

# TEMPLE TIMES

news.temple.edu

Temple's monthly newspaper for the university community

December 7, 2012 | Vol. 43, No. 4



## New recruits

Temple welcomes more than 55 new world-class senior faculty

By Hillel J. Hoffmann  
hjh@temple.edu

**ABOVE: (clockwise, from top left) Anderson, Jacobson, Ryvkin, Carter, Munoz-Laboy, Yang. (See sidebar, page 7.)**

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

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

The 2012-13 senior faculty hires have joined 13 different Temple schools and colleges, with the School of Medicine (13 new recruits) and the College of Liberal Arts (12) welcoming the most, followed by the Fox School of Business (seven) and the College of Engineering (six).

"We're proud to bring yet another group of world-class teachers, researchers and artists to Temple," said Acting President Richard M. Englert. "Our community of scholars is defined by quality — our students deserve nothing less — and this year's new faculty members are outstanding. Their arrival isn't just great for Temple, it's great for the overall economic health of the region."

The 2012-13 cohort of new tenured and tenure-track faculty have brought a remarkably broad range of expertise with them to Temple, ranging from the structure of the proton (physicist Bernd Surrow, who joined the College of Science and Technology from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology) to the thickening of the heart muscle (cardiologist Thomas L. Force, who came to the School of Medicine from Thomas Jefferson University);

*Faculty continued on 7*

## Temple to launch new full-time freshman program in Harrisburg

By Vaughn A. Shinkus  
vshinkus@temple.edu

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

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

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

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

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

While attending classes in Harrisburg, freshmen will

*Harrisburg continued on 2*



Harrisburg Mayor Linda D. Thompson receives a gift from Temple Interim Provost Hai-Lung Dai as Temple University Harrisburg Director Link Martin looks on during a news conference announcing the new Freshman Year at Temple University Harrisburg program.

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

By Vaughn A. Shinkus  
vshinkus@temple.edu

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

The new site, [www.templemade.com/admissions](http://www.templemade.com/admissions), serves as an alternate way of learning about Temple's programmatic options, affordability and campus life. Managed by Temple's Office of Undergraduate Admissions, the site is designed to help prospective students navigate the university's vast



online resources by packaging links and student-focused information into easily navigable content areas. A drop-down menu lists prospective students' potential interests, including areas such as athletics, the arts, student life, clubs and organizations and Philadelphia, among others.

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

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

Each sub-section carries images selected from a series of photos posted by members of the university community on the social media site Instagram with the #TempleMade hashtag. Since announced late last summer, more than 4,800 images have been tagged — some of which were used in a television commercial that debuted at the first home football game.

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

Developed by the Jenkintown-based web development firm Context, in

collaboration with Neiman advertising agency, the micro-site builds on the popular success of the Temple Made campaign. The design and writing reinforce the spirit, sense of pride and roll-up-your-sleeves attitude conveyed in recent outdoor, online and television advertising spots.

Judging by comments on social media channels, the effort has been a success among prospective students.

"(I'm) totally applying," wrote one Facebook user. "I fell in love with this university."

Another prospect on Instagram expressed her admiration in hashtags: "I just really want to be #TempleMade. #dreamschool." ♦



TEMPLE MADE



Lauren Hertzler

Year: Senior

Schools: School of Media and Communication

Major: Journalism

Home town: Enola, Pa.

**Why I chose Temple:** “I knew that I wanted to do something that had to do with writing when I came to college. My dad saw what my older sisters went through with debt, and he didn’t want me to go through that, so I applied only to in-state schools. Temple had a really good journalism program. When we came to Philadelphia, as soon as I set foot on campus at Temple, I just knew I wanted to go here. I loved it. Being in the city and all the hustle and bustle was a huge thing. But I also wanted to be in a city to get good internships. This spring, I’m going to do an internship at the *Philadelphia Inquirer*.”

**Transformational moments:** “I’ve had so many great experiences at Temple, but writing for *The Temple News*, the student newspaper, set me up for everything. It gave me real-world experience and great clips.

A lot of people don’t know that *The Temple News* is completely student-run. We do everything from the business side of the newspaper to the editing, the design, the photography, the writing.

It’s definitely not a typical work load: I have classes, I have a freelance job (that’s about 15 hours a week), I have writing and editing for *The Temple News* (about 30 hours a week), I’m the multimedia intern at *Technically Philly* and I have a paid student writer position for Temple’s Office of International Affairs. No, I don’t sleep much. But I can’t imagine it being another way.”

Verishia N. Coaxum

Year: Sophomore

School: College of Liberal Arts

Major: English

Home town: Philadelphia, Pa.



**Why I chose Temple:** “I grew up only a few blocks away from campus on Cecil B. Moore. I always knew I wanted to go to Temple. My high school guidance counselor really pushed the affordability, but it was also the reputation, the location and the diversity.

“The Temple 20/20 Scholarship meant a lot to me. It really sealed the deal. It’s a scholarship for students who live in the North Philadelphia region in the ZIP codes that surround Temple’s campus. The 20/20 Scholarship has been more than just money toward my tuition. It made it possible for me to live on campus for a year in White Hall in the Leadership Living Learning Community. That was important. I learned so much by living on campus.”

**Transformative moment:** “Every week day from 3 to 6 p.m., I tutor third and fourth grade students, mostly third grade girls, at Meade Elementary School at 18th and Cecil B. Moore for the Women’s Christian Alliance. It’s only a few blocks from where I live. I teach math, reading, literacy. It’s important for them to see someone who’s like them. I like it because in order to see the change I want to see, I have to give back.

“My students know I go to Temple. I talk about Temple with the kids all the time. They see me in my Temple hoodie with my Temple pride, and they say, ‘I want to go there too, like you.’ That makes me happy.”

TEMPLE MADE  
news.temple.edu/templemade

Entrepreneurial. Multifaceted. Dynamic. World-ready. Temple students take advantage of every opportunity that comes their way. In a regular video series, they demonstrate what it means to be Temple Made. To nominate a student for the Temple Made student video series, contact Hillel J. Hoffmann, assistant director, University Communications, at [hjh@temple.edu](mailto:hjh@temple.edu).

Athletics recognizes faculty and students for outstanding contributions

By Laura Kuserk  
For the *Temple Times*

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

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

At the first men’s basketball home game against Rice University, Chemistry Professor Eric Borguet and Fox alumnus Lev Davidson ’11, were recognized. The pair were winners of Temple’s 2010 Innovative Idea Competition and went on to win the grand prize during the 2011 Be Your Own Boss Bowl for their startup firm, pureNANO Technologies.

During the last home football game of the season, on Nov. 23 against Syracuse, Tom Eveslage, professor of law and ethics in the Department of Journalism, was recognized for his work as an educator, administrator,



Nora Newcombe, center, with Hooter the Owl and the Temple Cheerleaders during her recognition as the Faculty of the Game during the Nov. 10 home football game against Cincinnati.

colleague and mentor during his 32 years at Temple. Eveslage has been the recipient of a Lindback Award at Temple and was one of the initial inductees to the Teaching Academy in 2000.

