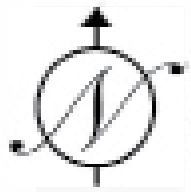


TEMPLE TIMES

www.temple.edu/newsroom

Temple's monthly newspaper for the university community

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BEST FOOT FORWARD

Temple tour guides drive admissions, local economy

By Hillel J. Hoffmann
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There are only 35 students who have what it takes to wear their uniform. They've survived a series of tests that weed out more than 90 percent of applicants. They've had months of training, and some juniors and seniors among them have seen action more than 150 times.

They're Owl Ambassadors, Temple's elite corps of tour guides, and they are the front line of the university's admissions process. They're also the vanguard in the effort to grow the region's economy.

Anyone who has spent time at Temple has seen Owl Ambassadors in their cherry polo shirts and windbreakers as they lead prospective students and their families on 60-minute walking tours of Main Campus. But the twice-a-day tours that leave the Welcome Center on most days are only their most conspicuous duty. They also spearhead hundreds of student workers who assist Temple staff during all-day Fall Open House and Experience Temple events and staff Admissions' front desk in Conwell Hall year-round.

Ambassadors continued on 2



Temple Owl Ambassador David Lopez leads a group of prospective students and their families along Polett Walk. Temple tour guides say that the energy of campus life that is evident at the intersection of Temple's tree-lined walkways is one of Main Campus's top selling points.

Joseph V. Labolito

New web site for Temple news set to launch

By Vaughn A. Shinkus
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Beginning next month, Temple's web site at www.temple.edu will include a redesigned section featuring news about university academic achievements, research findings, community service and arts and cultural activities.

The new news center will serve as the university's primary online home for news on a range of topics, grouped by strategic themes such as Student Success, Faculty Research, Temple 20/20, Global Temple and Community Engagement.

Produced by the Office of University Communications, the new site will be available at news.temple.edu, and is designed to inform a wide-ranging audience that includes faculty, staff, students, prospective students, parents, alumni, journalists and members of the general public. While parts of the project are still being finalized, members of the Temple community can preview the site before the new link is publicized to the broader community.

"Temple continues to grow its influence in Greater Philadelphia, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and around the world," said Kenneth Lawrence, Jr., senior vice president for Government, Community and Public Affairs. "The new online news center is a place to showcase the great things our students, faculty and staff are doing that make the university a dynamic educational community."

News stories, including videos, are developed by University Communications staff. The site is updated daily and promoted through a variety of channels, such as social media, e-newsletters, publications and other Temple web sites.

Multimedia content figures prominently in the new design, with three video clips viewable in the upper section of the news.temple.edu main page.

The news center is built on a customized content management system developed by Rock River Star, a Philadelphia-based web development firm. The site uses Drupal, a free, open-source administrative system that enables automatic syndication of news stories to other university web sites.

An archive of stories on the new site dates back to 2006. [News.temple.edu](http://news.temple.edu) also features direct connections to the university's social media accounts on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Tumblr and YouTube.

The site is just one of several new communications improvements over the past year, including a redesigned Temple Today e-newsletter, improved social media channels and a reconstituted monthly *Temple Times* newspaper. Plans call for the expansion of Temple's mobile news capabilities in the coming months. u

Veterans programs will honor Temple's bravest

By James Duffy
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After driving trucks in convoys during two tours in Iraq, there is very little that rattles horticulture and art major HollyAnn Nicom.

Public speaking might just top the list. On Friday, Nov. 11, however, Nicom will stand in Founder's Garden before fellow students, friends, faculty and staff to share passages from the journals she kept while serving overseas — "the most honest way that I can share what it was like when it was happening."

Nicom is one of several Temple students, faculty and staff who will speak about their experiences during the university-wide Military Appreciation Day honoring both veterans and active-duty service personnel who have risked their lives to protect our country.



Military Appreciation Day ceremonies will be held at Founder's Garden on Main Campus (above) and at the Ambler Learning Center auditorium.

"I think sometimes students don't necessarily think of veterans as someone in their classes — it puts a face on the military and what we do," said Nicom, 35, a veteran of the Pennsylvania Army National Guard. "The reason I joined the military was to honor my father,

who was drafted into the Army during the Korean War. I felt that I would be able to know him better if I experienced what he went through."

Sponsored by Sodexo and the Temple Veterans Day Committee, Military Appreciation Day will be held

at the Main and Ambler campuses on Veterans Day beginning at 11 a.m. At Main Campus, the ceremony, which will include a presentation of 9/11 commemorative challenge coins to military participants, will be held in Founder's Garden. A luncheon for veterans or those currently serving in the armed forces will be held following the ceremony in the Louis J. Esposito Dining Center at Johnson and Hardwick halls. The Military Appreciation program at Ambler will be held in the Learning Center Auditorium, with a luncheon to follow in Bright Hall Lounge.

"I have a lot of friends who are Vietnam vets, and I've seen firsthand that the war didn't end for them when they left Vietnam," said Sodexo Director of Operations Dolores Abbonizio, who first conceived of

Veterans continued on 3

Joseph V. Labolito

InTheMedia

Below are highlights from recent stories about Temple in the media. To see more stories about Temple, visit www.temple.edu/newsroom.

Poor neighborhoods can lead to poor health

USA Today, Washington Post, others: A new study has found that mothers who move from very poor areas to less disadvantaged ones can improve their rates of obesity and diabetes. “People’s health habits are often constrained by the choices they face in their neighborhoods,” said **Robert Whitaker**, a co-author on the study and a researcher at Temple’s Center for Obesity Research and Education. “This study is one of the strongest pieces of evidence yet that improving the environments where low-income families live can have a meaningful impact on their risk of chronic disease.”

Occupy movement has unity in its diversity

Philadelphia Inquirer: The Occupy or “99 Percent” movement has as many main points as cities. **Ralph Young**, Temple history professor and author of *Dissent in America*, was involved in 1960s protests. He sees unity in diversity. “In all protest movements,” said Young, “everybody’s got their own reasons for being there. But economic injustice — that involves thousands. This person’s issue will be a lost mortgage; this one’s is no jobs. These protesters want the government to listen.”

Parents should limit children’s screen time

New York Times: Parents of infants and toddlers should limit the time their children spend in front of televisions, computers and self-described educational games, the American Academy of Pediatrics warned. “What we know from recent research on language development is that the more language that comes in — from real people — the more language the child understands and produces later on,” said **Kathy Hirsh-Pasek**, Temple professor of psychology.

The downside of higher immigration

New York Times: In an opinion piece in the “Room for Debate” column, **Jan Ting** of the Beasley School of Law worries that an increase in immigration could cause untold strain on the U.S.: “[O]ur legal immigration program should be more narrowly focused on admitting immigrants who are most likely to make contributions to solving our challenges: immigrants holding advanced degrees in science, technology and engineering, or with demonstrated ability in business management.”

Ambassadors

From page 1

“The Owl Ambassadors *are* Temple. When people visit campus and speak with tour guides or ask them questions at the front desk, the Owl Ambassadors represent all Temple students,” said Niki Mendrinos, associate director for campus visit programs and special events at Temple. “They make a huge impression, and it’s often visitors’ first impression.”

The volume is high — and so are the stakes. The number of admissions-related visitors to Temple has exploded in recent years. Last year, an all-time high of more than 38,000 prospective students and their entourages visited the university, a staggering 40 percent increase since 2006. Attendance at special events such as open houses has also reached unprecedented levels (see sidebar). The surge in visitors is happening at a time when the number of high school graduates is declining, making the competition among colleges to lure qualified applicants more intense than ever. So it’s only a slight exaggeration to say that Temple’s future may depend in part on the Ambassadors’ ability to show off their school.

