2004 Alumni Award Winners

Mary M. Boland
Distinguished Alumni Award

P. Robert Vanderson
Distinguished Alumni Award

Brad Van Dommelen
Hy Berkowitz Professional Excellence Award

Lu Ann Roberts
Hy Berkowitz Professional Excellence Award

Deborah J. Guyton
Hy Berkowitz Professional Excellence Award

Allen Wetherell
Tyrus R. Wessell Exemplary Service Award
Higher education is the key to success in today’s economy. At Davenport we take great pride in helping students unearth their skills, talents, and determination to succeed in the classroom and the workplace. We also take pride in working with students’ diverse financial circumstances so that the cost of a higher education is not a barrier to enrollment and progress at our university.

We have been fortunate that the State of Michigan has been steadfast in its commitment to make higher education affordable to all. Since 1966, Michigan has funded the Michigan Tuition Grant (MTG) program, a needs-based program specifically designed to assist students selecting independent, nonprofit colleges and universities like Davenport. Because the MTG is needs-based, only those students who can least afford to attend higher education receive financial aid through this program.

The MTG program serves more than 40,000 needy Michigan residents; 6,305 of whom attend Davenport University. The maximum student award per year is $2,000. The cost to the state is $64.8 million annually, which is only 3.9% of the state’s total higher education budget. It is interesting to note while MTG represents only 3.9% of the higher education budget, Michigan’s 48 independent colleges and universities enroll 25% of students in four-year universities. This seems like a very good funding formula for the State of Michigan!

Why all the information on the MTG program? Because you need to know that the Governor has proposed eliminating the Michigan Tuition Grant, claiming that private, independent education is not a government funding priority. This is simply wrong! MTG is needs-based; therefore only students that qualify based upon their family income are given the grant. Without the MTG, thousands of students would not be able to afford a quality higher education at all. We also know that the vast majority of our enrollment is from low- and middle-income families. Moreover, the MTG program serves a high percentage of minority students, which is very important to Davenport students since 37% of our enrollment are minority students. MTG is essential for Davenport students!

Why discuss student financial aid in the President’s Letter? Because we need to have you, the students, alumni, and friends of Davenport University, write the Governor and your state representatives and oppose any proposal to eliminate the MTG.

We want future students to have the same opportunity that you may have had by having MTG financial aid available.

How else do we help students fund a very affordable Davenport education? The Davenport University Foundation, under the leadership of its president, Barbara Mieras, works tirelessly to raise money for student scholarships. Since its inception in 1982, the Foundation has awarded over $6.6 million in student scholarships.

There are also federal Pell Grants and the Stafford Student Loan Program, both of which offer students with the greatest need the lowest interest rates and the most options for deferring payment. Last year Davenport students received more than $70,644,000 in financial aid from these programs.

A big part of what we do through student services is identify and secure financial aid to help students pay for their education. To be successful, we need your support. Please make a gift to our Davenport University Foundation scholarship funds, and tell the Governor and state representatives that the MTG program is too important to be eliminated. Together, we can make a difference in giving students an opportunity to achieve their dream for a university education.
Mary M. Boland has continuously excelled in her career and has established herself as an effective business leader. She began her career with the General Motors Company as an intern, while studying for her bachelor's degree in accounting at Davenport University. Upon graduating, Boland accepted a position as a financial analyst for General Motors’ Pontiac Motor Division. From 1985 through 1994, she held various assignments on the corporate finance staff including capital appropriations and overseas financial analysis. Over the next several years, Boland was appointed to positions of increasing responsibility including assistant finance director of the Midsize Car Division, director of business planning, brand manager for the Pontiac Bonneville, group director of finance for the North American Car Group, North America group director of finance of manufacturing and labor relations, and controller for North America Operations. Most recently, in December of 2003, she was appointed vice president and chief financial officer of GM North America.

In addition to her professional achievements, Boland earned a master's degree from Central Michigan University in 1981 and in 1998 participated in the Global Executive Program at Duke University.

Boland currently serves as a member of the Women’s Economic Club and on the Board of Directors for NUMMI, the GM and Toyota joint manufacturing venture in California. She also volunteers her time and accounting talents as the treasurer for the Cattle Baron’s Ball, a major fundraiser for the American Cancer Society.

She and her husband, Jim, live in Farmington, Mich., with their two children, Tom and Katie.

Mary Boland has achieved her success through perseverance, flexibility, and the constant support of her family.

With more than 44 years experience in the heating and cooling business, Bob Vanderson has achieved success through unwavering integrity and a strong commitment to customer and employee satisfaction. Under his leadership, Jacobson Heating and Cooling has grown to become one of the most well respected names in the local heating and cooling industry. The company was honored with the Better Business Bureau’s Best Customer Service Award in 1993 and 1997 and the Business of the Year Award in 1998. In 2000, Jacobson Heating & Cooling was recognized nationally by the Air Conditioning Contractors of America with the Residential Contractor of the Year Award.

As an entrepreneur and an active member of his community, Vanderson and his wife, Char, support their church and community by giving their time, talents, and financial support to many projects.

Vanderson has been a member of the Davenport University Foundation Board of Trustees since 1991, serving as the board chairman from 1996 to 1998. The Vandersons have supported Davenport University for many years through an endowed scholarship and capital campaign projects. In honor of his outstanding contributions to the community, Vanderson was presented with the Davenport University Alumni Association Community Service Award in 1998.

He has served as a member and officer in many professional, educational, and civic organizations including Grand Rapids Youth Commonwealth, the Michigan Council on Vocational Education, and the Grand Rapids Christian School Association Board.

A man with strong family values, he and Char raised daughter Wendy and sons Bob, Tom, and Jeff in the Grand Rapids area. Jeff followed in his father's footsteps as a Davenport graduate, and all three sons manage Jacobson Heating and Cooling with their father.

Brad Van Dommelen has more than 20 years of experience in marketing and hotel management including Hyatt Hotels, Club Resorts Division of Club Corporation, and the Amway Hotel Corporation. Van Dommelen has used his expertise to write articles for both the Hotel and Industry Magazine and Convene Magazine. Most recently, in 2002, he joined the Detroit Metro Convention and Visitors Bureau as the senior vice president of strategic business development. In this role, Van Dommelen is responsible for providing leadership in the strategic development of an integrated sales, marketing, and communication program and oversees key business initiatives including entry into new markets and development of new events to promote inbound travel.

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Van Dommelen is actively involved in a number of community initiatives in the Southeast Michigan area and has distinguished himself through his outstanding professional achievements in his field.

**Hy Berkowitz Professional Excellence Award**

Lu Ann Roberts has overcome significant hardships to achieve her goals as a Davenport University graduate and employee. Roberts has received two degrees from Davenport and, since 1984, has worked in some capacity for the University. She began as a work-study student and most recently was promoted to program coordinator at Davenport's Saginaw campus.

In addition to her academic and professional achievements, Roberts has raised two daughters who have both graduated with degrees from Davenport University.

Lu Ann Roberts has distinguished herself by overcoming hardships, reaching her goals, and by setting a great example for her family and the students that she serves.

**Deborah J. Guyton**

Class of 1986 and 1989
Senior Consultant for Compensation and Benefits
St. Mary's Mercy Medical Center

Deborah Guyton has continuously excelled in her career and now serves as a senior consultant for compensation and benefits at St. Mary’s Mercy Medical Center. Guyton is currently pursuing her master’s degree in Educational Ministries at Grand Rapids Theological Seminary and volunteers her time for a number of educational and civic organizations in the Grand Rapids area. She serves as the director of Christian Education at Grace Pentecostal Church of God In Christ. Additionally, she has served on the Davenport University West Michigan Alumni Board of Directors and has been involved with the Grand Rapids Public Schools’ Help One Student to Succeed (HOSTS) program.

Deborah Guyton has distinguished herself through outstanding contributions to her career, the University, her church, and her community.