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

During the Dec. 1 men’s basketball game against Wagner, English Professor

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

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

Provost Search Advisory Committee invites nominations for Provost

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

development efforts.

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

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

and a commitment to enhancing diversity in all areas of the university community.

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

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

— Provost Search Advisory Committee, Therese A. Dolan, Chair

Harrisburg

From page 1

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

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

The freshman classes will complement Temple’s evening graduate and certificate offerings in Harrisburg designed to meet the needs of working adults. The university’s Institute for Public Affairs also sponsors the

popular Pennsylvania Capital Semester, which brings undergraduates from Main Campus to the state capital to pursue internships in state government affairs and policy.

“The Freshman Year program builds on Temple’s historic strengths in Harrisburg, and emphasizes our commitment to providing educational options for students from throughout the Commonwealth,” said Interim Provost Dai.

“We look forward to the continued growth of the downtown’s academic corridor with this exciting new announcement,” said Neal West, president of Strawberry Square Development Corporation. “We believe TUH already has a significant positive impact in the downtown and this announcement adds to the growing student and academic corridor in downtown Harrisburg.”

For more information about Freshman Year at Temple Harrisburg, contact Anne Eckert at 717-232-6400, ext. 422, or [ake@temple.edu](mailto:ake@temple.edu). ♦

TEMPLE TIMES

December 7, 2012 | Vol. 43, No. 4  
[news.temple.edu](http://news.temple.edu)

UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS  
Mitten Hall, Lower Level  
1913 North Broad Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19122  
Phone: 215-204-8963  
Fax: 215-204-4403

RAY BETZNER  
Assistant Vice President,  
University Communications:  
[rbetzner@temple.edu](mailto:rbetzner@temple.edu)

VAUGHN SHINKUS  
Director, Internal Communications  
[vshinkus@temple.edu](mailto:vshinkus@temple.edu)

Published monthly during the academic year





# New director of Student Financial Services sets sights on service

By Eryn Jelesiewicz  
dobeck@temple.edu

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

Craig Fennell was appointed the new director of Student Financial Services (SFS) at Temple last April, replacing former director John Morris who retired but still assists part-time. Fennell and his team are working to make the financial aid process as easy as possible. Their goal is to offer smoother, faster and simpler service to students and families.

Fennell spent the last decade directing student financial services at Arizona State University. He also has worked in student financial services at Duke University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Marist and Newbury Colleges. He is a graduate of Iona College in New York with a degree in history and economics. His first job was with Chemical Bank on Wall Street. The Temple Times sat down with Fennell to talk about the improvements he's made already in the SFS office as well as those he's planning for the future, and his philosophy on working with families and helping students successfully manage paying for college.

**Temple Times: What are your top priorities for SFS?**

**Craig Fennell:** I'd like to shorten wait times and reduce students' overall need for contact with our office. We're kind of a necessary evil, but their focus should be elsewhere. I'd also like to enhance students' experience of working with SFS, which will include more training with staff.

**TT: What's the first step in the financial aid process for families and students?**

**CF:** Filling out the FAFSA as early as possible. It becomes available online Jan. 1. You want to be first in line for aid. If you have to estimate taxes or other items, please do. We encourage all students to submit their FAFSAs as early as possible or at least by March 1, which is the priority deadline. That



Craig Fennell, director of Student Financial Services

allows us to get started on our part and get awards out as early as possible.

Our goal is to provide students with an award early enough that they have a few months to think about financing well before the fall begins.

**TT: After students receive their awards, what are the next steps?**

**CF:** The entire dialogue begins then. We're in frequent contact with students during this time and we welcome that. The process continues through the spring and into the summer.

By late spring, early summer, we start talking with students about what to do if they want to apply for student loans and get jobs through the work-study program.

Bills go out in July, and we walk students through how their awards and loans apply to their bills. Then, within ten days before the first day of classes — which is the earliest we can do it by law — we disburse aid to students' accounts here at Temple. For those students whose financial aid provides support toward indirect expenses such as rent and books, we strongly encourage them to sign up for direct deposit so those aid funds can be credited to their personal bank account. Loans ready to disburse will also be distributed at that point.

**TT: What is your service philosophy?**

**CF:** Students' experiences with SFS should be smooth, quick and as simple as possible. To make this a reality, I'm looking at all of our internal processes. For example, I want to maximize what can be done online and minimize manual processes for the benefit of the parent and student. When I look at loans, I want students to receive those loan funds as soon as possible. We don't want them to have to wait longer than is necessary. Financial aid is not always easy, but it should be as easy as we can make it.

**TT: What changes have you made for next year?**

**CF:** This coming fall, I want to award our continuing students earlier than we have in the past. And that's part of my philosophy. I believe we owe students the earliest possible award notification so they can have the time they need to plan their financing for the upcoming year.

This means that at the end of February we're going to start awarding freshmen, as we always have. But for continuing students, I'm looking at April 1, about eight weeks earlier than we did last year.

Our overall aim is to reduce calls, visits and wait times.

**TT: What else are you planning for the fall?**

**CF:** Next fall, I'd like to hold a job fair to simplify the process through which students get work-study jobs. I've done this at previous workplaces. Right now, students are on their own and often don't know where to start. A job fair would bring as many employers together as possible in a single place. Everyone can wrap things up that day or in a couple of days rather than having to spend more time and search all over the place for jobs.

This past spring, Temple launched the Money Matters website ([www.temple.edu/bursar/financialliteracy](http://www.temple.edu/bursar/financialliteracy)) to help students and families navigate the financial aid process, pay for college and reduce indebtedness. This project is a partnership with our Bursars Office. We will continue to expand the site by adding more information and resources, for instance, on borrowing and the use of credit cards. We also want to reach out directly to students to discuss money matters — for example, offering workshops in the residence halls, as well as offer more one-on-one counseling sessions for students.

**TT: You've worked in the financial aid field for more than 20 years. How have things changed?**

**CF:** More than ever before, we're hearing from families who are suffering economically. Their house is in foreclosure or a parent has lost their job. It's approaching probably 50 percent of the conversations we're having. This has become the most challenging part of our job.

So what do we do? We want to make sure that we're not another problem that students and families have to deal with. We listen and work with them on the issues they're facing as best we can. We understand this process can be difficult at times for students and parents. We understand that sometimes we are asking hard questions, but we need the fullest picture we can get of their situation. Once we have that we will always do as much as we can to help.

The good news is that there are thousands of students here who are making it happen. They are making the choices and sometimes the sacrifices that are needed to pay for college.

**TT: What brought you to Temple?**

**CF:** I was interested in coming back to the East Coast (after ten years in Arizona), to be closer to family and friends in New York and on the eastern seaboard and was happy to find out about this opportunity at Temple.

**TT: What do you like most about working in financial aid?**

**CF:** I was an aid recipient as a college student. Having been a student who benefitted from it, it's been easy for me to work with students on financial aid. I'm not wondering why students apply for aid. I understand why they need it. I know we're helping, and I know without financial aid a lot of students wouldn't be able to be here.

