings. But some of the most dramatic evidence of Temple’s ascent is invisible to everyone except the people who work behind the scenes with numbers and statistics. To understand that world, we turned to the best person on campus for an insider’s perspective: Jodi Levine Laufgraben, EDU ’95, a doctor of education and 26-year member of the Office of the Provost—the nerve center of Temple’s academic enterprise.

Your title is vice provost for academic affairs, assessment and institutional research. That’s a mouthful. What do you do?

Jodi Levine Laufgraben (JLL): A lot of things, including managing the accreditation and program review processes. But for your purposes, the most interesting thing my unit does is serve as a clearinghouse for data. I see myself as a numbers “noodge.” We provide numbers and analysis to support decision-making across the university.

How do you measure success?

Temple’s master of statistics tells all.

STORY BY HILLEL J. HOFFMANN | PHOTOGRAPHY BY RYAN S. BRANDENBERG, CLA ’14

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Is there a recent number that stands out to you as a sign of Temple’s momentum?

JLL: 30,037. That’s the number of freshman applications that Temple received for what ended up being about 4,900 slots in the Class of 2019—and it was an all-time high for us, destroying last year’s school record of 27,549 applications. It’s a sign that people want to join our community.
Colleges make a big deal about admissions and enrollment numbers. Why are they important?

JLL: Bringing in great classes isn’t just about feeling wanted. Temple is a tuition-driven institution. When we meet our enrollment goals—something a lot of other schools have struggled to do as the number of college-bound high school grads has declined—that matters.

JLL: What’s driving the surge?

JLL: When we meet our enrollment targets and research. It’s a positive feedback loop: If we don’t get students to stay and earn their degrees, we’re not living up to our mission. Temple’s year-two retention rate—the percentage of students who stick around after their first year—is 90 percent, and our six-year graduation rate is 70 percent. Those are both all-time highs for us.

Getting students to come to Temple is one thing, but another factor to consider is whether or not students stick around and graduate.

JLL: That has been one of President Theobald’s top priorities. If we don’t get students to stay and earn their degrees, we’re not living up to our mission. Temple’s year-one-to-year-two retention rate—the percentage of students who stick around after their first year—is 90 percent, and our six-year graduation rate is 70 percent.

How has that happened?

JLL: We’ve changed the culture. You can’t just admit stronger students and think, “They entered so smart—we’ll just leave them to their own and they’ll be fine.” You have to be committed to student success. We’ve invested in professional advising and introduced innovative advising initiatives. Our advisors can now identify at-risk students for special attention and provide students with eight-segment maps that identify critical milestones along the way, so they stay on track to graduate.

“Innovative” seems to be a theme when people describe the current atmosphere at Temple.

JLL: Getting national recognition for Temple’s quality has had many cascading positive effects. It helps with admissions. It helps with recruiting the best faculty and deans. And when we go up in the rankings—when there’s national buzz about Temple’s academic reputation—the value of every single Temple degree increases. That association with quality opens doors. It helps when you interview for jobs or apply to grad school.

We’re sold. Is there anything the Temple community can do to help?

JLL: Yes! One indicator that impacts rankings is the alumni giving rate. It’s not about how much you give—it’s about the percentage who donate to Temple. Even a dollar helps. And here’s something else people can do: Tell the Temple story. Another rankings indicator is how our peers at other universities perceive us. Right now there are so many exciting things happening here, from the rise of a vibrant residential campus to groundbreaking research. We’ll keep shouting the Temple story. And we need the Temple family to pass it on until every peer reviewer across the nation perceives the momentum we see in my office every day.

That’s great, but why do rankings matter?

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What’s driving the surge?

JLL: We’ve improved in a number of key indicators that U.S. News uses to calculate the rankings: faculty resources, financial resources, graduation rate, student selectivity and more. One indicator that shows our improving academic reputation has been our high school counselor rank.

Do you have a number that captures that influx of new faculty?

