June 2015

Union College News

ReUnion honors graduates, Karp family

Nearly 2,000 visitors came to campus May 29-31 for ReUnion, the annual celebration of the College’s graduates. Among the highlights was the official dedication of Karp Hall. Built in 1965, the former Humanities building – one of the most heavily-used academic spaces – recently underwent a transformative year-long renovation. Supported by a lead gift from the Karp Family Foundation, the building boasts 37 offices, 10 classrooms, a lobby, a faculty lounge and a cluster of student alcoves. View a photo gallery here.

Celebrating a quarter-century of student research

Now in its 25th year, Steinmetz Symposium has grown from that first spring day in April 1991, when 130 students presented, to one that featured more than 500 students on May 8. Steinmetz Symposium (watch video) coincided with Prize Day May 9. Among the top awards given were the Josephine Daggett Prize to the senior for conduct and character (Caelan Lapointe ’15) and the Frank Bailey (1885) Prize to the senior who has rendered the greatest service to the College in any field (Chetna Prasad ’15)

Professor observes quantum-mechanical monopoles

Michael Ray, visiting assistant professor of physics, is part of an international team that have experimentally identified a pointlike monopole in a quantum field for the first time. The discovery, announced mid-May, gives scientists further insight into the elusive monopole magnet, an elementary particle that researchers believe exists but has not yet been seen in nature.

UNION IN THE MEDIA

Jackson’s Garden is the oldest cultivated garden on an American college campus. Within is one ginko tree brought from Japan, remains of trenches dug during the Civil War and more than 100 species of rare plants. Read more in The Sunday Gazette. Additional coverage of Union in the Media is available here.

SPRING MAGAZINE COMING SOON

The spring issue of Union College will be arriving in your mailbox soon. Learn about Union's connections to Abraham Lincoln, an $11 million gift that will transform the Visual Arts building, and one alumna's stunning efforts to tell her parents' stories (of their battles with cancer) through photography.

A SIMPLE OPTION: NAME UNION BENEFICIARY OF FUNDS

Popular ways to make a gift to the College are to name Union the beneficiary of a qualified retirement plan or IRA, or of a life insurance policy. Qualified retirement-account assets are among the highest taxed assets in your estate. Non-charitable beneficiaries generally have to pay income tax on distributions and they could be subject to estate and generation skipping taxes. For additional information on this option and planning your will, request our Will-Planning Booklet from cavaliej@union.edu or call us at (888) 843-4365, ext. 6156.
Student receives University Innovation Fellowship
Sean Farrell ’17 has been named a University Innovation Fellow. The prestigious program is designed to help foster entrepreneurship and innovation among students nationwide. Farrell is among 123 students from 52 schools selected by the National Center for Engineering Pathways to Innovation (Epicenter).

Have a job opening? Hire a Union student
As students prepare for the end of the term or Commencement, they’re also finalizing their summer and post-graduation plans. If your company has recruiting needs or job/internship opportunities to fill, consider posting them for Union College students. Email position descriptions to Rochelle Caruso (carusor@union.edu), senior associate director of employer relations at Becker Career Center.

Gallery launches new website
Union’s Mandeville Gallery recently unveiled its new website, which features expanded Permanent Collection material, a new "search by year" function, and a recent acquisitions page. Current and upcoming events are also highlighted. Check it out here.

Alumni in the News
Alumna changes careers, becomes doctor
Dr. Maria Gonzaga ’88 was recently profiled by the Ledger-Enquirer. The Q&A focused on her decision to enter medical school when she was well into her 30s, and the successful OB/GYN practice she now operates in Columbus, Ga.

ONE MONTH TO MAKE YOUR GIFT
“Coming from a middle-class family, I was very worried about the expense of college. Although I was passionate about my education and I loved Union, I was not sure that I would be able to afford it. A scholarship gave me the amazing opportunity to pursue my dreams. My time here has been incredible, and I owe it all to the generous alumni who made it possible.” -- Jennifer Sexton ’15

Transform the aspirations of students like Jennifer into achievements by making your Annual Fund gift before June 30. Your participation also keeps Union competitive with peer schools.

UPCOMING EVENTS
June 13, 2015
Garnet Gala
Union College

June 14, 2015
Commencement
Union College

June 18, 2015
Cape Cod Club Dinner Theatre
Cape Cod, Mass.

June 26, 2015
Baseball: Padres vs. Diamondbacks
San Diego, Calif.

July 31, 2015
Dick Roberts ’50 Memorial Gridiron Club Golf Tournament
Schenectady, N.Y.

More events are listed here.
Have you changed careers? Traveled? Won an award, gotten married or had a baby? Been published or promoted? Email classnotes@union.edu. Photos are welcome, too. Send high-resolution images that are at least 1 MB in size.