Rest easy, Temple, they’re good at it — really good. Maria McLean knows. The sophomore kinesiology major from Clinton, Md., says she wouldn’t be at Temple if she hadn’t gone on a campus tour led by an Owl Ambassador.

“Temple was one of my last choices, but a friend who went to my church went here, so I visited,” McLean said. “Adia — I can’t remember her last name — was my tour guide. Tour guides at other colleges gave me all the facts and the figures, but they didn’t communicate whether they were enjoying it. Adia shared her own personal experiences. Yes, Temple’s campus was gorgeous, but campus means nothing if you can’t get a feel for how student life is. After the tour, I got in the car and told my parents, ‘I’m going to Temple.’”

Maria was so impressed that she decided to try to become an Owl Ambassador herself. She earned a spot and gave her first tour last year. Now she has returned the favor.

“I was walking on campus and this boy who was sitting on the steps of 1940 [residence hall] said, ‘Excuse me, miss, were you here last year giving tours?’ I said yes, and he said, ‘You’re the reason I’m here, and I love it here.’ I was so happy.”

To become an Owl Ambassador, applicants go through a series of rigorous trials, starting with an exercise in the Welcome Center called Meet the Owls. Candidates are divided into groups and asked to develop and perform a song or skit that captures their feelings about Temple. A few applicants from each group with the right combination of creativity, quick thinking, positivity, energy and teamwork are chosen by Owl Ambassador observers to advance to the next stage: a one-stop mock tour.



Owl Ambassadors go through an extensive training process that requires them to memorize a binder full of Temple facts and figures and includes a lengthy apprenticeship with a seasoned student mentor.

Each candidate must research and give an oral presentation on a Temple landmark. Owl Ambassadors play the role of visitors, lobbing tough questions like hand grenades as they seek to weed out the fidgety and the inarticulate. In the end, only 10 candidates out of the 117 students who applied for the job this year made the final cut.

But their preparation doesn’t end there. Those who make the grade enter a period of rigorous training. Each new hire gets a thick binder full of facts to memorize and an Owl Ambassador mentor to follow. Only after a lengthy apprenticeship do rookie Owls get to fly solo.

Why put up with such a long, brutal process? Owl Ambassadors are well paid for student workers, to be sure, but no one on the current roster of 35 chose this job for the money. Abby Cohn, a senior communications major from Fleetwood, Pa., who has led 150 to 200 tours, says the job is a perfect way to prepare for almost any post-Temple career.

“Being an Owl Ambassador has so many benefits,” she said. “It has sharpened my communications skills and interpersonal relations. My ability to answer questions, convey information and analyze feedback has gotten stronger. This has been and probably will be the best job I’ve ever had.”

“It never gets old,” said Cohn’s classmate, Matt Wargo, a broadcast journalism major from Blandon, Pa., who estimates that he has led at least 100 to 150 tours. “It’s a new world every time you step out of the Welcome Center and start your tour. Sometimes you have 25 people from all over the country who have never been to Philadelphia and don’t know anything about Temple; sometimes you have 25 people who’ve already been to campus 10 times.”

No matter where they’re from, each prospective student that Owl Ambassadors convince to attend Temple is a win not only for the Office

THE OWL AMBASSADORS ARE TEMPLE.
When people visit campus and speak with tour guides or ask them questions at the front desk, the Owl Ambassadors represent all Temple students.
— Niki Mendrinos, Templecampusvisitprograms

Campus tour hot spots

Every experienced Owl Ambassador has favorite spots on campus tours — places that consistently earn wide-eyed stares, smiles and nods of appreciation from prospective students and their families. The *Temple Times* asked a handful of tour guides to pick the places at Temple that help convert the most prospects into Owls.

- 1. The TECH Center.** Every tour starts here. And that’s a good thing because it’s an “explosive moment,” said one Owl Ambassador. Another said the TECH Center has “a wow effect” on visitors, who are “overwhelmed by the amount of technology we have.”
- 2. Alter Hall.** One of the newest

buildings on campus, Alter Hall is a relatively recent addition to tours. The stock ticker, the flags and the granite globe make a good impression, but one guide says the highlight is when visitors see one of Alter’s small, state-of-the-art classrooms.

3. Alumni Circle on Liacouras Walk. Owl Ambassadors admit they try to time their tours to arrive at Alumni Circle just as classes dismiss. It’s all about letting visitors see the “hustle and bustle” of daily campus life and diversity of Temple’s student body. “You feel that energy,” said one guide. The pretty, tree-lined vistas — a stereotype-smasher — don’t hurt.

Visitors break Fall Open House record

About 4,400 prospective students and their families attended Undergraduate Admissions’ first 2011 Fall Open House, smashing the previous record of about 3,500 set in 2010. More than two-thirds of the people who registered for the event showed up, another all-time record.

Campus tours ran continuously throughout the day, and all academic presentations were full (some were standing-room-only).

All 35 of the Owl Ambassadors were on duty, as well as 60 student volunteers and 15 members of Temple’s Student Multicultural Admissions Recruitment Team, or SMART. Undergraduate Admissions reported that one student loved what she saw so much that she applied for Fall 2012 on the spot.

The second and final Fall Open House of the year is scheduled for Nov. 19. Registration numbers are running at near-record pace.

of Undergraduate Admissions but also for Philadelphia’s business community and the overall economic health of the region. Surveys suggest that most Temple students hope to stay to live and work in Philadelphia after graduating. People with college degrees earn more and spend more, which creates jobs and grows tax bases. That’s why the region’s college tour guides — especially top performers like Temple’s Owl Ambassadors — are valued by Deborah Diamond, president of

Campus Philly, an organization that promotes economic development by attracting and retaining top college students and highly skilled young professionals.

Owl Ambassadors are “the face of Philadelphia,” Diamond said. “The tour guide experience has huge ripple effects. If those prospects are converted to students, then we know they’re part of \$2.4 billion that gets spent annually in the Philadelphia region, not including tuition.” u

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Pa. Senate Appropriations Committee visits Temple

By Ray Betzner
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Members of the Pennsylvania Senate Appropriations Committee visited Main Campus earlier this month for a tour and hearing on the importance of the Commonwealth's annual investment in Temple University.

Sen. Jake Corman, the committee's chairman, said members wanted to visit each of the four state-related universities to have a more in-depth conversation about the roles these schools play in the Commonwealth. The committee also visited Penn State University, the University of Pittsburgh and Lincoln University.

During the three-hour hearing, committee members heard panel discussions focusing on Temple's regional impact, the Temple 20/20 framework, Temple's academics and research, the student and alumni perspective on the university's value and the challenges and contributions of Temple's health enterprise.

The panels featured Temple President Ann Weaver Hart, joined by Temple Board of Trustees Chairman Patrick J. O'Connor; Philadelphia Mayor Michael A. Nutter; and university deans, administrators, faculty, students and alumni.

President Hart said Temple is a vital part of the state's economic engine.

"The long-term economic health of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania demands a highly educated workforce to attract jobs to the state and to keep them here," Hart told the committee. "Preparing Pennsylvania students for jobs in knowledge-based industries and for entrepreneurial leadership will ensure a workforce that can rebuild the state's economy and keep it strong and competitive in the



State Sen. Vincent Hughes, minority chairman, and State Sen. Jake Corman, chairman, during opening remarks at a hearing of the Pennsylvania Senate Appropriations Committee held Oct. 12 at Temple.

decades to come."

Her comments were echoed by Mayor Nutter, who said that "Temple is an anchor institution for the city that creates jobs, generates tax revenue, revitalizes neighborhoods and provides healthcare and other services to some of the city's most needy residents." The mayor pointed out that in its effort to help local students, Temple offers nearly \$12 million in scholarships and financial aid to Philadelphians.