**TT: What goal drives you and your team?**

**CF:** Our main goal is to make the financial aid process as smooth and easy as possible while trying to reduce indebtedness for students. Everything we do supports this goal. We urge students to submit FAFSAs as early as possible; work quickly to process their awards and notify students and families; help them fill in any gaps in need to the extent we can; advise them on applying for loans and managing debt and ultimately pay for college in a way that makes the most sense within each families' circumstances. ♦

# Temple among recipients of \$3M Blackstone LaunchPad grant for entrepreneurship

By Brandon Lausch  
blausch@temple.edu

Entrepreneurship is part of Temple University's DNA.

Ever since its founder, Russell H. Conwell, envisioned Temple "as an incubator for the talent and creativity of Philadelphia's working class," the university has always provided opportunities for students to drive progress, President Richard M. Englert said.

On Dec. 3, Englert joined in announcing a \$3 million Blackstone LaunchPad grant from the Blackstone Charitable Foundation that establishes a partnership among Temple, Philadelphia University and the University City Science Center to promote entrepreneurship as a viable career option and to provide students and alumni with the skills, knowledge and guidance to transform ideas into viable companies. The Pennsylvania Blackstone LaunchPad programs are expected to generate some 100 ventures and hundreds of jobs during the next five years.

"We at Temple want each and every student to be exposed to entrepreneurship as part of their personal and professional development and for it to become a central way of thinking throughout their lives," Englert said.

Blackstone LaunchPad aims to multiply the connections among campuses, business communities and local entrepreneurs. It is open to all 41,000 students — regardless of major — at the two partner universities. Participants in the LaunchPad process establish a personal profile, complete a venture-assessment form, and receive individualized consultation and venture coaching. Jaine Lucas, executive director of the university-wide Innovation and Entrepreneurship Institute, based at the Fox School of Business, will serve in the same capacity at the Blackstone LaunchPad at Temple, expected to begin next semester.

Funded by the Blackstone Charitable Foundation's \$50 million, five-year entrepreneurship initiative, Blackstone LaunchPad replicates and implements



Temple Acting President Richard M. Englert speaks at a Dec. 3 news conference announcing a \$3 million Blackstone LaunchPad grant from the Blackstone Charitable Foundation. The funds will establish a partnership among Temple, Philadelphia University and the University City Science Center to promote entrepreneurship as a viable career option and to provide students and alumni with the skills, knowledge and guidance to transform ideas into companies.

a program developed at the University of Miami in 2008 that has generated 85 startups, 210 new jobs and attracted nearly 2,000 participants. Since 2010, Blackstone LaunchPads have opened on six campuses in southeast Michigan and northeast Ohio.

Philadelphia was chosen as the latest region for a Blackstone

LaunchPad because of its critical need for economic growth and job creation, as well as its dynamic entrepreneurial ecosystem, where talent is abundant and a strong set of support services are already in place.

"Entrepreneurship is a job multiplier. Our economy cannot create jobs or improve income quickly enough

without more successful entrepreneurs," said Blackstone Co-founder, Chairman and CEO Stephen A. Schwarzman. "Through Blackstone LaunchPad, we are proud to foster a new generation of entrepreneurs who will transform local economies by creating new and innovative companies."

The grant announcement, held at the University City Science Center, also featured comments from its president and CEO, Stephen S. Tang; William Green of the University of Miami; David Kappos, director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; Philadelphia University President Stephen Spinelli; Congressman Chaka Fattah; and Sen. Pat Toomey.

In statements, Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Corbett said Blackstone LaunchPad is "the kind of program that deepens Pennsylvania's status on the entrepreneurship map" while Philadelphia Mayor Michael A. Nutter said the city "has all of the assets necessary to be an entrepreneurial hub and is fast becoming a place of choice for innovators, makers and founders." ♦





Derrel Williams (left) and Jaylen Price were among a group of high school students that spent six weeks working in the Urban Apps & Maps Studio last summer.

# Apps and maps studio will help underserved kids solve community problems

By Preston M. Moretz  
pmoretz@temple.edu

Young adults from Philadelphia's underserved communities will soon get the training they need to take part in the city's growing applications development community, through a Temple program expanding with new funding from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation.

Over the next three summers, 300 high school and college-age students will take part in a six-week program at Temple's Urban Apps and Maps Studios, learning the basics of digital design and business skills. About a dozen will then become year-round community fellows working with the university and developers to create apps that solve the challenges of urban communities.

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

Knight Foundation is supporting the program with a \$635,000 grant as a way to engage more young residents in the city's creative industries and in solving some of the problems faced by their community, said Donna Frisby-Greenwood, Knight's Philadelphia program director.

"Philadelphia is becoming a center for tech and innovation, and Knight Foundation wants to make sure that the African Americans and Latinos who make up more than half of this community are engaged in this growing field. Putting these students at the center of the design process can also help ensure that apps reflect the needs of the communities they seek to serve," Frisby-Greenwood said.

Masucci said that Temple will work with the School District of Philadelphia and one of its long-standing partners, Philadelphia Youth Network, to identify and recruit students who live and go to school in North Philadelphia around the university. She added they hope to eventually expand the program to include students from throughout Philadelphia.

The Temple Urban Apps and Maps Studios is a university-wide

program initiated last year through a grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration.

The studio aims to connect one of the largest groups of information technology users — high school and college students — with urban entrepreneurs and community, governmental and academic leaders. Together, participants develop and commercialize apps and maps to solve the challenges faced by an urban society by focusing on issues confronting North Philadelphia. The primary goal of the program is to stimulate economic development, job creation and business ventures in underserved Philadelphia neighborhoods and across the Northeast.

A central activity of the program is to involve participants in design challenges — university-sponsored forums that engage them to develop innovative solutions to urban problems that make use of new digital technologies. Ideas that have emerged from the Urban Apps and Maps Design Studios include

**"Students and young adults are quite savvy in the use of technology. By showing them... the development and innovation side, we can help convert that passion into job skills and engage them in helping the community."**

**Michele Masucci**  
Interim vice provost for research

an app for urban farming, utilizing apps for improving health care and designing apps around simulations and games as a way to educate youth about personal finance.

"Urban Apps and Maps represent a unique approach to one of our generation's grand challenges: urbanization," said Temple Management Information Systems Professor Youngjin Yoo, director of the Center for Design+Innovation, who will serve as principal investigator. "By integrating design, technology and entrepreneurship together with world class research at Temple in the areas of humanities, social science, engineering, computer science and business, we are trying to build next generation urban leaders who can build their own solutions for the challenges that their communities are facing in our cities."

"Faculty from Temple's Fox School of Business, College of Science and Technology, College of Liberal Arts, College of Engineering and Tyler School of Art, including designers, chip creators, software developers, database builders and entrepreneurs are involved in this unprecedented university-wide collaboration," said Masucci. ♦

# Surprise scholarship announcement at Musser Awards leaves tourism students speechless

By Brandon Lausch  
blausch@temple.edu

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

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

And then he awarded the scholarship — to all of them.

