College News: Alumnae Named to Kellstadt Leadership Roles; DePaul Joins Chicago's 1871 Business Incubator
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The Coleman Entrepreneurship Center has partnered with DePaul’s College of Law, College of Computing and Digital Media, and Office of Academic Affairs to join 1871, Chicago’s premier business incubator.

The collaboration gives DePaul students and faculty access to 1871’s events, workshops and lectures, as well as networking opportunities with industry thought leaders. The membership also has enabled professors to host classes, meetings and research presentations that showcase DePaul at the startup hub, which is located in the Merchandise Mart, about a mile north of DePaul’s Loop Campus.

DePaul’s membership includes dedicated office space in a prime spot on University Row, an area of 1871 where the University of Chicago, Northwestern University and other local universities are grouped. Last month, DePaul students mixed with students from other University Row institutions to participate in Campus 1871, a weekend-long challenge to brainstorm and pitch new business ideas. The event was a “tremendous opportunity for our students to work closely with students from the other 1871 universities to develop teamwork, creativity and innovation ideas,” says Bruce Leech (MBA ’81), executive director of the Coleman Entrepreneurship Center. “It was the highlight of the year for the university partners, students and faculty who participated.”

Alumnae Named to Kellstadt Leadership Roles

Christa Hinton (MBA ’98, EDD ’12) has been promoted to director of the Kellstadt Graduate School of Business, where she oversees student recruitment, admission, academic advising and career management services. Hinton has worked at DePaul since 2001 and previously led the Kellstadt Career Management Center as director and later as assistant dean. She was president of Women in Business before joining DePaul.

Jennifer Kopczynski (MED ’08, BUS MS ’17) has replaced Hinton as director of the Kellstadt Career Management Center. She previously served as associate director of the center and is an adjunct professor. She held a similar role in MBA student career services at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business before coming to DePaul. Kopczynski and her DePaul team offer a wide range of career advice and services tailored to the needs of graduate business students and alumni.

Hinton and Kopczynski say their priorities include enhancing the cocurricular experience for students and staying connected with alumni. “We want alumni to know that our relationship with them doesn’t end at graduation,” Hinton says. “We are always there for them, whether they are looking to enhance their skills by returning to earn another MBA concentration or graduate degree, are seeking career support through our networking events and one-on-one career advising, or want to come on campus to speak and share their knowledge with students.”