



## Student Affairs

# Co-Curricular Connections

Winter 2014

### Welcome to the Winter 2014 edition of Co-Curricular Connections!

As we begin the winter quarter and welcome students back after the winter break, the Division of Student Affairs would like to share some timely news and events during the winter quarter.

Student Affairs prides itself on the partnerships it has established with other areas at DePaul that support and encourage student learning and increase student engagement. In this issue, we highlight a number of these collaborations, including several developed by the Student Leadership Institute, as well as Residential Education's new initiative to bridge the gap between learning in and out of the classroom. In addition, we highlight various department collaborations with the International Programs Office. I hope these articles will encourage you to consider how your area can collaborate with Student Affairs in these ways, or others.

Also in this edition, we cover how the Division of Student Affairs works with other critical university departments to respond to student crises and support students through difficult times. We are also pleased to share information about new Veterans Day programs that were introduced in 2013, as well as the division's 2nd annual assessment symposium, held in October. Finally, please make note of some of the important dates coming up in the winter quarter, and take a moment to learn about the new members of our Office of Multicultural Student Success and Center for Intercultural Programs teams.

We are looking forward to the upcoming quarter, and are pleased to be able to share this news with you.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Summers  
Interim Vice President for Student Affairs



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## Residential Education brings faculty to residence halls

Students at Munroe Hall had the opportunity to fly drones in the courtyard as the capstone to an October 25 residence hall visit by Father Paul Sisul of the College of Computing and Digital Media. Sisul demonstrated and discussed drone technology to a crowd of 27 at Munroe. “When Dan [Glownia], a resident advisor in Munroe Hall, asked me to come and speak on drone technology, I agreed because I enjoy working with students in many different capacities, and this was different,” Fr. Sisul stated in an email. Father Sisul’s visit was part of a new approach to programming adopted by Residential Education called the Residential Education Learning Initiative, or RELI.

“Inviting faculty to present in the residence halls encourages students to see their living space as a learning space, too, and shows them that learning doesn’t stop once they leave class,” said Rachel Aho, residence director, Munroe Hall. “The convenience of the program, and sometimes the nature of it, also pulls in some students that might not otherwise be involved, which is important, because engagement is directly linked to success in college,” she continued. She said that programs like this exist at many universities and that university faculty can provide various opportunities for outside-of-class involvement beyond formal speaking events.

Most recently, 32 Seton Hall residential students listened to Dr. Michael Ianni, adjunct faculty in the Driehaus College of Business, talk about his career path from student to professor. Staff live-tweeted key points that Dr. Ianni made during his presentation.

“The faculty visits are an important piece of RELI, and serve to bridge a gap between learning in and outside of the classroom,” said Deb Schmidt-Rogers, director of Residential Education. She said that each residence hall will have at least one faculty or staff member

present on a topic each quarter, and that a full-time staff member in the department of Residential Education will be responsible for coordinating the visits.

The early success of the new program has staff in the residence halls thinking about what future events will look like. The Seton event was organized by having a resident advisor reach out to DePaul faculty members, according to Seton Hall Residence Director Amanda Laskowski. However, Laskowski feels that future events could include any university staff member with an area of expertise or interest that would appeal to DePaul students. “It’s about exchanging knowledge and sparking learning, and many people can contribute to that around any number of topics,” she continued.

RELI and faculty in the halls both follow a national trend in residential education that focuses on teaching residents life and career skills, as well as connecting students to faculty and staff outside of the classroom environment. If you are a faculty or staff member with deep knowledge of a topic you think would be of interest to students living in the residence halls and would like to participate in a ‘faculty in the halls’ event, contact [Nadia Alfadel](#) at 773.325.4279.



*Fr. Sisul and students flying a drone at Munroe Hall*

## Flag Memorial, Hug-a-Veteran introduced as part of expanded Veterans Day programming at DePaul

Nearly 2,500 American flags dotted the Lincoln Park Quad on November 11, each one honoring the life of a service member 18- to 22-years old who had died since September 11, 2001. The memorial is one of three new events implemented around Veterans Day by veteran liaisons in the office of Adult, Veteran and Commuter Student Affairs (AVCSA), and also included Veterans Picture Share and Hug-a-Veteran on the Lincoln Park campus. These new offerings are in addition to the annual Veterans Day luncheon and interfaith service, and were implemented in an effort to spread the celebration across campuses and get more people thinking about veterans on Veterans Day.