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

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

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

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



Korman Communities founder Steven H. Korman, left, awards \$12,000 scholarships to each of 20 students from Temple University's School of Tourism and Hospitality Management at the Fox School of Business's annual Musser Awards dinner.

Ryan S. Brandenburg

and Hospitality Management (STHM) Dean's Council for 12 years.

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

He then read aloud the letter from STHM student Sara Sheedy, a Philadelphia native whose father passed away recently and whose family struggles both with their loss and with the financial burden of higher education. Instead of addressing the donor, she wrote to her dad.

"Through a generous donor, I've been nominated to receive a scholarship that would greatly help me continue my education," the letter read. "You always told me never let any obstacle stand in the way of an education. Now, with this incredible development, I could continue my studies without worrying about how to pay for it."

After reciting the letter, Korman said, "We're lucky the next generation is going to be amazing. And all 20, when you think about it, are winners."

He then turned to the students, gathered on stage in Mitten Hall, for the big reveal: "Did I say you were all winners? You're all winners!"

After the announcement, Sheedy said "words can't express how much this means to me and my family to not have to worry as much about how to afford college."

Sean McGuire had a similar reaction.

"I just know what an honor it is to go here, and I also know how hard it is to go to any college with the cost of tuition, so I can't even put into words what this means to me and my parents."

For Gemma Duffy, the scholarship could allow her to pursue a dream of graduate school and give her family "peace of mind for the future."

"It's a really life-changing amount of money," she said.

The Musser Awards, in its 16th year, is the Fox School's highest honor for outstanding achievement, leadership and commitment to the community by a distinguished member of business. Event proceeds supported another scholarship: the School of Tourism and Hospitality Management Endowed Scholarship Fund. ♦

# Mathematics conference honors late professor

By Preston Moretz  
pmoretz@temple.edu

Leading mathematicians, including some of the world's foremost number theorists, came to Temple last month for a conference honoring former Temple mathematics professor and researcher Marvin Knopp.

Knopp, who became a member of Temple's mathematics faculty in 1976, was a leading expert in the theory of modular forms, and a pioneering figure in the theory of Eichler cohomology, modular integrals and generalized modular forms. He passed away last December at the age of 78.



KNOPP

The two-day Marvin Knopp Memorial Conference featured nine talks discussing Knopp's work in analytic number theory. Participants were some of the major figures in contemporary mathematics, including several members of the National Academy of Sciences; winners of several of the prestigious awards in mathematics such as the Cole Prize, AMS Steele Prize and Euler Medal; a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and a former president of the American Mathematical Society.

"Marvin Knopp has tremendous stature within the number theory community, both for the quality of his work and because he was so very well liked," said Edward Letzter, chair

of Temple's Mathematics Department and conference co-organizer.

Knopp was the author of more than 70 publications and three books, including the foundational *Modular Functions in Analytic Number Theory*. He twice gave invited addresses to meetings of the American Mathematical Society, and in 2007 the *International Journal of Number Theory* dedicated a volume in his honor.

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

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

Pribitkin, who was a doctoral student under Knopp, earning his Ph.D. from Temple in 1995, said the turnout by so many eminent mathematicians was the ultimate show of respect for Knopp and his work.

"Marvin was 78 when he died, and many of these major figures in mathematics first met him when they were in their 20s and 30s," said Pribitkin. "He helped them out and they remembered this, so they came here to pay tribute to the man. He was definitely a guide and a mentor to many people."

Pribitkin, who called Knopp a "powerhouse mathematician," became a collaborator and said he is finishing several projects he began with Knopp, including a joint paper and book.

Temple Mathematics Professor John Allen Paulos first met Knopp as an undergraduate student at the University of Wisconsin, when Knopp substituted for an ill professor in Paulos's third-year calculus class.

"From that moment on I thought of him not only as a great teacher, but also as a humorous and caring man," said Paulos.

Paulos was a young mathematics faculty member when Knopp joined Temple in 1976 and he reminded his former teacher of their previous meeting. "We immediately became friends, partly because we shared Midwest roots — he grew up in Chicago and I grew up in Chicago and Milwaukee," said Paulos.

Paulos also noted how the conference's participants reflected on Knopp's admiration in the mathematics community.

"All these eminent mathematicians coming to Philadelphia to give a talk testifies to how well Marvin was respected and admired," he said.

The conference was sponsored by the Number Theory Foundation and Temple's Department of Mathematics. Conference activities also included a concert featuring the Peabody Trio, of which Knopp's son Seth, a renowned pianist, is a member, and a banquet which were both attended by Knopp's longtime partner, Phyllis Zemle, and his daughter, Abby. ♦



# TUJ anniversary symposium explores global citizenship

By Masami Nakagawa  
For the Temple Times

More than 300 people from a broad spectrum of Japanese society celebrated Temple University Japan's 30th anniversary at a Nov. 16 symposium titled "Liberal Arts: Developing Competency, Leadership and Global Citizenship." Each of the symposium's three panelists were chosen to represent the varying views of the public, business and education sectors. U.S. Ambassador Robert M. Orr, executive director of the Asian Development Bank, presented "Outside the Box or Boxed In? Specialized Training or Liberal Arts Education;" Yutaka Morohoshi, a professor at J.F. Oberlin University, presented "Major Deficiencies of Japan's Higher Education Institutions;" and Yoshiaki Fujimori, president and CEO of LIXIL Group Corporation presented "Leadership in the Global Era." The presentations were followed

by a lively discussion moderated by TUJ Dean Bruce Stronach. After the symposium, about 200 participants stayed for a 30th anniversary reception. TUJ was established in 1982 in Tokyo as Japan's first foreign university. While approximately 40 foreign universities have opened and closed Japan branch campuses in the 30 years since, TUJ has remained, establishing a unique position in the landscape of Japanese higher education. "In Japan, commitment is highly valued, and the fact that TUJ has stuck with Japan through thick and thin has created a great deal of support for us and our mission as an American university here," said TUJ Dean Bruce Stronach. "This was reflected in not just the size of the audience that turned out for the 30th Anniversary Symposium, but also in their interest in us as an international education leader in Japan." Combining a liberal arts approach



A Nov. 16 symposium, "Liberal Arts: Developing Competency, Leadership and Global Citizenship," brought more than 300 people from a broad spectrum of Japanese society to celebrate Temple University Japan's 30th anniversary.

characteristic of an American university and an international environment characteristic of an overseas branch campus, TUJ has been producing graduates who are sought after in Japan and worldwide. All classes are taught in English; classes are small, with an average of 20 students per class; and students come from more than 50 countries.