**Tyrus R. Wessell Exemplary Service Award**

Al Wetherell has been with Davenport University for more than twenty years. He began his career as a faculty member and director of the hospitality management program. Under his direction, the program grew to over 225 students and was highly recognized for its valuable program content and unique student learning experience at Davenport’s Candlestone Inn and Golf Course. Over the years, Wetherell has been promoted to increasingly responsible positions including vice president of marketing, chief operating officer, vice president and dean of Davenport’s Holland campus, and senior vice president of operations. His appointment to senior vice president for emerging ventures is the most recent of many important positions that he has held during his long tenure with the University. In this capacity, Wetherell and his team will implement new initiatives to further develop the University. It is expected that there will be tremendous growth in this area over the next several years.

Al Wetherell has distinguished himself as a hard working, creative, and reliable member of the academic community. He has a long track record of valuable service to the University and to the Davenport students that he serves.
Brown named first dean of the Donald W. Maine School of Business

Thomas H. Brown, Ph.D., has been appointed as the first Dean of the Donald W. Maine School of Business. Dr. Brown’s exceptional history with the University, academic credentials, and leadership qualifications make him an outstanding choice for this position.

Brown has held progressively responsible positions since joining Davenport in 1966. He served as a faculty member, chair of the Business Administration Division, vice president for academic affairs, vice president for research and strategic planning, dean of the School for Professional Studies, dean of the Margaret and Robert Sneden Graduate School, and director of transition; he presently serves as senior vice president for project development and is a member of the President’s Cabinet.

Brown is a consultant/evaluator for the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools and in this capacity has served on more than 30 evaluation teams. He was team chair for 17 teams and served two four-year terms on the Accreditation Review Committee. Brown was elected to the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society in 1987 and was the recipient of the Tyrus R. Wessell Exemplary Service Award in 2003. Brown earned his Ph.D. in College and University Administration from Michigan State University; his dissertation was titled Development of Planning Processes in a Merged, Multi-Campus College Setting. He received his Master of Business Administration and Bachelor of Science degrees from Central Michigan University.

Brown has a demonstrated track record of leadership and, as a close friend said, his great strength is that “he has such a fine analytical mind…is a consensus-builder and the kind of person that works with groups, and he has a whole long history of years of being able to do that...” In Brown’s words, being the Dean of the Donald W. Maine School of Business will be “exciting and satisfying...for me, and I believe the University will benefit from my experience and commitment to higher business education.”

Davenport takes the lead in computer security:
New programs to launch in spring 2004

Davenport University is taking the lead by being the first university to offer degrees in Network Security and Information and Computer Security, among the top growth areas in the technology field. Davenport University’s School of Technology will offer these two new programs, beginning spring/summer semester 2004.

The School of Technology will offer associate’s degrees, bachelor’s degrees, and post-baccalaureate certificates in both programs. One attractive element of the computer security programs is the opportunity for both current and new technology students to earn a double major by taking a minimal number of additional courses. “A key benefit of this option is the additional intellectual stimulation gained by delving into an extra field,” explained Michelle Hansen, division chair for computer information systems. “By melding two disparate fields of study, double majoring allows students to remain on the cutting edge of practical, dynamic technology.”

Computer security is a rapidly growing field; jobs are in high demand in the public and private sectors. There is a talent gap between employers’ needs and qualified human resources. Because computer security is a “need to have” — not a “nice to have” — employers are struggling to train internal information technology staff and hire security professionals as consultants.

“We will be training our students in one of the fastest growing occupations in the technology industry,” said Reid Gough, dean of the School of Technology. “Employers are not likely to outsource their security overseas, as they have done in other areas of technology. Computer security is the one area of expertise that holds the ‘key to the castle’ for all organizations; therefore, security jobs will remain on home soil.”

These programs are a major step in driving Davenport University to become the premiere technology school in the region. The programs will provide our students with the knowledge, skills, and credentials they need to be highly sought-after in today’s very competitive business environment.

For more information contact Michelle Hansen at 269-382-2835 or michelle.hansen@davenport.edu.
Davenport University students excel at state competitive events

Each year members of Davenport University’s Delta Epsilon Chi chapters at Grand Rapids and Dearborn compete at the Annual State Career Development Conference. Once again, the students were outstanding representatives of Davenport.

One team of three students and six individual students qualified to go on to the national competition in Nashville, Tenn. in April. In addition, several other students were finalists in the categories in which they competed, but did not place high enough to go on to nationals.

Students compete using their marketing and management knowledge to analyze cases, role play, and complete written examinations.

Many opportunities open up for students who participate in university clubs and organizations and they understand how these competitions enhance their classroom experience. “Being a DEX member has opened many positive opportunities for me,” stated Laura Grala of Grand Rapids. “Winning 1st place in state for being a sales representative has really opened my mind to many possibilities for the future.”

Jeremy Davis, a student at the Dearborn campus, was also elected as the 2004-2005 Delta Epsilon Chi state president. He expressed the value in his DEX experience this way: “As a participant in Michigan DEX, I learned about my industry. As a state officer for Michigan DEX, I learned how to manage in my industry. DEX has helped to make me a more marketable student and ultimately a better marketing professional.”

Delta Epsilon Chi State Competition winners

Ray Simon — State Champion, Financial Services Marketing and Management; State Runner-Up, Management Design
Laura Grala — State Champion, Sales Representative.
Steven Davidson — State Runner-Up, Entrepreneurship
Shilantha Jones — State Runner-Up, Human Resource Management Decision Making
Kristen Cook — Third Place, Management Decision Making — Merchandising
Sean Warren — First Place, Advertising Campaign Team Event
Jash Simoneau — First Place, Advertising Campaign Team Event
Aaron Schwartz — First Place, Advertising Campaign Team Event
Jeremy Davis — Second Place, Sales Manager Meeting

The following students ranked in the top six finalists.

Laura Grala — Apparel and Accessories Marketing Management
Kristen Cook — Travel and Tourism Marketing Management
Chad Kennamer — Human Resource Management Decision Making, Marketing Management
Kelly Eichenburg — Travel and Tourism Marketing Management
Jeremy Davis — DEX Quiz Bowl – Hospitality Marketing Management
Sean Warren — DEX Quiz Bowl – Visual Merchandising, Marketing Management, Executive Job Interview
Jemell Cotton — Sales Representative
Panthers play in ACHA National Hockey Tournament in Maryland

Submitted by Paul Lowden, Davenport University Men's Hockey Coach

The Davenport University Panthers Men's Hockey Team traveled the first week of March to Laurel, Md., to compete in the American Collegiate Hockey Association Division II National Championship. The Panthers were one of sixteen teams selected for the tournament. There currently are 130 teams registered at the division II level.

The Panthers were assigned to Pool “C” along with Utah State, University of Maryland, and New York State University.

Davenport University's first game was against Utah State. Utah State is a big strong team. They played a physical game and the Panthers had to be sharp. At the end of the first period the score remained tied at one apiece. J.J. Price scored for the Panthers.

Over the next two periods the Panthers scored three unanswered goals by Price, Nigel Hawryliw, and Derek Francis. The Panthers went on to win 4-1.

Game two was against the University of Maryland. The Panthers were on fire sending 62 shots at Maryland's netminder Jason Milke. If it weren't for his stupendous play, the Panthers would have put 10 on the scoreboard. Scoring for Davenport were Price, captain Marc Lira, rookie Brandon Atkinson, and veteran Grand Rapids (Kentwood) native Justin Wohlfeil, assisted by Kentwood native Rob Morgan.

The Panthers won 4-0.

Game three pitted Davenport's Panthers against New York State University. This elimination game featured two strong teams with the same objective on their mind. The team that won would go on to the quarter finals, sending the other team home.

New York was a very opportunistic team, and the Panthers knew that an aggressive forecheck and solid D-Zone coverage was the formula for success. The Panthers also knew that they needed to stay out of the penalty box; however, they were penalized four times in the first period and New York University capitalized twice. At the end of the first period the Panthers trailed 2-1.

The Panthers were very disciplined from that point on receiving only one penalty the rest of the way. Both New York University and Davenport University played hard during the scoreless second period.

