

pioneer

A Magazine of Utica College | Summer 2011

The Right Balance

A look inside UC's trademark blend of liberal and professional studies.



The View *from the* President's Office

By Todd S. Hutton



"This College was founded by forward-thinking people who shared a vision of providing broader access to the benefits of higher learning."

This issue of the *Pioneer* finds us preparing to embark upon a season of celebration.

Foremost in everyone's mind is the annual tradition of Homecoming, when we gather to share our experiences and accomplishments with one another, rekindle old bonds, and bring new memories into being. This cherished celebration takes on an entirely new dimension this fall, however, as we are called upon to honor not only our own personal achievements but those of the entire UC community.

I am referring, of course, to the *Achieve: A New Dream, A New Era* campaign, the successful conclusion of which we will mark at Homecoming 2011 and on other occasions throughout the coming academic year. While the final tally of this historic effort is yet to be announced, there is certainly a great deal to celebrate, from the stunning new learning facilities on campus to the extraordinary new heights our faculty and students have been able to achieve academically as a result of your generous support.

Even as this remarkable campaign was drawing to a close, UC achieved yet another momentous milestone. This past May the Board of Trustees approved a new Strategic Plan that provides a focused roadmap to a very promising future for UC. This ambitious document embodies the collective insights and creative thinking of the faculty, staff, students, alumni, and trustees who will play a key role in its implementation over the next decade. In many respects, it too represents a celebration of who we are as an institution and what it means to be a part of the Utica College community.

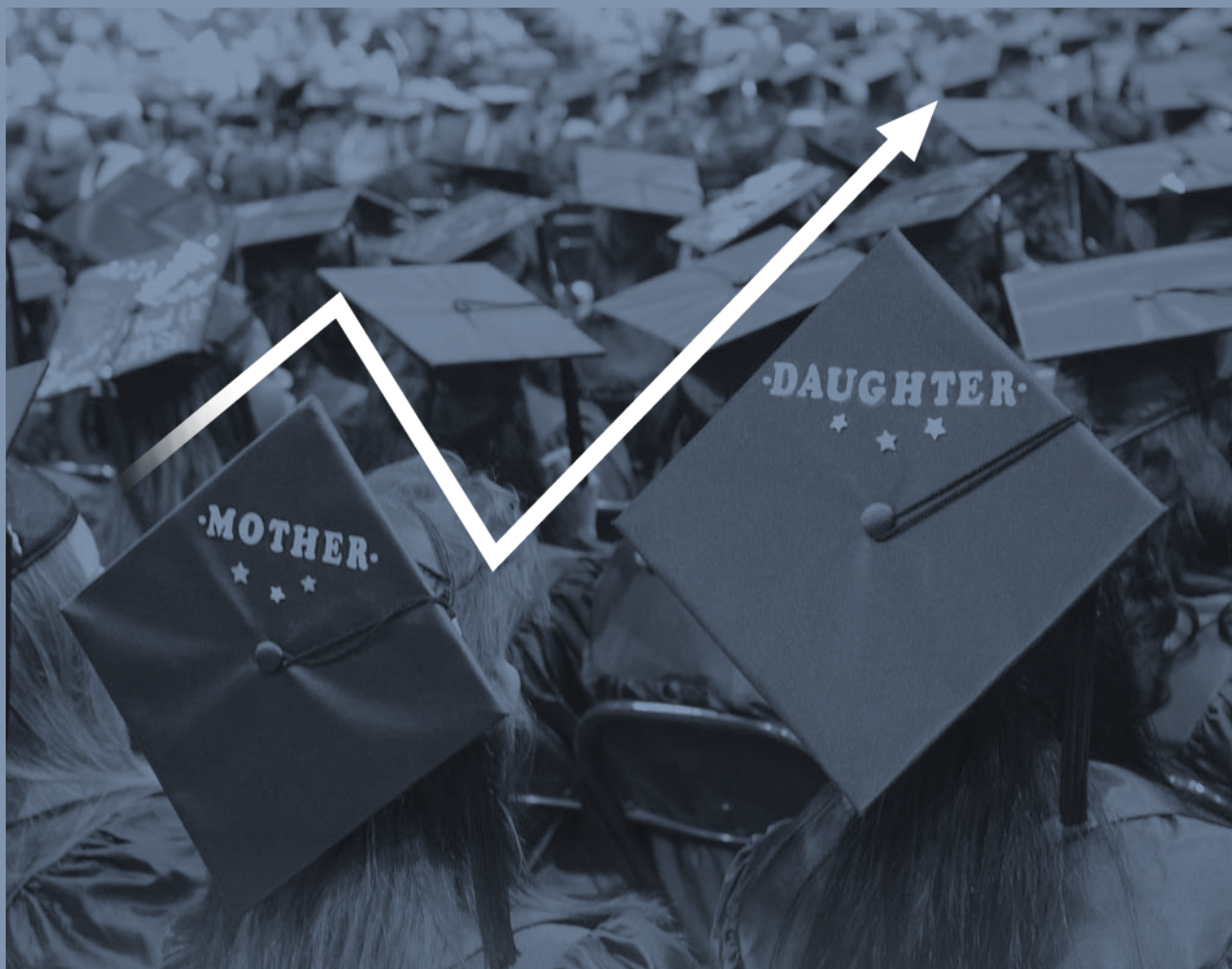
You will see the essence of our common heritage reflected in the pages that follow. Woven throughout this issue is a theme of empowerment that strikes close to our very core. This College was founded by forward-thinking people who understood the transformative power of knowledge and who shared a vision of providing broader access to the benefits of higher learning. As these articles demonstrate, their vision is being realized in the extraordinary efforts of our faculty both here and abroad as teachers, mentors, and advocates for human dignity.

While much remains to be accomplished on behalf of this institution and the families it serves, this is clearly a moment of pride for the UC community. I hope you will join us over the coming months in celebration of all we have been able to achieve together.

FOR FANS ONLY

Before you proceed, do as a true Pioneer fan does and join the growing community of alumni, students, faculty, staff, and friends of the College who have “liked” UC’s Facebook page. Go ahead – it only takes a minute. Then you can take your place in the Pioneer skybox and read in peace.

www.facebook.com/uticacollege



Growth Opportunity



While former Trustee Jack Terrillion '58 learned a lot about leadership as a Marine, it was his time at UC that enabled him to build on that experience in myriad ways, including being the only student involved in selecting an architect for the Burrstone Road campus. "It was a privilege to play a role in that process," recalls Terrillion, owner of Dallas-based Terrillion Investments and noted expert on property management. "And it has been gratifying to see that beautiful site grow into an attractive campus."

That said, this Oneida Square alumnus understands the core of UC's value proposition. "It takes more than buildings to make a college. It takes dedicated professors and administrators to pull it all together," he says.

That's why Terrillion offers this tip: invest in future growth by becoming a member of the Heritage Society, as he has. You heard it here first.

Learn more about Planned Giving Options at UC. Call 1-800-456-8278 today.

**HERITAGE
SOCIETY**

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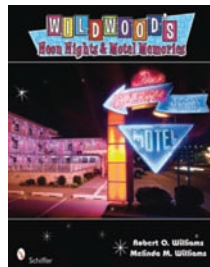


The Pioneer welcomes letters and editorials. E-mail us at pioneer@utica.edu, or write to Pioneer Magazine, Utica College, 1600 Burrstone Road, Utica, NY 13502-4892. Please include your name, class year (if appropriate), address, phone number, and e-mail address. Submissions may be edited for length, clarity, or style.

Bookmarks *Recent Works by Alumni Authors*

Wildwood's Neon Nights and Motel Memories

Robert O. Williams '79 and Melinda Williams



"The first time I drove into Wildwood, I was nearly 21. I am ashamed to admit, until that time, I had never stepped into the ocean. I was a small town boy whose vacations usually took place within a 100-mile radius of my upstate New York home. When I first laid my eyes on the Wildwood strip with my then girlfriend, Melinda Campitelli (now my wife), I was awestruck. Driving into Wildwood was akin to the scene in the Wizard of Oz when the movie jumps from black and white to Technicolor.

"I was a guy whose past vacations consisted of either summers at a Boy Scout Camp or a week with my parents at a rustic Adirondack Lake lodge. The culture shock of Wildwood was intimidating to a kid who was used to motels with names like Big Pine, Deerhead Lodge, the Lakefront Inn, and Bald Mountain Motel, not to mention every other outpost named after a proud Native American tribe that inhabited upstate New York."

Robert O. Williams, best known as a *Philadelphia Inquirer* staff photographer for 22 years and Pulitzer Prize nominee, introduces his latest homage to the halcyon days of Wildwood, NJ in *Wildwood's Neon Nights and Motel Memories*.

This gloriously illustrated book takes you on Wildwood's wild ride from a seaside playground in the 60s and 70s through the tumultuous 90s and 2000s, finally resting at its reincarnation with present-day Wildwood and some of the Doo-Wop motels being placed on The National Register of Historic Places.

A book as much about neon signage as the motels the alluring megawatts drew in, this trip down "memory lane" promises to take you back to your youth, if only for 220 color photos worth of it. The story behind Wildwood's roller coaster of kitsch, class, and memories is told by Melinda Williams, also formerly of *The Inquirer*. Listen in as the pioneers of the sign industry, building trade, and advertising world share how they created their niche in Wildwood and helped to buoy it up to international prominence in the tourism, architecture, and roadside Americana realms.

Robert Williams is the author and photographer of *Hometown Diners*, a critically acclaimed retrospect on stainless steel diners. *Wildwood's Neon Nights and Motel Memories* is written by Melinda Williams, managing partner of The Williams Group.

Wildwood's Neon Nights and Motel Memories is available at www.WildwoodsNeonNights.com and major book retailers.

Around Campus

Carbone Family Auditorium Dedicated

Utica College dedicated the Carbone Family Auditorium at a May 14 ceremony.

The Carbone family is known in the Mohawk Valley and beyond as much for their philanthropy as their business prominence. They are among the College's most generous and dedicated supporters. They have expressed their commitment to Utica College in a variety of ways – including their support of the *Achieve: A New Dream, A New Era* campaign and the establishment of a scholarship fund in honor of Joseph and Inez Carbone, the family patriarch and matriarch whose legacy the family reinforces through their giving.

"Their generous philanthropy, pursued with both vision and humility, reflects a profound connection to this institution and everything it stands for," said President Todd S. Hutton. "Together, they have had an enormous impact on the growth of our campus and the success of our mission. And though their very



successful business puts tremendous demands on their schedule, they have always found the time to help guide this institution."

The auditorium is located on the first floor of the Economic Crime, Justice Studies, and Cybersecurity Building.

Wise Earns Crisafulli Distinguished Teaching Award



Sharon Wise, professor of biology, is the 2011 recipient of the Virgil Crisafulli Distinguished Teaching Award. The award was presented to her by Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Judith Kirkpatrick during Utica College's May 15 Commencement ceremonies.

In presenting her for the award, Kirkpatrick described Wise as an acknowledged leader in her field, a passionate teacher, and a great role

model as a scientist and scholar. "More than just a fine researcher and an inspiring teacher, she is a model for how to be a happy professional," Kirkpatrick said.

Wise joined the UC faculty in 2001. Her research interest is behavioral ecology. She has been invited to world conferences, and is an editor for the widely read and highly regarded journal *Copeia*.