The programs emphasize critical thinking and creative thinking skills as a foundation for deep learning. In recent years, TUJ has been increasing its contribution to Japanese society through education by actively partnering with Japanese universities. Such initiatives include a credit exchange program recently started with Musashi University. The symposium and reception were part of a series of TUJ anniversary events held this year. A 30th anniversary student festival at Tokyo International School on Oct. 20 attracted more than 700 visitors. A lecture series gave undergraduate students opportunities to learn from the life stories of the distinguished lecturers. "Careers in Your Field" featured three guest speakers, including Jasper Cheung, CEO of Amazon Japan; Kuniko Inoguchi, a member of the House of Councilors; and Yoko Wakatsuki, a producer at CNN. ♦

# Annual conference highlights Temple's global connections

By Bri Bosak  
For the Temple Times

From anthropology to public health, from business to theatre, there is scarcely a department or program at Temple that does not engage in some form of international inquiry. Now in its seventh year, the Global Temple Conference highlights that diversity by showcasing the university's range of international programs and creative ventures. This year's event, held Nov. 14 in the Howard Gittis Student Center, was designed to demonstrate the many ways that Temple and Philadelphia's multiethnic communities reflect broad global connections. Titled "Global and Local: Temple's Dynamic Mix," the conference featured student and faculty projects focusing on worldwide issues, with more than 100 individuals presenting posters and films or participating in panels and creative performances. One presentation that truly embodied the conference theme was "Intercultural Collaboration for Disaster Relief: Making Fukatsu no Uta (The Song of Rising)." Panelists Jack Klotz, a School of Media and Communication (SMC) associate professor; Naoko Masuda, former SMC senior web developer; and Vince Leonard, a music producer and orchestrator; discussed the creation of the song and video developed in the wake of the 2011 earthquake, tsunami and nuclear crisis that devastated parts of northeastern Japan. The project incorporated more than 100 people throughout the production process. Planning committee member Erin Palmer, director of Study Away Programs in the School of Media and Communication, said that many of this year's conference presentations stemmed from students' experiences abroad. Senior religion major Dan Mokris created a poster called "Dhrangadhra: Signs of the Divine" as a way of making sense of the month he spent in India studying worship rituals in homes and temples. Mokris says that the other students in his program studied everything from public health to



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

music, which gave him a perspective apart from his discipline. "Everything I encountered had significant religious meaning," said Mokris. "I wanted to present today as another way of giving my experiences tangible meaning." Like Mokris, many students participated in the day-long symposium as a way of framing their experiences abroad within the context of Philadelphia. Nicole Gigliotti, a junior public relations major with a Spanish minor, studied abroad in Rome last spring. Her presentation, "Rome vs. Home," compared the two cities, highlighting similarities such as the architecture of the pantheon and the Philadelphia Museum of Art. "Normally people focus on what is different about a place," said Gigliotti, "But when I was there I found a lot of parallels between Philadelphia and Rome." Gigliotti said she wanted to showcase the similarities in the hope

that others would approach new places in the same way. The conference was better attended than in prior years, said Palmer, perhaps in part due to the inclusion of a keynote speech by Peter Watson, former chairman of the U.S. International Trade Commission. Titled "The Next President's Greatest Global Challenge: Preventing Conflict in Asia/the Pacific as Consensus for U.S. Regional Leadership Erodes," the lecture kicked off the conference at 9 a.m. and was followed by a series of presentations throughout the day. The conference concluded with a reception for participants and attendees. The Global Temple Conference is organized by the Faculty Senate International Programs Committee and the Office of International Affairs and is supported by schools, colleges and programs across the university. It is one of many events organized nationally as part of International Education Week, held annually in November. ♦



Nu'Rodney Prad, resident director of Temple Towers, leads a group of students through an exercise as part of University Housing and Residential Life's Safe Zone program.

## Residential Life program creates safe zones for discussing sexual identity

By Bri Bosak  
For the Temple Times

When students see a Safe Zone placard outside of a room or office, it's a signal that they have a safe space to talk about sexual orientation and gender identity issues. The members of the program themselves are known as Safe Zones, indicating their commitment to creating a more accepting environment for all students. Introduced to Temple three years ago, the Safe Zone program was begun as a way to educate university members on topics related to the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning communities. Originally the certification was only offered to professional staff members of University Housing and Residential Life, but in its second year it expanded to include resident assistants and other students and mentors involved with Residential Life at Temple. Junior political science major and LGBT studies minor Dylan Morpurgo participated in the program last spring as a member of the Residence Hall Association. He described the training as an open setting where students could ask questions they might not normally feel comfortable discussing. His session included about 15 people, with both members of the LGBTQ community and allies participating. "The program was very all-inclusive," said Morpurgo. "Even if you already know something going in — like the proper language to use and what it means — they don't take anything for granted." Two Safe Zone facilitators, Temple Jordan, resident director of Hardwick

Hall, and Nu'Rodney Prad, resident director of Temple Towers, offer two training sessions each semester. Each three-hour session teaches students and staff members the basic language, issues and concerns facing the LGBTQ community. Activities include the Gallery Walk, in which members write words commonly associated with titles such as lesbian, transgender and heterosexual on posters around the room and discuss their meaning. Safe Zone also includes the opportunity for people to share their own personal experiences. Part of the training asks members to recall where they first encountered stereotypes, prejudices and discrimination. And students and staff members are asked to consider how factors like race, religion and socioeconomic status shape the experience of a LGBTQ community member. "Safe Zone is not just about sexuality," said Prad. "The same divisions that exist in the heterosexual community exist in the LGBTQ community as well," he said. "The goal of Safe Zone is to help students and staff members recognize the intersection of those identities and to equip them with the tools they need to support and empower people as they are." At the end of the session, members take a test in order to earn their official Safe Zone certification. After completion, they receive a placard to be placed publicly in an area around university housing. "Just to see the placard hanging on the door of a resident assistant or the wall of an office sends a positive and powerful message," said Morpurgo. ♦



# Violence and unintended pregnancy are focus of NIH-funded Temple University study

By Anna Nguyen  
For the Temple Times

Is violence related to unintended pregnancy or is it just a coincidence? That's the question Temple researcher Deborah B. Nelson hopes to answer in a study funded by a \$500,000 grant from the National Institutes of Health.

While advances in birth control in the past 50 years have made it easier to prevent pregnancy, about half of the 6.7 million pregnancies each year in the U.S. are unintended. Rates of unintended pregnancies are particularly high among unmarried women, minority or urban women, women with limited education, women living in poverty, younger women and women who have experienced interpersonal violence.

Nelson's study will explore how a woman's experience with violence can affect her ability to negotiate regular birth control usage.

"We're encountering women who don't want to get pregnant, but are not using contraception. Where is the gap?" said Nelson, an associate professor of public health, and obstetrics, gynecology and reproductive sciences, and director of the Maternal and

Child Health Wellness Lab at Temple University.

"Women who have experienced childhood violence usually suffer from long-term consequences such as lower self-esteem, higher rates of depression and the inability to regulate their emotions as effectively. In turn, this could affect a woman's sexual self-efficacy — whether it's maintaining consistent contraceptive use such as the pill, or insisting her partner use a condom," said Nelson.

