

## The University of Scranton Launches its Largest-ever Capital Campaign

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The University of Scranton unveiled a capital campaign of unprecedented magnitude that will transform the campus and secure the future of the 120-year-old Catholic and Jesuit university.

Announcement of the \$100 million Pride, Passion, Promise Campaign was made at a gala held on campus on April 26. The University publicly launched of the campaign with record support from benefactors who have already committed \$68 million to Scranton's largest-ever fundraising initiative. Among the funds raised to date is \$50 million from just 51 donors, including 14 gifts and pledges of \$1,000,000 or more.

"The launch of this campaign is a moment of great pride as we rededicate ourselves to the limitless promise of a Catholic and Jesuit education," said University of Scranton President Rev. Scott R. Pilarz, S.J. "The remarkable support that we have already received from donors speaks to the commitment, enthusiasm and generous spirit of giving that have sustained Scranton for 120 years and that will propel this great university into a new era of educational excellence."



Announcing The University of Scranton's \$100 million Pride, Passion, Promise Campaign to support capital projects and enhance Scranton's endowment and annual resources, are from left, Campaign National Co-Chairs Margaret Condron, Ph.D., and Christopher "Kip" Condron, president and chief executive officer of AXA Financial, Inc. and University of Scranton President Rev. Scott R. Pilarz, S.J.

More than 450 people attended the black-tie dinner and dance, which included presentations from students, faculty, alumni and campaign leaders. Among the speakers were Campaign National Co-Chairs Christopher "Kip" Condron, of the class of 1970, and Margaret Condron, Ph.D.

"Scranton is our top philanthropic priority," said Mr. Condron, president and chief executive officer of AXA Financial, Inc. "We accepted the invitation to serve as national chairpersons of the Pride, Passion, Promise Campaign because we sincerely believe that the university is well-positioned to build upon its tremendous reputation as one of the finest universities in the northeast."

A trustee of The University of Scranton, Dr. Condron noted that the couple's support for Scranton is inspired by the students it serves. "It is the drive of these students – their passion and their enthusiasm – that motivates us to work so diligently on behalf of Scranton," she said.

Funds raised through the Pride, Passion, Promise Campaign will support capital projects, and enhance Scranton's endowment and annual resources.

Among the transformational capital projects is the new Patrick & Margaret DeNaples Center, a 118,000 square-foot campus center that opened in January and was dedicated on Feb. 28. The building is named in honor of the late Patrick and Margaret DeNaples, parents of Louis DeNaples Sr., a devoted friend and former chair of the Board of Trustees of the University.

Opening this fall will be Christopher and Margaret Condron Hall, a 386-bed sophomore residence hall. The 108,000 square-foot building is located on the corner of Linden Street and North Webster Avenue.

Plans are being developed for a new center for the sciences that will provide Scranton with a facility to match the excellence of the science education for which the university is known.

"The 50-year-old Loyola Hall of Science and its 20-year-old upgrades have been pushed to the limits by the outstanding work of our students and faculty," said Fr. Pilarz. "The new facility will be designed to promote innovative pedagogies and methodologies as it serves every student enrolled at Scranton."

Other capital improvements include the renovation of The Estate as a new home for Admissions, development of the Alperin Financial Center in Brennan Hall and creation of a campus green adjacent to the new DeNaples Center.

In the area of endowment, Scranton seeks to secure its future through substantial growth in support for need- and merit-based scholarships, professorships, and academic- and student-life programs. This includes tuition assistance

endowment to provide need-based aid for qualified and deserving students, as well as program and academic excellence endowment to support academic programs and professorships.

The campaign also includes growth in annual giving to the University, which helps to bridge the gap between the price of tuition and the cost of education.

Earlier in the day, the university held a Mass of Celebration, academic symposia, a men's varsity lacrosse game and campus tours.

A campaign Web site, [www.scranton.edu/campaign](http://www.scranton.edu/campaign), will be launched on April 28 that will include video presentations about the campaign premiered at the gala.