Named for the late Professor Emeritus of Economics Virgil Crisafulli and underwritten by the Crisafulli Fund for the Faculty, the award exemplifies the finest tradition of teaching. It is given annually to a full professor on the recommendation of faculty and students in recognition of demonstrated teaching excellence, dedication, and effectiveness.

Serway Receives Honorary Degree



Utica College conferred the honorary degree Doctor of Science on Raymond Serway '59 on May 15 at its Commencement ceremonies.

Serway is a distinguished scientist and academician. He is a retired professor emeritus at James Madison University, where he taught for 17 years, served as dean, and received the Madison Scholar Award in 1990. He began his career at Clarkson University in 1967 and taught at that institution until 1990, earn-

ing its distinguished teaching award in 1977. As guest scientist at the IBM Research Laboratory in Zurich, Switzerland, Serway worked with 1987 Nobel Prize recipient K. Alex Müller. He also was a visiting scientist at Argonne National Laboratory. He has coauthored several textbooks, published more than 40 research papers in the field of condensed matter physics, and presented at more than 60 professional meetings.

Serway received the Utica College National Alumni Council Alumni of Achievement Award in 1986. In 1991, he established and endowed the Dr. Raymond A. Serway '59 Scholarship, which is awarded each year to deserving students majoring in one of the natural sciences, with special consideration given to physics majors. He has been a longtime benefactor of the College, with his generous support of his scholarship and the Annual Fund.

A graduate from Utica College's Oneida Square campus, Serway later earned a master's in physics from the University of Colorado and a doctorate at Illinois Institute of Technology.

School of Arts and Sciences

Center Named for Nassar

Thirty years ago, Professor Emeritus of English Eugene Paul Nassar established the Ethnic Heritage Studies Center at Utica College as a venue for research, teaching, and public service for the diverse cultures of the Mohawk Valley in which he takes great pride. In fitting fashion, UC celebrated the anniversary on April 30 by renaming the center in honor of its founder.

The center's current director, Professor of English and German Frank Bergmann, says that Nassar remains a vital part of the center. "He's been the heart and soul of it ever since even though there have been two directors since he retired," he says.

Says Judith Kirkpatrick, provost and vice president for academic affairs, "The Ethnic Heritage Studies Center is a tremendous asset to Utica College and the Mohawk Valley region, and the same may be said of its founder."

A native of Utica, Nassar joined the Utica College faculty in 1964. His 35-year tenure exemplified the



UC faculty's tradition of outstanding academic and teaching achievement. A graduate of Kenyon, Oxford, and Cornell and a Rhodes Scholar, Nassar is a highly distinguished scholar whose many works include incisive volumes on Stevens and Pound, a celebrated study of Dante's *Inferno*, and collections of his own poetry and prose.

School of Business and Justice Studies

Cyber Summit Held at UC

Several of the nation's cybersecurity thought leaders gathered at Utica College on Friday, June 3 to examine the current cyber threat landscape and highlight private-public education partnerships in the Mohawk Valley that are contributing to regional, national, and global efforts to combat cybercrime and the threat of cyber attack. The summit, *Best Defense: Joining Forces Against Emerging Cyber Threats*, was sponsored by UC and the national, not-for-profit Center for Internet Security (CIS).

Patrick Gray, senior security strategist for Cisco Systems, delivered a keynote address in which he underscored the growing need for a more robust shield against the hacking community, which begins with broader awareness.

"Understand that you are a target," said Gray, an internationally recognized expert who has worked closely on security and cybercrime issues with the FBI, Department of Homeland Security, and White House. "You're on the Internet; you can be a victim. We need to be aware of what is going on in the world and what is driving the motivated people to do business against our best interests."

Other speakers included RoAnn Destito, commissioner of the New York State Office of General Services and former assemblywoman; William Pelgrin, president and CEO of CIS and chair of the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center; Thomas Smith, director of the New York State Office of Cyber Security; Ronald Plesco Jr., CEO of the National Cyber-Forensics and Training Alliance; John Bay, chief scientist for Assured Information Security; Richard Licht, assistant special agent in charge for the FBI in Albany, NY; and Kamal Jabbour, senior scientist for

the Air Force Research Laboratory.

William Banks, professor of law and director of the Institute for National Security and Counterterrorism at Syracuse University, moderated a panel discussion by the presidents of Utica College, Herkimer County Community College, Mohawk Valley Community College, and SUNYIT on the role of higher education in cybersecurity education, research, and job training.

The summit attracted the attention of federal officials, including Sen. Charles Schumer, who called on the FBI to consider Utica College as a cybersecurity training center for agents.

"Criminals and terrorists are seizing the day when it comes to using the latest technology to engage in high-tech crime sprees," Sen. Schumer said in a news release. "Unfortunately, we haven't done the best job of training our law enforcement professionals so that they can keep pace. The good news is part of the solution could lie at Utica College."

Following the summit, Mohawk Valley Economic Development Growth Enterprise (EDGE) and CIS, in partnership with the four institutions of higher education, hosted a cybersecurity job fair.



School of Health Professions and Education

DPT Students Present at Global Conference

Six Utica College doctor of physical therapy students presented their research at the World Confederation for Physical Therapy June 20-23 in Amsterdam, Holland.

The students – Amy Rutkowski, Amanda Sawica, Lynette Sanche, Jacqueline Vicencio, Adam Ruzkowski, and Jodey McAvoy – completed four group research projects for their theses.

"It is an honor for our students to represent Utica College in this international conference," says Ashraf Elazzazi, associate professor for physical therapy. "Going to this conference will help them learn more as

researchers and provide an excellent networking opportunity with other physical therapists around the world."



The conference occurs once every four years.





Chiaroscuro

THROUGH A GLASS LIGHTLY

A UC student contemplates the arrival of spring from her perch in Hubbard Hall.

The Right Balance

An inside look at UC's approach to integrating liberal and professional studies.

Utica College integrates *liberal* and *professional* studies in order to educate students for rewarding careers, responsible citizenship, enlightened leadership, and fulfilling lives.

A mere 22 words.

This very economical statement appears in the opening paragraph of UC's new mission statement. The sentiment behind it – that of integrating liberal and professional studies – reverberates through the pages of the 2020 Strategic Plan.

Clearly, this is one of the College's central guiding principles. But why does it occupy such a place of prominence? What are its implications in practical terms? And how does the integration of liberal and professional studies manifest itself in the curriculum and in the minds of both faculty and students?

The idea has defined this institution from its founding more than 60 years ago, distinguishing UC from many other private colleges. Carol Downing, assistant professor of communications, identifies it as one of the key attributes that drew her to Utica College in the first place. "Utica College is one of the first places where I've actually seen or heard people talk about the need to integrate liberal arts and professional studies. I'm

always cognizant that this is an important part of what we do. And if we don't do it successfully, we do our students – and ultimately our society – a disservice," she says.

"What we're doing in this area is absolutely vital, but it's also very difficult," says Associate Provost Robert Halliday. He suggests that this process of intellectual integration is not unrelated to the kind of balance we all strike in our personal lives.

"All of us as individuals know that we need to have different strains in our life. We need recreation, we need work, we need intellectual inquiry, we need a chance to watch silly movies, and so on, and we need to combine all of this together somehow into something that's called 'the good life'. That's what we're trying to do at UC – bundling all of those things together into one coherent package so that our students will have a good life, as we understand it," says Halliday.

Downing adds that exposure to liberal studies is an essential element in an individual's ability to excel as a professional. "The best way I can describe it is in the words of a college friend of mine who is now a senior vice president at a major telecommunications firm," says Downing. "He said you can train anyone to know

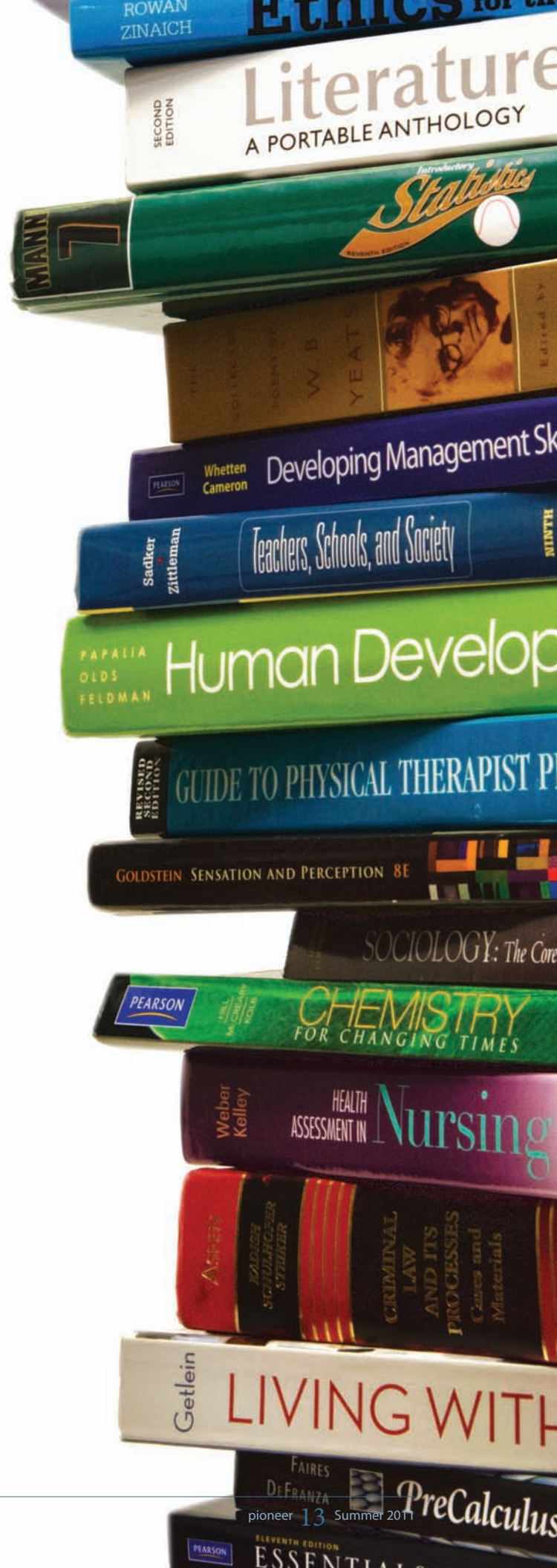
the answers. What he looks for in new employees is people who can ask the questions, who have taken courses in philosophy, history, communications, et cetera, and who have a breadth in what they've studied. Those are the people who know how to learn."

REFLECTIVE PROFESSIONALISM

In the case of nursing, a profession that now requires a bachelor's degree in New York state, there is broad recognition of the need for a foundation in liberal studies.

"The research shows that the more educated an individual is, the better patient care and outcomes we have," says Cathy Brownell, associate professor and chair of nursing. "These nurses tend to be better leaders, better thinkers. They tend to communicate better with other professions and in a more timely and more effective manner. Some of that comes from good nursing courses, but a lot of it comes from just being well educated in the liberal arts."

Linda Culyer, assistant professor of nursing, argues that today's health care delivery model demands greater learning across the traditional disciplinary divides. "As a nursing student at UC, you gain the ability to manage and delegate – those are key pieces of



the puzzle, and you're dealing with some very complex situations out there. The bachelor's degree-trained nurse is really prepared to be a leader," Culyer says.

On a practical level, a solid introduction to the humanities provides nurses and other health practitioners with essential tools for establishing a rapport with their patients. "It helps me understand where my patients are coming from culturally," says Natalie Hoyle, a nursing student at UC. "That kind of knowledge helps you establish a trust relationship with them. You've got to find something you can both relate to, that little something that starts it, and you can build a rapport with the patient on that."