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

Nelson's research for the past decade has focused on what causes early pregnancy and adverse pregnancy outcomes among urban women, including preterm delivery and miscarriage. She is currently studying how bacterial vaginosis, or BV, a vaginal infection caused by an imbalance of bacteria, predicts complications during pregnancy such

as preterm delivery. Pregnant women with BV more often have babies who are born premature or with a low birth weight of less than 5.5 pounds.

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

Nelson's newly funded NIH study will be begin by enrolling 300 sexually active women between the ages of 18 to 30 at Temple's Family Planning Clinic next month. At the clinic, women will complete a questionnaire about prior and current experiences with violence such as childhood violence or current violence with their partner, measures of self esteem and susceptibility to depression.

The survey — designed by the Institute of Survey Research at Temple — will let participants answer these sensitive questions on a tablet as they hear the questions on a headset. Interviewers will provide referrals to women who report that they have or are currently



Joseph V. Laballo

As part of a study exploring linkages between unintended pregnancy and high rates of violence, researcher Deborah B. Nelson (right) will use tablets and headphones to discreetly survey women about their experiences with violence, measures of self esteem and susceptibility to depression.

experiencing violence, said Nelson.

In a follow-up survey nine months later, the same women will answer questions about their sexual health, including whether they have had sex since the initial questionnaire, if so how many times, and if they used birth control and how consistently.

The surveys will reveal if women who initially reported violence in their lives were more likely to be inconsistent birth control users. Also, researchers want to know what skills women possess who regularly use birth control, said Nelson.

"If we discover that young women are lacking in the confidence and

ability to discuss contraception, then we aren't doing a good job educating young, urban women on their reproductive health," she said. "If we find that low self-esteem is a factor contributing to unintended pregnancy, we need to find ways to build self-esteem among these young women before they become sexually active."

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

## Study finds link between declines in kidney and cognitive functioning

By Preston Moretz  
pmoretz@temple.edu



Decreased kidney function is associated with decreased cognitive functioning in areas such as global cognitive ability, abstract reasoning and verbal memory, according to a study led by a Temple University researcher. This is the first study describing change in multiple domains of cognitive functioning in order to determine which specific abilities are most affected in individuals with impaired renal function.

Researchers from Temple, the University of Maine and the University of Maryland examined longitudinal data, five years apart, from 590 people. They wanted to see how much kidney function had changed over that time period, and whether it was associated with how much cognitive functioning had changed. They were interested in the overall change, but also in specific abilities such as abstract reasoning and verbal memory.

"The brain and kidney are both organs that are affected by the cardiovascular systems," said the study's lead author, Adam Davey, associate professor of public health in Temple's College of Health Professions and Social Work. "They are both affected by things like blood pressure and hypertension, so it is natural to expect that changes in one organ are going to be linked with changes in another."

What the researchers found was the greater a person's decrease in renal functioning, the greater the decrease in overall cognitive functioning — particularly abstract reasoning and verbal memory.

"Those two tracked together, so this study provides us with evidence that the rate of cognitive decline is associated with deterioration in

kidney function," said Davey.

Davey said that this information emphasizes two important points: the importance of diagnosing and managing chronic kidney disease and the extent of decrease in cognitive functioning.

"As we get older, our kidney function tends to decrease naturally, so if there's an extra issue involved in renal function like chronic kidney disease, we need to know about it as soon as possible," he said. "That is something that needs to be managed, just like you would manage hypertension."

Davey also noted that the decrease in cognitive functioning found in the study — when compared to people with dementia or cognitive impairment — is not so great that it would interfere with people being able to assist in their treatment of kidney disease.

"Patients are still going to be able to take their medicine on time and without assistance, as well as understand the information that their physician is sharing with them about their disease," he said.

In addition to Davey, researchers on this study included Merrill Elias, Michael Robbins and Gregory Dore of the University of Maine's Department of Psychology and Stephen L. Seliger of the University of Maryland's School of Medicine.

The researchers published their findings, "Decline in Renal Functioning is Associated with Longitudinal Decline in Global Cognitive Functioning, Abstract Reasoning, and Verbal Memory," in the journal *Nephrology, Dialysis and Transplantation*.

The study was funded by grants from the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute and the National Institute on Aging at the National Institutes of Health to Temple University and the University of Maine. ♦

## Spatial cognition researchers will connect through grant-funded virtual institute

By Kim Fischer  
fischerk@temple.edu

The Spatial Intelligence and Learning Center (SILC), headquartered at Temple, has been awarded a \$300,000 grant from the National Science Foundation to form the Thematic Network in Spatial Cognition (TNSC), a virtual institute that will connect researchers from around the world in support of advancing the study of spatial cognition.

"The overall aim of TNSC is to establish spatial cognition as an enduring scientific field," said Nora Newcombe, the James H. Glackin Distinguished Faculty Fellow and professor of psychology at Temple and the principal investigator of SILC.

Spatial cognition is central to many

human activities, including navigation and scientific and mathematical thinking. Research on spatial cognition draws on many disciplines, including cognitive science, computer science, geography, information science, neuroscience, linguistics, psychometrics and robotics.

Its findings have relevance for education in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, as well as education in a wide range of professional fields, including medicine and dentistry, urban planning and traffic modeling and architecture and design.

But, says Newcombe, despite the fact that these different disciplines address common problems, they often use different terminology and different research methods — which can hinder communication and interdisciplinary collaboration.



NEWCOMBE

"Currently, the study of spatial cognition is fractured and far-flung," she said. "We think that bringing these researchers together to speak the same language will lead to exciting theoretical and translational research directions."

With this in mind, TNSC will support scholarly exchanges, lab visits, a series of thematic conferences and a summer school to provide common training for junior researchers at a crucial phase in their professional development. The focus for the first thematic conference, scheduled for December 2012, is Spatial Thinking Across the College Curriculum.

"This is an exciting opportunity for collaboration on a global scale," said Newcombe. "It acknowledges that science is international and provides researchers with new ways to exchange ideas, share findings and work together to solve problems that will have real-world impact." ♦

## Media Studies professor's new book will have apocalyptic debut

By Jeff Cronin  
jcronin@temple.edu

From Plato's accounts of the demise of Atlantis in 360 B.C. to the recent Hollywood blockbuster *2012*, Earth's storytellers have used the apocalypse as a way to comment on their society.

With the alleged Mayan apocalypse looming on Dec. 21, Barry Vacker, associate professor of media studies and production at Temple University's School of Media and Communication, decided to find out why.

His research has culminated in a special class, "Media, Culture and the End of the World," as well as a new book, *The End of the World — Again: Why the Apocalypse Meme Replicates in Media, Science and Culture*, which should be published just in time for our current doomsday.

"These films are not merely giving us warnings about what we might be doing wrong on the planet, but they're also

giving us a sense of what it means to be a human in the vast universe," he said.

Vacker has noted several themes that permeate apocalyptic stories, such as humanity's struggle to find cosmic significance and the yearning for a "clean slate" on which we could reboot our society and learn from our mistakes. Other stories will showcase some humans' desire for cosmic murder or suicide (they're the characters rooting for the meteor to hit Earth) or our fear of the future.