Veteran liaison and student Tyna Korcz noted that many people do not get Veterans Day off from work or school, so there is less awareness about it



DePaul ROTC students at a 2013 Veterans Day event at DePaul Photo by Jeff Carrion

than other holidays. Korcz, one of four liaisons at DePaul, spearheaded the expanded Veterans Day programming. Most of the Veterans Day events

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## International Programs Office establishes partnerships with Student Affairs to welcome, integrate international students

International students at DePaul face many of the same roommate conflicts that domestic students do. Residential Education staff members understood this, and that's why they agreed to participate in the International Programs Offices' (IPO) October 28 Global Coffee Hour, *Solving Roommate Conflicts with your American Roommate*.

The coffee was one in a series of coffees that International Programs holds throughout the academic year to help orient and integrate new international students to DePaul and Chicago.

Each coffee brings a different university partner and international students together to connect the students to that office's services and resources. The goal is to equip international students to feel like more of a part of the DePaul community, contribute to the Vincentian mission and meet their personal and academic goals.

The global coffee hours were established after the International Programs Office surveyed international student satisfaction with the DePaul experience three years ago. "We learned that we

could do more to make international students feel welcomed and integrated into DePaul," said Jennifer von Drehle, associate director of the International Programs Office.

Von Drehle has worked with a number of departments in the Division of Student Affairs, and others, to make international students aware of the programs, services and supports of those offices. Student Affairs partners include Residential Education, the Vincentian Community Service Office and the Center for

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have been on the Loop campus at DePaul, and the expanded programming brought the celebration and greater awareness to the Lincoln Park Campus.

“The new events make Veterans Day more concrete, and served to remind more members of the DePaul community that the conflict [in Afghanistan] is ongoing, lives are still being lost and that there are veterans among us,” Korcz said.

The new events were staged in the Quad and Student Center Atrium, where any student, faculty or staff member walking by on their way to class or to get a bite to eat would see them. “People really responded to these events, and [the events] gave them an opportunity to reflect on veterans, and the fact that Veterans Day is not just another day,” Korcz said. Volunteers from the Student Government Association and the Student Veterans Union, both student organizations, helped to organize or participated in the events.

The Hug-a-Veteran event allowed passing faculty, staff and students to express their appreciation for veterans. Six veterans staffed the Student Center Atrium between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. on November 7 and gave out free hugs. Nine veterans participated in the Veteran Picture Share, which gave them an opportunity to share pictures of their military days, and a safe zone for talking about their military experience. The picture share was held on November 11 from 4 to 6 p.m., also in the atrium.

The annual Veterans Day luncheon and interfaith service in the Loop brings many people from across the university together to commemorate the day. “Attendees really get a sense of the make-up of the community of veterans at DePaul,” said Larry Melton, a veteran liaison and student at DePaul. He noted that there are faculty and staff veterans, in addition to students, and that the spouses and family members of veterans are engaged in the veter-

*“The event[s] really bring an awareness of the diversity of those who are touched by the military experience.”*

an community at DePaul. “The event really brings an awareness of the diversity of those who are touched by the military experience,” Melton continued.

The veteran liaisons in the office of Adult Veteran and Commuter Student Affairs plan events throughout the year, as does the Student Veterans Union. The liaisons also connect student veterans to resources at DePaul, help them understand their veteran benefits and serve as a support system. For more information about the veteran liaisons or Adult, Veteran and Commuter Student Affairs, contact AVCSA at 312.362.6216.



# Student Affairs News

## Student Affairs Assessment Symposium draws over 80 guests

Attendees at the Student Affairs Assessment Symposium on October 14 learned about a host of topics, from the effectiveness of the Student Leadership Institute's revised Winter Leadership Conference curriculum, to student learning as a result of University Counseling Service's urgent care or crisis counseling visits, to the degree to which students with disabilities acquire and use self-advocacy skills during their first year at DePaul. Each of the 15 departments in the Division of Student Affairs presented a poster on their annual assessment project, and each of the projects explored student learning as a result of participation in a divisional program or service.