JLL: Sure. How about 683? That’s the number of tenured and tenure-track faculty Temple has recruited since 2004—an average of about 57 per year at a time when faculty hiring has been stagnant nationally. We’re welcoming another 53 this year. But it’s not just about quantity. Our deans have been able to recruit real leaders in teaching and research. It’s a positive feedback loop: great deans attracting great faculty attracting great students.

One number that’s on a sharp upward trajectory is Temple’s U.S. News & World Report ranking. Your office is charged with understanding and improving those rankings. What was it like when you got the news in September that Temple jumped six spots among national universities?

JLL: I was driving on the Ben Franklin Bridge early that morning and talking on the phone to my colleague Dana Kerr, CLA ’07, EDU ’14, who tracks rankings for us. She was pulling up the notification email from U.S. News, and I could almost hear her hands shaking as she typed. It takes years of doing the right things, years of investing in advising, retention, recruiting great students—and then, boom, you find out in an instant. Dana was screaming: “We’re up to No. 115!” Honestly, I was relieved. We knew we deserved to go up. You just hope that the improvement is going to be recognized.

Is moving up six spots in one year a big deal?

JLL: It’s so hard to move up. We’re not the only university trying to improve. And this is more than just a one-year blip. Temple has jumped 17 spots in the U.S. News rankings in only four years. That makes us one of the fastest-rising public institutions in the national universities category. And we’re not done yet: Provost Dai has set a goal of getting into the top 100.

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JLL: It’s so hard to move up. We’re not the only university trying to improve. And this is more than just a one-year blip. Temple has jumped 17 spots in the U.S. News rankings in only four years. That makes us one of the fastest-rising public institutions in the national universities category. And we’re not done yet: Provost Dai has set a goal of getting into the top 100.

What’s the deal with rankings?

JLL: What’s driving the surge?

JLL: We’ve improved in a number of key indicators that U.S. News uses to calculate the rankings: faculty resources, financial resources, graduation rate, student selectivity and more. One indicator that shows our improving academic reputation has been our high school counselor rank.

One number that’s on a sharp upward trajectory is Temple’s U.S. News & World Report ranking. Your office is charged with understanding and improving those rankings. What was it like when you got the news in September that Temple jumped six spots among national universities?

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Inspired by optical illusions in art, a Temple physician finds new ways to treat combat veterans.

While some scientists scour the rainforest for new medicinal treatments, Eric Altschuler, associate professor of physical medicine and rehabilitation in the Lewis Katz School of Medicine, mines literature, music and art for medical discoveries.

He’s very interested in mirrors, how they are depicted and how they are positioned in the composition of paintings. He points out that from 16th-century van Eyck through 20th-century Picasso, wherever a mirror appears in a painting, it’s portrayed and viewed by subjects on the frontal plane—that is, head on.
“It’s always the same,” Altschuler says, reviewing a slideshow of mirror images that the voracious arts enthusiast has collected. “All the way up until M.C. Escher in the 1940s, no one thought to look into a mirror differently.”

And likewise, no doctor ever considered that looking into a mirror in a specific way could play a role in medical treatment until the 20th century. At least not until Altschuler and his mentor Vilayanur S. Ramachandran pioneered mirror therapy.

**TRICK OF THE EYE**

To date, the deceptively simple technique has proven most successful for patients with phantom limb syndrome, a condition where one loses a limb but still feels its presence acutely, either through pain or a tingly, cramping or itching sensation.

“The sensory nerves in the limb and brain still correspond so people still sense that limb as if it’s attached to the body,” Altschuler explains. “When the feeling is pain, it can be excruciating.”

During therapy, patients stand in such a way that the functioning limb is in front of the mirror and the injured or phantom limb is behind it. The angle, called the parasagittal plane, allows the patient to watch themselves in the reflection.

The very act of seeing the existing limb moving in the mirror creates a pulling or tense sensation that can “trick” the brain through sensory feedback into perceiving normal function in the injured or missing limb. After a few sessions of treatment, the spasming or pain often stops for good.

Positioning and geometry are everything, which is why it takes the help of a qualified therapist to assist patients with mirror therapy. “If a patient moved their nonfunctioning limb while merely looking at themselves in a mirror head on, the pain would be reinforced,” he says.