"As the films unfold, you realize there are people wishing the world was over because they can't find any meaning in life," he says.

Vacker's interest in these tales of doom go back to his childhood. "I had a little portable TV in my bedroom and there was a TV station that showed these apocalyptic movies late at night on a Friday or Saturday,"



VACKER



he said. "Every time a new Hollywood movie about the end of the world would come out, I'd always go."

He has found the films strike a deep chord within our consciousness.

"Humans want warnings about what's possible," said Vacker. "Also, I think that humans want the idea that things could be better, we could be transformed, we could get a new beginning. Everybody in their life at some point in time has gone 'Man, if I could do it all over again, I'd do something different.'"

Genevieve Gillespie, a senior media studies and production major and an undergraduate teaching assistant in Vacker's class, says the topic has hit home for the students.

"This course extrapolates and explores the histories and meanings behind the most basic, yet terrifying philosophical question for humanity in a post-modern society," she said. "It forces students to question their assumptions regarding their own place in society, our planet and space and time. It's personal for everyone in that room." ♦



# New fitness options among many recent renovations to Pearson-McGonigle

By Bri Bosak  
For the Temple Times

A new place to fight the winter blues — not to mention those winter pounds — opened up on Main Campus last month.

The Fitness Mezzanine at Pearson-McGonigle Hall offers students and employees a few unique workout options along with panoramic views from large windows overlooking North Broad Street.

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

The recycled energy is used to light a neon Temple T sign. The state-of-the-industry Woodway treadmills are self-generating and contour to the running and jogging motion of the serious-minded fitness enthusiast.

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

“The Fitness Mezzanine provides students that frequent the building with a new fitness opportunity,” said Steve Young, director of Campus

Recreation. “With nearby shower and locker facilities on site, patrons interested in cross training can get cardio, strength and boxing workouts and finish it off with a swim in the pool — all under the same roof.”

The new 2,200-square-foot fitness area will be open weekdays from 11 a.m. until 8 p.m. and is available to any student or employee who has paid the Campus Recreation access fee. It is located on the second floor of Pearson Hall and must be entered through room 200.

The Fitness Mezzanine and the newly opened Früt Bar are among several recent renovations to the building’s atrium. Completed this



The Fitness Mezzanine at Pearson-McGonigle Hall includes 12 cardio machines that are tied to a Re-Rev system, which recycles kinetic energy from workouts by sending power back to the building grid.

Bri Bosak

summer, additional renovations to Pearson-McGonigle Hall include updated training and support spaces for Campus Recreation and NCAA sports, new practice and training facilities for men’s and women’s basketball, four full basketball courts for use by students, a rock climbing wall and new academic and advising space. ♦

## Temple, elected officials collaborate to host community job fair

By Laura Kuserk  
For the Temple Times

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

Held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Mitten Hall’s Great Court, the event attracted more than 46 employers, including Walmart, SEPTA, the Philadelphia Police Department, KYW News Radio, the Philadelphia International Airport and RAM Technologies.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

# Fighting holiday hunger is mission of Temple community service effort

By Jazmyn Burton  
jburton@temple.edu

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

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

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

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

Hunger is a silent but common problem in the Greater Philadelphia region. According to census data, more than 600,000 people live in



Temple students box and pack holiday meals to be delivered to local families in need.

poverty, putting them at risk for hunger. In an effort to make the holiday season a bit easier, Campus Safety Services and Community Relations teamed up to donate more than 70 boxes filled with fruits, canned goods, dessert and a turkey to faith-based institutions, non-profit organizations and local families.

After each box was packed, Capt. Eileen Bradley, project coordinator for Campus Safety, and Andrea Swan, director of community and neighborhood affairs, loaded their vehicles to make personal deliveries. Gaudenzia House, a substance abuse facility located in North Philadelphia that serves more than 17,000 residential and outpatient clients annually, was one

of the stops along their route.

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

In addition to Gaudenzia, Bradley and Swan delivered boxes to the Norris Homes Tenants Association, HERO Community Center, Tenth Memorial Baptist Church, Faith Tabernacle Baptist Church and St. Malachy’s Church.

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

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

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

## Faculty

From page 1

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

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

Temple’s recent faculty hiring boom has been made possible by several factors. The retirement of a large number of faculty members hired in the years after Temple’s became a state-related institution in the mid-1960s has increased the number of vacancies. Enrollment increases since 2000 also spurred investment in faculty. In addition, Acting President Englert credited the energy and vision of Temple’s deans, many of whom also came to Temple in the last decade. ♦

## New faculty — and why they chose Temple

### ■ RONALD ANDERSON

**New position:** Professor and chair, Department of Finance

**Last stop:** American University

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

### ■ NIAMBI M. CARTER BA ‘99

**New position:** Assistant professor, Department of African American Studies

**Last stop:** Purdue University

**What attracted me to Temple:** “As a high school student, I was attracted to the city of Philadelphia and the diverse student body [at Temple]. Being able to rejoin the campus, college and department I love has been the biggest thrill... From the resources on campus... to the interesting communities around the city, I am never wanting for opportunities to engage.”

### ■ MARLENE A. JACOBSON

**New position:** Associate professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences; associate director, Moulder Center for Drug Discovery Research

**Last stop:** Merck & Co.

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

### ■ MIGUEL MUÑOZ-LABOY

**New position:** Associate professor, School of Social Work

**Last stop:** Columbia University

**What attracted me to Temple:** “Department Chair Jeffrey Draine was the main reason. I have been working on the health of formerly incarcerated men, and he is working with [similar] vulnerable populations. We immediately began working on submitting a grant proposal.”

### ■ VALÉRY RYVKIN

**New position:** Artistic director and conductor, Temple Opera Theater; associate professor, Department of Voice and Opera

**Last stops:** Greensboro Opera and Opera Santa Barbara

**What attracted me to Temple:** “I had a very good feeling about the faculty I would be working with at the Boyer College of Music and Dance. The main thing was the feeling of community in my department and the high level of scholarship. It gave me a sense that I would have stability and I would enjoy my work.”

### ■ WEIDONG YANG

**New position:** Associate professor, Department of Biology

**Last stops:** Bowling Green State University

**What attracted me to Temple:** “The location in Philadelphia is very helpful for my career and has enhanced my research. Moving here was a good choice because of the connections among departments and with other universities.”



# Temple honors faculty for service contributions

By Laura Kuserk  
For the Temple Times

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

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

Despite last-minute rescheduling due to Hurricane Sandy, the event was attended by more than 60 people, including Acting President Richard M. Englert, Interim Provost Hai-Lung

Dai, several deans, chairs, faculty senate steering committee members and several 2011 award recipients.

"This distinguished group of faculty members has made tremendous contributions to their departments, schools and colleges and the university," said Dai. "Their work strengthens Temple as a vibrant institution of higher learning."