Robert C. Wonderling, president and CEO of the Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce, praised Temple's role as a vital part of the region's economy. "Each year, Temple generates about \$3.7 billion in economic impact within the city, supporting about 34,000 jobs and \$72 million in local taxes," he said. In addition, the university contributes about \$6.2 billion in economic impact within the Commonwealth.

Temple has also benefited from its partnership with the Commonwealth

and the financial support that comes from being a state-related university, panelists said.

State support for Temple is vital, said Trustees Chair O'Connor. "We rely on the Commonwealth for its generous support in completing these noble initiatives and keeping the costs of a Temple education down," he said. "Without that support our impact on the region would be greatly diminished."

Committee members expressed their support for Temple and higher education in Pennsylvania, and seemed impressed by the value of Temple to its students and the return on the Commonwealth's investment.

Corman pointed to the discount in-state students receive when compared with the costs Temple charges its out-of-state students. Pennsylvania residents pay substantially less because of the Commonwealth Appropriation, he said, and if that support were reduced, tuition for in-state students would have to rise. u

Ryan S. Brandenberg

Law students learn, do and share through community activities

By Laura Evelyn Kuserik
For the *Temple Times*

Occupied as they are by reading assignments, briefs and exams, law school students can sometimes find it difficult to find time to form bonds with peers and professors.

That's one of the reasons the annual Day of Service is such an important part of the student experience at Temple's Beasley School of Law — the opportunity it provides for them to work together toward a common goal.

"Law school and the legal profession can be an isolating lifestyle, with so much time spent in the library or in an office," said Temple Law student Lauren Fitzgerald. "Spending some time in the community allows us to remember there are many important aspects of life aside from work."

But the event, Serving Neighbors, Connecting Communities, has a higher purpose as well: It's a chance for students to learn about and contribute to the community they will serve as practitioners.

On Oct. 14, 65 students, faculty and staff members picked up trash, painted fences, maintained trees and distributed newsletters for residents served by the Kensington South Neighborhood Advisory Council, which encompasses an area east of Main Campus.

"It's important for the people who are learning here, educating here, working here, to see there are contributions to be made outside of reading their books and learning the law," said Maureen Olives, director of Public Interest Programs at Temple Law. "There is a community around us that we should learn about, share with, be a part of."

The event also allows many to see the community with fresh eyes. Fitzgerald recalled a friend's surprise at seeing cute, tidy houses where she expected to find blight.

"So many people have a very negative view of North Philadelphia, and a day like this allows people to see the potential that exists in the smaller communities in the area," she said.

The event has been sponsored since its 2009 inception by Associate Dean for Special Projects Jane B. Baron and her husband, Richard. It's a tradition Fitzgerald hopes will continue.

"As law students and faculty, we have been fortunate enough to receive an excellent education and incredible support from those around us," she said. "I think it is important to share this good fortune with others." u



Law student Adrian Stepanian paints a fence that is part of a Mural Arts project at the Hancock Recreational Center in the Kensington South neighborhood, near Temple's Main Campus.

Kevin Cook

Serving those who served

As U.S. servicemen and women continue to serve in combat areas such as Iraq and Afghanistan and non-combat arenas all over the world, the number of soldiers making the transition back to civilian life has increased substantially.

While many veterans have returned to jobs and other responsibilities, others have opted to take the opportunity to return to the classroom.

At Temple, the number of self-identifying veterans utilizing the benefits of the federal post-9/11 GI Bill and the Yellow Ribbon GI Education Enhancement Program has increased remarkably, more than doubling from 198 during the Spring 2010 semester to 484 in Spring 2011. And that doesn't even include hundreds of students utilizing benefits through the Montgomery GI Bill, dependents of veterans and members of the National Guard. Nearly 700 Temple faculty and staff also identify themselves as veterans.

The notable increase in veterans deciding to choose Temple is the result of a concerted effort by departments throughout the university to reach out to veterans and provide the resources they need to transition from the military base to the campus, according to William Parshall, executive director of the Ambler and Center City campuses, who co-chairs a Veterans Task Force comprising administrators from across Temple.

"What we've been able to do in 18 months is raise awareness about veterans' issues and direct resources in multiple areas at the same time," said Parshall. "We've placed experienced staff in key student departments to support veteran students. We're not simply focused on admitting veterans but ensuring that we serve their unique needs while they are here."

In Fall 2010, Laura Reddick — who has 21 years of experience in adult and transfer student recruitment at Temple — was appointed associate director of adult and veteran student recruitment. In the past year,

Survey will clarify employee veteran status

To enable more accurate representation of veterans in federal reporting, Temple will survey all employees later this month asking them to detail their veteran status. The categories now in use for federal reports include a finer level of classification, including categories for disabled veterans, Vietnam-era veterans, other protected veterans, Armed Forces Service Medal veterans and recently separated veterans. An online survey with a description of each category will be made available to the campus community soon after Veterans Day, Friday, Nov. 11.

Reddick said, Temple has been able to "substantially extend our outreach with the help of the Provost's Office." The Temple Veteran Affairs web site, www.temple.edu/veterans, has been re-created from the ground up as a comprehensive online resource for veterans.

"Everything that we are undertaking is to ensure that veteran students can make a smooth transition into the classroom," said Reddick. "We've asked an advisor from each of the university's schools and colleges to become a point person for veterans."

Outreach meetings with military groups and community colleges are held throughout the region. Monthly information sessions for veterans are held at TUCC, with periodic sessions held at the Main and Ambler campuses. In addition, online information sessions are held to connect with veterans all over the world.

"They put their lives on the line to serve our country," said Reddick. "We want to empower them with information so that they can make informed decisions with the most up-to-date information available."

— James Duffy

Veterans

From page 1

Military Appreciation Day in 2009. "I wanted to honor veterans at Temple, and Sodexo and the university have been so willing and so generous."

More and more returning veterans and soldiers still on active duty are choosing to pursue higher education. The number of students attending Temple with financial support from the post-9/11 federal GI Bill has doubled in just one year — and they have become an integral part of Temple.

"Temple has an extremely well-run ROTC program and large veteran population," said Ryan Conklin, who served in active duty with the U.S. Army 101st Airborne Division for four years, in addition to serving with the North Carolina National Guard for a second tour in Iraq just prior to coming to Temple. "You look out for each other and support each other; that's not something that stops when you get out of the service."

Conklin, along with fellow veterans Matt Neri and Matt Parker, supported Fox School of Business student and U.S. Army Sgt. Hyman Lee in founding the Temple Veterans Association (TVA), which is open to all students, faculty, staff and alumni

Military Appreciation Day events

Friday, Nov. 11, 11 a.m.

Main Campus

Ceremony: Founders Garden
Luncheon: Esposito Dining Center (Johnson and Hardwick)

Ambler Campus

Ceremony: Learning Center Auditorium
Luncheon: Bright Hall Lounge

who have served or are serving in the military.

"Especially in a school as big as Temple, you need a veterans association," said Lee. "With the two wars, you're producing a lot of veterans, and they're coming to school."

The TVA enjoys strong university administrative support, including from Anthony E. Wagner, executive vice president, CFO and treasurer.

"The military provides life lessons — leadership, perseverance, teamwork," said Wagner, who served for four years as a deep-sea diver in the U.S. Navy. "Veteran students need to embrace their military experience, get to a university, dig in and get the most out of it." u

History class considers historic site's annual haunted attraction

By Kim Fischer
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This semester, Seth Bruggeman, assistant professor of history and American studies, is sending his students to prison — to the Eastern State Penitentiary (ESP) Historic Site, that is.

There his students will get a first-hand look at a common problem faced by museums and historic sites across the country: How to offer historically accurate representations of the past while at the same time engaging with their audience and staying financially afloat.

ESP is one of 10 historic sites that students in “Museums and American Culture” visit with Bruggeman, who is also the director of Temple’s Center for Public History.