Halliday sees liberal studies as valuable not only in the context of situations like the nurse-patient relationship, but also with respect to the student's ability to succeed in an increasingly competitive professional environment.

"You may be a technically good nurse if you know what's wrong with patients when they exhibit certain symptoms," says Halliday. "But without an understanding of the wider social, cultural, and historical context within which you are operating, you will always have a semi-perspective on what you're doing. And the trouble with that is that you're absolutely ripe for being pushed around by people. When you've done some research on, say, abnormal psychology and the sociology of groups, you can see what's going on, and you're less likely to become victim to forces you don't understand. You'll recognize them and be able to deal with them in an effective way."

Downing considers the main objective to be more one of fostering greater openness to learning and inquiry, both in the college setting and beyond.

"When we truly integrate liberal arts into professional studies, we bring students the ability to look at anything – whether it's a philosophy course, a nursing course, a journalism course, or whatever – with a sense of intellectual curiosity. To me, that's really important."

For Halliday, though, perhaps the most crucial consideration relates back to the original idea behind liberal studies – the Enlightenment notion of learning as the development of a way of thinking and a body of knowledge that enables one to be a fully autonomous human being, liberating the individual from the bonds of ignorance.

"There are plenty of places where you can learn to be a skillful nurse. There are fewer places where you can learn to be a skillful nurse who is also a reflective person. It may make no material difference at certain levels. If my nurse shows up at my bedside and gives me the care that's appropriate to my condition, that can be done one way or the other. But if as a society we want more than people who simply know the rules and

follow them; if we want people who are also reflective, who will take their profession further, who will contribute in a grander scheme, then we need people who are more than materially trained in their profession and who actually understand the context within which their profession operates," he says.

PUTTING PRINCIPLE INTO PRACTICE

The complexity lies, as always, in the details.

In specific terms, how are liberal studies – and, more broadly, the arts and sciences – integrated with professional studies at UC? From Halliday's perspective, it depends very much on where the student is situated academically in the first place. With respect to students in professionally focused programs, such as nursing and physical therapy, integration of liberal studies isn't as simple as "tacking on" a few courses in the humanities.

"It has to be far more than simply requiring the core curriculum for everyone in the professional programs. That's like painting a structure in bright colors and calling it a brightly colored structure. Through various means, our task is to inculcate an attitude within the individual that amounts to: I need to understand the world in which I live, how it works, how people work, how the profession works, in order to do my job well. And just because that's a better way to live," Halliday says.

Many of the professional programs do a good job of incorporating liberal studies into the student experience. "Sociology is built into the physical therapy curriculum. And public relations does a good job of discussing the nature of the discipline and its history," he says.

The project of integrating a more professional orientation into the study of liberal arts is intrinsically more challenging, according to Halliday. Some of the traditional liberal arts majors approach this by incorporating internships into their curriculum. Halliday thinks this works best when the programs associate these placements with a certain amount of what he terms "reflective work" – having the student come back and reflect on the experience through research, writing, and collaborative learning.

"Internships are a good first step, but it's not enough. To really integrate liberal arts and professional studies from the liberal arts point of view requires that someone not only gain that meta-understanding of the society that they're in, but also gain a commitment to providing a service that is necessary for society, and being responsible for the quality of the people they are working with," he says.

All of this speaks to a key attribute of what Halliday describes as professionalism in the traditional sense. "One of the real defining characteristics of a profession from the late Middle Ages forward was that there was a

sort of social contract between society and the profession,” says Halliday. “Society left the profession alone to a large extent to do its thing. On the other side, the profession would contribute to the welfare of society. The profession would say, in essence, we will develop this specialized set of skills and inculcate them into the people that enter the profession, and we will set the boundaries and the standards for admission. But in return you will get the necessary social services.”

Even life science courses like physiology and anatomy, while their main focus is on basic principles, are taught in a way that helps to build relevant knowledge and context for students in the health professions. It is a different approach from the kind taken by institutions more exclusively concentrated on the arts and sciences. This provides important background for caregivers, says Assistant Professor of Biology Daniel Kurtz, many of whose students are in the nursing and physical therapy programs.

“Probably 80 to 90 percent of medicine is done by memory and by practice,” Kurtz says. “It’s a kind of pattern recognition: you see this problem and you have this solution for it. When a patient doesn’t fit the pattern, the practitioner has to go back to basic principles of how the system is put together. When we’re teaching basic processes in physiology, we use examples of pathological processes that allow students to transfer their knowledge of basic science to something that is vaguely a practical setting. Students can take the basic science and apply it to a disease, a pathology, a person. That’s where such examples take us, and how what we do is different from teaching physiology straight as a physiology class.”

THINKING OUTSIDE OF THE SKILLS.

Fulfillment of this aspect of the College’s mission principally relies upon the efforts of the faculty. In this regard, Halliday says, UC is extremely fortunate. “We have a phenomenal faculty who understand this. They get it, on the whole, and they are dedicated to it in a way that is quite remarkable. We have a lot of lively discussions in curriculum committee about where we’re going on this issue,” he says.

Downing regards this effort as a way of addressing the concerns of students and their parents in the context of a troubling employment market. “We’re in a time now when people want those jobs and those paychecks, and understandably so,” she says. “I have been asked by parents, what kind of job are you going to guarantee my kid’s going to get? The truth is, just having skills isn’t going to do it. Students will need to be able to think outside the skills.”

From an administrative standpoint, the task essentially begins in program development. Promoting the integration of professional and liberal studies is

an element in determining whether or not a proposed program is mission-centered in an appropriate way. “The question we ought to be asking about any new program at the outset is, does it further this end? Do we always succeed, or even always know exactly what it is we’re trying to do? Not always. But we keep moving forward,” says Halliday.

For his own part, Halliday thinks a mnemonic device might be useful as well.

“I have the American Association of Colleges and Universities statement about the nature and value of a liberal education tacked up on the white board above my desk, as a reminder that that’s part of what we’re all about,” he says. “What I don’t have is any really good coherent statement about the integration of liberal and professional studies. That should be tacked up there as well.”



The Utica College Strategic Plan for 2020

Four Priorities

- ◆ **The Academic Endeavor:** We will build our reputation on prominence or distinction in every educational program.
- ◆ **The Student Experience:** We will have a positive lifelong impact on every student.
- ◆ **Strengthening the Institution:** We will ensure the long-term health and well-being of the institution.
- ◆ **Building a New Tomorrow:** We will embrace change that furthers our mission and achieves our vision.



The Anatomy of a Commencement Address



2011 Commencement speaker Gary Kunath '79 shares his thoughts on speaking from the heart

Gary Kunath '79 has spoken before hundreds of audiences. He's given talks all over the world, in every culture, to businesses in every imaginable industry and audiences of every imaginable size.

This speaking engagement was different, however. In some respects, the stakes were higher – a tall claim from a man who's guided Fortune 500 executives, whose insights were crucial to the structuring of several U.S. international trade agreements, and who has shared keynote honors with the likes of Colin Powell. This was the moment he had thought about – and even rehearsed in his head – long before the opportunity had even presented itself:

Delivering his alma mater's commencement address.

"I can only describe it this way," Kunath, a trustee of the College, said in April, shortly after he was conferred the honor. "It's like in the scene from (the movie) *Rudy* when his teammates turn to Rudy and ask, 'Are you ready for this?' And he goes, 'I've been ready for this my whole life.'"

Each spring, the higher education community entrusts thousands of dignitaries with the duty and tradition of addressing the year's crop of college graduates. Among others, this year's cadre of speakers

included such names as House Speaker John Boehner, political satirist and popular television host Stephen Colbert, Facebook COO Sheryl Sandberg, Pulitzer prize winner Toni Morrison – and Kunath. No matter the level of celebrity, each faced the same daunting task of mattering to the graduation audience.

From pen to paper to podium, how does one approach the honor and pressure of giving a commencement speech? While some may anguish over this question, for Kunath, nothing could be further from the truth. "I know exactly what I want to say," he said, some weeks before stepping on stage. "I could do this tomorrow; I could do this in the next 10 minutes. I'm ready."

"Of course I went through a process," he continued. "I just happened to go through it fairly quickly."

That process began by replaying in his mind every commencement speech he had been party to – including the address from his own graduation 32 years ago – in effort to avoid and learn from the mistakes of others.

Here's a peek at his notepad.

Observation No. 1: Be authentic.

Kunath had heard many graduation speeches. "I've had three kids in college, after all," he said. "I've seen at least those three, but I've seen a ton of them." Still, he wanted to expand his bibliography of reference material. He called the dean at one of the nation's highest-ranking business schools, where he has spoken on several occasions. The school had recently held its commencement ceremony. The speaker was the CEO of a multi-billion dollar, global company. Figuring it would be something of interest, Kunath requested a transcript of the speech.

"It was such typical CEO, pie-in-the-sky speak – he



MORE

To see video of Gary Kunath's commencement address, visit www.utica.edu/pioneer.



just mailed it in,” Kunath said. “I told myself I will never be that kind of speaker. I’m not going to rely on a title or past accomplishments. I’m not any kind of big wheel. I don’t have those kind of credentials. I’m just a regular guy who just happens to have 30 years advantage on most graduates I’m addressing.

“I’m going to rely on my ability to say something that’s meaningful, that matters to everybody who can get something from it, and I’m going to say it in a way where they know it’s from my heart and not some speech that somebody wrote for them.”

A key ingredient in that authenticity is avoiding the cliché and shtick that has made so many potentially engaging commencement addresses unremarkable. Similarly, Kunath was determined to resist the excessive overuse of quotations that have befallen a great number of speeches.

“Trust me when I tell you, it’s going to be one quotation, and it’s not one of those ‘Aristotle said’ or ‘Webster’s Dictionary defines.’ Anyone who does that I want to strangle. It’s ridiculous,” he said in April.

Observation No. 2: Be relevant.

Unlike many college graduates of comparatively long ago, Kunath recalls with great precision both the essence and the details of the commencement speech from his college graduation.

“I remember clearly being them and sitting in that chair,” he said. “We had a futurist. His big revelation was that in 10 years we were going to have flying cars. Geez, we didn’t have mini-Coopers until two years ago. With all due respect, I think he was smoking his socks a little bit, but the whole point was, it was irrelevant. What he said was completely meaningless, and consequently I remember him as a meaningless speaker.”

Kunath conceived a more pointed topic. “I want to tell them about life,” he said. “I’m not going to talk about flying cars or what I hear a lot of these other speakers talk about – like leaders of tomorrow and how the economic change in Asia is going to affect them. I want to tell them what I know and what I would want to hear if I were sitting there with them.”

Observation No. 3: Let your passion show through.

Kunath has a connection to this graduating class that most Utica College commencement speakers haven't had. He's a Utica College graduate.

"I want my passion to show – my passion for what I want to tell them, my pride in this institution, and, most of all, my pride in who they are," he said. "For me it is a deep, deep honor to do this for them. This is the most important day in their lives up to this point probably, and I take that very seriously."

WRITE VS. RIGHT

Writing the speech was significantly easier than its conceptualization. "I don't write speeches," Kunath said matter-of-factly. "I'm not a speaker who reads. I have thoughts and a framework. I know what I want to tell them, and I have jotted a framework I want to stay in, but I don't write speeches. All I'll be taking to the podium is a framework I want to follow."