The third period began and NY University scored quickly to take a 3-1 lead. The Panthers responded with Marc Lira's second goal of the game to cut the lead to 3-2. The Panthers were on a five minute power play and couldn't score on NY University's net minder, Brian Kenney. Jason Aslin scored for Davenport with six minutes remaining to tie the game. NY University fought back hard to reclaim the lead a few minutes later. The Panthers had one more power play with four minutes remaining to try and tie it up. Again, New York netminder, Kenney, stood on his head and turned back several scoring opportunities for the Panthers. The Panthers pulled their goalie in a last effort to tie the game, but New York University scored on the empty net to seal the victory 5-3. The Panthers out shot their opponent 56-38.

The young Panthers came home disappointed but learned a valuable lesson that only losing can teach. The team is even more determined to get back to the National Championships next year. It has been another great season; the Panthers overall record is 33-9-2. Davenport University's final national ranking at the ACHA DII level was 5th overall.

New York went on to win their quarter finals game against Penn State but lost to this year's National Champion, Oakland University.

Annual Davenport Scholarship Golf Classic
July 19, 2004
Sawmill Golf Club, Saginaw Township
Registration: 8:30 a.m.
Shotgun start: 10:00 a.m.
Contact Kevin Schultz at 800-968-4860 for more information

Annual Davenport Scholarship Golf Classic
August 23, 2004
Egypt Valley Country Club, Ada, Michigan
Shotgun start: 12:30 p.m.
Dinner & Auction: 5:00 p.m.
Contact Stephanie Hehl at 616-233-3414 for more information

Annual Davenport Scholarship Golf Classic
August 30, 2004
Tournament Players Club (TPC), Dearborn, Michigan
Shotgun start: 1:00 p.m.
Dinner & Auction: 6:30 p.m.
Contact Paul Baker at 313-582-7229 for more information

All proceeds benefit Davenport University Foundation student scholarships
MonaLisa James, diversity liaison for Bronson Healthcare Group in Kalamazoo, Mich., has some immediate and some long-range plans for helping to prepare the organization for a successful future. She looks forward to “raising the bar” on the services provided by Bronson.

“MonaLisa James has a good grasp of what diversity is and isn’t. She is good at creating great ideas, staying organized, meeting time deadlines and presenting a good image, things her education at Davenport has prepared her for,” commented Bronson’s Susan Ulshafer, vice president of human resources.

James’ background is varied and impressive. She has worked with Kalamazoo County Government’s Human Services Department as a program coordinator for the National Tobacco Control Program and as a health educator for their Healthy Hearts-Healthy People Program, targeting the programs to meet the needs of diverse populations.

“I worked on numerous community groups and through my role at the County Health Department I had the opportunity to work with Bronson on numerous occasions such as the African American Health Fair. I am impressed by the high standards at Bronson and hope to make my own contributions,” said James.

Ulshafer explained that Bronson knows that the work force is changing in healthcare just as in other fields. They are now seeing increasingly diverse ethnic groups in both their workforce and in their patient population; with an aging population, there are needs for the increasing numbers of older workers and patients. “We want to anticipate the changes and have an organization that is ready,” Ulshafer went on to say.

That is where James comes in. “Our diversity initiatives will be critical in recruiting, hiring, and retaining outstanding employees,” she said. “We will work in stages. We will also be looking for low hanging fruit where we can enjoy immediate success and will complete our diversity plan to define our longer-term programs.”

James can help the group in many areas related to diversity: “We want to establish ‘diversity of thought’; we want to provide access and growth opportunities for our employees; we want to be able to recruit new talent to Bronson Healthcare on the basis of our reputation as an organization which cares for its employees and its patients,” stated Ulshafer. “MonaLisa has the qualifications to carry us into the future. Her academic and social preparation at Davenport helped her achieve her goals.”

**New employee online orientation**

The Davenport University Human Resource Office web-based employee orientation program went live on October 13, 2003. This marks the first time in Davenport University history that all new employees will complete their Human Resource orientation online.

The employee online orientation process boasts some very unique and exciting features, which include a self-study of policies and procedures, personalized welcome page, location specific information, flexibility to complete the process from home, and easy to navigate links and tasks bars. Through the employee online orientation the new employee is introduced to Davenport University’s history, vision, mission, culture, and foundation, reviews employment policies, and completes a self-study quiz to help reinforce the learned information. Before exiting the orientation program, the employee is able to review the benefit program, generate a completion conformation form, and participate in a survey to give feedback on the orientation experience. One of the participants, Cynthia Fox, commented, “The Online Employee Orientation as presented to new DU hires, offers a dynamic method to familiarize yourself with the University’s policies and procedures at your own pace. It prepares the employee to be better cognizant of institutional guidelines prior to subsequent face-to-face orientations. In ten years of human resource experience, I can personally attest to the value tendered by the Online Employee Orientation.”

This unique web-based orientation program allows the new employees access day or night to the orientation program. The employees can progress through the orientation steps at their own pace all from the comfort of their own home. “The Online Employee Orientation was user friendly, and the information was very easy to understand. I did not feel pressured to complete it at one sitting. The Online Orientation allowed me to think about my respective benefits and what was appropriate for me and my family,” said Charles Smith, one of the first employees to go through the process.

The employee online orientation is a very innovative service for both employees and supervisors. The web-based orientation program was created to assist supervisors in the development of employees by providing important employee information before the first day on the job. Providing this information in a consistent and quality manner will accelerate new employee productivity and success.

If your are interested in learning more about this new online employee orientation, you can contact Margaret Erickson, director of employee relations, by e-mail at margaret.erickson@davenport.edu or by phone at 313-581-4400, ext.405.
Davenport University “adopts” hockey team

Davenport boasts an outstanding club hockey team at its Grand Rapids campus, the Davenport Panthers (see page 7). And we have “adopted” a hockey team in Saginaw, the Saginaw Spirit, a member of the Ontario Hockey League (OHL).

The Spirit is a Major Junior hockey team whose players are between the ages of 15 and 21, with the vast majority being 17 or 18 years old. According to Saginaw Spirit personnel, “Major Junior hockey is the fastest route to a career in pro hockey, with more than 70 percent of all NHL players emerging from either the OHL or two affiliated leagues in Quebec and Western Canada.”

Saginaw Spirit owner, Richard Garber, requires all of his players to be enrolled either in high school at Saginaw Nouvel Catholic Central or in college at “the university of choice,” Davenport University.

Davenport had a business relationship with the Spirit and put together a curriculum that was flexible enough to meet the players’ needs. Twelve players have been enrolled at Davenport some time during this academic year. Cameron Knowles, director of media and community relations for the Saginaw Spirit, said some players take more than one course a semester, but it is difficult for them to take a full course load with their game, practice, and class schedule.

One of the players, Marc-Andre Rizk commented, “The classes were good. They worked into our schedule, and the teachers understood our special needs with the hockey schedule and school. Plus, the small class size meant extra personal attention from the teachers, which was great!”

Players attend school in the mornings, practice in the afternoons, and play most games on the weekend. If there are weekday games, arrangements are made to be sure that the young men keep their class work up to date. When asked what the likelihood was of a player staying with the Spirit and completing his college degree, Knowles said it was unlikely that a player could complete a four-year degree while with the Spirit, but that Davenport gives the students access to the foundation they need to finish their college degrees with Davenport or elsewhere in the future.

In addition to school, the players all participate in an active community relations outreach program. In the past year, the team visited more than 90 schools and responded to more than 450 requests for appearances, donations, and support through the Charitable Foundation.

The players are all away from their hometowns and live with families in the Saginaw community. Those who attend Davenport are especially grateful to Denise Sherman, a registration specialist for the Saginaw campus, who helps those players with enrolling and registering for classes. Craig Goslin, Saginaw Spirit vice president commented, “These players truly appreciate the attention they receive from Denise and Davenport University.”

Davenport University partners with Capital Area Michigan Works!

Submitted by Capital Area Michigan Works!