During these field trips, the students observe different approaches for telling stories about the past and engaging with the public. The courses complement a larger Temple initiative to turn Philadelphia into a learning laboratory.

“There is nowhere in the U.S. that is better for studying public history than Philadelphia,” said Bruggeman. “It has

the richest collection of museums and historic sites that I know of that are in close proximity to one another and to Temple.”

But, he says, where there is history there is also controversy. Exploring the controversies is another reason Bruggeman brings his students to ESP.

“History is not simply a set of data,” said Bruggeman. “Historians take data and convert it into knowledge by exercising their perspective. Controversy arises when the way a historian interprets the stuff of the past does not affirm what the public believes that the past means.”

“Nevertheless, that is the historian’s job — to challenge what we think we know,” he said.

Built in 1829, Eastern State Penitentiary operated continuously until it closed in 1971. It began as a flagship prison built on the belief that people were inherently good and could be rehabilitated through silence.

Despite its progressive roots, the experience of isolation at ESP was extremely difficult and may have driven some inmates insane. At the same time, misbehavior was routinely addressed with beatings, and within a few years of its opening, a prisoner



A class taught by public historian Seth Bruggeman explores the issues facing museums such as the Eastern State Penitentiary, which funds much of its year-round educational programming with revenue from the popular Terror Behind the Walls attraction.

Joseph V. Labolito

was tortured to death.

All of which makes ESP perfect for hosting a haunted tour, however historically inaccurate it may be. Held within the confines of the abandoned prison, the Terror Behind the Walls tour draws more than 100,000 visitors from around the world and is consistently ranked among the top 10 haunted attractions in the country.

“Part of our mission at ESP is to explain and interpret its complex history and to place current issues of corrections and justice in an historical framework. Terror Behind the Walls, because it accounts for 65 percent of our budget, is critical to preserving that

mission,” said Sean Kelly, ESP’s senior vice president and director of public programming and public relations.

“What I want my students to see is that ESP is perfectly primed to hold a conversation about issues of crime and punishment both past and present — issues such as the unprecedented explosion in mass incarceration since 1970. Or that imprisonment disproportionately hurts the African-American community. And that Philadelphia is the epicenter of the problem, with nearly one in 200 people in jail.

“And ESP is doing that. But it doesn’t pay the bills. The use of the historic site

as a haunted house generates revenue that is made necessary by the funding climate that the site occupies,” said Bruggeman.

This is the complex terrain that Bruggeman, with the help of Philadelphia’s plethora of museums and historic sites, prepares his budding public historians to navigate.

“A public historian must have the skill set of a historian with the added burden of developing a comfort and facility with outreach and engagement,” he said. “The public historian must develop sensitivity to the needs of a community of memory and facility with real world issues.” u

At Temple infant lab, researchers discover how children learn

By Kim Fischer
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How do kids learn best? Do they need drills and direct instruction, or time to play, interact and create?

These questions lie at the heart of what some in the U.S. are calling an education crisis, marked by escalating pressure on parents to cultivate little geniuses by buying the latest electronic “educational” gadgets and increasing demands on teachers to improve standardized test scores.

And every day these questions are asked — in myriad forms — by researchers at Temple University’s Infant Lab. The lab is led by two of the country’s most distinguished cognitive psychologists specializing in childhood development, Kathy Hirsh-Pasek and Nora Newcombe.

Approximately eight to 10 studies are run simultaneously in the lab’s three experimental spaces by an army of friendly, dedicated graduate students who want to know more about how children learn. Funded through the National Science Foundation and the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, the Infant Lab’s results are not only published in academic journals and books, but have also been featured in the national media and the popular press.

“Investigators in this lab don’t just hide and squirrel away in a dark room with a microscope,” said Hirsh-Pasek. “In this lab we interact with children to see how their minds work and how they learn. Then we can advise how best to teach — and how toys, school curriculum and museum exhibits can best support their processes.”

So what does the latest research at the lab reveal?

“What we find — what we know from years of psychological study — is



Researchers in the Infant Lab at Temple Ambler study how children’s minds work and how they learn to develop new ways of teaching.

Joseph V. Labolito

that passive learning is generally not as good as active learning,” said Hirsh-Pasek. “Learning needs to be active, engaged and meaningful.”

In the area of language development, Infant Lab researchers look at how much of language learning relies on native ability and how much is environmental. Investigators have found that children are more successful at learning a new word if they are provided with a specific context and live interaction.

“We found that if we use playful learning, young children could understand what a hoe is, for example,” said Hirsh-Pasek. “When they are playing farmer and they’re active and engaged and they understand that a hoe has something to do with farming and making a garden better, all of a sudden things start to make sense for these young kids.”

Piecing together children’s understanding of space is another area of focus. Spatial thinking is part of everyday life, say researchers,

and people tap into their spatial skills often without being aware they are doing so. For example, packing a bag, writing a to-do list and reading a graph all involve spatial thinking. Spatial skills are particularly important for the science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) disciplines.

Researchers at the lab look at the skills involved when kids build a paper airplane (spatial visualization) or fit together the pieces in a puzzle (mental rotation). Armed with information regarding when and how spatial skills develop, the researchers believe that better tools can be developed to help parents and teachers foster spatial learning.

In one recent study (see sidebar, right), investigators found that when a parent is playing with blocks with his or her child, the child is learning the words ‘over’ and ‘under,’ ‘around’ and ‘through.’

“When they’re learning those kinds of spatial terms and becoming

Study finds interactive play develops kids’ spatial vocabulary

Parents and researchers have long speculated that playing with construction toys might offer a rich environment that would support later learning in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) disciplines.

In a recent study published in *Mind, Brain and Education*, researchers at Temple’s Infant Lab found there are some very real benefits to playing with that old toy classic — blocks.

The researchers found that when playing with blocks under interactive conditions, children hear the kind of language that helps them think about space, such as “over,” “around” and “through.”

“When parents use spatial language, they draw attention to spatial concepts,” said Nora Newcombe, co-director of Temple’s Infant Lab. “The development of a spatial vocabulary is critical for developing spatial ability and awareness.”

Spatial skills are important for success in the STEM disciplines, but they are also involved in many everyday tasks, such as packing the trunk of a car or assembling a crib.

They are a central component of intellect and, as those who struggle finding their way around a new city can attest, they show marked individual differences.

“There is evidence that variations in the spatial language young

children hear, which directs their attention to important aspects of the spatial environment, may be one of the mechanisms that contribute to differences in spatial ability,” says Newcombe, who is also the principal investigator of the Spatial Intelligence and Learning Center, headquartered at Temple.

To investigate how play affects variations in language, investigators observed children and parents in one of three situations: in “free” play, where the subjects are encouraged to play with the blocks as they would at home; in “preassembled” play, where the subjects are given blocks that have been glued together in a preformed, fixed structure; and in “guided” play, where the subjects are given the blocks along with graphic instructions for creating a particular structure.

Parents in the guided play condition produced significantly higher proportions of spatial talk than parents in the other two conditions, and children in the guided play condition produced significantly more spatial talk than those in the free play condition.

“This study gives parents news they can use. It shows that, rather than leaving kids alone with a preassembled activity, interactive play that draws out conversation is best at facilitating spatial development,” Newcombe said.

— Kim Fischer

conversant in that vocabulary, it relates to their later mathematical and engineering competence,” said Hirsh-Pasek. “The bottom line is

that we have to bring play and playful learning back into our early childhood curriculum and our homes.” u

Marijuana component could ease chemotherapy pain

By Preston Moretz
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Temple School of Pharmacy researchers have found that a chemical component of the marijuana plant could prevent the onset of pain associated with drugs used in chemotherapy, particularly in breast cancer patients.

