

Dean Drafted by Defense Department



Dr. Paula M. McNutt

Dr. Paula M. McNutt, interim dean for the College of Arts & Sciences, was recruited by the Department of Defense last fall to attend its Educators and Defense Conference. The three-day session gives educators, including college presidents and administrators, a first-hand look at the Defense Department's programs and policies as they relate to national defense.

Over the course of her trip, McNutt visited Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps military bases, conducted military training exercises, toured nuclear submarines, and observed amphibious landings and urban combat techniques.

The Educators and Defense Conference is part of the Secretary of Defense's premier civic leader program known as the Joint Civilian Orientation Conference (JCOC).

Teaching Professorship Program Names New Round of Professors

The Peter Canisius Distinguished Teaching Professors Program, formerly known as the Oishei Professors Program, awarded its first new round of professorships in January. Established in 1998 with a gift from the John R. Oishei Foundation and renewed in May 2002 with joint funding from Canisius, the program provides the college's best faculty with the resources to create

innovative programs that enhance undergraduate teaching through interdisciplinary projects, scholarly travel and experimental courses. Under the program, three new professorships will be awarded each year for the next three years. Recipients of the new

professorships include:

Dr. Bruce J. Dierenfield, professor of history and expert on the Civil Rights Movement, will establish three new courses in African American history, each of which will be complemented



Dr. Bruce J. Dierenfield
Professor of History



Dr. Michael Noonan
Professor of
Biology/Psychology



Dr. Mick E. Cochrane
Professor of English,
Writer-in-Residence

Ambassadors for Conservation program. Noonan will travel with students to distant sites to study wildlife. Students will then be required to give wildlife conservation presentations at local zoological institutions and high

schools, and develop Web and DVD versions of their presentations for use by biology teachers and education departments beyond Western New York.

Dr. Mick E. Cochrane's grant will be used to

by a distinguished speaker series, African American cultural encounters at local theaters and jazz clubs, and trips to historical African American sites.

Dr. Michael Noonan, professor of biology/psychology, will enhance the Canisius

extend the life of his very popular Contemporary Writers Series, which brings nationally-known fiction writers to campus to read from their work and meet with students, faculty and the Buffalo community.

Professor Birch Participates in Draft of UN Declaration

Dr. Marcheta L. Birch, associate professor of political science, traveled to Geneva, Switzerland in December to attend the United Nations Working Group on the Draft Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. This body's purpose is to review and revise the existing draft to be sent on to the UN Commission on Human Rights. Some of the Tonawanda Senecas of the Haudenosaunee [hō-dē-nēh-

SHŌ-nēē] (Iroquois) invited Birch to provide political analysis and suggestions throughout the working group's session. Once complete and ultimately approved by the UN General Assembly, the declaration will affirm the rights of indigenous peoples to, among other things, assert their self-determination.

"This document is a monumental step forward for the rights of indigenous peoples," says

Birch. "While not legally binding, it will provide the framework for indigenous peoples to seek remedies for past and present human rights violations."

Birch has been researching the rights of indigenous peoples for more than 15 years.



Dr. Marcheta Birch

Starr Chronicles Hockey History at Canisius

As the college prepares to co-host its first NCAA Men's Frozen Four tournament, **Dr. Daniel P. Starr**, associate professor of history, looks back on the players who pioneered the game at Canisius in *Canisius College Hockey: The Early Stages*. The essay chronicles nearly two decades (1937-1954) of hockey

history at Canisius, and highlights the enduring efforts made by coaches and student-athletes to initiate a hockey program at the college.

To read *Canisius College Hockey: The Early Stages*, visit www.canisius.edu/hockeyhistory.