Students at Davenport University and job seekers at Capital Area Michigan Works! Lansing, Mich. service center now have more education options available to them. Davenport University recently moved into the center, located at 2110 S. Cedar Street, to provide higher education consulting to the capital area community.

“The more educational choices we can offer to residents, the more our workforce will have the opportunity to increase its skill level,” says Douglas E. Stites, CEO of Capital Area Michigan Works! "Davenport’s flexibility and diverse programs will be a great asset to the people we serve."

Capital Area Michigan Works! administers federally and state-funded programs to help employers and job seekers. In addition to its Lansing service center, it operates a center in St. Johns at 101 W. Cass Street and a Charlotte service center at 311 W. First Street and serves the general public and employers in Ingham, Eaton and Clinton counties. Visitors to the centers can utilize computers, fax and copy machines and phones free of charge. They can also consult with staff, enter resumes into the Michigan Talent Bank at www.michworks.org and attend resume writing workshops and mock interview tapings.

“Michigan Works! is a great networking tool for anyone looking to make a name for themselves,” says Melissa Nay, Davenport University representative in the Lansing Service center. “Being located in the center will make it convenient for people to come in, search for jobs, update their resumes and get their college plans in order all in one trip.”

Davenport University is the 19th partner to move into the service center, which houses 80 staff members providing more than 400 programs. The “one-stop shopping” mentality has led to on-site partnerships with community centers, banks, school districts, temporary staffing services, and a series of private non-profits.

On the Web at www.camw.org. For more information, call 1-800-285-WORKS!
Four from Davenport University receive Michigan Campus Compact awards

Cynthia Ash, South Bend; Irene Bembinesta, Merrillville; Toni Hayes, Midland; and Kelly Lydon, Grand Rapids were all nominated and selected to receive the Michigan Campus Compact Faculty/Staff Community Service Learning Award for 2003. The award, presented to them on February 5, 2004, is the highest annual award that Michigan Campus Compact (MCC) bestows on faculty and staff in the state of Michigan.

Each of the recipients was nominated because of the outstanding contributions she made in the area of community service-learning. The award recognizes the impact they have had in enhancing students’ education.

Cynthia Ash, accounting department coordinator for South Bend, has motivated students to participate in both Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) and community service activities. She trained students and area residents to prepare tax returns for low income families. Her efforts have made a tremendous impact on her students and the community groups of all ages and backgrounds.

Ash commented, "I am very honored to receive the recognition. I did not realize the amount of community service I had performed until I was required to submit the information and the list filled an entire page. I guess when you do something you want to do you do not realize it is something you should do."

"Service learning...benefits the community by helping to create self-sufficiency; the students involved in service learning gain hands-on application that teaches them more about their subject and their community. Students end up supporting their community because they develop a stake in what they have created," stated Irene Bembinesta.

Bembinesta has advised SIFE at the Merrillville campus, expanding its efforts in community outreach. They have provided hands-on computer training workshops for laid off steel workers, assisted in career exploration with Girl Scouts, and assisted a local entrepreneur with a business plan. "All I can say is that the award really goes to the students involved. They have made a conscious choice to contribute to their community in a most effective way. They do so selflessly and sometimes at great cost in regards to time and effort," she added.

As department coordinator for nursing in Midland, Toni Hayes has developed projects for her students combining service learning with international and intercultural experiences. She has inspired them to teach Romanian nurses and serve in a Romanian hospital. Hayes serves as an example to other faculty members in their efforts to create other international service learning initiatives.

"It is an honor to be recognized for the care and service that drives my heart for the nurses and people of Romania. I am especially thankful for the support from Davenport University and our student nurses who have stepped out to make a difference in the healthcare of the people of Romania," said Hayes in reaction to receiving the award.

Kelly Lydon, student life coordinator for the Grand Rapids campus, has been instrumental in working to establish the first Center for Service and Community Outreach on the campus. Advising student leaders and creating the first alternative spring break opportunities for students, Lydon is responsible for engaging more students in service than ever before. She promotes community partnerships through community surveys and contacts, allowing faculty members to more easily incorporate service projects into their curriculum.

"It is one thing to feel the need for change and another to implement action. One can only make changes when there is support and flexibility within an institution to do so. I am grateful for the opportunities and openness that Davenport has presented me. Only with these was I able to make progress in the Center for Service and Community Outreach and create new programs for Davenport students. Every employee is capable of great ideas and vision, but few organizations give the support to embark on them," commented Lydon.

MCC’s mission is to promote “the education and commitment of Michigan college students to be civically engaged citizens, through creating and expanding co-curricula and campus-wide opportunities for community service, service learning and civic engagement.”

Davenport University is honored to have four people receive these outstanding awards.
**Davenport University hosts BPA competitions**

On Saturday, March 13, 2004, more than 100 students from eight colleges and universities in Michigan came to the Grand Rapids campus to compete in the Business Professionals of America (BPA) 27th Annual State Leadership Conference. Students competed in various office, accounting, computer, marketing, management, and business tests. Many staff people from the Grand Rapids campus helped to judge and grade the students. The winners will represent Davenport at the BPA National Leadership Conference in Cincinnati, Ohio, April 28-May 2, 2004.

In addition, on March 5 and March 6, 2004, the Grand Rapids campus hosted the Secondary Business Professionals of America (BPA) State Leadership Conference. High school students from around the state came to compete in various events. The students who attended had placed in various regional events in order to qualify for the state competition. The winners at Grand Rapids will qualify to represent Michigan at the BPA National Conference in Cincinnati, Ohio, on April 28-May 2, 2004.

The following Davenport University students placed at the state level.

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<th>BPA winners</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jeanne French</td>
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| Third Place, Administra-
| tive Support Concepts;  |
| First Place, Advanced  |
| Word Processing Skills |
| Michelle Merriman    |
| First Place, Advanced  |
| Office Systems & Proce-
| dures                |
| Nick Buiter          |
| First Place, Advanced  |
| Accounting           |
| Michelle Merriman    |
| First Place, Advanced  |
| Office Systems & Proce-
| dures                |
| Amy Peterson         |
| Second Place, Administra-
| tive Support Team     |
| Amy Peterson         |
| Second Place, Advanced  |
| Word Processing Skills |
| Melissa Marshall      |
| Second Place, Basic Office Systems & Procedures |
| Kelvin Frizzell       |
| First Place, Cisco Systems Administration |
| Curt Saunier         |
| Second Place, Cisco Systems Administration |
| Nick Buiter          |
| First Place, Financial Analyst Team |
| Tim Stouffer         |
| First Place, Financial Analyst Team |
| Amy Dykhuis          |
| First Place, Financial Analyst Team |
| Sharon VandenBerg    |
| First Place, Financial Analyst Team |
| Deb Marshall         |
| First Place, Information Technology Concepts |
| Melissa Wright       |
| Second Place, Information Technology Concepts |
| Kelvin Frizzell      |
| Third Place, Information Technology Concepts |
| Amanda Dykhuis       |
| First Place, Interview Skills |
| Barb Gering          |
| Third Place, Financial Math & Analysis |
| Melissa Marshall     |
| Second Place, Human Resource Management |
| Jeanne French        |
| Second Place, Integrated Office Applications |
| Amy Peterson         |
| Third Place, Integrated Office Applications |
| Barb Gering          |
| Second Place, Payroll Accounting |
| Melissa Wright       |
| Second Place, PC Servicing & Troubleshooting |
| Andy Demboski        |
| First Place, PC Servicing & Troubleshooting |
| Phat Nguyen          |
| Second Place, PC Servicing & Troubleshooting |
| Kim Chhim            |
| Third Place, Microsoft Network Administration |
| Melissa Wright       |
| Third Place, Microsoft Network Administration |
| Robert Hernandez     |
| Network Design Team  |
| Amanda Dykhuis       |
| Second Place, Prepared Speech |
| Matt Wyngarden       |
| Second Place, Prepared Speech |
| Tim Stouffer         |
| Third Place, Prepared Speech |

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**Governor Granholm speaks at Davenport University**

On Friday, February 27, 2004, Michigan Governor Jennifer Granholm spoke about a number of health issues at a forum for the Alliance for Health held at Davenport University.
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day program spotlights Detroit’s early black leaders

As they entered the assembly room at the Warren campus, 75 faculty, staff, students, and guests were greeted by a recording of an original speech made by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. just weeks before his assassination in 1968. The speech was recorded by Stewart McMillin, historian and teacher. On this special holiday, McMillin presented an hour-long slide presentation, highlighting the familiar locations and people in Detroit who played an important role in our local, black history.