More than 80 guests attend this year's symposium, in addition to Student Affairs staff members, there were other DePaul faculty, staff and administrators and invited guests from neighboring universities. Ellen Meents-DeCaigny, Assistant Vice President of Assessment, Planning and Communications in Student Affairs, said the goal of inviting this broad audience was to share the work of Student Affairs with more people, to encourage collaboration across departments and to inspire others to engage in assessment and share their projects and knowledge with others. "It's important to share the learning that occurs through Student Affairs pro-

grams and services, and also share our learning and understanding about the assessment process," Meents-DeCaigny said.



*Student Affairs staff members at the 2013 Assessment Symposium*

Assessing student learning outcomes is

about much more than showcasing how Student Affairs contributes to student learning at DePaul. "Assessment pushes us to constantly think about co-curricular learning in relation to our programs and services. It makes us better professionals because our work is grounded in outcomes that can be measured, helping to guide decisions about program improvement and impact," Meents-DeCaigny said. Divisional assessment also serves to support the accomplishment of the university's learning goals, contribute to the reaccreditation process, and ensure continuous improvement overall.

The division is in its ninth year of conducting formalized, annual assessments, and the expertise that staff members have obtained through the process has made them key partners in assessment in other areas of the university. Currently, Ellen Meents-DeCaigny is working with colleague, Jen Sweet in Teaching, Learning and Assessment to create an institutional assessment training certificate that will be available to all faculty and staff at DePaul. For more information about the Student Affairs assessment projects or process, contact [Ellen Meents-DeCaigny](#) at 312.362.7298.

## Data Points

- More than 80 guests attended Student Affairs 2013 Assessment Symposium
- Student Affairs is in its 9th year of formalized assessment activities
- Each of the 15 departments in the division completes an annual assessment project
- Assessment is around learning outcomes, and assessment results help guide decisions about program improvement

# Student Learning and Engagement

## Student Leadership Institute collaborates widely to develop socially responsible leaders

In the last three years, the Student Leadership Institute (SLI) has established critical partnerships with academic areas at DePaul in an effort to develop more socially responsible leaders. Founded in 1997, SLI implements programs and services that focus on leadership education, development and training for DePaul students, emphasizing DePaul's model of socially responsible leadership.

One of those partnerships is with Dr. Kay Yoon of the College of Communication. In her Organizational Communication 358 class, SLI administers the self-assessment tool, *Student Leadership Practices Inventory*. Dr. Yoon also requires students to attend at least one of the workshops that the Student Leadership Institute offers, and to critically write about how their course material and SLI experience assisted in their leadership development. "The SLI workshops are useful for students to contextualize, or practically apply, some of what we talk about in class in a real-world setting," said Dr. Yoon. "In class, we talk about the importance of leaders reflecting on and knowing their followers' strengths and challenges, and SLI's listening workshop underscored the point that to know the people that work for you, you have to listen to them, first."

Dave Borgealt, director of the Student Leadership Institute, acknowledges that various leadership programs and courses exist throughout the university. SLI, he said, reaches out to staff and professors to augment their existing programs. "We have tools and expertise to integrate socially responsible leadership and self-awareness into the conversation, and we were purposeful in reaching out to others and talking to them about what SLI does, and what we

might be able to contribute to their class or program," Borgealt said.

Many programs integrate SLI components. The University Internship Program's Value-based Leadership Course, connected to students' quarterly internships, offers an SLI-led reflection on socially responsible leadership. And this year, service learning student assistants at the Steans Center for Community-based Service Learning received a leadership certificate by attending SLI workshops as part of their employment training.

The collaborations with the College of Communication, the University Internship Program and the Steans Center for Community-based Service Learning help students develop leadership self-awareness and skills through leadership inventories or workshops delivered by staff in the Student Leadership Institute. SLI has also offered inventories and workshops in the College of Digital Media, College of Science and Health and the Driehaus College of Business. The collaborations between the various offices link different co-curricular and curricular experiences, and provide students an opportunity to understand the type of leader they are and want to become.

The Student Leadership Institute develops programs with various initiatives on campus, such as the Hay Project and the Career Center. Examples include the Inspiring Voices series, which features DePaul University alumni who demonstrate socially responsible leadership in their profession or communities, and the Employer Insights series, which showcases employers' advice and insights regarding leadership skills in the workplace and strategies for students' continued development of those skills. SLI also offers a number of its own leadership certificates.