Kunath acknowledges his profession served him well in the role of commencement speaker and, in some ways, expedited the time spent preparing for the pivotal, approximately 12-minute moment at the podium.

"Here's the nice thing about being a speaker for a living: I understand the mechanics of it," he said. "That allows me to spend time on my message, the relevancy, and being able to shape it in a way that's digestible for every audience member in there: faculty, administration, parents and relatives, and the graduates themselves. You've got to have a message that cuts across everybody."

He arrived at a simple concept: appreciate and savor the moment of graduation. He wanted to give the Class of 2011 reason not to fall into the erred mindset he admittedly carried into his own commencement ceremony.

"I know how I felt: this is nice, but let's get it over with so I can get on to do my thing," Kunath said. "I want them to understand the importance of that day because all of the people who truly care about them and who have sacrificed and have put their blood, sweat, and tears into them achieving: their faculty, classmates, parents, relatives, coaches, and the administration, nowhere, never again in their lives will all these people be under one roof. So don't wish this over. Wish this could never end."

"I WANT TO BE WORTHY."

On the eve of the ceremony, Kunath had no nervousness whatsoever. Instead, he was counting down the hours with great anticipation. "It's like when you know you're going to give somebody a gift that they're going to like, and you can't wait for them to open it and see their reaction. That's really where my mind is," he said.

At the same time, neither the uniqueness of the opportunity nor the heightened pressure that comes with the privilege was lost on him. "I've got an opportunity that not many people have to come back and tell people like me what matters in life based on being 30 years their senior," he said.

"Tomorrow is their big day," he continued. "They have worked so hard to get to this point, and I want to be equal to the achievement they have accomplished. I want to be worthy of the day and this event in their life. That's the biggest thing. It's right at the forefront for me; I want to be worthy."

Moreover, he was highly aware of his charge: to matter. He did not want to go down like, at least in Kunath's mind, the speaker at his Commencement went down. He was not concerned with whether the students in his audience would remember his name or what he talked about 32 months from now, much less 32 years. However, he cared deeply about how his message would resonate in the moment.

"It's absolutely a big thing for me – it's the only thing. I want to be equal to or better than their expectations of the day," he said. "I want the students when they reunite with their families after the ceremony to say, 'He gets it, and we enjoyed his part of this. He added to the day.'"

RIISING TO THE OCCASION

Some time around 11:30 a.m., the waiting ended. The preparation was over. Following a lengthy and humbling introduction by President Todd Hutton, Kunath rose from his seat on stage and stepped to the podium he had waited so long to grasp.

"As I went up there, I took a moment to soak it in because it really was a dream come true for me," he said. "I wanted to savor it myself. I was caught up in the moment. You look around and just say, 'Wow. You never thought you'd do this in a billion years, and here you are.'"

With a deep breath, a short pause, and a grin of fulfillment, he let out:

"Well, good morning graduating class of 2011..."

The rest – preceding an auditorium-wide standing ovation – is history.

Gary Kunath's book *Life... Don't Miss it. I Almost Did: How I Learned to Live Life to the Fullest*, his gift to the graduating class of 2011, is available to UC alumni and friends for purchase. For more information, contact the College Bookstore at (315) 792-3197 or bksutica@bncollege.com.



An Awesome Blur

Commencement is always momentous, exhilarating and, not incidentally, a ball of confusion. How better to harness the propulsive excitement of the day than by documenting it moment-to-moment via Twitter?

We asked graduating senior (now proud alumna) and national anthem diva Sydney Bell to annotate her tweet diary of a dizzying Commencement 2011.



Syddy_Bee Sydney Bell

Ken Bell tucked his napkin into his collar at dinner #nowthatsswagga

I was at Sumo Sushi and Hibachi Restaurant with my dad (UC Trustee Kenneth Bell '75) and he actually tucked his napkin into his collar. I've never seen him do that before, and I was like, I just can't believe that!

Syddy_Bee Sydney Bell

@devorne straight up jacked a Twitta quote for his grad speech, but it was perfect!

I heard [Senior Class President] Devorne [Hormeku]'s graduation speech before he gave it. It was funny, because he found one quote on Twitter that actually worked perfectly – “go in the direction of your dreams”, or something like that. And it was perfect for what he wanted to get across, but he got it on Twitter.

Syddy_Bee Sydney Bell

The lane!! <http://yfrog.com/h4n2bkbj>

We took a picture of me and my roommate Chris and my other roommate Jackie when we were back stage. [Editor's note: “The Lane” refers to their shared condo in New Hartford.]

Syddy_Bee Sydney Bell

Gonna have a heat stroke, but its ok cuz its graduation day!!

It was so hot in there, and it was like, just stay positive, stay positive. You're hot, but you're positive.

Syddy_Bee Sydney Bell

Hanging out getting ready to walk!

It took forever to walk out for the procession. I was first in line after the girl who carries the flag, so I was like shaking. And we walked to our seats; it was very official. And I walked over to where they put a seat for the singer and... It happened so fast!

I felt so good about it when I was done singing. A bunch of people were tweeting at me – “Great job”, “brought me to tears”, “I'm still crying”, etc. Erika Eckman – she was my “big” in sorority – was tweeting at me, “Oh my god, I'm crying, this is so embarrassing, I can't stop crying, it was beautiful.” It was a great feeling to know that, on top of it being graduation day, people were kind of touched by the song. It felt really good.



MORE

Watch video of Sydney singing the National Anthem. www.utica.edu/pioneer.



Syddy_Bee Sydney Bell

Life lessons from Gary Kunath, very good speaker

Gary Kunath did a great job. The message that he was sending was awesome. He made it sound like every single person he was talking to could get to his or her goal, and that I thought was just very, very inspiring.

Syddy_Bee Sydney Bell

Party time at the lane!! UC themed cake and lots of food with friends and family :)

We met with both of my roommates respective families, and then we all went back to my apartment and had ziti and eggplant and all this food. And my dad came back, their families came back, and a bunch of girls from my sorority came to the ceremony, so they all came back with us.

We got this half sheet cake. It was all orange spray with blue lining, and it said "Congratulations Jackie, Sydney, and Kristen", and it was just so tacky and ugly, but we had to do it. And we brought it out at the house and we were like, "Guys! Look at what we got." And they were like, "You did not really get that cake!" We said, "It's perfect, it's themed, this is graduation day, why not go big?" It was really funny.

Syddy_Bee Sydney Bell

Family's gone getting in some quality time with the Chi Beta's

A bunch of the girls from Chi Beta Sigma sorority came over to the house. This was when the families had started drifting out, and all of our friends, we were just kind of talking about the last four years. Chi Beta's a huge part of my life. I'm definitely a different person than I was my freshman year. My parents will tell you

that and my friends will tell you that. You take all of the values that you learn and you kind of shape them into what they mean to you. And the connections that you make are just irreplaceable.

Syddy_Bee Sydney Bell

Unreal heart to heart with @devorne too many tears!

We went to Shorty's in South Utica later that night. Devorne pulled me outside halfway through the party and just started unloading. "You're my best friend throughout all these years..." I'm not a very emotional person – even at graduation I was not about to break down – but he made me cry. When we were done talking, I sprinted through Shorty's to get to the bathroom so nobody would see me, cleaned myself up, got back and said, "Yeah, let's go!" And Devorne, I was so mad at him. I was like, "I can't believe you did that." And he tweeted at me the next day. He's a little brother in Chi Beta, and I'm his big sister. And he tweeted, "Meant every word, big. Love you."

Syddy_Bee Sydney Bell

Feet hurt from the dance marathon at Shorty's, great going out with a bang!

That was fun. We just danced the entire night. Really got after it on the dance floor. It was fun. I didn't expect it to be. I thought like everybody would just be hanging out. But I was really excited to see the DJ there, because we all really like to dance. It was a good experience.

I was on cloud nine all day. You're just wide eyed, can't believe it's all happening to you. It was an awesome blur, I'll go with that. And I'll let you explain what that means.



Seeking a Better World

Professor Ted Orlin reflects on his tenure as Harold T. Clark Jr. Professor of Human Rights Scholarship and Advocacy

Each morning in the Malawian village, it was the same nightmarish scene.

En route to that day's assignment with the Peace Corps, he would see a line of women waiting at the entrance to the dispensary, cradling their infants' lifeless bodies in hopes that the medical aid worker on duty might somehow revive them.

For Professor of Government and Politics Ted Orlin, his time in Malawi more than 40 years ago was the spark that ignited a lifetime passion for human rights, culminating in his recently concluded five-year appointment as the Harold T. Clark Jr. Professor of Human Rights Scholarship and Advocacy.

Orlin took a three-year hiatus from law school to join the Peace Corps, a move prompted by the assassination of Senator Robert F. Kennedy. "I was very active in politics, and I had worked for Bobby Kennedy and ran three assembly districts for him in Brooklyn," he says. "With his death and the death of Martin Luther King Jr., I became disoriented in terms of where my future would lie. I had a lust for travel, and I could not



Housing block in Darjeeling, India.

see returning to the classroom given the political and cultural circumstances of the time, so I went to Africa.”

At that time, in the late 1960s, Malawi was among the poorest nations on Earth. Five out of eight children in the village where Orlin stayed would not live to see their fifth birthday. “The poverty was appalling,” Orlin recalls. “I remember returning to Manhattan and watching people battling to get their place on a bus, pushing and shoving one another, and it lost meaning for me. I couldn’t fathom this after having lived in villages where people were dying from protein deficiencies, measles, malaria, and the like. I began to reassess my values

as to what was important and what was not.”

That process of reevaluation gained momentum when he went to the University of Buffalo to finish his law degree and met a young professor named Thomas Buerghenthal, the world-renowned human rights scholar, former justice on the International Court of Justice at The Hague, and now Lobingier Professor of Comparative Law and Jurisprudence at George Washington University Law School. Buerghenthal – a survivor of Auschwitz – was intrigued by Orlin’s experience in Africa, and began to offer him guidance on how to develop his skills as a human rights lawyer.

“I was a rather mediocre student. The only reason I returned to law school was that I already had one year invested and thought it would be best to finish my degree,” Orlin says. “Tom Buerghenthal gave me the attention I needed at that point. He introduced me to human rights and to the idea that a law degree could be used to deal with the problems of people in plight. He gave me a reason to study law.”

Buerghenthal became a mentor to Orlin much as the younger man would, years later, guide the development of his own students at Utica College. It was on Buerghenthal’s recommendation that Orlin went to the Institute for Human Rights in Strasbourg, France, to study under Nobel laureate René Cassin, one of the principal authors of the United Nations’ Universal Declaration of Human Rights. There, Orlin both earned an important credential and began building the network of academic relationships that would help support his efforts on a variety of initiatives over the next four decades.

Another institution Buerghenthal introduced him to was the International League for Human Rights, a UN-based organization where Orlin began to do pro bono work alongside both Cassin and

Roger Baldwin, founder of the ACLU and the first human rights NGO. Orlin represented Indian refugees from Idi Amin’s Uganda. His second big case at the NGO involved human rights abuses in Malawi, and this allowed him an opportunity to use his Peace Corps experience toward a positive outcome.

“Malawi’s government was persecuting Jehovah’s Witnesses, insisting that they give money to the ruling Congress Party and torturing them when they refused,” says Orlin. “The deputy UN ambassador for Malawi was my former boss from the Peace Corps, a chief of the Ngoni tribe, and I said to him, ‘Your government is abusing Jehovah’s Witnesses, driving nails into their skulls. How can we stop them?’”

