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JOURNAL

The New **Leahy Hall** Opens its Doors
Embracing the Call to Care

Scranton's New **STRATEGIC PLAN** Unveiled

Experts Weigh in on the **Pope's Encyclical**

New Building, Unlimited Possibilities

Edward R. Leahy Jr. Hall, an ideal space for active learning,
opens its doors to the University community.

To passersby, the new eight-story building on campus, which stands at 130 feet and exceeds 116,000 square feet, is simply an edifice that has transformed the eastern skyline of Scranton. To the faculty and students of Panuska College of Professional Studies (PCPS), it is more than a mere structure with panoramic views of the campus and city. It is a place to embrace the Ignatian call to care for others. In fact, coinciding with the building's opening, a yearlong series of events under the theme of "Embracing the Call to Care," will celebrate the new facility and accomplishments of the entire college.

Edward R. Leahy Jr. Hall, named in honor of the late son of longtime University benefactors Patricia and Edward Leahy '68, H'01, and now housing the undergraduate and graduate departments of exercise science, occupational therapy and physical therapy, is a place for collaboration among scholars, practitioners, students and patients, with a bit of extra space for future innovative programs to flourish.

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THIRD LEVEL

Hand and Rehabilitation Laboratory:

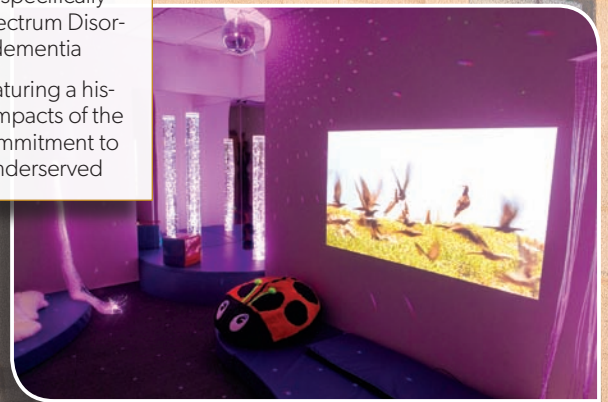
Designed to treat conditions to optimize the functional use of the hand and arm, and treat fractures of the hand or arm, lacerations and amputations, burns and surgical repairs of tendons and nerves



FIRST LEVEL

Sensory/Snoezelen Room: Designed to develop people's senses through special lighting, music and objects specifically for children with Autism Spectrum Disorders and older adults with dementia

Café: Community space featuring a historic display honoring the impacts of the YWCA building and our commitment to community health for the underserved



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— Kevin P. Quinn, S.J., *University President*

SEVENTH LEVEL

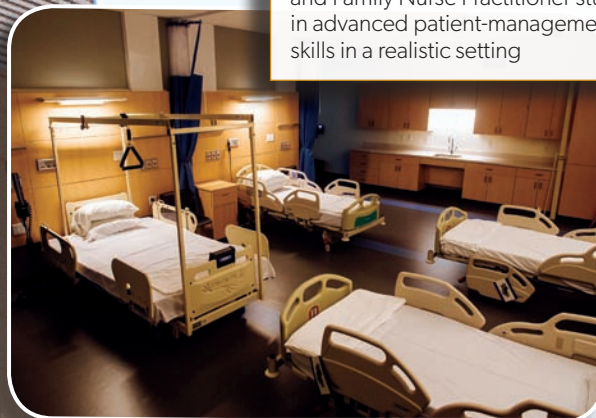
Physiology Laboratory: To study the body's response to a wide range of physical exercise conditions including level of exertion, type of exercise, amount of oxygen available in the air, source of metabolic energy and diet



FIFTH LEVEL

Hospital Simulation:

For the training of Physical Therapy and Family Nurse Practitioner students in advanced patient-management skills in a realistic setting



SECOND LEVEL

Rehabilitation Apartment and Streetscape:

Replica of daily environments to help patients relearn daily living skills; includes a city street, grocery store, car, garage, bus stop and a home

Dean's Administrative Suite: Features a conference room with the stained glass from the former YWCA/Leahy Hall building



For more photos of Leahy Hall, visit scranton.edu/scrantonjournal.



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"The University of Scranton and greater Scranton community have benefited enormously through the heartfelt call made by Patricia and Ed Leahy to use our talent to care for the needs of those in our area," said University President Kevin P. Quinn, S.J. "The new facility aligns well with the spirit of faculty, student and community engagement that is at the heart of programs the Leahys have initiated and generously supported for decades."

The modern building, designed to connect with McGurkin Hall, is a physical monument to a key pillar of the University's new strategic plan: Every nail and beam are dedicated to integration. "PCPS undergraduate and graduate programs are now all connected, under one roof, with one entrance," said Dean Debra A. Pellegrino, noting the beauty of it all.

From the start, Leahy Hall's architects focused on integration. PCPS faculty, with help from laboratory planning consultants Health Education + Research Associates and architects Hemmler + Camayd and Bohlin Cywinski Jackson, collaborated to design labs, classrooms and meeting spaces that place the student in the center of new, active learning methods.

SIMULATION AND ACTIVE LEARNING

Simulation methodologies in academic settings are important in training those in the "helping professions." The second-floor rehabilitation apartment and streetscape enable students to train in replicas of a home, a grocery store, a bus stop, park benches and even a garage. Julie Ann Nastasi, OTD, occupational therapy faculty specialist, said the streetscape is invaluable in training. "Students can get the experience of how, for example, people in wheelchairs navigate narrow spaces or place items on a conveyor belt in a supermarket, without losing time traveling to off-campus sites."

The building also features video cameras in the classrooms that allow students to record their practice sessions. "Sometimes students are so focused on doing every step correctly that they forget things like good body mechanics, or they fail to pick up on

the social cues from the person they are helping. Watching it on video is better than strictly verbal feedback. It integrates learning. Students see, do and reflect," said Nastasi.

Labs equipped with technology are another example of student-centered learning in Leahy Hall, according to Paul T. Cutrufello, Ph.D., assistant professor in the Exercise Science and Sport Department. He explained that students will use metabolic carts, equipped with a computer system, monitor and breathing tubes to observe exhaled gases, heart rate and oxygen saturation in real time as a person exercises on a treadmill. "Students learn by hearing, seeing and doing," he said. "But doing is best."

Students agree and are thrilled to get into the new building.

Shannon Gilman is a physical therapy student from Plymouth Meeting. "One of the greatest things about the PT department at Scranton is that faculty constantly relate the information taught in lecture to how it will appear in the clinic and how we will treat it," she said. Leahy Hall, with advanced technology and real-life laboratories, will further these connections for enhanced training.

In Leahy Hall, many classrooms are set up to encourage collaboration, with chairs in small circles or surrounding a "mediated" table, each with its own laptop. Scott P. Breloff, Ph.D., assistant professor in the Exercise Science and Sport Department, is an advocate of this type of classroom setup and team-based learning. "The students will split into teams to solve a problem together," he said. "Their work can go from the laptop onto a big screen for everyone to see. Active learning applies knowledge and puts theory into practice."

*To continue reading **New Building, Unlimited Possibilities**, turn to page 40.*



The Ignatian call to care for others is fully embraced across all disciplines in the Panuska College of Professional Studies — a college whose students embrace their vocation in the "helping professions." A yearlong series of events under the theme "Embracing the Call to Care," will celebrate the new facility and accomplishments of the entire college. For more information go to scranton.edu/pcpscalltocare.