If you would like to learn more about SLI, or invite their staff to conduct an inventory or lead a reflection on leadership, contact them at 773.325.4658.



## Student Welfare Task Force adapts to new trends in student crisis management, becomes part of Coordinated Care Community

DePaul prides itself on being a big institution that cares for students the way a small one would. However, the reality is that there are nearly 25,000 students distributed over two campuses and 10 colleges, and there are a number of cracks that students can fall into throughout their academic journey. Given this reality, the Dean of Students office directs the Coordinated Care Community, which works to build safety nets for students to help avoid major personal, and possibly university, crises.

Since 2007, many U.S. colleges and universities have established behavioral or student care teams in response to the tragedies at Virginia Tech and Northern Illinois University (Mole, 2012). The states of Virginia and Illinois have passed laws that require colleges and universities in those states to establish such teams (The Council of State Governments). The teams consist of faculty and staff from across the campus who have regular contact with students who may be facing mental health challenges, or are otherwise in crisis (Mole, 2012). The goals of these teams are to share information to streamline services, to proactively reach out to students in crisis, and to provide the most appropriate care.

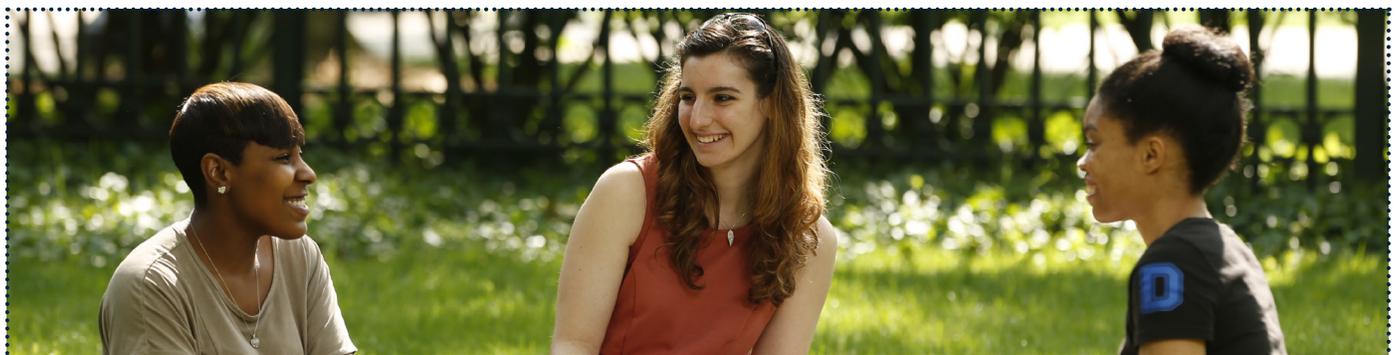
DePaul's team was established over 25 years ago in response to an incident on campus. Previously the Student Welfare Task Force consisted of represen-

*DePaul prides itself on being a big institution that cares for students the way a small one would.*

tatives from offices across the university and met once a month, but this structure has changed recently. "The meetings were very long, yet not quite long enough to cover all of the issues that needed to be discussed in sufficient detail," said Ellen Herion Fingado, assistant dean of students and chair of the Lincoln Park Student Welfare Task Force.

Art Munin, dean of students and chair of the Student Welfare Task Force, worked with Jeff Lanfear, director of University Counseling Services, to restructure the group. There are now four task forces who meet separately for shorter periods of time to share information around narrower topics, but that are all part of the larger Coordinated Care Community, Fingado shared. There are Loop and Lincoln Park Student Welfare Task Forces, the Student Care Team and the Economic Distress Task Force. Information is shared between the members of each team, as well as between teams.

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## Trends, Student Welfare Taskforce, *continued from page 7*

The teams bring faculty and staff together to discuss aspects of student behavior, stressors and mental health. Adding faculty to the mix is new for DePaul, and is based on national trends. The Student Welfare Task Forces are large groups that discuss trends in student behaviors at DePaul, make connections between the trends and determine how best to provide student support and mental health services. For example, the Student Food Pantry was established after many conversations about the growing problem of food insecurity at Student Welfare Task Force meetings.

