



## A NOTE FROM THE CHAIR



Dear Members of the Drexel 100,

A common refrain from Drexel alumni is that the University has changed a lot since they attended, with new buildings and public spaces transforming the landscape dramatically. But as the cover story on the Schuylkill Yards plan makes clear, our evolution as one of the most exciting and impactful universities in the nation has only begun. In the decades ahead, the streets around Drexel will become home to towering high-rises and carefully designed green spaces, and the old industrial ambience of our alma mater will disappear forever.

With so much change on the horizon, it is important to preserve and celebrate the consistent qualities that have always distinguished this institution, like our commitment to hands-on experience, innovative ideas and practical solutions to real-world problems. These things are just as important in the information age as they were in the industrial age when Drexel was born.

One of the most important roles of the Drexel 100 is to pay tribute to those Drexel graduates who have taken those essential attributes to heart and used them to achieve professional and civic success. No matter how much the current environment evolves, one can look at the Drexel 100 membership and see a continuity in core values that stretches across the years.

So, who do you think best exemplifies success, Drexel-style? In the coming months we will be assembling a list of potential inductees for 2017 for a vote by the membership. Now is a great time to send in your suggestions of fellow alumni who deserve recognition for what they have accomplished and how they have carried on the Drexel tradition of changing the world for the better. A convenient response form is included below. I look forward to hearing your ideas!

Sincerely,  
Christopher J. Ferguson '84, Hon. '09

### Visit Us Online

The Drexel 100 has an online presence. Visit our website to find a full list of members and biographies. Visit [drexel.edu/drexel100](http://drexel.edu/drexel100)

## Drexel 100 Nomination Form

Name of Nominee \_\_\_\_\_  
First Last

Nominee's Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Suite/Apt.

City State Zip

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for nomination (continue on a separate sheet if necessary) \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_  
First Last

Best way to reach you \_\_\_\_\_

### Mail nomination to:

Ken Goldman  
Senior Associate Vice President, Presidential Initiatives  
The Office of Institutional Advancement  
Drexel University  
3141 Chestnut Street, Main 316  
Philadelphia, PA 19104

Fax: 215.895.4902 – Attn: Ken Goldman

If you have any questions, please contact **Ken Goldman** via email, [goldmankh@drexel.edu](mailto:goldmankh@drexel.edu), or phone, **215.895.2607**.

# THE DREXEL 100 NEWSLETTER

A PUBLICATION FOR MEMBERS OF THE DREXEL 100 • SPRING 2016

## INTRODUCING SCHUYLKILL YARDS



Drexel University made history this spring when it announced Brandywine Realty Trust as the master developer for our “innovation neighborhood.” Now named Schuylkill Yards, this once-in-a-generation project will take shape on 14 acres between the eastern part of Drexel’s campus, at 32nd Street and Amtrak’s 30th Street Station, on land predominantly owned by Drexel.

Schuylkill Yards will become the new gateway to Drexel’s campus, University City and West Philadelphia, and it will house a collaborative and connected community of educational and medical institutions, businesses, residents and visitors bound together by the pursuit of innovation. Initial phases of the 20-year development plan will feature up to 5 million square feet of entrepreneurial spaces, teaching and research facilities, corporate offices, residential and retail development,

and hospitality and cultural venues. Tying it all together is a plan for beautiful public spaces and green connections to the rest of University City, anchored by a 1.3-acre park across from the train station called Drexel Square.

Schuylkill Yards will greatly improve Drexel’s ability to carry out our mission and achieve our academic goals over the long term. By attracting start-up innovation-driven businesses, the project will set the stage for reimagined academic programs, foster new experiential learning opportunities and enable the pursuit of translational research with commercial potential. New public spaces and amenities will enhance the experience of our students, faculty, professional staff, alumni and neighbors.

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continued from page 1

Brandywine will provide the financial resources to design, construct, manage and maintain Schuylkill Yards, and as the project is developed over the coming decades, Drexel has the opportunity to generate millions of endowment dollars from ground leases.

Intrinsic to Schuylkill Yards is Drexel's and Brandywine's commitment to driving inclusive economic growth in Philadelphia. The project will create thousands of jobs and generate tens of millions of dollars in tax revenue, and it incorporates specific pathways for residents of adjacent neighborhoods to share in the resulting employment and business

development opportunities, benefit from neighborhood revitalization, and access services offered by the Schuylkill Yards community.

"Drexel has always believed there's a superior use for this unique location — essentially the 50-yard line of the Eastern Seaboard — as a neighborhood built around collaboration and innovation," said Drexel President John A. Fry. "That's why the University assembled these parcels, and the time is right to put this vision into action. Schuylkill Yards is more than a large-scale development project; it will be the heart of America's next great urban innovation district."