Ramachandran was the first to stumble on the concept of mirror therapy in the 1990s at the University of California San Diego, where Altschuler was a medical student. As Ramachandran’s protégé, he quickly saw its potential in helping patients with a range of orthopedic and neurological issues. In 1999, Altschuler published the first article about the burgeoning technique’s rehabilitative application for stroke patients in The Lancet.

Since ancient times, doctors had contended that stroke hemiparesis, or the inability to move one side of the body, was nearly impossible to treat. “They were able to perform brain surgery in ancient Egypt, but there has never been a treatment for stroke hemiparesis—something that affects millions of patients. The answer to the problem was never obvious,” Altschuler says.

Mirror therapy for stroke patients operates in the same way as it does for phantom limb sufferers. The affected side of the body gains more mobility from the process—though Altschuler points out that stroke patients don’t always get the same degree of relief as phantom limb patients.

**NOT JUST SMOKE AND MIRRORS**

With a number of studies proving the clinical benefits of mirror therapy, Altschuler brought it to amputees in Haiti after the earthquake to help reduce their pain symptoms. There, he worked with a woman who had lost a finger and could not hold a comb. The problem was twofold: It wasn’t just the phantom pain of her lost appendage; it was also the mechanical issue of not being able to close her fist fully.

The treatment addressed both dilemmas. Altschuler is now bringing mirror therapy to Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Washington, D.C., to investigate its effects for patients with complex orthopedic and peripheral nerve injuries. Study participants, all combat veterans with injuries to two or more joints, muscles or nerves in the same limb, will be asked to undergo 15 to 30 minutes of therapy five or six days a week, both at the hospital and at home. The pilot study will examine whether the treatment reduces pain, spasms and stiffness while helping the patients regain mobility.

Mirror therapy has been widely adopted at hospitals around the world. “The scientific literature is extensive, with more trials than many drugs on the market,” he says. He believes the therapy’s next frontiers might be reflex sympathetic dystrophy and complex regional pain syndrome, conditions which affect many patients and whose treatment options—such as stroke hemiparesis and phantom limb—are unresponsive to other treatments.

Recently Altschuler met a psychologist who had undergone surgery for a torn Achilles tendon and now suffers from reduced mobility as a result. Through mirror therapy, she was able to improve the function of her foot, and Altschuler has submitted it as a case report to encourage further study.

Though it’s not a magic solution for every patient, mirror therapy can be a powerful, inexpensive and safe means of pain relief that requires no drugs—just an item most people already have at home.

Learn more about how mirror therapy works at news.temple.edu/mirrortherapy.
Imagine the energy we can generate if we all give on one day.

Make a gift on Feb. 15, 2016, in honor of Temple Founder Russell Conwell’s birthday and the legacy he established at Temple.

To learn more about the Temple Toast, visit templetoast.temple.edu.

#TempleToast
YASMINE MUSTAFA

DEGREE: BBA, entrepreneurship, Fox School of Business, 2006

LOCATION: Philadelphia

Yasmine Mustafa is on a mission to empower women. Her latest venture, ROAR for Good, is a company that makes self-defense wearable technology to diminish attacks against women. The fashionable jewelry acts as an alarm and safety light, and connects to a smartphone to send texts to family, friends, 911 or campus security, depending on a woman’s location.

And that’s not all: For each device sold, a portion of the proceeds is invested in educational programs that have been shown to reduce violence against women. Her goal is simple—to reduce the staggering statistic of one in six women in the U.S. who will be victims of sexual assault in their lifetimes.

Born in Kuwait, Mustafa fled the Persian Gulf War with her family when she was a child and settled in Philadelphia. As a young refugee, she faced plenty of hardship, but her determined nature has led to more than her own success: it is now benefitting women across the country.

While a student in Temple’s Fox School of Business, Mustafa found her niche under the guidance of the late Chris Pavlides, former program director of Temple’s Innovation and Entrepreneurship Institute. Pavlides helped her cultivate an enterprising spirit and refine her business ideas. After graduating summa cum laude, Mustafa went on to be a three-time winner of Temple’s Be Your Own Boss Bowl, one of the nation’s most lucrative business plan competitions.