The Student Care Team is a small team that reviews and discusses individual incidents or student situations. The Economic Distress Task Force consists of members from 10 different university offices who can take immediate action to

meet a student's critical economic needs. The teams work to provide care and assess risk, but also ensure student privacy and due process. Fingado noted that the teams dialogue about and with students before any decisions are made as to how care resources will be coordinated. "There's a bigger conversation about what behaviors a student is actually engaging in and how often, who has been talking to the student and what kind of documentation exists about the student," she continued, "and all of this is considered when determining the most appropriate course of action."

For more information about the Coordinated Care Community and its task forces, contact [Art Munin](#), Dean of Students, at 773.325.7290

## Student Affairs News, International Programs Office collaborations, *continued from page 3*

Intercultural Programs. IPO has also worked with New Student and Family Engagement on an orientation program, and the Student Leadership Institute has trained IPO student leaders.

Four staff members from Residential Education participated in the October 28 Global Coffee Hour. "Roommate conflicts are a natural thing," said Samantha Schenk, residence director of Corcoran and McCabe Halls, "most international students have a roommate, but most also live off-campus, so the coffee hour was a great opportunity to connect with them and offer support...in managing roommate conflict." Schenk and the other residence directors were in small groups with international students, where they were able

to discuss roommate agreements and work through common roommate conflict scenarios. Student leaders and staff from the Vincentian Community Service Office have also participated in a global coffee hour, and will again in February 2014. Members of Vincentians in Action, a conglomeration of service-oriented student organizations, spoke to international students about civic engagement, and how students can connect with one another and learn about the city of Chicago through community service. At the coffee hour in February, international students will receive a direct invitation to engage in a particular community service program.

"The coffee hours, and the in-

ternational student involvement in community service that has resulted from our partnership with IPO, is a really great opportunity for our domestic students to engage with and learn about a more global community," said Ruben Alvarez, university minister, "both international and domestic students have a wonderful opportunity to connect with people from different walks of life, and to make a global-local connection, and we want to continue to encourage that."

For more information on the Global Coffee Hours, or other ways you can connect with international students at DePaul, contact [Jennifer von Drehle](#) in the International Programs Office at 312.362.7652.

# Get to Know Our Team

*In this edition of Co-Curricular Connections we are profiling new staff in the Center for Intercultural Programs and the Office of Multicultural Student Success. Both departments are in the Diversity, Empowerment and Inclusion area of Student Affairs.*

**The Center for Intercultural Programs** provides curricular and co-curricular educational experiences that encourage students, faculty and staff to think broadly and critically about cultural identity and adopt strategies to confront systems that do not recognize the dignity of the individual. The Center also works with strategic campus partners to support and advocate for substantive and culturally relevant student engagement and leadership development.



Sara Furr, Director

Sara Furr joined the Center for Intercultural Programs in November 2013. In her role as director, she is responsible for creating and facilitating diversity and social justice education initiatives for students, faculty, staff, and community partners.

Prior to becoming the director, Sara served as an assistant director in the Office of Multicultural Student Success at DePaul, and also worked at Mount St. Mary's University, Fordham University in New York City and Loyola College in Maryland.

Sara received her BA in public policy from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and MEd in higher education and student affairs from the University of South Carolina. She is currently working on her PhD in higher education at Loyola University Chicago.



Shanika Roberts  
Coordinator

Shanika Roberts joined the Center for Intercultural Programs in July 2013. In her role as workshop coordinator, she develops and facilitates curricular student workshops on topics surrounding diversity and social justice through partnerships with the Student Leadership Institute, Steans Center and the College of Communication. Shanika facilitates student leader and employee diversity trainings for departments across campus and oversees the Dialoguing Demon Peer Facilitator program.

Prior to joining CIP, Shanika served as an academic program coordinator in the Office of Multicultural Student Success.

Shanika earned her MA in education at DePaul University and her BA in psychology at Illinois Wesleyan University.



Marquece Holifield,  
Coordinator

Marquece Holifield joined the Center for Intercultural Programs in July 2013. In her role as coordinator, she oversees cultural organization leadership training and organizational development initiatives, quarterly student organization celebrations and the Cultural Allocation Fund and board.

