From the Director

The 2014 Rector Record continues to feature Rector Voices, the words of Rector Alumni. This year’s contributions are from the Rector Scholars who are currently members of the DePauw Faculty: Jeffrey McCall ’76, professor of communication and theater; Jeffrey Hansen ’86, professor of chemistry and biochemistry and Carrie Klaus ’93, associate professor of modern languages (French). All three have been faithful participants in the campus activities involving the present Rector undergraduates.

Another contribution from a Rector alumnus this year is available in the Rector Scholarship section of DePauw’s website. Norman J. Hudak ’54 has chronicled the story of the eleven chemistry majors in the class of 1954. All but one of them are Rector Scholars, and all pursued graduate studies, 10 earning Ph.D. degrees and one a M.D. Included in this piece are photographs of Minshall Laboratory and Rector Scholars in the fall of 1950.

Comments, suggestions or questions concerning the Rector Record or the Rector Scholarship Program may be sent to John Morrill at johnmorrill@depauw.edu or to Bartlett Alumni House Annex, DePauw University, P.O. Box 37, Greencastle, IN 46135.

The Class of 2013 Rectors were presented their Rector Scholar citations by the Rector faculty members at the annual Rector Senior Recognition Dinner.

The 2013-2014 Rector Scholars at the annual fall dinner hosted by President Brian Casey at The Elms.
My DePauw story started with a father who was a pastor in the United Methodist Church. He was committed to higher education and in particular to the three United Methodist colleges or universities in the state of Indiana. At least one member of my family attended each of the three. I was very academically oriented and DePauw had the strongest academic reputation of the three so that is where I wanted to go. My first experience with DePauw was in the summer of 1981 when I attended a one-week summer science program here. I loved it here and a year later enrolled as a student.

I always knew I wanted to study chemistry. DePauw was everything I hoped it would be. I had great friends, took terrific classes and learned a lot about myself. While at DePauw I lived for one year in Mason Hall, two years in Longden Hall, and one year in Hogate Hall. Fraternities weren't my thing and I was always happy to be a part of dorm life. I ran track one year and played trombone in the marching band, concert band, pep band and jazz ensemble.

DePauw prepared me extremely well. I learned a lot in the classes and my experiences helped me realize that I wanted to pursue a career in academia. In graduate school, I was usually better prepared than the other students and did well in classes. I loved working in lab but especially liked the challenge of developing my own research ideas.

I had the idea in the back of my mind that it would be nice to go back to DePauw to teach. At least I knew that I wanted to be at a place very much like this. After two years at Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, New York, and one year at Earlham College in Richmond, Ind., a position opened here at DePauw. I was fortunate enough to be offered the job and am very thankful for the opportunity.

Since returning to DePauw on the faculty I have taught lots of different courses but mostly organic chemistry. Maybe my favorite teaching experience is the Winter Term course called Sweet and Savory Science. It combines two things I love, chemistry and cooking. Mostly I enjoy getting to know students and helping them figure out what they want to do with their lives. Even if I’m teaching a course I’ve taught many times before, every semester is a new experience and my students help me find new ways to teach it.

Eight Rector Scholars on DePauw Faculty

Eight Rector Scholar alumni hold positions on the DePauw University faculty or the administrative force, according to a check of the new catalogue.

Judith Sollenberger, '22, has been an instructor in the department of English since 1924. She received her A. M. degree from the University of Illinois in 1923.

Cohen G. Pierson, '22, is assistant professor of History and has been on the faculty since 1925. He received his A. M. degree from the University of Illinois in 1924 and is now working toward his Ph. D.

H. E. Robbins, '24, has been employed in the treasurer’s office since graduation and two years ago was made treasurer of the university to take the place of Dr. Salem B. Town who became treasurer-emeritus.

Jarvis Davis, '25, is assistant professor of English Literature and has been on the faculty since 1926. He received his A. M. degree from the University of Chicago in 1926.

Russell Alexander, '25, has been director of publicity for the University since 1929. He is also secretary of the DePauw Alumni Association and edits the Alumni News each month. He is president of the Rector Alumni this year.

George Burkett, '29, is an instructor in the Botany department and has been on the faculty since 1930. He received his A. M. degree from the University of Kansas in 1930.

Samuel Culpeper, '29, was added to the faculty last September as an instructor in Spanish. He received his A. M. degree from Indiana University in 1931.

Albert Reynolds, '30, is completing his first year as an assistant in the department of Zoology and has been promoted to the rank of instructor in this department for next year.
The Rector Scholarship program was established to help provide a DePauw University experience for students who otherwise wouldn’t have been at DePauw. I was one of those students.

Growing up in Champaign, Ill., almost every college-bound student from my high school just headed across town to attend the University of Illinois. That was my plan, too, until I received a letter from DePauw’s cross country and track coach, Robert Harvey. Coach Harvey encouraged me to consider DePauw and visit campus. I visited campus and came to appreciate the small, liberal arts environment. Even with my interest in DePauw, the problem was how a student from a bricklayer’s family could manage the expense of a private education. The financial aid package from the Rector Program paved the way for my DePauw experience.

DePauw kept me quite busy for four years. In addition to running cross country and track, I got involved in student media at WGRE and The DePauw newspaper. I joined Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity and enjoyed many good friendships and activities there. I found my courses interesting and engaging. I was fortunate to study under some of DePauw’s legendary professors, including Bob Weiss in communication, Harry Hawkins in psych, Pat Thomas in sociology, Elizabeth Christman in literature, and Perc Allen in economics. It’s no exaggeration to say I looked forward to class every day with these brilliant professors.