The deputy ambassador told Orlin that Roger Baldwin was an old friend of the President of Malawi and asked if Baldwin would be willing to meet with the Ambassador. “I got Roger to do that, and we were able to stop the killing and torture,” Orlin says. “I had the good fortune that the pieces all came together.”

Getting on the map

His experiences through the International League for Human Rights made human rights advocacy an important feature in his professional life. But it wasn’t until years later that Orlin felt he had truly arrived as a scholar in the field. There again the catalyst was Buerghenthal. In 1988, in his capacity as a pre-law advisor at UC, Orlin went to a meeting at Emory University where his former law professor was dean.

“We went out for lunch and caught up on some old times,” says Orlin. “I told him how I enjoyed teaching Constitutional Law, but that I really regretted not working on international human rights. He suggested I apply for a Fulbright at the Institute for Human Rights at Abo Akademi in Finland.”



Orlin with students at the Jamshedpur (India) Women's College Conference on Human Rights Education.



Graffiti in West Bengal demanding a new Indian state for the Ghorka people.



A roadside spice vendor in Darjeeling.

Orlin liked the suggestion. He checked the following year's Fulbright bulletin. "The description of who they were looking for practically read 'a five-foot-nine professor from Utica College.' That was a career-changing experience. That was when I pivoted from criminal justice and constitutional law back into the human rights world," he says.

It was at Abo Akademi that Orlin's career in human rights scholarship began. The Director of the Institute for Human Rights at the time, Allan Rosas – now a jurist on the European Court of Justice – asked Orlin if he would write a chapter in the upcoming book, *The Strength of Diversity: Human Rights and Pluralist Democracy*. Orlin agreed, but felt some trepidation. The volume would include as contributors some of the most celebrated names in human rights scholarship. Even more unsettling was the knowledge that his piece would replace one by Buergerthal, who had told Rosas he would be unable to contribute to the work due to time constraints.

"I went to the draft review meeting with a lot of fear that what I had done was perhaps inadequate and not of the quality that a Tom Buergerthal would produce. To my surprise and shock, it was very well received, and that put

me on the map as a human rights scholar," says Orlin.

His trajectory since that time has largely followed the arc of human progress – and human suffering – over the last two decades.

After the completion of his Fulbright, he led an International Lawyers Group for Human Rights (now Human Rights First) mission to Romania to supervise the first free elections after the fall of Ceaușescu. His next stop was Albania, where he was charged with starting up that nation's first human rights group.

Following this, he and his associate Ted Zang received a grant from the German Marshall Fund and the Kaplan Foundation to continue the work they had started in some of the immediate post-communist countries of Eastern Europe – Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, and Moldova, as well as Albania and Romania. This same two-year grant also helped to establish the Human Rights Advocacy program at Utica College.

At the end of the grant's second year, Orlin was able to continue his work in Eastern Europe and gradually extend it to Asia and other parts of the world with support from the Soros Founda-

tion. This additional funding also strengthened the human rights program at UC and ultimately created the impetus for the minor in Human Rights Advocacy.

Another initiative that expanded the reach of his advocacy was his co-founding of the International Human Rights Education Consortium (IHREC), which was established as a cooperative arrangement between colleges and universities in the United States and Canada advancing the cause of human rights education through workshops and other kinds of support. IHREC fostered the development of organizations like the Mumbai Initiative for Human Rights Education in Mumbai, India, where Orlin facilitated a National Human Rights Education Workshop in 2003 under the aegis of the consortium.

The Clark years

It was, however, the Clark Professorship that enabled Orlin to build upon this emerging global network. Prior to his appointment, IHREC's membership had asked him to accept the organization's presidency. "With my teaching load and a general lack of resources at that time, it was clear I could not accept the post because



Orlin with a youth group in the slums surrounding Jamshedpur. IHREC helped establish computer classes for the group.



A street family in Kolkata, India. Orlin has seen thousands living under worse conditions in Mumbai.



Day care center at a Jamshedpur NGO.

I would not be able to expand the consortium beyond North America,” says Orlin. “The Clark Award made this possible. It enabled me to respond to requests for consultation, training, and networking support from people all over the world who were participating in IHREC. If there was going to be, say, a conference in Jamshedpur, India or a meeting on the rights of the disabled in Sri Lanka, I could say that I’ll be there.”

With the steady, predictable support provided through the Clark Professorship, Orlin was able to assume the IHREC presidency and devote more time to working directly with activists in some of the world’s most troubled regions. It facilitated his efforts toward promoting human rights education where it was most needed – not just in university classrooms, but out in the field where such knowledge truly is power.

Orlin has conducted a number of IHREC educational workshops, including the international gathering in Mumbai in 2003 and three events in Sri Lanka, which was just emerging from 25 years of civil war. These workshops armed local human rights advocates with an awareness of the international

legal instruments at their disposal – treaties like the Covenant Against Torture (CAT), which the Sri Lankan government is legally bound to uphold.

“When we go into Sri Lanka and meet with human rights advocates – some lawyers, some who work in prisons, some who work with victims of abuse – we find that, however well intentioned they may be, they only have a vague notion of what human rights is about. They don’t understand the basic obligations placed upon their governments by the international treaties they’ve ratified. That understanding is the only way they can protect victims and bring about justice. And that is how the Clark Award has supported and enhanced human rights all around the world,” he says.

This was a role that fit him to a tee. Unlike the type of work his mentor is best known for, Orlin has always taken a retail approach, applying his principles largely at the street level. “Buergenthal’s level of advocacy is extraordinary, but very different from mine. He gets involved in policy decisions and high-level discussions, whereas my experience has been mostly fieldwork,” he says.

Issues and advocacy

One of the issues upon which Orlin has concentrated his efforts over his five-year term as the Harold T. Clark Jr. Professor of Human Rights Scholarship and Advocacy has been that of the rights of the disabled. He points out that, as a global phenomenon, discrimination against people with disabilities is particularly acute in the developing world.

“In the United States, of course, we have the Americans With Disabilities Act, which has made great progress. That doesn’t exist in India,” Orlin says. “It takes five hours to get from one end of Mumbai to the other. You’ve got to manage with rickshaws and monsoon rains and an infrastructure that is not appropriate for 23 million people. How are you going to manage that if you have disabilities?”

Orlin argues that, in terms of sheer numbers, the disabled are probably the largest minority in the world. This may have played a factor in the relatively rapid ratification process for the U.N. Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. “It took 10 years for the International Covenant on Human Rights to reach that threshold. This took a matter of months,” he says.

“The Clark Award, by all means, has supported and enhanced human rights programs all around the world.”

Another key initiative he has pursued with his IHREC partners has been around the issue of linguicide. Consortium member Reetta Toivanen, a faculty member at the University of Helsinki, has led a vigorous effort to preserve minority languages as a means of protecting the cultures that rely upon them. Orlin has contributed a chapter to a volume on the topic published by Poga, the language survival network Toivanen co-founded of which both Orlin and UC Dean of Arts and Sciences John Johnsen are members.

“This is not just a problem of, ‘Oh, isn’t it too bad that we’re losing all these languages?’ akin to the desire to preserve a rare orchid. This is a denial of human rights. Many people now argue linguicide is a form of genocide. One of the first step the Nazis took to rid Germany of Jews was to forbid the speaking of Yiddish in public,” Orlin says.

He has also written, presented, and advocated on the topic of violence against women, which he characterizes as a worldwide epidemic. “There isn’t a country in the world that doesn’t have to address this problem in one way or another. I have argued that we have to treat physical abuse of women as a major plight of human rights worldwide,” he says.

Doing something

Orlin had been aware of the horrors of mass inhumanity from a very young age. He spent his childhood in Brooklyn among a substantial population of concentration camp survivors. “I remember as a kid going into a candy store for a Coke and seeing the concentration camp number tattooed on the server’s arm, then asking my mother what it was,” he recalls.

Years later he would notice a similarly chilling imprint on his mentor, Buerghenthal. It was his first realization of what the man

had been through as a child. Buerghenthal had never mentioned it before, and this puzzled Orlin.

“I had known him close to a year at that point, and I asked him why he didn’t talk about it when we were discussing human rights in class,” says Orlin. “He looked at me, almost gave a small laugh and said, ‘Look, I do not want to be judged as a victim. I want to be judged as a lawyer. I want people to judge me on what I produce and on what I say and do.’”

Similarly, Orlin has always focused on the practical application of his passion for justice, both in the field and in the classroom. It is a principle he has impressed upon his students as well. This has, over the years, earned him a reputation for toughness among students, but Orlin alumna Shana Pughe ’07, Language Services Coordinator at the Mohawk Valley Resource Center for Refugees, suggests that this perception is somewhat misleading.

“Professor Orlin is tough about the writing, and he does give you a lot of reading – all of that is true. But behind that there is a purpose. Going into my master’s program, I knew some people would have difficulty writing a lengthy paper and doing a presentation. And I thought, if you had had Ted Orlin, you would know this is nothing. When I started working with refugees, it was invaluable to have that base-level knowledge about the UN, the UNHCR, and how the

whole international human rights legal system works,” she says. “Yes, he is a tough grader. But he is really trying to push you farther, to be a better student.”

Looking forward, Orlin sees a continuation of the work advanced by the Clark Professorship, advocating for the rights of tea estate workers and indigenous peoples in northern India, as well as involvement in anti-torture initiatives and the rights of the disabled in Mumbai. He is gratified by the accomplishments of the last five years. “The Clark Award, by all means, has supported and enhanced human rights programs all around the world. And in that sense, not only am I grateful, I can tell you that my partners around the world are grateful as well,” Orlin says.

And though he is unsure about how he will continue to fund such work now that his five years in the Clark Professorship has ended, he is confident that it will remain a central part of his life.

“I’ve always held the belief about human rights that we can’t just teach it, we can’t just write about it; we have to do something about it,” he says. “I have been very lucky that I’ve always found another means to pursue it. Whether or not there will be more links to the chain is still unknown. Hopefully there will be. But if I have the opportunity to advance human rights, I will do it. I will continue with that work whenever and wherever there is an invitation.”



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Window on the World

By Thomas Brown

Last fall I noticed a *New York Times* reference to “Windows on the World – a series in which writers from around the world describe the view from their windows.” I liked this idea and resolved to try it. What do I see out my window? How do I interpret it? What do I think about as I gaze into the outer world?

My desk has an extraordinary view. Through what is essentially an eight-foot-wide picture window, one looks northward. In the distance and across the Mohawk River rise the foothills of the Adirondack Mountains. On this day in late September, the leaves on the trees are just beginning to tease with hints of the riot of color that will soon explode across my horizon. It is difficult, however, to look at those hills and not think about the enormous expanse of time required first to build them into brash young mountains and then wear them back down until little remains but the wisdom of age. With further reflection, of course, it's hard not to ponder the similar but briefer cycle that is my own life.



From my desk and gazing toward those hills, I look across a huge expanse of green lawn containing practice fields for soccer, field hockey, and lacrosse as well as the baseball diamond and a football stadium. These usually lie vacant during the hours I work, but if I remain until late in the afternoon, they begin to come alive with energetic young college students practicing all of those skills their coaches repeatedly insist are essential for a successful life. Aside from having a healthy body and learning to persist or be a team player, I must admit to having never quite understood what those essential skills are. I do, however, like such busyness, and it's a reminder of enjoyable afternoons I spent playing baseball many years ago and very much earlier in my own life's cycle.