The researchers published their findings, “Cannabidiol Prevents the Development of Cold and Mechanical Allodynia in Paclitaxel-Treated Female C57Bl6 Mice,” in the journal *Anesthesia and Analgesia*.

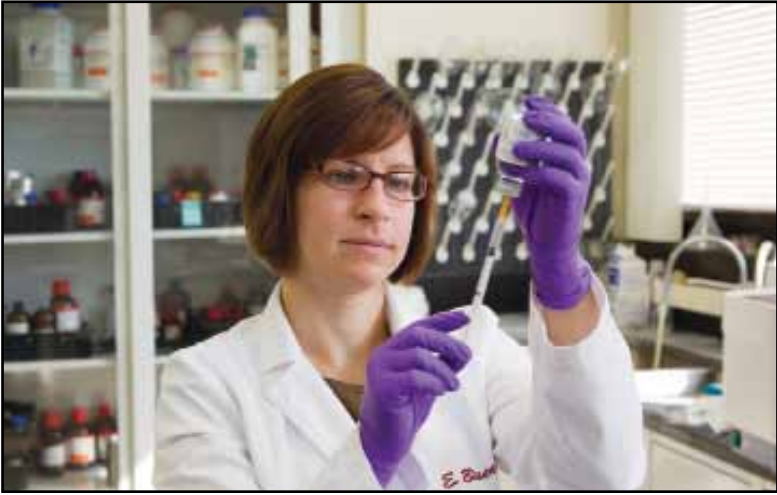
The researchers developed animal models and tested the ability of the compound cannabidiol, the second most abundant chemical found in the marijuana plant, to relieve chemo-induced neuropathic pain, said Sara Jane Ward, research assistant professor of pharmaceutical sciences in Temple’s School of Pharmacy and the study’s lead author.

“We found that cannabidiol

completely prevented the onset of the neuropathic, or nerve pain, caused by the chemo drug Paclitaxel, which is used to treat breast cancer,” said Ward, who is also a research associate professor in Temple’s Center for Substance Abuse Research.

Ward said that one of cannabidiol’s major benefits is that, unlike other chemicals found in marijuana such as THC, it does not produce psychoactive effects such as euphoria, increased appetite or cognitive deficits. “Cannabidiol has the therapeutic qualities of marijuana but not the side effects,” she said.

Ward’s research has long focused on systems in the brain that are impacted by marijuana and whether those systems could be targeted in the treatment of various disorders. “Marijuana binds to the cannabinoid receptors in the body and researchers have long been interested in whether there is therapeutic potential for targeting



School of Pharmacy researcher Sara Jane Ward found that cannabidiol, the second most abundant chemical in the marijuana plant, could prevent pain in cancer patients caused by chemo drugs.

this receptor system,” she said.

Ward became interested in this current study after attending a conference in which she learned about a pain state that is induced by chemo-

therapeutic agents, especially those used to treat breast cancer, which can produce really debilitating neuropathic pain.

Cannabidiol has also demonstrated

the ability to decrease tumor activity in animal models, said Ward, which could make it an effective therapeutic for breast cancer, especially if you “combined it with a chemo agent like Paclitaxel, which we already know works well.”

According to Ward, there are currently about 10 clinical trials underway in the U.S. for cannabidiol on a range of different disorders, including cannabis dependence, eating disorders and schizophrenia. Because of this, she believes it will be easier to establish a clinical trial for cannabidiol as a therapeutic against neuropathic pain associated with chemo drugs.

In addition to Ward, Temple researchers involved in the study included Michael David Ramirez, Harshini Neelakantan and Ellen Ann Walker. The study was supported by grants from the National Institutes of Health and the Peter F. McManus Charitable Trust. u



Laura H. Carnell Professor and Chair of Neuroscience Kamel Khalili has secured a five-year, \$8.34 million grant from the National Institute of Mental Health to create a Comprehensive NeuroAIDS Core Center at Temple’s School of Medicine.

Grant helps build NeuroAIDS research capacity

By Preston M. Moretz
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The National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) has awarded Temple a five-year, \$8.34 million grant to create a Comprehensive NeuroAIDS Core Center (CNAC) at the School of Medicine.

The new center, one of only nine funded by NIMH, will enable researchers to study basic science and clinical aspects of HIV-induced neurological diseases and neurocognitive disorders. Kamel Khalili, Laura H. Carnell Professor and chair of the Department of Neuroscience, is the principal investigator on the project.

“Many of the neuroAIDS-related grants at Temple have been focused on the basic science aspects of the disease,” said Khalili, who is also director of the Center for NeuroVirology. “We have learned a great deal about the pathways that HIV deregulates in the brain and the mechanisms involved in causing AIDS-associated neurological disease.

“The next step will be to take this information a bit further and bring it from the laboratory into the clinic,” he said. “In order to accomplish this goal, we need core facilities that

foster the translational approaches that will be critical for developing better diagnostics and therapeutics for neuroAIDS.”

Researchers from several Temple departments, including neuroscience, medicine and psychiatry, will participate in various aspects of the center, Khalili said. In addition, CNAC will globalize its efforts by incorporating researchers from the Department of Microbiology at Drexel University’s College of Medicine who have established a partnership with an AIDS research clinic in Bangalore, India.

One of CNAC’s key features will be the ability to support basic scientists and clinicians looking to initiate research programs in neuroAIDS through proof-of-concept grants, said Khalili.

“For example, we will have the ability to provide seed funds to basic researchers and clinicians for pilot studies related to neuroAIDS projects and offer the services and expertise of the core facilities,” he said. “The goal is to assist them in obtaining the preliminary data needed to successfully seek funding from the NIH and other outside sources for continuing their studies.”

Khalili said that CNAC is designed to encourage collaboration between basic scientists and clinicians in order to develop novel ideas and new directions for translational research.

CNAC is a perfect fit with the recent focus on neuroscience initiatives at the School of Medicine, including the construction of a research laboratory for the new Institute for Translational Neuroscience (ITN) in the Medical Education and Research Building (MERB), a project funded by a \$11.8 million grant from NIH last year.

“Our first steps were to develop a graduate program in biomedical neuroscience and establish an NIH-funded training grant in neuroAIDS,” he said, adding that these initiatives were spearheaded by Neuroscience Professor Jay Rappaport.

“We developed the space through the ITN grant to consolidate neuroscience researchers at the medical school, and now we have secured funding for CNAC that will support the critical mass of neuroscience research that will be taking place in MERB,” said Khalili. “Funding for core facilities provides a solid foundation for Temple to continue to build an international center for research on neuroAIDS and other neurological disorders.” u

Text messaging, social media can help college students lose weight

By Renee Cree
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Look around on any college campus and you’ll likely see hordes of students with heads down and thumbs furiously tapping away on their smart phones. A new study from Temple finds that this very act — texting and visiting Facebook — can help college students lose weight.

The study, led by Melissa Napolitano, an associate professor of kinesiology and a psychologist at the Center for Obesity Research and Education, compared weight loss among a cohort of 52 college-age students, mostly women, who were broken into three groups:

n Facebook group: These participants visited a private Facebook page to get eating and exercise tips and viewed videos on how to improve diet and exercise routines.

n Facebook-plus group: Participants visited the same page, but also received personalized, one-on-one feedback from a researcher via text messaging.

n Control group: Participants received no diet or exercise advice and were put on a waiting list to participate in the program.

At the end of the eight-week study, students in the Facebook-plus group lost the most, an average of about five pounds.

Although this weight loss is modest, Napolitano says that it is exciting, given that the program lacks a face-to-face component, because the losses approximate those often found in face-to-face weight loss programs on college campuses.



NAPOLITANO

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, about 5.2 million college students are obese, a rate that has risen 8 percent in the last 20 years. Research has found that for many college students, weight gain starts small, about five to seven pounds, but increases steadily during their time in school.