“His relaxed, conversational demeanor brought history alive and made me more aware of the city where I was born and raised and the importance of its early black history,” stated Executive Director George Kovtun.

McMillin, who offers Detroit Historical and Architectural tours, suggested certain readings and even offered a special rate for a Davenport University tour on Saturday, February 28.

Vocalist Chiffon McNeal closed the two and one-half hour program with her beautiful rendition of “Amazing Grace” and “We Shall Overcome.” She was accompanied by Demetric Jones on keyboard.

A wonderful ethnic lunch of soul food was provided by Rhonda Brown, a Davenport University senior, who owns her own catering company.

“The program was so well received that I felt badly when we had to bring it to a close,” stated Jackie Murray, student life coordinator. “We will definitely have to schedule Stewart again,” she added.

Merrillville student, Tonya Jelks, awarded Executives’ Council Scholarship

Tonya Jelks received a $1,000 scholarship from the Executives’ Council, an organization of successful Northwest Indiana businesswomen. The scholarships are awarded as part of the group’s effort to support and promote the professional development of women business owners, executives, and managers. In addition to the monetary award, Jelks also received a year’s membership to the Executives’ Council, which will afford her the opportunity to network and socialize, as well as be mentored. In addition, Jelks was honored by this organization as its Business Leader of Tomorrow Scholarship Winner at its March luncheon, which was attended by over 600 Northwest Indiana women executives and business leaders.

After being identified and co-nominated by two Merrillville campus employees, Jelks submitted an application, which documented scholastic achievement and community service. The application process also included an autobiographical essay, which detailed not only her professional goals, but also the challenges and obstacles she has overcome in both her personal and academic life. As a single parent, Jelks has raised four children, all who have succeeded both academically and as state and nationally ranked track athletes. The three oldest, all boys, are currently attending college, while her youngest and only daughter is soon to graduate from high school with plans to also further her education. Working full-time, Jelks has consistently maintained Dean’s List status and is also a member of Alpha Beta Gamma, the National Business Honor Society. She is a positive role model, not only for her children, but for students at her home campus, as well.

Jelks not only received the highest point total from this year’s selection committee, but was the only one of the 32 candidates to exceed the 100 point standard scoring system. She received a score of 125 points, the highest score earned by any scholarship applicant in not only this year’s competition, but in all prior years as well.

Jelks, who recently completed her associate’s degree in management, will use her scholarship to continue her studies for a bachelor’s degree in accounting at the Merrillville, Indiana campus and looks forward to proudly walking as a 2005 Davenport University graduate.

Tonya Jelks (c.) receives scholarship check from Executives’ Council members (l. to r.) Sandy Hahn, DU; Jill Kotal, president Executives’ Council; Linda Nelson, DU; Bonnie Girten, Executives’ Council.
Through the recently developed Passport to Success employee training program, new Davenport University employees have the opportunity to spend two days together interacting with one another and getting to know key individuals from throughout the University.

Passport to Success shares an overview of Davenport, reviews organizational goals, provides basic technology training, shares the University’s commitment to diversity, and discusses customer service expectations. In addition, new employees are introduced to the performance evaluation process to provide them a clear understanding of the process from the start of their employment. The program includes both group and individual activities.

“It is extremely rewarding to work with new employees who bring enthusiasm and diverse experience to the table. The primary goal of Passport to Success is to make sure that—right from the start—our new employees clearly understand their responsibility to enrollment, retention and student satisfaction,” explained Lynda Cribari, director of training and development. “Employees learn that Davenport is committed to providing consistent training and development programs that support their goals to grow professionally with us.”

The training, created by Cribari, reflects a successful journey at Davenport University. In addition to Cribari facilitating some of the sessions, leaders from other areas of the University share the role of their departments with the new employees.

“Having different speakers come to the training is really enlightening as well. They let us know that everyone’s job at the University is important,” according to Frank Coronado, corporate relations manager. The overriding concept is having fun while learning about Davenport. Coronado commented, “The thing that is relayed during the training is that Davenport is glad to have you as an employee.”

Davenport University graduate scored fourth highest in state

Jolanta Flowers, a 2002 Davenport University graduate, scored fourth highest in the state of Indiana on the fall 2003 CPA exam. Flowers, who earned a bachelor’s degree in accounting, not only passed the CPA exam on her first attempt, but she also passed two sections of the exam with 96%: Financial Accounting & Reporting and Accounting & Reporting. She also earned greater than 90% in 12 of the 20 content areas within the four sections of the exam.

“Passing the CPA exam on a first sitting is definitely a great achievement. It is a result of hard work and constant focus on the goal throughout my studies. However, the staff of the accounting department at Davenport University, Merrillville campus, was a crucial part of my personal success. Not only did I receive a thorough and solid education, but also encouragement and personal attention,” said Flowers.

Flowers is currently continuing her education at Davenport University where she is enrolled in the online MBA program. She also plans to begin a job search for a higher public accounting position.

“Jolanta’s achievements are the result of much effort and strong drive to always perform well. Her hard work should serve as an example for any student,” says Irene Bembenista, accounting division chair at the Merrillville campus.
Davenport University students assist community in e-filing federal and state tax returns

Federal tax students at the Warren campus applied their skills and learned a lot about customer service when at least 36 people came to the campus to file their income taxes on Saturday, February 21, 2004.

“The students were very helpful. They seemed confident and were able to answer my questions,” said Monsita McCrary of Detroit, who filed her taxes that day. “This really helped me with the FAFSA (student loan program) deadline,” she added. The other tax payers seemed equally pleased, giving the students only the highest of marks on the evaluation sheets.

The students who assisted visitors with their electronic tax returns were Donna Artis, Nicole Barber, Erika Beemer, James Craig, Lydell Day, Vanessa Heimer, Jahedul Islam, Mohammad Kabir, Sherrie C. Leach, Deidre E. McArthur, Latise Mustin, Janeal Neal, Umaria Tirmizi, Ewa Urbanski, and Lorrie Williams.

Other accounting students, members of Warren’s Accounting Club, were on hand to provide assistance in crowd control and with general questions. Some even helped with child care. They were Maryanne Adam and her daughter Alesia, Lisa Bash, Christi Cooper, Simon Gumma, Patti Halsey, Megan Murphy, Latyash Robert, Katherine Scola and her son Alex, and Joyce Taylor.

“The VITA program benefits everyone involved,” stated Lynda Flood, adjunct accounting/taxation instructor and senior tax associate with PricewaterhouseCoopers, LLP, Detroit office. “It provides a valuable service to individuals who qualify for the program and those who participate in assistance,” she added.

The VITA program offers free tax help to people who cannot afford professional assistance. This is the second year the IRS has held the VITA program at the Warren campus. Davenport University-Warren students have participated as individuals with similar programs over the last 10 years. In addition, over the last five years selected tax students have participated in the MACPA radio call-in program answering tax related questions.

“We, at the Warren Campus, have always participated in acts of volunteerism,” stated George Kovtun, executive director. “Now because we are implementing service learning in our curriculum these vital activities will enhance the students’ college experiences and citizenship activities,” he added.

“This will also look very good on the students’ resumes,” stated IRS Taxpayer Education Specialist Susan Barrett, who has worked with Davenport University for the last two years.

“I think the VITA program is one of the better service learning projects we’ve run on this campus,” stated David Brusseau, accounting/finance coordinator. “It gives the students their first live experience dealing with the public in a consultant capacity,” he added. “I think this type of activity also creates a positive image in the community and in the media for the university.”