Nevertheless, I also like it when those fields are empty, especially in early morning when they are covered with dew and long shadows cast by scattered trees partially blocking the best efforts of a rising sun. That's the Hour of the Birds – American Crows (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) and Ring-billed Gulls (*Larus*

delawarensis) mostly, but soon hundreds and hundreds of Canada Geese (*Branta canadensis*) will stop over on their long journey southward. We'll say our good-byes, but they will return in a few months just as they have for millennia – reminding me once again of the amazing cycles of life on Earth.

Closer to me are a couple of large boulders – each supporting large bronze plates containing the names of those who stopped by the college for a few decades before retiring from sharing themselves, their experiences, and their accumulated wisdom with generations of students. I have to wonder if I will be remembered by the students to whom I so willingly gave all that I could. Will I be remembered by a college for whom I did the same for all or parts of five decades? William James has offered that “The best use of life is to spend it for something that outlasts life.” So I wonder, “Did I?” Would it not be a way, after all, to stretch my personal cycle many years beyond what is normally expected?

And closest to me is The Tree. For nearly a two years I have photographed The Tree almost every day – always from the same window, the same visual angle, the same resolution. What has emerged is a compelling illustration of the cycle of life as The Tree begins our year by offering us the deep rich greens of summer's bounty. Before long, however, we are astounded by a thousand branches clad in the bright oranges of autumn but followed all too soon by those same branches, now bare, standing in stark contrast against winter's snow. Soon enough though, hints of newborn green begin to emerge from the many mists of spring.

What a truly incredible view I have from my window! One has to wonder how on earth I ever get lectures prepared or examinations graded. That, I fear, is a mystery almost as great as the mystery behind the many cycles that provoke and entertain me from day to day, week to week, and year to year.

Thomas Brown is professor of psychology and distinguished professor of the College.



OFF AND RUNNING

Nascent track and field program quickly progressing toward the front of the pack

If you build it, they will...

Run?

Utica College's *Field of Dreams* story casts Jason Rose in the role of visionary. The northern Ohioan arrived in Utica in the winter of 2009 to build a track and field program. (Perhaps not as daunting a challenge as building a baseball diamond in a cornfield, but, as many will attest, close.)

UC alumni have witnessed several once inconceivable notions come to pass in recent years: the addition of graduate programs, football, and state-of-the-art facilities, to name just a few. One need only look at the faces of graduates who return to campus for Homecoming after a long absence to see their amazement at how much their alma mater has "grown up." Even so, track and field was beyond the grasp of most imaginations.

"We were starting from scratch basically," Rose recalls. "I stepped on campus January 1 and had a couple of months to say, 'Okay, bring some students in, and get this going.'"

The former Wilmington College (Ohio) track standout began his roster-building efforts on campus, seeking out and recruiting a number of current students who had competed in track and field in high school. From there, he hit the recruiting trail, attending as many local high school meets as he could before extending his travels throughout New York as well as Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Connecticut.

Whereas established programs field rosters of 80 to 100 student-athletes, UC began its inaugural fall 2009 season with 40 freshman and transfer students along with the on-campus recruits. What the team lacked in numbers, its athletes and coaches made up in fervor and anticipation.

"Everyone was very excited, and everyone just had a real sense of wanting to build something," Rose says. "People never thought we'd have a program. Now that we had one, everyone's eyes were wide open to the possibilities of what we can be."

Much of Rose's time over the past two years has been spent immersed in the here-and-now details and challenges of starting a new program. In addition to aggressively building a roster large enough to field athletes in every event, he has had to manage around the lack of on-campus facilities, which has made finding practice times and locations difficult and, at times, has required creative training solutions.



"We're practicing outdoors at Donovan (Middle School), and I'm trying to get us some time at Mohawk Valley Community College. In terms of indoor practice facilities, we use Hamilton College some, but primarily we just use the hallways in the athletic center," Rose says. "It's a little difficult, to say the least, because it's only 50 or 55 meters, and when you're training for 100 or 200 it causes obvious issues. On top of that, you can't put an entire team of runners in a hallway. So we stagger it throughout the day. We'll start using it anywhere from 10:00 or 10:30 in the morning, and we can be using it at 7:00 or 8:00 at night."

Navigating through the growing pains has not deterred coaches and athletes from setting a broader vision – a vision that includes, but is not limited to, consistently competing for team and individual championships.

"The program is going to do some big things. I can see it. This school is set up for success," Rose says. "We're going to see a big, energetic, and competitive team. We're going to have national champion athletes, and we're going to have students who will never make it to nationals but they're going to have a great experience. The bottom line, from my perspective, is the members of this team five, 10, 15 years down the road will say, 'Utica College is the best experience I ever had,' and hopefully this program will have contributed to that."

"I can see this school having a strong program in the future," says Joe Pruckno '12. "This year, we had a lot of athletes win conference events, and every year we're setting the bar higher and higher."

While Rose predicts it will take two or three more years to establish the program and forge an identity in the Division III track and field world, the program has already made quantum progress. This past season, the UC men's team finished third in the Empire 8 conference in both indoor and outdoor competition, while the women's team finished third and fifth respectively. Even more notably, the program produced two national qualifiers, Pruckno and Jessica Ciraulo '14 – both in the 110-meter hurdles – and one All-American, Pruckno. UC was one of only two programs in the country to have both a male and a female athlete compete for a national championship in hurdles.

"For a second-year program, I couldn't be happier. We still have some holes to fill and some steps to take, but we're doing very well," Rose says.

"We had our first national qualifiers this year, which is very exciting. We have athletes who are doing well in conference competition. As far as the steps, we're very young, and so we've got a lot to build on."

In the meantime, the program's founding members are taking great pride, joy, and satisfaction in the unique opportunity with which they've been entrusted.

"I was set to go to a larger university with a well established track and field tradition. What attracted me here was the passion I saw in everyone who is involved in the program and the opportunity to be the start of a legacy," says Jaimee Balloni '14. "We can be the reason why people want to go to Utica for track and field."

"There's no better experience than starting a new program," says Amanda Shaffer '14. "It's a unique feeling knowing you're laying the groundwork for the people who will come after you."

Pioneer Hall of Fame inducts new members

The Pioneer Athletic Hall of Fame inducted its 2011 class during a May 11 ceremony.



Scott Clarke '96, Men's Basketball

Scott Clarke was a defensive stalwart on the UC men's basketball teams of the mid-1990s. During his junior season, he led the nation in steals, and his 346 career steals rank him ninth all-time at all levels of NCAA basketball.

No slouch on the offensive end, Clarke concluded his career ranked second on UC's all-time scoring list with 1,355 points and first in three-point field goals. The three-year team captain led the Pioneers to 55 wins and two ECAC Tournament appearances. As a senior, he helped UC to a school-record 11-0 start and a high ranking of No. 3 in the East Region. He finished his final season averaging a team-high 21.7 points, and made 69 three-pointers, a UC record that stands to this day.

Clarke enrolled at UC following a tour of duty in the U.S. Navy. He also amassed an incredible basketball résumé while in the military, guiding his team to three consecutive undefeated, Navy championship seasons.

Steve LaVallee '87, Baseball



Steve LaVallee was a dual-threat on the baseball diamond. Both on the mound and at the plate, he helped guide the then-Division I Pioneers to 66 victories and two ECAC Upstate Conference Championships.

He pitched a no-hitter in his first college game. As a freshman, he earned team Most Valuable Player honors after posting a 4-3 record and hitting .270. The following season, he batted .376 with 10 home runs and 32 runs batted in, leading the Pioneers to an ECAC Regional Tournament berth.

LaVallee was named Conference Player of the Year and earned his third ECAC All-Star selection following a senior season during which he hit .430 with eight homeruns and 11 doubles, went 2-0 with a 3.00 earned run average, and helped UC to a school-record 25 victories, including an 18-game winning streak. Had it not been for a rainout of the team's season finale, the Pioneers would have competed for the school's first-ever NCAA tournament berth.

Ben Mack '02, Men's Lacrosse



Ben Mack is a cornerstone of Utica College men's lacrosse tradition. A junior college transfer, Mack captained UC's first two varsity seasons, scored the team's first three goals, and led the Pioneers to a still-celebrated victory over Hamilton College.

He was a standout in the mid-field, the most demanding position on the lacrosse field. He scored more than 100 points in only two seasons and won 63 percent of his faceoffs, setting the pace at both ends of the field.

The only two-time captain in program history, Mack earned the team's offensive Most Valuable Player honors in each of his two seasons at UC. In 2009, in recognition of his contributions to the program both on and off the field, the award was endowed in his honor.

Off the field, Mack served as an assistant coach in 2002, and has been instrumental in establishing UC's alumni lacrosse game tradition.

Daphne Selby '79, Women's Basketball



Daphne Selby played a major role in transforming the landscape of Utica College women's basketball. A dynamic scorer, team captain, and two-time team Most Valuable Player, Selby was the first female in UC history to score more than 1,000 points.

As a freshman, she joined a UC team that had not won a game in the previous season. Over the next four seasons, she helped lead the Pioneers to a 51-15 record, two postseason appearances, and an 18-win senior season.

Selby set every single-season scoring record at UC, including points in a game (39), points in a season (404), field goals in a game (16), and field goals in a season (183). She ranks second on UC's all-time scoring average list at 19.9 points per game, sixth in total points with 1,193, fourth in career field goals, and fifth in assists.

She earned Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women First-Team All-East and All-Region honors in 1979. After graduating from UC, she became the first women's basketball graduate assistant at Georgia State University.

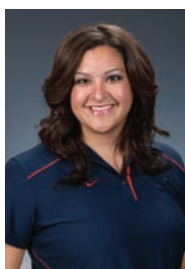


Berry Joins Elite Company

Jessica Berry '11 concluded her college basketball career in rarefied air. The 2011 Women's Basketball Coaches Association and D3hoops.com All-American became only the 11th player in Division III history to reach at least 2,000 points and 1,000 rebounds in her career.

Berry finished her career at Utica College with a school-record 2,111 points. She helped the Pioneers to four consecutive Empire 8 tournament appearances, two conference titles, and two NCAA tournament berths. In addition to her All-American honors, Berry was named 2011 Division III Upstate and Empire 8 Player of the Year.

Sideline Report



Shawn Mahmoudi has been named head volleyball coach. She comes to UC from Syracuse University, where as an assistant coach for the past two seasons, she guided a defensive unit that was ranked in the top 10 nationally and mentored an All-Big East first team selection. This past season, she helped

Syracuse to four tournament titles and a program-best 17-0 start.

A 2006 graduate of Seton Hall University, Mahmoudi totaled 334 kills and 111 blocks as a Division I player. She ranked ninth in the Big East with 1.08 blocks per game as a senior.



Eric Watson is the new men's soccer head coach. The two-time former Coach of the Year has spent the past four years as head coach at SUNY New Paltz.

Watson is 88-63-19 over his nine seasons as a head coach, which includes a successful five-year tenure at Linfield College in McMinnville, OR. He led Linfield to a Northwest Conference championship and NCAA tournament appearances in 2002 and 2003. He has served as an assistant coach at the University of Richmond and his alma mater, Williams College. In addition, he is currently an assistant coach for the U.S. Women's Under-23 National Team.

Class Notes

Scored a new job or promotion? Tied the knot? Been spotted with a Baby on Board sign in the window? Do tell. Send your news for Class Notes to Pioneer magazine, Utica College, 1600 Burrstone Road, Utica, NY 13502-4892, e-mail pioneer@utica.edu, or visit UC's online alumni community at www.pioneerstation.com.