“These results show that text messaging and smart phones are powerful tools for delivering weight loss interventions, particularly since these are technologies that most college students have with them at all times,” said Napolitano.

“These data provide initial signals towards the types of programs that could be disseminated widely across college campuses given the high rates of overweight and obesity.”

Napolitano presented her research at the Obesity Society’s annual meeting in October. u

Fox study explores causes of aggressive driving

By Brandon Lausch
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A new study by a Fox School of Business professor finds those who view their car as an extension of themselves have stronger aggressive driving tendencies.

The study, "Aggressive Driving: A Consumption Experience," is thought to be the first to comprehensively examine how personality, attitude and values contribute to aggressive driving behaviors. Driving is one of the most common consumptive behaviors, and aggressive driving causes a third of all accidents that involve personal injuries and two thirds of all fatal accidents in the United States.

"It explains much of the phenomenon we knew existed," said Ayalla Ruvio, lead author and an assistant professor of marketing. For instance, "we know men tend to be more aggressive drivers and we know men tend to see their cars as an extension of themselves more than women."

Ruvio's article, published online in the *Journal of Psychology & Marketing*, takes a consumer behavior perspective of this phenomenon and features two studies conducted in Israel. One took a holistic look at the influence of personality, attitudes and values gathered from 134 surveys of men and women with an average age of 23.5. The second study, of 298 people, built from the first and added the factors of risk attraction, impulsivity, driving as a hedonistic activity and perceptions about time pressures.

The studies found:

- n People who perceive their car as a reflection of their self-identity are more likely to behave aggressively on the road and break



Ryan S. Brandenburg

Fox School of Business Assistant Professor of Marketing Ayalla Ruvio has found that those who view their car as an extension of themselves have stronger aggressive driving tendencies.

the law.

- n People with compulsive tendencies are more likely to drive aggressively with disregard for potential consequences.

- n Increased materialism, or the importance of one's possessions, is linked to increased aggressive driving tendencies.

- n Young people who are in the early stages of forming their self-identity might feel the need to show off their car and driving skills more than others. They may also be overconfident and underestimate the risks involved in reckless driving.

- n Those who admit to aggressive driving also admit to engaging in more incidents of breaking the law.

- n A sense of being under time and pressure leads to more aggressive driving.

The study findings "suggest that the perception of the car as an extension of the self leads to more aggressive behavior on the road rather than increased driving cautiousness," the authors wrote, adding that "individuals may view cars and the road space they occupy as their territory and will seek to maintain control over it and defend it as necessary."

Ruvio said the implications of this study can be seen in numerous cultural contexts because of the strong link between cars and identity. She points to the soccer-mom stigma of minivans, the Thelma and Louise personas, and songs such as Shania Twain's "You Don't Impress Me Much," with its line, "I can't believe you kiss your car goodnight." u

Film professor debuts documentary on struggles with mental illness

By Renee Cree
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For Eran Preis, associate professor of film and media arts in the School of Communications and Theater, life with a son who has a mental illness is a series of ups and downs. Some days are fine, he says, and on others, things just fall apart.

Which is why he decided to document his son's struggles with schizophrenia, and its impact on their family, in his film *Jonathan's Return*.

Preis says he wants to help educate other families on what to expect when a loved one has a mental illness.

"The main idea behind the film is a notion of just being there," he said. "It's difficult, but it's so important for people who are going through this and often suffer so many disappointments, that they have people in their corner to help them — whether it's friends, family, or mental health workers."

The film chronicles more than 15 years of the life of Jonathan Preis, from his struggles as a youth with drugs, alcohol and run-ins with the law; to his decision to return to his birthplace in Israel and join the army; to his mental collapse and the long, winding road of his treatment.

Jonathan's Return is the second in a trilogy of movies by Preis aimed at exploring the struggles of those living with mental illness after the closure of state hospitals in the U.S. Preis says after their closing, patients had three areas to turn to: the street, the family or the community. Each of his films focuses on one of these areas.

His first film, *Patricia Baltimore*, follows the film's namesake, a woman living with a mental illness who finally gets a home after seven years of living on the street. She uses her experience to help other homeless people in similar situations get their own homes. Preis's third film, which will focus on the community aspect, has not yet begun production.

Preis debuted *Jonathan's Return* at the International Research Conference on Community Inclusion of Individuals with Psychiatric Disabilities, hosted in September by Temple's Collaborative for Community Inclusion. The conference brought together consumers, researchers, providers and policy makers from across the country and around the world to discuss how to break down barriers that those recovering from a mental illness face as they try to integrate into society.

Mark Salzer, director of the collaborative and chair of the Rehabilitation Sciences Department at the College of Health Professions and Social Work, was pleased with the conference's outcome — the proliferation of shared knowledge across the globe.

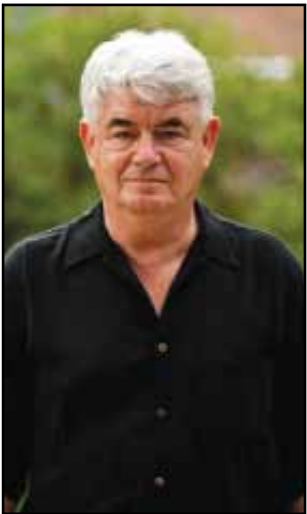
"Those in attendance have been convinced by the research evidence that community inclusion is possible, that many individuals want it, and that community inclusion facilitates people's mental health and recovery," he said.

Salzer noted that there is still much work to be done to help those living with a mental illness feel fully included in society, and that Preis' documentary shows how difficult that struggle can be.

"I know that many people with serious mental illnesses and their families have lost hope," he said. "But the facts are that people with serious mental illnesses would, could and should have the opportunities to live in the community like everyone else, and we're working to ensure those rights become a reality."

For more information on *Jonathan's Return*, visit: jonathansreturn.weebly.com

For more information about the Temple University Collaborative on Community Inclusion, visit www.tucollaborative.org. u



ERAN PRIES

Courtesy Eran Preis

U.N. representatives share tips on internships and jobs

By Eryn Jelesiewicz
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For students with international aspirations, it's hard to imagine a more desirable assignment than working with the United Nations. But such positions are extremely hard to come by due to intense competition from a global pool of candidates.

Last month, Temple students had the chance to hear straight from UN representatives exactly how to apply for and navigate their way to internships and jobs with the international organization.

The event, which was open to all students and majors and held at the Howard Gittis Student Center, was sponsored by Temple's Career Center in conjunction with the Beasley School of Law. It came about thanks to Elizabeth Turchi, assistant director of study abroad and special international programs at the law school, who interned and then worked for the United Nations as a Temple Masters of Law student.

"Working with the United Nations' World Food Program was an incredible experience because I had the chance to be

alongside professionals from all over the world with the shared vision of helping to feed starving populations and being a part of efforts to make a difference in the world," said Turchi.

UN representatives John Ericson and Matthew Sanidas offered tips to the students on rising above the competition. They stressed the importance of spending time on the application to ensure it is well-written and complete. They also told students to make sure they were willing and able to accept a job offer from the UN that could involve assignments at a moment's notice in places like Bangkok, Darfur or Nairobi.

One avenue into the UN, they noted, is through internships — which are available for graduate students — or volunteering with the organization.

John Iannacone, now in his second year at Temple's law school, can attest to the benefits of a UN internship. The Springfield, Delaware County native spent last summer in Rome working with the UN's World Food Program.

Iannacone had originally pursued a different career path, majoring in finance and minoring in international business at Penn



Courtesy John Iannacone

Second-year Temple Law student John Iannacone spent last summer in Rome working with the UN's World Food Program.

State and working in forensic accounting for three years. It was a great job, but he wanted more — particularly greater involvement in public service and humanitarian causes. He chose Temple's law school and was encouraged by Turchi to apply for a UN internship.