Prior to coming to the Center for Intercultural Programs, Marquece was the business and systems coordinator in the Office of New Student and Family Engagement at DePaul.

Marquece earned her MEd in higher education at DePaul University and her BA in English literature from the University of Illinois at Chicago.

**The Office of Multicultural Student Success** works to improve the retention and graduation rates of students of color and first-generation students. The office advocates for students on campus and is able to provide them with resources that aid in their successful progress through graduation.



Andrea Arzuaga,  
Interim Assistant  
Director

Andrea Arzuaga joined the Office of Multicultural Student Success in April 2013. In her role as interim assistant director, she oversees College Transitions, which includes STARS: A Peer Mentoring Experience. Andrea also has oversight of the Parent and Family Outreach and Empowerment program, the OMSS EDGE team and the Marillac Fellows.

Prior to joining DePaul, Andrea was a college advisor at Harry S. Truman College in Chicago. Prior to that, she served as the multicultural liaison officer for the College of Design at Iowa State University.

Andrea earned her MEd in educational leadership and policy studies from Iowa State University and her BA in psychology and anthropology from Cornell College.



Nydia Santana,  
Coordinator

Nydia Santana joined the Office of Multicultural Student Success in April 2013. In her role as coordinator, she works with scholarships, leadership & identity development, and oversees office operations.

Nydia comes to DePaul after two years as a residence hall director at Stony Brook University on Long Island.

She earned her MEd in higher education and student affairs administration from the University of Vermont and her BA in communication from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

# Important Dates

## Winter events presented by the Division of Student Affairs and our partners

### Blue Demon Week, February 16-22

Help celebrate what it means to be a Blue Demon

#### *Office Decorating*

Date: All week

Location: Any departmental and college offices that want to show their Blue Demon Spirit!

Contact [Tanya Vandermoon](#) at 773.325.2468 by February 7 if you would like to have complimentary decorations delivered to your office.

#### *Ritzin' Up the Res Halls*

Date: Sunday, February 16

Location: Lincoln Park residence halls' lobbies  
Students decorate the residence hall lobbies like parade floats in honor of Blue Demon Week. Visit any of the residence halls in Lincoln Park and enjoy the students' work!

#### *National Blue Demon Day*

Date: Saturday, February 22

Alumni all over the nation will show their pride by wearing DePaul gear. Show your pride and join them by wearing DePaul blue!

#### *Homecoming Men's and Women's Basketball games*

Date: Saturday, February 22

Men's game vs. Marquette, 1 p.m., Allstate Arena  
Women's game vs. Butler, 7 p.m., McGrath-Phillips Arena

#### *DePaul Trivia*

Date: Wednesday, February 19

Time: 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Location: Lincoln Park Student Center 2nd Floor Performance Area

Form a team with colleagues in your department or college! Contact [Tanya Vandermoon](#) at 773.325.2468 for more information.

#### *Blue Demon Bash*

Date: Thursday, February 20

Time: 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Location: McGrath Arena

This event features a shoot-out, inflatable games and a build-your-own noise maker station. There will also be giveaways every 15 minutes. Faculty and staff are encouraged to attend!

#### *The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Prayer Breakfast*

Date: Monday, January 20

Time: 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Location: Lincoln Park Student Center, 120AB

RSVP required.

Call the Center for Intercultural Programs for more information, 773.325.7759

#### *BIG EAST All-Academic Team Annual Half-Time Ceremony*

Date: Wednesday, February 12

Time: Pregame reception at 5:45 p.m., game at 7:00 p.m.

Location: Allstate Arena, Rosemont

Come out and celebrate the DePaul All-Academic team honorees! The first 100 faculty and staff to sign up to participate in the half-time ceremony will receive a free, Drift, long-sleeve t-shirt. **RSVP today!**

#### *Center for Intercultural Programs Winter Calendar of Events*

The Center for Intercultural Programs is offering a number of programs and events during the winter quarter that explore diversity and identity.

*Co-Curricular Connections is a publication of the Division of Student Affairs at DePaul University. Inquiries and comments are welcome. Please contact us at 25 E. Jackson Blvd Suite 1400 or via e-mail at [depaulsaneews@depaul.edu](mailto:depaulsaneews@depaul.edu). Please take a moment to tell us how we are doing.*