1957

Dr. Edmund M. Midura, Columbia, MD, is retired.

Ralph J. Vatalaro Jr., Brant Lake, NY, retired as director of the New York State Public Employment Relations Board.

1958

Eileen D. Filkins, Prattsburgh, NY, retired as a teacher at Prattsburgh Central School.

1960

Patricia A. Midura, Columbia, MD, is retired.

1963

Nanette T. Westley, Sandy, UT, is an elementary teacher in the Jordan School District.

1964

Dr. Charles A. Daniels, Avon Lake, OH, is president of Materials Performance Consulting LLC. He was appointed technical module developer in the Department of Polymer Science at the University of Akron.

1965

Catherine O'Harra, San Diego, CA, retired as a senior cytotechnologist after 30 years with the University of California San Diego Medical Center.



Vito A. Scarafile, Mount Pleasant, SC, is an account executive at Lee Wayne Carolina. In his spare time he enjoys spending time with his grandchildren, Vito and Charlotte.

1967

Gary R. Olivella, Whitesboro, NY, is the program coordinator of the geriatric support team at the Mohawk Valley Psychiatric Center. He plans to retire soon, and intends to teach part-time and work as a mental health consultant in the area of aging.

1969

Stephen Glassman, Esq., Los Angeles, CA, is a Lt. Colonel. He was named deputy staff judge advocate for the California State Military Reserve, 40th ID Support Brigade at the Joint Forces Training Base, Los Alamitos, CA. He also writes a column on common interest development law for the *Los Angeles Times*.

Steven F. Zamorski, Winston Salem, NC, retired as the senior risk management representative with Utica Mutual after 21 years.

1970

James Asher, Glenwood, MD, is the bureau chief for McClatchy Newspapers' Washington Bureau.

Peggy Lore, Denver, CO, is the assistant vice chancellor-student success at the University of Colorado Denver.

1971

Michael T. Adey, Rome, NY, is the head basketball coach for the New York Mills Marauders. He was also inducted into the New York State Basketball Hall of Fame.



Dominick Spataro, Alexandria, VA, retired from the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

(FMCSA), where he was chief of North American Borders Division. He was partially responsible for implementing the trucking access provisions of the North American Free Trade Agreement and working with other federal, state, and foreign governmental officials and entities to achieve compatibility and understanding of motor carrier safety regulations. He also served as chief of FMCSA's Commercial Driver's License (CDL) division. His professional career included positions as a mathematics teacher at Lowville Academy and Central School and motor vehicle office manager with the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles.

1972

David Mathis, Utica, NY, received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Utica/Oneida County Branch of the NAACP.

Peggy K. Parker, Seminole, FL, retired as a custodial assistant at the University of South Florida.

1974

John A. Griffin, Sauquoit, NY, is vice president of the Utica National Insurance Group. He was also recognized by the Sauquoit Valley Lions Club with the Robert J. Uplinger Distinguished Service Award for his years of service to the Lions and the community.

James A. LaPaglia, Utica, NY, is a certified public accountant. He is also vice president/financial advisor at Morgan Stanley Smith Barney and a professor at the Utica School of Commerce.

1975

Ralph G. Azersky, Vestal, NY, is a police officer for the Oswego Police Department. He sold his business, J&J Sheet Metal Works, Inc., in 2007. He earned his master's degree in criminal justice from Boston University in 2006.

Patricia T. Carroll, Utica, NY, is the occupational therapist for the Loretto Utica Center.



Benjamin A. Coney, Saint Augustine, FL, is the assistant director with St. Johns County Housing and Community Services. He was honored as

the St. Johns County Employee of the Year. The award is presented to the employee who, through nomination, has demonstrated public service excellence and made exemplary organizational contributions throughout the year.

Janet C. Hallak, New Hartford, NY, retired as a nurse administrator.

Barbara E. Jordan, Tarpon Springs, FL, now permanently resides in Florida. She is the retired director of career services at Utica College.

Gary M. LaBella, Arlington, VA, retired as vice president and chief marketing officer for the Recreation Vehicle Industry Association after 32 years.

Edward B. Naidamast, Burke, VA, is the deputy of strategic engagement for the Defense Intelligence Agency.

William A. Osuchowski, Pompey, NY, is the president/owner of OPR Developers/B&B Beef Farms. He was honored at the Grand Slam/Ovis Hunter and Outfitter Convention in Las Vegas for completing the grand slam of sheep hunting.

1977

David M. Hazard, Leesburg, VA, is the director of his own writing school, Ascent, located in the Washington, D.C. area. He also founded the Ascent Adirondack Writing Retreat, which occurs every September near Old Forge, NY.

Anna J. (Venditti) Oriole, Richmond, VA, is a cytogenetics specialist for Virginia Commonwealth University Medical Systems. Previously, she was an adjunct professor at a number of community colleges and technical schools in the Richmond area, teaching biology, medical technology, and anatomy and physiology.

Kenneth A. Oriole, Richmond, VA, is senior project manager at Alstom, a global manufacturer of electrical generation equipment and trains, headquartered in France. He welcomed the birth of his second grandchild, Ava Bella, on January 20, 2011.

1978

Patricia A. Carey, Clinton, NY, is the associate vice president of school age services at Upstate Cerebral Palsy.

Robert L. Mastrovito, Syracuse, NY, is a clinical engineer for Sysmex America Inc.

Andrew J. Scarafile, Sauquoit, NY, is the vice president of Clemente Novelities. He is also a member of the board of directors for the Mohawk Valley Chamber of Commerce.

1979

Phyllis J. Blando, New Hartford, NY, retired as a K-6 grade teacher from the Utica City School District after teaching 21 years. She has a master's of science in curriculum from SUNY Cortland.

1980

Deborah C. Kiesel, East Kingston, NH, is the owner of WS BELL, LLC, a tax preparation and bookkeeping service in New Hampshire. She is an enrolled agent, and is admitted to practice before the IRS. Additionally, she is a wish grantor for the Make-A-Wish Foundation and a member of Toastmasters International (public speaking).

1981

Peter G. Callas Jr., Allentown, NJ, is the owner of PGC Communications, a consulting and public relations agency.

Nannette M. Dusseault, Delmar, NY, is the health education media specialist for the New York State Department of Health. She was nominated to attend a multinational Social Marketing School held in Slovenia at the Bled School of Management.

Eugene S. Kraay, Tucson, AZ, is an advisor for Southwest Airmotive. He published his second historical novel, *The Hamsa*, in September 2010.

Daniel Shure, Croton on Hudson, NY, is the web services manager at the City University of New York.

1983

Judith O. Sheehan, OTR/L, Manchester, CT, is the owner/president of Splinting Solutions, LLC. She passed the ABC Orthotic Fitter Certification Exam, and her business was also accredited by the American Board for Certification in Orthotics, Prosthetics, and Pedorthics. She was elected vice president of the Connecticut Occupational Therapy Association in February 2011. At the March 2011 Annual ConnOTA conference, she was awarded the Award of Merit, which recognizes individuals who have attained outstanding accomplishments in clinical practice, research, leadership, or innovation and whose body of work is considered exemplary and influential by peers.

1984

Jacqueline D. Mayo, Lisle, IL, received her doctorate in occupational therapy from Boston University.

Theresa M. Bell Nagle, Marshfield, MA, is the owner of 2 Thumbs Up Hand Therapy. Her therapy clinic is also celebrating its fourth year anniversary of start up in July 2011.

Nancy J. (Schreiber) Wheelock, Rhinebeck, NY, is a group counselor at The Astor Home for Children. She was featured in a segment of Animal Planet's *Must Love Cats*. She is a cancer survivor who discovered her artistic talents later in life, and has done cat figures for display in downtown Catskill, NY, where they use cats as their community symbol.

1985

Andrew S. Collins, Canastota, NY, is the associate creative director at Latorra, Paul and McCann Advertising in Syracuse, NY.



Dr. Brian J. Jackson, Utica, NY, is a partner in the dental practice Slavin, Jackson, and Burns, DDS. He was published in the peer-reviewed

Journal of Oral Implantology. The title of the scientific paper was *Small Diameter Implants: "Specific Indications and Considerations for the Posterior Mandible: A Case Report."* The paper was presented at the seventh annual Dr. Ronald Goldstone Memorial Seminar at Utica College, and at the Bergen County Implant Study Club in Englewood, NJ.

Robert C. Munson II, Utica, NY, is a project manager with Charles A. Gaetano Construction Corp. He received the LEED Green Associate credential from the Green Building Certificate Institute.



Mariann F. Munson, Utica, NY, is senior secretary in the Office of the President at Utica College. She is also the accommodations coordinator for the

Invited Elite Runners for the Boilermaker Road Race.

Lawrence S. Platt, Ardmore, PA, is editor of the *Philadelphia Daily News*.

Dr. Pamela L. Story, Stamford, CT, is an adjunct faculty member in the occupational therapy department at Sacred Heart University.

1986

Ann Marie Ade, Brandywine, MD, is the director of academics at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University.

Michele J. (Mullin) Ford, Canandaigua, NY, is the director of rehabilitation services at Thompson Health in Canandaigua. She is also a Certified Professional Coder and Certified Ergonomic Evaluational Specialist.

Mark A. Pacilio, Sackets Harbor, NY, is the chief of staff for Assemblywoman Addie J. Russell.

Tracey D. Pierce-Smith, Schenectady, NY, is the communications coordinator for the New York State Senate.

1987

Donald T. Polczynski Jr., Clinton, NY, is the chief financial officer at Gilroy Kernan and Gilroy. He was selected as a Leadership Mohawk Valley Follow the Leader Award recipient.

1990

Paul R. Skelton, Cranford, NJ, is a high school science teacher for the Hillside Board of Education.

1991

Stephen M. Beckwith, Phoenixville, PA, is the director of therapeutic recreation at Pine Run Community.

Bradley J. Buyce, Scotch Plains, NJ, is the executive vice president of client strategy for Coyne Public Relations.

1992

Deborah S. Stickels, Oneida, NY, is senior vice president, mortgage operations at Oneida Savings Bank.

1995

Robert A. Solete, Lewisville, TX, is vice president of business development at 20/20 Companies.

David P. Weber CFE, Gaithersburg, MD, is the supervisory counsel for Enforcement and Chief, Enforcement Unit I for the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. In addition, Weber continues to serve as the lead faculty member and adjunct associate professor of the University of Maryland University College's new fraud and forensic investigations certificate program.

1996

Jocelyn B. Brandt, Hawthorne, NJ, is an occupational therapist for Bergen Care Home Health.

Paul V. Cox, Sherrill, NY, retired as the CEO/owner of Knight Owl Cachets. He was named VIP of the Year in the Cambridge Who's Who.

Olga Lugo-Hardy, Carteret, NJ, is a benefits consultant for Verizon Communications. She received her master's degree in employment and labor relations from Rutgers University in May 2010.

Kevin J. Mroz, Ilion, NY, is a safety specialist at Burrows Paper Corp.

1997

Theresa M. Chern, Marina Del Ray, CA, is a recreation therapist at Cedars Sinai Hospital Medical Center. She also offers recreation therapy consulting.

Robert A. Cole, Atlanta, GA, completed the basic education requirements for Fellowship in the Casualty Actuarial Society in fall 2010.

Amy E. (McBride) Hurley, Boston, MA, is the associate executive recruiting consultant for Battalia Winston International.