"John was a great candidate to work at the WFP because he has a focused goal to work in public interest and a winning combination of professionalism and intelligence enabling him to contribute in a fast-paced environment working to bring food and aid to people in emergency situations," said Turchi.

Iannacone leveraged his prior consulting experience to assist on a pilot project to test a new method of tracking food distribution.

The value of his experience was immense. He got to work in a foreign country on an international issue and learned how to apply for UN positions and negotiate that process.

"The ability to work with and understand individuals from multiple cultures was very valuable. You can't teach that," said Iannacone. u



John Ericson was one of two United Nations representatives who offered Temple students tips on preparing for a career with the international organization.

Ryan S. Brandenburg

Beijing Forestry agreement creates exchange opportunities

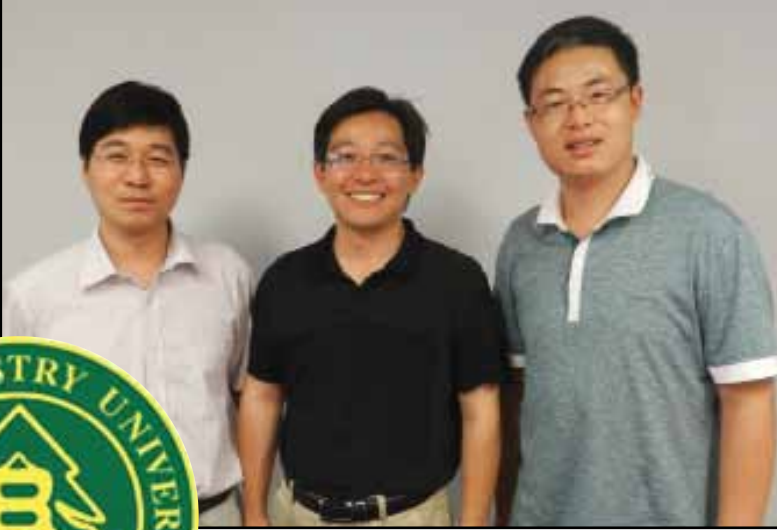
By James Duffy
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Just one year ago, community and regional planning graduate student Chris Hurwitz was on a decidedly different career path.

As manager of the technical programs department of the Solid Waste Association of North America, Hurwitz was training and educating solid waste employees throughout the U.S. But a desire to lead larger and more impactful environmental management projects spurred his move from Maryland to Pennsylvania to pursue a master's in community and regional planning full time at Temple.

Today, Hurwitz is preparing for a trip to Beijing, China, as part of a new agreement between Temple and China's Beijing Forestry University that is creating opportunities for student and faculty exchanges and research collaboration.

"Twelve months later, I'm 30 credits into my master's program and have an opportunity to head to China,"



Last summer, Beijing Forestry faculty members Chi Li, Guolei Li and Baodong Cheng attended Temple's Provost's Teaching Academy, a five-week course for graduate students focused on teaching and academic careers.

said Hurwitz. "I never would have thought that would be happening in a million years."

The new program is spearheaded by Jeffrey Featherstone, director of the Center for Sustainable Communities and professor of community and regional planning, and was established by Temple's Office of International

Affairs.

Featherstone has delivered several presentations on stormwater management and flooding to faculty and students in China. He first connected with administrators at Beijing Forestry University through professor Jun Yang, who had taught at Temple's Department of Landscape Architecture and Horticulture. During a 2010 trip,

Featherstone met with the head of Beijing Forestry's International Affairs Office to discuss the framework for an exchange program research agreement between the two universities.

"Stormwater management is a huge issue in China," he said. "There is very little stormwater infrastructure in major and developing cities — infiltration systems, detention facilities, swales — all things that we research and promote in the Center for Sustainable Communities. The reality is that these systems need to be put in place; it's the type of research that is ripe for collaboration."

Featherstone returned to China this month as the only American presenter at a week-long conference hosted by the International Society of City and Regional Planners.

Six Beijing Forestry University administrators visited Temple in April to help lay the groundwork for potential student and faculty exchanges. In addition, three faculty members from Beijing also visited Temple during the summer of 2011 to participate in the Provost's Teaching Academy, a five-week course for graduate students focused on teaching

and academic careers.

Undergraduates from the university will attend Temple in spring 2012.

Deborah Howe, chair of the Department of Community and Regional Planning, said the exchange program with Beijing Forestry offers an "extraordinary opportunity as [China] faces significant environmental and social challenges."

"It's a fascinating place to be as a planner and I think it is a place where our students can contribute a great deal," she said. "I'm thrilled that Chris is taking advantage of this opportunity. It takes a unique person to do this, to forge new ground for future students both at Temple and in Beijing."

Hurwitz, 33, said once he heard that there was an opportunity to spend a semester in China, he didn't hesitate.

"This program is giving me the opportunity to participate in the world's fastest growing economy and witness urbanization on a scale not seen before in our lifetime," he said. "I want to do whatever I can to help ensure that we learn how to do things better the first time." u



FEATHERSTONE



Veteran CBS commentator Charles Osgood talks with audience members following his presentation at the School of Communications and Theater's Annenberg Hall.

CBS 'poet' offers pearls for aspiring broadcasters

By Laura Evelyn Kuserk
For the *Temple Times*

Addressing students in the School of Communications and Theater following the Lew Klein Alumni in the Media Awards, CBS radio and television commentator Charles Osgood shared a simple strategy for making it in today's competitive job market.

"Go in any door that is open," he said. "This could mean the door to the mail room. Be on the lookout for any opportunity to try out new ideas. There is something in you trying to get out. Don't stop it."

Osgood knows a thing or two about opportunity. The stalwart journalist, whose trademark feature narratives have earned him the title of "poet-in-residence" at CBS, has hosted "The Osgood File" on CBS Radio since 1971. He was inducted in the radio division of the National Association of Broadcasters Hall of Fame in 1990, and in 1994 became of anchor of CBS News "Sunday Morning."

Osgood currently writes bi-weekly articles that are syndicated in newspapers across the country. He has also authored several books, including *Nothing Could Be Finer Than a Crisis That Is Minor in the Morning*, dedicated to Dr. Seuss, and narrated the film version of Seuss's *Horton Hears a Who*.

Such versatility — amid near-constant changes in the communications industry — has enabled Osgood's career longevity, and can serve today's students just as well, he said.

"What you're learning in school will still be relevant in a few years, but the technology and context will change," said Osgood. "You have to learn how to adapt to these changes. You learn every day. It doesn't stop when you walk out the door with a diploma."

Osgood also shared practical tips with the students, advising them to "interview with their ears," and more importantly to know when to listen — and when not to. A time not to listen, he advised, is when people

dissuade you from making a leap into an uncertain future.

"Not everyone will support you — but that's O.K.," he said. "The fact that the world is changing should not scare you, but suck you in. Now is your chance."

Established in 2000, the Excellence in the Media and Alumni in the Media awards honor communications and theater professionals who excel in their fields, as well as their namesake, Lew Klein, an adjunct professor and Theater and broadcasting pioneer. At a luncheon in Mitten Hall, Alumni in the Media awards were presented to award-winning film producer, director, writer and editor Jane Brodsky Altschuler '69; best-selling author Leslie Esdaile Banks '98 (awarded posthumously); long-time *Philadelphia Daily News* sports columnist Bill Conlin '61; music and show business pioneer and legend Kal Rudman '57; and Disney theatrical production supervisor Clifford Schwartz '80. u

Walmart awards \$100,000 for Temple student scholarships

By Laura Evelyn Kuserk
For the *Temple Times*

Temple held a reception last month to celebrate a \$100,000 gift from Walmart Stores, Inc. to provide scholarships to students who have come to the university through its Russell Conwell Center (RCC). The gift will support \$2,000 scholarships for 50 students.