## THE TRANSFORMING CAMPUS



Drexel University's rapidly changing landscape has become one of its most distinctive calling cards in recent years. Each new class of students sees noisy construction zones yield up state-of-the-art research facilities and classrooms, helpful retail services, comfortable student housing and buzzing open plazas.

Underpinning this rapid transformation is a focused master plan — to harness Drexel's vibrant urban setting and deliver optimal spaces for our distinct brand of experiential learning, applied research, diverse student life and community engagement. Three new Drexel buildings scheduled to open in fall 2016 exemplify this vision:

**1 • The Raymond G. Perelman Center for Jewish Life** will be the first freestanding building devoted to Jewish student life at the University. Named in recognition of a \$6 million commitment from philanthropist Raymond G. Perelman, the Center will be home to Drexel Hillel and the site for Shabbat services and dinners, social and education programs, and programs facilitating opportunities in Israel. The more than 13,000-square-foot, three-story structure is being designed by the award-winning Stanley Saitowitz/Natoma Architects Inc. of San Francisco and will be located at 34th Street near Lancaster Avenue in the heart of the student residential district.

**2 • The Study Hotel at University City**, developed by Hospitality 3, will deliver high-quality, full-service lodging to the students and families, faculty, researchers, entrepreneurs and visitors who come to Drexel and University City to work, learn and play. Located at 33rd and Chestnut Streets, the 145,000-square-foot hotel will feature 212 rooms, approximately 7,000 square feet of banquet/meeting space, a 105-seat corner restaurant and bar, and a state-of-the-art fitness center.

**3 • The Thomas R. Kline Institute for Trial Advocacy** at the Kline School of Law is part of a landmark \$50 million gift to name the law school from Tom Kline, one of the nation's most respected and influential trial lawyers. Kline's gift included the conveyance of the historic Beneficial Saving Fund Society Building at 12th and Chestnut streets in Center City, which is undergoing renovation to house the Institute. The Institute will advance courtroom simulation for the JD program, co-curricular programming, and faculty interaction with students who undertake advocacy-based co-ops and clinical work. It will also support the development of post-graduate LLM and continuing legal education trial and appellate advocacy programs.

## DREXEL 100 NEWSMAKERS

**Diran Apelian, ScD** (BS, CoE, 1968) received the Audubon Society's Joan Hodges Queneau Palladium Medal and the 2015 John Campbell Medal from the Institute of Cast Metals Engineers in the United Kingdom.

**Mark Boxer** (MS, CCI, 2001) received the Distinguished Alumni Award at the University of Hartford's 2014 commencement ceremony.

**Dominic Caruso** (BS, LeBow, 1980) accepted the Silver Anniversary Honoree Award from the State Theatre of New Brunswick on behalf of Johnson & Johnson for its "unwavering support of the arts community and the city of New Brunswick."

**Richard J. Cohen, PhD, FACHE** (PhD, MCP, 1978) served on the Human Services Committee of Philadelphia Mayor Jim Kenney's Transition Team.

**Blair Christie** (BS, LeBow, 1994; MBA, LeBow, 1999) joined the advisory board of AirGrub and the board of MINDBODY, and she was appointed head of strategic communications for the Boardlist. She was also named to the "2015 Marketing Hall of Fame" by *Direct Marketing News* magazine.

**Nicholas DeBenedictis** (Trustee; BS, LeBow, 1968; MS, CoE, 1969; HD, 1987) retired in July 2015 after 22 years as chairman and CEO of Aqua America; he remains active with the company as non-executive chairman of the board. He was named the 2015 "Executive of the Year" by the Chester County Chamber of Business & Industry.

**Dana Dornsife** (BS, LeBow, 1983; HD, 2014) and her husband, David Dornsife, made a \$45 million gift to Drexel's School of Public Health, which was named the Dana and David Dornsife School of Public Health.

**Angela Dowd-Burton** (BS, LeBow, 1974; MBA, LeBow, 1979) was appointed to the diversity oversight board of Live! Hotel and Casino.

**Carl E. Dranoff** (Former Trustee; BS, CoE, 1970; HD, 1986) received the Most Influential Developer Award at the *Philadelphia Business Journal's* 2015 Heavy Hitters of Real Estate event. He was also recognized in *Philadelphia Business Journal's* "Power 76," the list of the top movers and shakers in the greater Philadelphia area.

**Robert D. Falese, Jr.** (MBA, LeBow, 1975) has been appointed to the board of directors of Empire National Bank and to the Freedom Bank of Virginia.