President’s Report wins Silver ADDY award

The 2003 President’s Report won a Silver ADDY at the local AD Club of West Michigan ADDY Awards. The entry then advanced to win Silver at the 6th District, competing against hundreds of other entries from local Ad Clubs across Michigan, Illinois, and Indiana. As a District winner the entry is now eligible to be judged at the National ADDY Awards competition. ADDY Awards are sponsored by the American Advertising Federation and are the largest advertising creative awards competition in the country.

The 2003 report was written and designed by Clayton Boothe of Boothe Creative Services and Rick Devon of Grey Matter Group and coordinated by Cathy Yared, vice president for university communications for Davenport.
Students give presentations at service learning conference

Marlene Hess, Ph.D.,
associate professor of English

Three students from Grand Rapids participated in the Michigan Campus Compact’s Service Learning Institute held at Grand Valley State University. The students, Tera Kepler, Diane Foust, and Johnny Moody, assisted in a session led by Dr. Marlene Hess titled, “Inspiring Citizenship Through Community Engagement in First-Year Composition.” The students discussed the community service they performed and wrote about in their English Composition courses taught by Dr. Hess. They showed how real world writing assignments gave meaning to their courses and motivated them more than if they were just writing for the grade.

Tera Kepler, who completed 43 hours of service for the YWCA and the West Michigan Environmental Action Council during the semester, also wrote a persuasive research paper on the need for Davenport University to recycle its paper. As a result, this issue has been taken up for discussion by the campus leadership. Tera also worked with two other students on a survey for West Michigan Environmental Action Council to find out student attitudes toward environmental issues. They wrote up a report about the results for the organization. These results were included in an article in WMEAC’s newsletter and web page. Working with Kepler on the survey were Sara Brondsema and Patrick McPherson, also students in Dr. Hess’s class.

Johnny Moody described and reflected upon his service with Junior Achievement. He taught civic responsibility lessons to first graders at Alger Elementary School and motivated them more than if they were just writing for the grade. Moody said he now understands why teachers love to teach.

Diane Foust served at the Equest Center for Therapeutic Riding where she assisted impaired children. Foust described one little autistic girl and explained how her life was changed when she saw the little girl who never spoke actually whisper to the horse and lovingly pet it.

One attendee at the session described the students as “marvelous, wonderful, human.” He added they “each provided clear evidence of the value” of service learning.

The three students are just a few examples of the many contributions that students make in community organizations each semester. Through service learning, the course outcomes are met by writing documents for an organization and writing about their community service.

Corporate Relations signs agreement with Siemens Dematic

On December 18, 2003, Davenport University Corporate Relations signed an articulation agreement with Siemens Dematic Corporation in Grand Rapids, allowing Siemens employees to transfer credits from their internal corporate university to degree programs at Davenport University.

Siemens Dematic Corporation, part of Siemens AG with worldwide revenues in excess of 74 billion dollars in fiscal 2003, desired a way to reward its employees for pursuing internal certificates centered on manufacturing and project management-related topics. Davenport University’s Corporate Relations division was able to evaluate these courses for articulation and put a plan in place to enable Siemens employees to receive credit for many of the company’s internal offerings.

“We are delighted that Davenport University is allowing our employees the opportunity to receive credit for the training they receive from Siemens,” stated Kim E. Ruyle, director of learning and development for Siemens Dematic’s Distribution and Industry Division. “They demonstrated their flexibility and commitment to helping us further our employees’ educational goals.”

Present for the signing were Davenport University’s president, Randolph K. Flechsig and senior executives from Siemens Dematic, including Prashant Ranade, the president and CEO of Siemens Dematic North America and Barrie Bechtel, the VP of human resources for Siemens Dematic.

“Davenport University values its new partnership with Siemens Dematic. We are pleased that this agreement will offer a convenient and seamless transition for employees interested in pursuing a diploma or degree at Davenport University,” said President Flechsig. “We have a long-standing tradition of working closely with area employers in order to provide business-focused education and training to their employees.”
Robert L. Hooker, vice chair of C&H Holdings, was honored with the 2004 Peter C. Cook Excellence in Business Award for exemplifying Davenport University’s motto, “Make a living. Make a life. Make a contribution.”

Business, education, church, community — Robert Hooker’s commitment to industry and philanthropy is extensive. The former CEO of Mazda Great Lakes spent more than 35 years of his career in the wholesale automobile business. His philanthropic efforts have touched the West Michigan community by chairing the Van Andel Arena $20 million Campaign, the DeVos Place Convention Center $30 million Campaign and co-chairing the Spectrum Health $30 million Heart Center Campaign. He has served as a board member for a number of community philanthropic organizations.
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Thank you for your generosity.
Alumni Board gets off to a great start

Submitted by the Davenport University Alumni Association

A year has now passed since the formation of the Davenport University Alumni Association Board of Directors. It has been an exciting year and the Board has been very active in developing its structure and bylaws as well as new and exciting programs and activities for the alumni.

One of the activities of the Alumni Board this past year was to create committees to better serve the student body and alumni. The Board also developed a purpose statement to provide direction for the function of the Board of Directors and to the various committees. The following statement describes the Board’s purpose:

“The Alumni Association Board of Directors will exist as a volunteer board which will act as a catalyst to develop cohesive ties between all Davenport University alumni regionally, nationally, and internationally; to promote the general welfare of Davenport University; to build loyalty and support among students and graduates; to promote opportunities for alumni to serve the university; and to develop alumni programs and events that will perpetuate interaction between alumni and the entire Davenport University community.”

To address this purpose, committees were developed within the Alumni Board of Directors. Below is an overview of committee goals and tasks accomplished in 2003:

Communications

The goal of this committee is to develop communications strategies and maintain avenues of communication between the Alumni Board, alumni, and current students (future alumni). In 2003, the committee created and disseminated a survey to determine the interests of alumni. Many responses were received and the ideas and suggestions from that survey are being used to help develop programs and activities for alumni and the University. The Communications Committee also assisted in the development of the Board’s constitution and bylaws and developed the initial guidelines for alumni chapters and clubs for the Board’s approval. The committee is also helping with the ongoing development of the DU Alumni Association’s website which can be accessed at www.alumniconnections.com/davenport.

Fund Raising and Scholarships

This committee aids in the development of programs and activities that help the University raise funds to provide scholarships to current and incoming students and alumni, to develop scholarships to serve various populations of students, and to advise the University on fund raising methods. In 2003, the committee assisted in developing many programs including establishing a process for diploma re-issuance and determining the official Davenport University Alumni rings. The committee also developed a legacy scholarship for alumni and their family members.

Nominating

This committee oversees the nominations process for which the Board is responsible. In 2003, the committee along with the University, developed criteria and the nomination process for alumni awards and to fill vacancies in the Alumni Board of Directors. The committee makes recommendations to the Alumni Board regarding those awards and vacancies on which the Board discusses and votes. In March of 2003, the Tyrus R. Wessell Exemplary Service Award, Hy Berkowitz Professional Excellence Award, and Distinguished Alumni Awards were presented at the All-Class Reunion.

Programs and Events

Among the responsibilities of this committee are suggesting and coordinating activities to promote networking among alumni, staff, and students. This past year the committee helped plan and promote golf outings and luncheons and dinners.

As you can see, the Davenport University Alumni Board of Directors has accomplished a great deal this past year. The Board began with a vision and out of that vision created a viable working Board. The addition of Darryl Shelton, executive director of alumni relations, has served to further enhance the Board’s effectiveness in its mission. With the momentum established, the Board is looking to accomplish even more for DU alumni in 2004, so stay tuned!
Davenport alumnae making a difference in their community

For the past several years, Davenport University alumnae Denise Irvin and Gena Perry have been making a difference in the lives of teenage girls in their community. Both Irvin and Perry spend many of their Sunday afternoons volunteering at the BARAT House, a residential treatment facility located in downtown Detroit. They serve as mentors and tutors to the young ladies that live there, as a part of their sorority’s local community service efforts.