The RCC is an academic learning center that enables students to maximize their university experience, achieve academic success, develop strong leadership skills and prepare for future careers. The center offers students academic support, tutoring, laptop loans and scholarship support.

Speakers at the event included Temple President Ann Weaver Hart, Mayor Michael A. Nutter and Walmart executive Phil Morris.

"This is the view of the future," said Mayor Nutter, looking out at the students. "You will soon be in charge. We want to foster that; support that; encourage that."

Walmart's scholarship programs support the educational initiatives and institutions that are important to its customers, associates and the communities it serves. Morris, senior director of human relations at Walmart, believes that Temple is just such an institution.

"Temple is the heart and soul of Philadelphia's higher education community and Walmart is very proud to support the university and its students with this \$100,000 scholarship commitment," said Morris. u



Lisa Nguyen and Paris Bradford are among 50 Russell Conwell Center students who will receive \$2,000 scholarships through a new scholarship program made possible through Walmart Stores, Inc.

Owls return to celebrate

Homecoming 2011 brought together students, faculty, staff, families and alumni for five days of festivities. With record-breaking registration numbers for nearly 40 events hosted by Student Activities, Athletics, the Temple University Alumni Association and individual schools and colleges, Main Campus and the Philadelphia region buzzed with Owl pride. To cap it off, 26,000 fans at Lincoln Financial Field cheered as the Owls shut out Buffalo, 34-0.



Ryan S. Brandenberg



Jeremy Messier



Ryan S. Brandenberg



At top, more than 1,000 people participated in the Alumni Tailgate Row party hosted by the Temple University Alumni Association at Lincoln Financial Field before the Temple-Buffalo football game. Middle: As part of a Homecoming tradition, Diamond Marching Band alumni performed during halftime at the game. Left: Students and alumni gave back to the local community by volunteering at Temple's Community Garden. Above: During the Conwell Society Celebration, the Temple University Alumni Association honored, from left: longtime mechanical engineering professor Alvin T. Greenspan (Russell H. Conwell Award); alumna, performer and businesswoman Joy V. Abbott (Alumni Distinguished Service Award); and Temple Athletics supporters Wister and Harriet Baisch (F. Eugene Dixon Inspiration Award).

Students' eyes are opened to the arts

By Jazmyn Burton
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A group of fidgety first-graders stop squirming in their seats and direct their attention toward the stage as percussionist Josh Robinson and members of the Rhythms and Rhymes ensemble begin to play a familiar tune.

"Today we're going to learn about the language of music," Robinson announces, before leading the group in a call-and-response exercise that captures the full attention of the crowd.

Robinson and his bandmates are part of a traveling music program designed to give students access to music education. On this day, they're performing for an auditorium filled with local elementary school students.

Over the next two years, local students will be invited to participate in similar performances through the Eyes Wide Open in North Philadelphia arts program, a new initiative offered by the Temple Performing Arts Center (TPAC). The program received a grant from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation as part of the Knight Arts Challenge.

"The Temple Performing Arts Center is honored that the Knight Foundation chose our North Philadelphia Community Outreach Project as

one of the winners in Knight's first Philadelphia Arts Challenge, and that it judged our project as a complement to the foundation's mission to improve communities and local economic growth," said Valarie L. McDuffie, director of TPAC.

The program was designed to offer arts education to schools whose music programs have been reduced or eliminated entirely.

In addition to having fun, the children who attended the music session learned concentration skills, said Daniel B. Capoferri, a senior education major and student teacher at Duckery Elementary School.

"The arts made a huge difference in my life," said Capoferri. "Early exposure to the arts increases brain power, boosts memory skills and instills a sense of pride in school-age children. I hope this program helps instill a love for the arts and music, and encourages them to get interested in an instrument."

This is the inaugural year of the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation's Knight Arts Challenge, a \$9 million initiative supporting innovative projects that inspire and enrich Philadelphia's communities. TPAC was selected from among more than 1,700 applications from our region.

The foundation announced in May that TPAC was one of 32 winners from our area. u



Kelly and Massa Photography

Lamont Dixon, a vocalist and member of the Rhythms and Rhymes Ensemble, sings along with local elementary school students during the first performance in the Eyes Wide Open in North Philadelphia arts series at the Temple Performing Arts Center.

Symposium explores the art and science of Marcellus Shale

A number of Temple units, including the Center for Natural Resources Development and Protection, the College of Engineering, Temple Gallery, the Tyler School of Art, the Information Technology and Society Research Group and the Office of Sustainability, will host a Marcellus Shale symposium on Nov. 4 at Temple Gallery.

Titled "Between Art and Science," the symposium will include lectures, posters, artworks and artifacts to create a forum for artists, engineers and scientists to discuss Marcellus Shale, a formation of marine sedimentary rock approximately 8,000 feet deep running from New York through Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia and Ohio.

In order to extract the vast stores of natural gas in the formation, large volumes of water, sand and chemicals are being injected into the earth to fracture the rock and release the gas. This process, known as hydrofracking, has been a source of debate due to its environmental implications. However,

Featured Events

the large quantity of potentially recoverable natural gas could satisfy U.S. energy demands for generations.

For more information about the symposium, visit Temple's National Resources Development and Protection Center's website at www.temple.edu/environment/NRDP_shale_2011.htm.

TPAC presents *The Rivalry*

Temple Performing Arts Center (TPAC) will present *The Rivalry* on Nov. 10 at 7:30 p.m. in Lew Klein Hall. The four-character play by Norman Corwin is based on the seven Lincoln-Douglas debates in 1858.

The production uses dialog from original debate transcripts between the future President Lincoln and the incumbent Sen. Stephen Douglas to demonstrate their opposing positions on slavery and states' rights. *The*

Rivalry raises difficult questions of values and rights that are still being debated and remain unresolved at every level of American government and society: race, social and economic inequality, states' rights and the role of the federal government in the lives of its citizens.

For more information, visit TPAC's website at www.thebaptisttemple.org.

Boyer presents MFA Dance Concert

Boyer College of Music and Dance will present its MFA Dance Concert on Nov. 11 at 7:30 p.m. and Nov. 12 at 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. in Conwell Dance Theater. The performance will feature "Chronicles of a Love Junkie" by Michael T. Roberts. Tickets are \$20 for general admission, \$15 for seniors and non-Temple students, \$10 for Dance USA Philadelphia Dance Pass holders and \$5 for Temple students with a valid OWLcard. For more information

and to purchase tickets, visit the Boyer College of Music and Dance's website, www.temple.edu.boyer.

Opera Theater opens Mozart's *The Magic Flute*

On Nov. 18 at 7:30 p.m. and Nov. 20 at 3 p.m., Temple's Opera Theater will present Mozart's "Die Zauberflöte" (The Magic Flute).

The opera, Mozart's last, is based on the worship of the Egyptian deity, Isis. Sarastro, the high priest of the Temple of Isis, kidnaps Pamina, the daughter of the wicked Queen of Night. Tamino, a handsome Egyptian prince, is shown a portrait of Pamina, and he falls in love with her. He is told the story of her having been stolen by Sarastro, and he vows to rescue her. Before starting, he is presented with a magic flute, which enables him to invoke assistance in cases of peril.

For the latest Temple events, visit calendar.temple.edu.



Courtesy Boyer College of Music and Dance

Boyer College of Music and Dance's MFA Dance Concert will be held Nov. 11-12.

The opera will be sung in German with English titles and spoken dialogue in English.

Tickets are \$20 for general admission, \$15 for seniors and non-Temple students and \$5 for Temple students with a valid OWLcard. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit the Boyer College of Music and Dance's website, www.temple.edu/boyer. u