**David Geltzer** (Trustee; Parent; BS, Accounting, LeBow, 1977) and the Geltzer Family Foundation, along with the USO, helped to fund and organize a surprise trip to the Phillies Phantasy Camp for Army Sgt. 1st Class Jamil Ali, who has served 19 years in the military, including deployments in the Middle East.

**Ed Gerber, PhD** (BS, CoE, 1957; MS, CoE, 1961) was featured in an article in *The American Scholar* written by Drexel colleague Peter Herzfeld, PhD. The article applauded Dr. Gerber for his continued passions in both engineering and education.

**Richard Greenawalt** (Trustee; BS, CoE, 1966) received a 2016 *Philadelphia Business Journal* Outstanding Director Award for his service as chairman of the Drexel Board of Trustees.

**Clare Hart** (BS, LeBow, 1983) was featured on *Inc.* magazine's "Impact 50" list, which recognizes the top 50 fastest-growing private companies led by women.

**Richard III** (Trustee; MBA, LeBow, 1973) served as interim CEO of Triumph Group Inc. from April 2015 until January 2016.

**Moshe M. Kam, PhD, PE** (PhD, CoE, 1987), along with three co-inventors, patented "computer-implemented methods, computer-readable media, and systems for tracking a plurality of spermatozoa." Drexel University was listed as the assignee of the patent.

**Mike Lawrie** (Trustee; MBA, LeBow, 1977) was appointed chairman of CSRA, Inc., the new independent public company which separated from Computer Sciences Corporation (CSC) and merged with SRA International. He was also named chairman of the board of directors of CSC. In addition, Mr. Lawrie was named one of the "Most Influential Virginians" by *Virginia Business* magazine.

**Alan S. MacDonald, PhD** (BS, LeBow, 1966) was listed as #134 in *Crain's New York Business* magazine's "Most-Connected New Yorkers."

**Gary K. Michelson, MD** (MD, HU, 1975; Former Resident, Orthopaedics, HU, 1979) was recognized on the list of "The Philanthropy 50: America's Biggest Donors in 2014" from *The Chronicle of Philanthropy*, and he was recognized as #8 on "Medtech's Billionaires" list in *Medical Device and Diagnostic Industry*.

**Denis O'Brien** (Trustee; MBA, LeBow, 1987) served a one-year term as chairman of The Electric Power Research Institute.

**Kevin J. O'Hara** (BS, CoE, 1983) was elected vice chairman of the board of directors of RigNet.

**Richelle P. Parham** (Trustee; BS, LeBow, 1991; BS, Westphal, 1991) was appointed to the board of directors of LabCorp, and she was selected to serve on the judging panel for the 11th annual Interactive Advertising Bureau MIXX Awards. She was chosen as one of the top nine women in a straw poll held by *AdWeek* on female candidates who should be considered for the NFL's vacant CMO position.

**C.R. "Chuck" Pennoni** (Trustee; BS, Goodwin, 1963; MS, CoE, 1966; HD, 2009) celebrated the 50th anniversary of Pennoni Associates.

**Malik Rose** (BS, SoE, 1996; HD, 2009) was appointed manager of basketball operations for the Atlanta Hawks NBA team.

**Roberta Scheller** (BS, Westphal, 1980) and her family established the Woodman-Scheller Graduate Fellowships in Israel Studies at Ben Gurion University of the Negev.

**Susan Seidelman** (BS, CoAS, 1991; HD, 1991) received the Lifetime Achievement Award for her work as a film director at the Sixth Annual New Hope Film Festival in New Hope, Pennsylvania in 2015.

**Sandy Sheller** (MCAT, CNHP, 2004; CE, CNHP, 2005) served on the Human Services Committee of Philadelphia Mayor Jim Kenney's Transition Team.

**Stanley W. Silverman** (Trustee; BS, CoE, 1969; MBA, LeBow, 1974) was the featured speaker at the Philadelphia Snapshot Education Series event sponsored by the Turnaround Management Association as part of the annual Economic Outlook Summit held at East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania.

**Norman R. Smith, EdD** (BS, LeBow, 1969; MBA, LeBow, 1971) was named president of Elmira College in Elmira, New York.

**Susan Sordoni, MD** (MD, MCP, 1997) was elected to the board of trustees of the Commonwealth Medical College in Scranton, Pennsylvania.

**Michael J. Williams** (Trustee; BS, LeBow, 1980; MBA, LeBow, 1983) was named the lead independent director of the board of directors of Realogy Holdings Corp., a real estate franchising company.