Mustafa founded her first startup right out of school and after growing that company sold it to a content marketing firm, which gave her financial freedom. She took that opportunity to travel through South America for six months, during which time she met many women who shared with her their stories of being attacked or harassed at different points in their lives.

The experience inspired Mustafa to address that issue for women around the world.

“It’s satisfying to make things happen and build something out of nothing, especially if it makes a difference in others’ lives,” she says.

Temple alumni like Mustafa make incredible differences in so many ways. It’s hard to imagine a world without them.

Kim Fischer, CLA ’92, and Christopher A. Vito, SMC ’07
FRANK STEPNOWSKI, CFA '92, EDU '94, EDV '98, was awarded the James D. McCaffrey Award for his book that have been on Amazon's top 10 list in the Teachers category for more than a year. His book, Why Are All the Good Teachers Crazy?, stayed on that list for more than two years. Proceeds from his books go to the Wounded Warrior Project. An English teacher at Pennsauken High School in New Jersey, Stepnowski also was named a Phillips 2012 Teacher All-Star.

WILLIAM P. MARTIN, EDU '92, recently published Wonderfully Wordless: The 500 Most Recommended Graphic Novels and Picture Books with Rowman & Littlefield. He also wrote A Lifetime of Fiction: The 500 Most Recommended Reads for Ages 2 to 82 and The 500 Most Recommended All-Books for Ages 3 to 103, both issued in 2014.

CARY MASTROIÉ, ENG ’92, began a three-year term on the American Society of Civil Engineers’ (ASCE) Philadelphia Section Region 2 Board of Governors in fall 2015. She also serves as a vice president for Urban Engineers and leads the Training Institute at the firm’s Philadelphia headquarters. A past president of ASCE’s Philadelphia Section, Mastroïé has been awarded an ASCE National Daniel W. Meade Medal and is a member of the ASCE National Edmund Friedman Young Engineer Award for Professional Achievement.

JEFFREY MONTRAGUE, CPN ’93, was named a 2015 Minority Business Leader by Philadelphia Business Journal. He is an associate vice dean of the School of Tourism and Hospitality Management at Temple, and is responsible for student services, academic advising and the Center for Student Professional Development.

SARAH J. LOSOLE, SMC ’03, served as the official photographer for Pope Francis’s visit to Philadelphia in September at the request of the World Meeting of Families.

CHRISTOPHER SLOM, CLA ’94, was appointed to the Pennsylvania Insurance Fraud Prevention Authority’s Board of Directors in April. He resides in Mount Lebanon, Pennsylvania.

MARK A. FINK, LAW ’97, was named a partner in the law firm of Montgomery McCracken Walker & Rhoads LLP. His practice focuses on bankruptcy and litigation matters.

WENDY EDSELL-KERNWICH, ’98, ’99, was named the resident director of the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency and to the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency’s Board of Directors. A past president of the Pennsylvania Bar Association, Edsell-Kernwisch is a future member of the Pennsylvania Bar Foundation’s Board of Directors.

RICHARD LUI, CPN ’99, was featured as Print magazine’s Illustrator of the Week in August.

MAHMOUD JARDANEH, ENG ’03, ’05, is participating in a one-year Mike Mansfield Fellowship Program in Washington, D.C. As a member of D10 fellowship, he will enter the program in August 2016 for six months – since it was established by Congress in 1994 to build a corps of U.S. government officials with substantial Japan expertise. Jardaneh will examine Japanese regulatory requirements to evaluate the impact of natural hazards on nuclear power plants and gain insight into technical and cultural aspects of the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear accident.

TEDDY SALCIA joined the award-winning creative agency VIVA Creative in 2013. He produces digital, content and experimental projects for clients worldwide, including Warner Bros., Century 21 and Audi.

TAYLOR TATEZER, ’04 ’14, was named a 2015 Minority Business Leader by Philadelphia Business Journal. She is corporate contributions manager at PECO, where she directs donations and corporate citizenship-related programs, including grants. Tatezer also serves as principal liaison to nonprofit organizations and the company’s leadership visibility, the annual employee giving campaign and corporate use of Pennsylvania tax-credit programs.