Both women joined the Alpha Iota Sorority while attending Davenport University and are still very active with the group both on and off campus. For them, joining the sorority provided a way to feel more involved in the University through volunteer projects and events. The Alpha Iota Sorority Inc. is an international organization for women and students of business and has been an active part of Davenport’s student and alumni life since 1969. The mission of the organization is to encourage the development of self-confidence, leadership, and civic responsibility in its participants.

Irvin earned a bachelor’s degree in business administration from Davenport University in 1997. She currently works as an admissions coordinator for Coram Healthcare. Additionally, she owns her own office and home cleaning service called D’s Janitorial Service. When asked about her reasons for volunteering, Irvin stated, “Giving back to the community is a great way to enlighten others with your own experiences and knowledge. It gives others renewed hope and faith in life. My greatest reward is sharing a smile or a hug of thanks.”

Gena Perry graduated in 1995 with a bachelor’s degree in records management. Upon graduating, she worked for Davenport University for five years as an administrative assistant to Robert Funaro, Ed.D., then vice president of academics. Currently, she works at General Motors as a data analyst. When asked about her reasons for volunteering, Perry stated, “Giving back to the community is a part of what Davenport University strives to instill in its students. It gives me the opportunity to make a positive difference in someone’s life.”

Both Irvin and Perry are making a difference in the lives of the teenage girls at the BARAT House and are helping to shape the future of their community.

Save the Date … Monday, June 28, 2004

The West Michigan Alumni Chapter will be hosting The 22nd Annual Alumni Golf Outing

Please join us as we bring back this exciting and fun “friend-raising” event! The outing is a four-person scramble and golfers of all skill levels are welcome.

Quail Ridge Golf Club – Ada, MI 9:00 a.m. shotgun start

Cost is $95 per person and includes food, drinks, green fees, cart, sleeve of balls, contest holes, and prizes.

All proceeds from the alumni golf outing will go to the Davenport University Alumni Legacy Scholarship

For more information about this exciting event, please contact the alumni relations office at (616) 233-3416, toll free at (866) 248-0012, or send an e-mail to alumni@davenport.edu.
Davenport introduces student ambassador program

In a new program developed by the Alumni Association, Kristen Door and Lindsey Peterman have been chosen as the first student ambassadors for West Michigan. They will be acting as spokespersons for the West Michigan student body at various Davenport-sponsored events including the 2004 All Class Reunion, the Excellence in Business Dinner featuring guest speaker Terry Bradshaw, and the Davenport University Scholarship Golf Classic held at Egypt Valley Country Club. In addition to attending these events, Door and Peterman will serve as student representatives on the West Michigan Alumni Chapter Board as well as write articles for the DU Magazine.

Door is a senior and will receive her bachelor’s degree in marketing with a specialty in distribution management this May. She plans to attend graduate school in the fall. Door is currently a volunteer with the Cannonsburg Challenged Ski Association and is also involved with the college group at her church.

As a student ambassador, Door’s goal is to help make Davenport University a friendly place for students to be and to help the students feel like they are a part of the University.

Peterman is a junior majoring in finance. After earning her bachelor’s degree, she plans to continue her education by earning a master’s degree in business administration. Peterman is currently a student employee in the Financial Services office at Davenport University.

She looks forward to a year of many new accomplishments and successes as well as the founding of new relationships. She feels that her position as student ambassador is a great opportunity to get to know students, staff, and alumni on a more personal level.

Alumni Reception held in Florida

The Davenport University Alumni Association recently held a reception in Naples for alumni living in Florida. Those attending were able to meet new friends and reconnect with those they know. It was also an opportunity to share all the exciting things happening with the University. More than 500 alumni live in Florida and each year the attendance at the event increases. President Flechsig, Barbara Mieras, executive vice president for advancement and president of the Davenport University Foundation, and Darryl Shelton, executive director of alumni relations, hosted the reception.
Dear Alumni and Friends,

Due to the excellent response received on prior trips, The Davenport University Alumni Association is pleased to present the exciting ‘lakes and mountains’ holiday to you, your family, and friends. Global Holidays constantly strives to provide a high quality travel program at a very affordable price.

Please take a moment to review the following information and do not hesitate to contact Darryl Shelton or Global Holidays if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Darryl Shelton, Executive Director of Alumni Relations
(616) 233-3419 • darryl.shelton@davenport.edu

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**Italian Lakes and Switzerland**

**From $1399 (plus taxes and fees)**

**September 17-25, 2004**

**Grand Rapid and Detroit Departures**

This program combines two of Europe’s most outstanding locations, the Swiss Alps and the Northern Italian Lake District.

The Italian Lakes are a haven of peace and tranquility. For centuries this region has inspired poets, artists and composers with its magnificent beauty and fine wine and culinary delights.

Switzerland is referred to by many as the most spectacular and picturesque country in the world. Experience the splendor of the mountains, quaint Swiss villages, and the charm of the people.

**Overview and Optional Excursions**

Switzerland is referred to by many as one of the most breathtaking, picturesque countries in Europe. Dramatic, snow-capped mountain peaks, traversed by trains that appear to defy gravity, blend into lush green meadows punctuated with delicate alpine flowers. Picturesque villages are reflected in the cool, clear waters of lakes crisscrossed by paddle steamers. Nowhere else can you find the enchantment and natural beauty of the Swiss Alps.

**ENGELBERG**

Located in central Switzerland close to Lucerne, Engelberg welcomes you to its charming and relaxed atmosphere. This picture-postcard resort is nestled in an unforgettable mountain landscape of dramatic panoramic views. Engelberg is a lively town of warm and traditional Swiss character, with flower-festooned wooden chalets and lovely old Stubli restaurants. This mountain paradise offers an endless variety of shops, local and international cuisine and outdoor cafes. Breathtaking walking and hiking trails and much more await you in this mountain paradise.

Deep and mysterious, beautiful and romantic, the Italian Lakes are a haven of peace and tranquility, a region rich in variety and ever-changing scenery. For centuries, the beauty of the Italian Lakes has inspired poets, artists, and composers.

**LAKE GARDA**

Magnificent, impressive and breathtaking! The shimmering blue waters of Lake Garda, Italy’s largest lake, prove a delightful contrast to the grandeur of the Alps. Nestled in the foothills of the Dolomites, the lake enjoys a Mediterranean climate where orchards of olive and lemon trees fringe the region and the vineyards of Bardolino and Valpolicella are nearby. Complete with quaint cobbled streets and pastel-colored houses, Peschiere, Sirmione, Desenzano, Bardolino and Garda are some of the magical towns offering you a memorable stay on the southern shores of Lake Garda.

**OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS**

Optional day and evening excursions will be available at an additional cost and may be booked prior to departure.

**FROM LAKE GARDA**

**Treasure of Lake Garda**

Discover the varied beauty of Lake Garda with its combination of bustling resorts and quaint fishing villages, and take to the waters for a different view on a cruise across the glistening lake.

**VENICE**

Italy’s most treasured possession. Venice is unique. Even the most seasoned traveler cannot tire of the sight of St. Mark’s Basilica, the Doge’s Palace or the Rialto Bridge. Every tiny canal, enlivened by the passing of the ubiquitous gondola, is an enchanting discovery in this most romantic of cities. Discover hidden markets, peaceful squares, bars and restaurants. Perhaps take an optional gondola ride before dining in a typical Venetian restaurant.

**Dinner in Verona**

Verona, built from pink marble, is one of Italy’s most beautiful cities. Spend an evening in this walled city which has a beautiful historical center filled with colorful piazzas and delightful medieval buildings. Famed for Shakespeare’s legendary lovers, Romeo and Juliet, and the world’s most famous balcony. Dine in a typical Veronese restaurant accompanied by live music from the region.

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**Included Features**

- Round-trip transatlantic air transportation via KLM Northwest Airlines, or similar to Milan, Italy
- Three nights accommodation in Lake Garda, Italy and four nights in Engelberg, Switzerland in first-class hotels.
- Buffet breakfast daily.
- Transfers between airport and hotel.
- Luggage handling and related tipping.
- Scenic transfer between Engelberg and Lake Garda via Lugano. (see below).
- Government and hotel taxes.
- Experienced escort guides.
- Complete pre-flight information.