I did eventually get to attend the University of Illinois, doing my MA there right after graduating from DePauw. Upon completion of my MA, my wife Cathy and I moved to Missouri where I became news director of an NPR radio affiliate. During that time, I was a part-time correspondent for NPR’s national broadcasts “Morning Edition” and “All Things Considered.”

After several years in the media, I developed the urge to earn a Ph.D. and return to the academy. I completed my Ph.D. at the University of Missouri in 1985 and began looking for a liberal arts setting in which I could join the professoriate. Fortunately, DePauw had an opening in communication.

My teaching duties at DePauw have included courses in electronic journalism, media law, and communication ethics. I have also supervised WGRE as part of my duties. My scholarly work for many years involved presentations, articles, and book chapters on media literacy. I have since transitioned to doing media commentary in the public sphere. I now do media analysis through newspaper columns and interviews with radio, television and newspaper outlets. My topics include First Amendment and free speech issues, the news agenda, and cultural content issues.

Greencastle has been a nice community in which to live, and I have been active in coaching youth sports and serving on the Greencastle school board for four terms. Coach Harvey used to tell his runners that running was a sport for life, so I continue to run for my exercise.

I look back with gratitude for the opportunity to attend DePauw and for the Rector support that made my attendance possible.
Rector Voices: Carrie Klaus ’93

In a speech he delivered at a DePauw University Dinner at the Claypool Hotel in Indianapolis in January 1923, Edward Rector remarked, “I do not know of any investment of a small or larger sum of money, that is likely to bring more direct returns or greater ones, of more far-reaching effect, than […] assistance to young men and young women who are eager for higher education in an institution such as DePauw, and have the capacity for it, but who in the absence of such assistance would be deprived of it.” I was a student for whom Rector’s gift made an education at DePauw possible.

When I came to DePauw as a first-year student in late summer 1989, I knew little about the man who had given his name to both the scholarship and the residence hall that became my new home, but I knew that the Rector Scholarship had brought down the cost of studying at DePauw to that of studying at a large state school, and it had allowed me to convince my parents that DePauw was the place for me. During my time at DePauw, I developed and nurtured a passion for language and literature, studied abroad in Strasbourg, France, wrote (in French) an Honor Scholar senior thesis on 20th-century French feminist Simone de Beauvoir, and earned majors in French and English. I also took advantage of the many opportunities the School of Music offered even to liberal-arts students, as I continued to study piano, played French horn in the concert and marching bands, and sang in the Concert Choir and Century Singers. A highlight was singing at Carnegie Hall in January 1990 when the Concert Choir, under the direction of Stanley Irwin, traveled to New York City during my first Winter Term. We sang at the White House the following December.

After graduating from DePauw in 1993, I went on to study at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where I earned a M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in French literature, returning to Strasbourg, Paris, and Geneva to do research for a dissertation on women’s writing of the French Reformation that was inspired in many ways by courses in French and English that I had taken at DePauw. I returned to DePauw as a faculty member in French in August 2000, and I am currently chair of the Department of Modern Languages. I have the great pleasure of working with colleagues in Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Russian, Spanish, and Portuguese and of continuing to teach not only courses in French, but interdisciplinary courses such as first-year seminars on Renaissance Women Writers and Women’s Fiction in Revolutionary France.

It is no exaggeration to say that my life, and the lives of the students with whom I have the opportunity to work in the classroom, have been shaped by Edward Rector’s gift to DePauw almost a hundred years ago.


Current Rector Scholars (continued)

■ Class of 2016
Megan Bailey ’16 Columbus, Ind.
Timothy Brauer ’16 Greenwood, Ind.
Sam Cole ’16 Indianapolis
Page Daniels ’16 Amboy, Ind.
Lauren Falotico ’16 Arlington Heights, Ill.
Conner Gordon ’16 Carmel, Ind.
Shannon Hall ’16 Jacksonville, Fla.
Erin Horne ’16 Arlington Heights, Ill.
Mark Johnson ’16

Northbrook, Ill.
Risa (Lisa) Kanai ’16 Kanagawa-Ken, Japan
Scott Lockwood ’16 Carmel, Ind.
Olivia Muller ’16 Carmel, Ind.
Patricia Preuss ’16 Granger, Ind.
LeeAnn Sausser ’16 Indianapolise
Hannah Short ’16 Saint Robert, Mo.
Erin Tolar ’16 Grove City, Ohio
Noelle Witwer ’16 Bluffton, Ind.

Joshua Clark ’17 Indianapolis, IN
Danielle Dattilio ’17 Lexington, KY
Kristin Hillman ’17 Scottsdale, AZ
Carolyn Jedd ’17 Chicago, IL
Stephen Johnson ’17 Frankfort, IL

Midori Kawae’17 Yokohama, Japan
Lauren Saint ’17 Indianapolis, IL
Olubusola Shifatu ’17 Lagos, Nigeria
Peter Steiner ’17 Atlanta, GA
Amanda Straw ’17 Chicago, IL
Amanda Weber ’17 Cary, IL

An Investment in Humanity, the story of the Rectors and their historic scholarship written by Rector Scholar Lew Gulick ’44, is available on The Rector Scholarship website. A printed copy can be ordered by calling the Eli’s Bookstore, 765-653-0618.