The 2012 recipients shown at right are: (first row) Arvind Parkhe, Fox School of Business and Management; Jo-Anna J. Moore, Tyler School of Art; Mary E. Myers, School of Environmental Design; Nannette Vliet, College of Health Professions and Social Work; Sharee Solow, representing Jeffrey G. Solow, Boyer College of Music and Dance; Laura Toran, College of Science and Technology; and Daniel J. Canney, Temple University School of Pharmacy; (second row) Luis



Eighteen Temple faculty members were honored for their service to the university at a Nov. 8 Faculty Service Awards brunch.

T. Gonzalez Del Valle, College of Liberal Arts; Daniel W. Boston, Maurice H. Kornberg School of Dentistry; Avshalom Kaplan, College of Education; Elizabeth Leebron Tutelman, School of Media

and Communication; Kathleen A. Reeves, Temple University School of Medicine; Christine P. Miller, Temple University School of Podiatric Medicine; Scott E. Rutledge, School of Social Work; Robert Hedley, Division

of Theater, Film and Media Arts; and Debra K. Blair, School of Tourism and Hospitality Management. Not shown are: Dennis A. Silage, College of Engineering and Nancy J. Knauer, Beasley School of Law. ♦

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

By Bri Bosak  
For the Temple Times

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

Catherine Longworth, former Lord Mayor of Westminster, came to the group's afternoon rehearsal to offer an invitation to perform in the 2014 London New Year's Day Celebration and Festival. The personal gesture was one of only 16 tendered to U.S. bands during Longworth's stateside visit.

Viewed by a worldwide television audience of some 220 million people and more than half a million spectators, the London New Year's Day Parade and Festival is known as the biggest and best of its kind in Europe. The parade route passes along the great thoroughfares



Director of Bands Emily Threinen (left) accepts an invitation to perform in the 2014 London New Year's Day Celebration and Festival from Former Lord Mayor of Westminster Catherine Longworth.

of Piccadilly, Regent Street and Whitehall, passing Piccadilly Circus and Trafalgar Square on its two-

mile path through the center of the historic City of Westminster and ending in Parliament Street in the shadow of the Houses of Parliament and Big Ben.

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

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

"The opportunity to perform in London's New Year's Day Parade can only help our program to continue to grow and gain exposure," he said.

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

# Temple will continue its active role in MLK Day service initiatives

Students, faculty and staff are invited to begin the spring semester with service on Jan. 21

By Jazmyn Burton  
jburton@temple.edu

Last January, more than 400 Temple students ended their winter breaks early to work alongside community members, faculty and staff on clean-up projects and volunteerism efforts in community centers, neighborhood playgrounds and faith-based institutions around Main Campus.

This year, university administrators hope to repeat that success by encouraging the entire university community to participate in the 18th annual Martin Luther King Day of Service, a day-long campaign designed to bring communities together for a good cause.

In this time of economic challenge, King's vision of service and volunteering are more critical than ever, said Andrea Swan, Temple's director of community and neighborhood affairs.

"We really want to see student groups get involved this year," said Swan. "Service is a powerful way to

work together to meet critical needs and advance King's dream of opportunity for all. We hope the Temple community will come out and participate in the several community projects we have planned."

The Martin Luther King Day of Service will take place on Jan. 21, 2013. Participants can visit Girard College, this year's host site, on the day of the event or contact the Office of Community Relations to volunteer for a service project.

In 2012, more than 100,000 volunteers served in some 1,500 projects in the 17th annual Greater Philadelphia Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service, the largest King Day event in the nation.

"We really need additional hands," said Swan. "Several students are cutting their vacations a few days short so that they can be back on campus to participate in a volunteer or service project."

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the Martin Luther King Jr. federal holiday. National organizers see the milestone as a perfect opportunity for Americans to remember King's life and legacy and to honor him by taking action to solve problems in their communities.

The day of service evolved from a discussion in 1988 with former U.S. Sen. Harris Wofford of Pennsylvania. Wofford co-authored federal legislation with Atlanta Congressman John Lewis, both close friends and colleagues of King during the Civil Rights Movement. President Bill Clinton signed the King Holiday and Service Act into law on August 23, 1994.

The national day of service started in Philadelphia as a small project in 1996 with 1,000 volunteers. It has become a fast-growing nationwide movement that has worked to break down barriers, form ongoing partnerships and foster understanding.

Projects are taking place in all 50 states and include delivering meals, refurbishing schools and community centers, collecting food and clothing, signing up mentors, reading to children, promoting nonviolence and more.

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

To register for a volunteer site contact Swan at 215-204-7409 or via email at aswan@temple.edu. ♦

# Featured Events

## Temple's a cappella groups to give their end-of-semester concerts

On Dec. 8, Temple's female a cappella group, Singchronize, will perform their end-of-semester concert in Rock Hall at 7:30 p.m. The following night, Broad Street Line, Temple's male a cappella group, will perform in Rock Hall at 7:30 p.m.

Both concerts are free and open to the public.

## Teaching and Learning Center conference focuses on teaching excellence

The Faculty Conference for Teaching Excellence is a regional conference that focuses on challenges in teaching and learning and how to address them. The conference will take place on Jan. 16 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the Howard Gittis Student Center, room 200.

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

For more information and to register, visit the Teaching and Learning Center website, [temple.edu/tlc/events/main.htm](http://temple.edu/tlc/events/main.htm).

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

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

- Men's basketball vs. Towson  
Wed., Dec. 12, 7 p.m.  
Liacouras Center
- Men vs. Alcorn State  
Mon., Dec. 17, 7 p.m.  
Liacouras Center
- Men vs. Canisius  
Wed., Dec. 19, 7 p.m.  
Liacouras Center
- Women's basketball at Villanova  
Fri., Dec. 21, 6 p.m.  
The Pavillion, Villanova, Pa.



Joseph V. Labolito

During a Dec. 2 matchup with Syracuse, Victoria Macaulay led the Temple women in a second half rally to give undefeated Syracuse its first loss of the season. After a six-game road stand, the Owls will return to the Liacouras Center on Jan. 7 vs. Virginia Commonwealth University.

- Men vs. Syracuse  
Sat., Dec. 22. Noon  
Madison Square Garden, New York
- Men vs. Detroit  
Fri., Dec. 28, 3 p.m.  
Liacouras Center
- Men vs. Bowling Green  
Mon., Dec. 31, 2 p.m.  
Liacouras Center
- Women vs. Western Michigan  
Mon., Jan. 7, 7 p.m.  
Liacouras Center
- Men vs. Saint Louis  
Sat., Jan. 12, 6 p.m.  
Liacouras Center
- Women vs. VCU  
Wed., Jan 16, 7 p.m.  
Liacouras Center
- Men vs. St. Bonaventure  
Sat., Jan. 19, 1 p.m.  
Liacouras Center

## Academic calendar

- Dec. 7:** Study day
- Dec. 8:** Fall 2012 classes end
- Dec. 10-15:** Final exams
- Dec. 15:** Winter recess begins at 10 p.m.
- Dec. 18:** Final grading due by 5 p.m.
- Jan. 22:** Spring 2013 classes begin

For a complete listing of upcoming public Temple events, visit the online university calendar at [calendar.temple.edu](http://calendar.temple.edu).