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**Spectacular Swiss Peaks**

Visit Interlaken nestled between the shores of the magnificent Lakes Thun and Brienz. Experience a spectacular train journey on the world-famous Jungfrau Railway, affording you unique views of the Eiger, Mönch and Jungfrau mountains, a towering trio of exquisite alpine beauty.

**The Glacier Express**

From your carriage on the famous Glacier Express, watch the dramatic alpine scenery of Switzerland unfurl as you pass icy glaciers, snow-dusted peaks, rushing rivers and rural hamlets. This breathtaking journey through the majestic Swiss Alps will provide you with an unforgettable experience.

**Swiss Mountain Buffet**

A breathtaking ride to a mountain-top restaurant. Enjoy a buffet of Swiss specialties to the accompaniment of local singing and yodeling.

All local transportation and sightseeing is arranged by Global Destinations Management, Ltd. and operated by Reiseburo Eurotours Ges.m.b.H. Reiseburo Eurotours Ges.m.b.H. may use other suppliers or providers to render the services.
Weddings & Engagements

James A. Hollenbeck, ‘06 business management, was married to Tera C. Eisenhauer on September 27, 2003. He is the owner of Spectra Contracting.

Candy Eichhorn, ‘97 accounting, and Todd James were married on September 27, 2003, at the East Washington Church in Ashley. She currently works at Morning Star Publishing Company as a printing sales consultant.

Kathryn S. Helder, ‘99 administrative assistant-accounting, was married on April 26, 2003, to Eric J. Jager. She is currently working for Hopkins Public School as a bookkeeper.

Tyler Reid, ‘00 business administration and computer networking, was married on June 28, 2003 to Rachel Guest. Reid is currently employed at Farmer Jack.

Alisha Marie Mayer, ‘00 business administration, will be married to Keith Alexander on May 29, 2004. She is currently employed at the law firm of Timothy W. Denny, PC.

Rhonda Thorpe, ‘01 business management, was married to Richard L. Berdan Jr. on December 2, 2003. She is currently working at Friendship Shelter Inc. as an executive director.

Megan Marsh, ‘02 marketing, and Joel R. Boersma were married February 2004. She is currently employed at State Farm Insurance.

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Career Updates

Jack Finkelstein, ‘84 EMS systems management, has just been promoted to director of Wyckoff EMS and Training Coordinator for the Wyckoff Heights Medical Center in Brooklyn, New York. Finkelstein is also a part of the hospital’s Disaster Management Team.

Cheryl Osentoski, ‘90 business studies, is the new director of project and consulting services for Priority Health in Grand Rapids. Osentoski has over eighteen years experience in the health-care industry.

Elizabeth Williams, ‘90 business administration, has moved to Houston, Texas and is currently working as an administrative assistant for Envirotest, Limited.

Leslie Losier, ‘97 office administration, has recently accepted a full-time position as an administrative assistant with Shiawassee Shores Retirement Park in Linden, MI.

Tina Talley, ‘08 finance, has joined the Southfield office of Grant Thornton as a senior consultant in the business advisory services practice.

Tim Newlin, ‘99 marketing, has just been named the Konica/Minolta Aim High program winner for the 6th consecutive year. Newlin was recognized for being in the top one percent of the country’s salespeople for the WS Reed Company in Grand Rapids. Newlin has also accepted the position as assistant hockey coach for the Davenport University.

Drenda Hukill, ‘02 nursing, has recently accepted a key position with MidMichigan Visiting Nurses as clinical manager. Hukill will supervise the clinical staff serving Midland, Clare, and Gladwin. She has worked as a nurse for MidMichigan Visiting Nurses Association for over six years.

Cathy Deane, ‘01 business studies, has just accepted a position as the new computer teacher for Creative Technologies Academy.

Kris Durham, ‘01 management, has recently accepted a position as the executive director for Crystal Coast Habitat for Humanity.

Linda Koonce, ‘01 business administration, has been named as St. John Macomb system administrator with the Care Management Department.

Births

Shannon Bauer-Perry, ‘02 management, and her husband will be welcoming their second son in May 2004. The couple will also be celebrating their wedding anniversary in May. Bauer-Perry is currently working as an ESL-teacher at the All Saints neighborhood center.

Recently married?
New baby in the family?
Promotion at work?

Please keep your alumni records updated and share news with your fellow alumni.

Send this form to:
Alumni News
Davenport University
415 East Fulton
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
or e-mail: alumni@davenport.edu
The Dearborn Courtyards

Davenport University is renovating its Dearborn courtyards. With beautiful gardens and benches, the courtyards have been gathering places for students, faculty, staff, and community members for many years. The renovation will include new walkways constructed of engraved bricks donated by Davenport alumni, students, faculty, staff, and friends.

YOU CAN BE A PART OF THIS EXCITING PROJECT!

Become a permanent part of Davenport history by supporting this project. Net proceeds from the campaign will fund student scholarships.

A gift of $100 reserves an engraved 4” x 8” brick so you and those you honor can forever be a part of the Dearborn courtyards. Larger bricks are available for $300. You may include your name, class year, degree program, sport or club affiliation, or company name. If you’d like to remember someone special to you — a parent, student, alumnus, or employee — bricks may be engraved in his or her honor or memory. Larger donations secure your recognition on engraved plaques for the benches, trees, and flagpoles, or even courtyard naming rights.

This is a great way to support a future Davenport student and guarantee the courtyards will continue to be gathering spots for years to come.

To reserve your brick or for more information, please contact Paul Baker at paul.baker@davenport.edu, (313) 582-7229.

Leave a lasting mark on Davenport University
Introducing Davenport Alumni Connection

This interactive online community is now open to all Davenport alumni – you just need to register! Follow the simple steps and you'll start connecting with Davenport and your fellow alumni through:

- **Online Directory.** Look for former classmates you've lost touch with.
- **Yellow Pages.** Find products and services offered by DU alumni and promote your own business opportunities.
- **Class Notes.** Read news and announcements about fellow DU alumni.
- **Email Address Forwarding.** Use a Davenport email address to forward mail to your personal email account.
- **CareerLink: Look for jobs and post your resume.

**Registering is quick and easy:**

Go to the http://www.alumniconnections.com/davenport. Click on “Click Here to Register” and follow these simple steps:

1. Complete the form in the yellow box and click “Find my Record”
2. If the results are correct, click on your name
3. Validate your record by entering your security code (date of birth)
4. Choose a user ID, password, security word, and enter an email address
5. Click “Accept” and you are now an official member of our fantastic alumni online community

**Alumni Membership Cards Are Here!**

Be sure to get your free Davenport Alumni membership card and start receiving these great benefits:

- Lifetime access to all Davenport campus computer labs, libraries, and career service departments
- 10% discount on all specialty items at any Davenport bookstore – just show your card
- Car rental and hotel discounts – listed on the back of the card.

To get your membership card, please contact one of the people below or email alumni@davenport.edu.

**Kevin Schultz**
Tri City/Thumb & Northern Michigan Campuses (989) 835-5588

**Mikita Ferrow-Glover**
Southeast Michigan Campuses (313) 581-4400

**Darryl Shelton**
West Michigan & Indiana Campuses (616) 233-3416

Davenport University
415 E. Fulton
Grand Rapids MI 49503
For Alumni and Friends of Davenport University

Davenport University Magazine

Make a living...Make a life... Make a contribution

2004 Alumni Award Winners

Mary M. Boland
Distinguished Alumni Award

P. Robert Vanderson
Distinguished Alumni Award

Brad Van Dommelen
Hy Berkowitz Professional Excellence Award

Lu Ann Roberts
Hy Berkowitz Professional Excellence Award

Deborah J. Guyton
Hy Berkowitz Professional Excellence Award

Allen Wetherell
Tyrus R. Wessell Exemplary Service Award