JAMES MADISON, TEM ’05, is co-owner of the Philadelphia-based production agency Experimundo Productions and the camera, grip and lighting rental company Experience Grip, founded in 2007 and 2010, respectively.

ERIC HUBER, BRF ’18, was appointed associate lecturer in percussion at the University of Pennsylvania.

BRETT B. CRUDDACE was named an associate professor at the University of Pennsylvania in 2015. She also serves as chair of the History Department.

DAN CAMPBELL, EDU ’11, made headlines in September in Phantom of the Opera as Christine’s alternate. The two cast members who rotate in the leading female role.

TYLA NELLI, ’12 ’14, was named a 2015 Minority Business Leader by Philadelphia Business Journal. She is a partner in Philadelphia as one of 10 young people in Philadelphia’s creative class who are helping re-define the city.

SARAH LEVINE, FOX ’10, recently opened Laia Cafe in the Old City section of Philadelphia. It serves American bite food, uses locally sourced ingredients and provides cater- ing services.

VAUGHN PARKER, FOX ’10, was hired by KPMG as an SAP specialist. He is a partner at Accenture.

路西法·特拉克，TFM ’04, 于2015年被任命为年度少数族裔企业领导人。她是企业贡献管理经理，负责公司捐赠和公司参与的宾夕法尼亚州税金抵免项目。

杰克·马德森，TEM ’05，是一个由501(c)(3)公司发起的非营利组织，为癌症患者提供501(c)(3)公司。

艾米·威廉姆斯，CLU ’94，是宾夕法尼亚州保险欺诈预防管理局的主席。

罗伯特·迈克尔·劳登，FOX ’99，2014年获得了麦克米伦奖学金，2015年获得了宾夕法尼亚州法律学院的荣誉学士学位。他也是宾夕法尼亚州国际会议的赞助人，自2004年以来，他一直担任全国自然保护协会的董事会主席。
IN MEMORIAM

This list includes those in the Temple community who have passed away since the last issue of Temple.

1950s
- Marie B. Scholding, SMC ‘49
- Wellington Chu, FOX ‘52
- Dysart L. McConaghie, Barbara W. Lubar, Edgar R. Fettinger, Daisy W. Reaves, George M. Pims, CPH ‘48
- Louise Smith Thornton, Joan M. Skirdant, SMC ‘48
- Millard Elwood Krebs, Engelbert ‘47
- Louis J. Loscalzo, Rosemary Casey McMunigal, Herman L. Leberstien, FOX ‘44, HON ‘69
- William R. Dickie, TYL ‘43
- Ruth Lieberman Schrero, Guido Colucci, POD ‘43
- Shirley H. Cole, Saidee Kanoff Frankel, Frank P. Ermilio, Ernest Bender, CLA ‘41
- Mavis Wort Lupton, Else Petersen Hamilton, SED ‘39
- David L. Czetli, Rachel Bacon Bull, Sheldon Ort, EDU ‘71
- Albert P. Bernatavicius, FOX ‘71
- Rhoda Tolz Daniels, BYR ‘70
- Naomi E. Berry, EDU ‘70
- Adrienne Z. Neye, BYR ‘69
- John C. Citrolo, MYR ‘82
- Adrienne Z. Neye, BYR ‘69
- JOE ‘82

1960s
- Ralph W. Brenner, LAW ‘53
- Esther D. Petratin, EDU ‘59, ’75
- Bradford M. Blanchard, MED ’54
- Merenda K. Williams, CPM ‘55
- Robert A. Schonsover, SMC ‘56
- Edward Maw, EDU ’57
- Bernard Nisenholtz, DEN ‘57
- Francis P. Donatelli Jr., DEN ‘58
- Helene P. Blum, CLA ’59, ’66
- Claire B. Stone, EDU ’60
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- Egypt and the Eternal Nile
- Great Parks of California
- Oxford English Countryside with Downton Abbey
- Paris Immersion
- Sorrento, Italy
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