1998

Joanne M. Burns, Clinton, NY, is the CSP/ADS program manager for the Resource Center for Independent Living in Herkimer, NY.

Lauren M. Mattia, Deerfield, NY, is a senior products specialist for Northland Communications. She was selected as a Leadership Mohawk Valley Follow the Leader Award recipient.

Lisa M. Sawenko, Vernon, NY, is an accountant for DFAS.

1999

Jeremy W. Earl, Utica, NY, is the associate vice president of Therapy Services at Upstate Cerebral Palsy. He was selected as a Leadership Mohawk Valley Follow the Leader Award recipient.

Dominique S. (Archie) Hubbard, Waldorf, MD, is an assistant professor of psychology at Northern Virginia Community College in Alexandria, VA.

Faön M. Mahunik, Bronx, NY, is the director of research analytics at Community Counselling Service Co.

Michael J. Pagano, Duaneburg, NY, is a certified prosthetist and orthotist at Sampson's Prosthetic and Orthotic Laboratory.

2000

Michael A. Bushardt, Ilion, NY, is a chief estimator at Charles A. Gaetano Construction Company. He earned the LEED Green Associate credential from the Green Building Certificate Institute.

Dr. Michael S. Curtis, Baldwinsville, NY, is a plastic surgeon at Upstate Medical University's Department of Surgery.

Timothy T. Francisco, Chittenango, NY, is a physical therapist at Chittenango Physical Therapy.

2001

Justine J. Hutchinson, Herkimer, NY, is a reference librarian for the Utica Public Library.

Joanne A. Lein, Islip Terrace, NY, is the senior occupational therapist at Southside Hospital.

Carine M. Madison, Dolgeville, NY, is a controller for Redco Foods, Inc.

Joey F. Habersack-Tinkous, Holley, NY, gained her New York state license in Nursing. She is also licensed in Massachusetts.

2002

Adam H. Hutchinson, Herkimer, NY, is the executive director of the Herkimer County HealthNet Inc.

Joseph A. Marino, Utica, NY, is an accountant for the law firm Brindisi, Murad, Brindisi, Pearlman, Julian and Pertz, LLP. He also announced his bid for candidacy for a Fourth Ward seat on the Utica Common Council.

Natalia (Avetsiuk) Procopio, Clark Mills, NY, is an accountant for ECR International Inc.

Kimberly B. Van Duren, New Hartford, NY, is a special education academic intervention services facilitator at Donovan Middle School in Utica.

Chelsea B. (Johnson) Witt, Shelburne, VT, is an occupational therapist at Fletcher Allen Hospital.

Valery S. Worden, Mount Vision, NY, is the assistant manager of marketing and customer relations of the Oneonta Auxiliary Services at SUNY Oneonta.

2004

Terri L. Furgeson, Smithville Flats, NY, is a staff accountant/reconciliation supervisor for NBT Bancorp Inc.

2005

Sarah R. Craig, Santa Monica, CA, started her own endurance training company. She also completed the Louisville Ironman.

John W. Eddy, Albany, NY, is the deputy director of conference services for the New York State Assembly.

Jeffrey M. Hogan, Utica, NY, is a firefighter for the Utica Fire Department. He was named the 2010 Firefighter of the Year, an award is given out by the American Legion Utica Post 229.

Lisa C. Hoskey, Mohawk, NY, is director of student financial services at Ithaca College.

Heather G. Richter, Concord, NC, is a criminal background researcher for LexisNexis.

Marc T. Richter, Concord, NC, is police officer for the Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department.

Katheryn R. Scott, Mobile, AL, is president of Scott Forensic Auditing LLC. She is also a forensic accountant for the FBI Mobile, AL office. She received her master's of science in economic crime management from Utica College.

2006

Jason R. Bradley, Whitesboro, NY, is a chemistry teacher at Westmoreland Central School.

Anna E. (Popowski) Carnevale, Rome, NY, is a third grade teacher in the Holland Patent Central School District. She is tenured and earned her master's degree in literacy from SUNY Cortland.

Lindsey R. Doolittle, Charlestown, MA, is an executive assistant at Morgan Stanley.

Ryan C. Johnson, Homer, NY, is an in-charge accountant in the audit and accounting department at Firely, Moran, Freer and Eassa, P.C.

Jennifer L. Marriott G'09, Deansboro, NY, is the residence manager at Upstate Cerebral Palsy.

Jamie Lynn Robitaille, Arvada, CO, is the content specialist for National Instruments. She received her master's degree in advertising from the University of Texas at Austin.

Kenny Rodriguez, New York, NY, is the assistant media planner for Horizon Media. He was also part of the creative team that won an OBIE award for his Pepto-Bismol advertisement.

Jenna R. Smaldon, Ashburn, VA, is a software applications engineer at SAIC.

George A. Smith III, Dunedin, FL, is a business analyst for Chartis Insurance.

Elizabeth M. Strodel, Syracuse, NY, released a CD, *Nights and Weekends*.

Jessica L. Zuhlsdorf, Star Lake, NY, is the manager of business development at Fused Solutions LLC/SpiceCSM.

2007

Christina M. (Garrazone) Hines, Sauquoit, NY, is a senior technician for the Systems Development Group.

Jerry LeClerc, Brooklyn, NY, is an aviation maintenance administrator for the U.S. Navy.

Stephanie M. Marcinkus DPT '10, Leicester, MA, is a physical therapist at Elmhurst Extended Care in Providence, RI.

Shana R. Pughe, Waterville, NY, is the language services coordinator for Compass Interpreters, a division of the Mohawk Valley Resource Center for Refugees. She also has a master's degree in international relations from the Maxwell School of Syracuse University.

Jessica K. Reho, Naugatuck, CT, is the family resource center director for the City of Waterbury/Wilson Elementary School.

Kristin M. (Gutowski) Smith, Mohawk, NY, is a template underwriter for Utica National Insurance Group.

Joseph E. Stabb, Syracuse, NY, is the director of communications and annual giving at Syracuse Opera.

Alexandra E. Talbott, Rochester, NY, is a sociotherapist at Hillside Family of Agencies.

2008

Kelly M. Hickling, Utica, NY, is a certified therapeutic recreation specialist at Rome Memorial Hospital.

Scott L. Homer G'10, Schenectady, NY, is program chair for the Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) program at Maria College. He is responsible for directing all aspects of the OTA program.

Brittany L. Johnson G'10, Endicott, NY, is a physical therapist at Sports PT of New York in their East Syracuse and Liverpool facilities.

Cory C. Jure, San Clemente, CA, is a First Lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps.

Heather E. LaHart, Lake Placid, NY, is the patient care coordinator at High Peaks Dental.

Adam J. Lawless, Utica, NY, is the community event manager at the United Way.

John P. McCanney, Liverpool, NY, is a contract specialist for the Air Force Research Laboratory.

Denise A. Rowback DPT '08, New York Mills, NY, is a PT/DPT at contractPT.

James P. Salamy, Utica, NY, is the associate director for constituent relations for the New York State Catholic Conference.

Cori A. Starowitz, Rochester, NY, is the assistant vice president at Five Star Bank.

Kyle R. Strife, Utica, NY, is an agent from the Finger Lakes General Office of New York Life Insurance Company. He is also a registered representative of NYLIFE Securities LLC.

Janet M. Woods, Salisbury, MD, is a charge nurse, registered nurse, and BSN at Peninsula Regional Medical Center.

2009

Paulette C. Brown, Utica, NY, is the broadband technology opportunity program coordinator at Cayuga Community College.

Bryce H. Dale, Fresno, CA, is head coach of the Fresno Monsters of the Western States Hockey League.

Bradley R. Everett, Flushing, NY, is a member of the field marketing and street team for the New York Knicks.

Matthew X. Mastrolia, Arlington, VA, is a senior consultant at Booz Allen Hamilton.

Robert S. Smith, Clay, NY, an Army National Guard Specialist, he graduated from basic infantry training at Fort Benning, GA.

Diane C. Vinh, Mukilteo, WA, is a compliance manager at Blinkx Inc.

Andrea A. Zumpano, New Hartford, NY, is a medical assistant at Digestive Disease Medicine of Central New York.

2010

Ricardo Avila DPT, McAllen, TX, is the director of physical medicine and rehabilitation for LifeCare Hospitals of South Texas.

Ana Maria Colucho DPT, Lawndale, CA, is the PT/Rehab director for Select Therapies.

Sarah Fattah, Old Bridge, NJ, is the loss prevention supervisor at Kohl's department store.

Alison D. Foster, Donahue, IA, is pursuing her master's degree in computer forensics at Utica College.

Mercedes V. Kraszewski, Cold Brook, NY, is a Spanish teacher at West Canada Valley Central School.

Samantha A. Madison, Lebanon, NH, is the copy editor for the *Carroll County Times* in Westminster, MD.

Luz M. Ricardo-Torres, Middletown, NY, is a physical therapist at Orange

Regional Medical Center. She will attend the World Confederation for Physical Therapy (WCPT) congress in Amsterdam (June 20-24, 2011). The WCPT hosts a scientific congress, where advancements in physical therapy research, practice, and education are presented.

Christina M. Soave, Hopkinton, MA, is a product development specialist for the TJX Companies Inc.

Nicole B. Timian, Waterville, NY, is the traffic assistant/KISS Krew coordinator at Roser Communications.

2011

Amy L. Alsheimer, Sauquoit, NY, is an assistant underwriter for Utica First Insurance.

Weddings and Anniversaries

1949

Joe Markason and his wife, Pat, Whitesboro, NY, celebrated their 56th anniversary on May 28, 2011.

1957

Dr. Edmund M. Midura and his wife, **Patricia A. Midura '60**, Columbia, MD, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary in August 2011.

Ralph J. Vatalaro Jr. and his wife, Judith, Brant Lake, NY, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on July 2.

1958

Eileen D. Filkins and her husband, John, Prattsburgh, NY, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in 2010 with a trip to the Canadian Rockies.

1960

Patricia A. Midura and her husband, **Dr. Edmund M. Midura '57**, Columbia, MD, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary in August 2011.

1965

Miriam Sumberg-Diemont and her husband, James, West Palm Beach, FL, will celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary on December 18, 2011.

1970

Beatrice A. Raux and her husband, Ronald, Ilion, NY, celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary on March 26, 2011.

1975



Edward B. Naidamast and **Kathy M. Weiner**, Burke, VA, were married on February 22, 2011 at Temple Rodef Shalom in Falls Church, VA.

1983

Roger Shapiro and his wife, Lynda, Ewing, NJ, celebrated their fifth wedding anniversary on May 27, 2011.

1988

Linda J. Spina and her husband, **John E. Kulesa '88**, Valrico, FL, celebrated their 20th wedding anniversary on December 28, 2010.

2000

Todd F. Grant and **Alicia M. (Everett) Grant '03, G'05**, Clay, NY, were married on September 25, 2010 in Massachusetts.

2001

Stuart A. Brydon and Sarah Brydon, South Portland, ME, were married on September 4, 2010.

2002

Natalia Avetsiuk and Frank Procopio, Clark Mills, NY, were married on January 22, 2011.

Chelsea B. Johnson and Scott Witt, Shelburne, VT, were married on September 19, 2009.

2003



Douglas J. Croft and **Megan May**, Utica, NY, were married on October 23, 2010 at the Tompkins Chapel of the Masonic Care Community in Utica.



Alicia M. (Everett) Grant G'05 and **Todd F. Grant '00**, Clay, NY, were married on September 25, 2010 in Massachusetts.

2005

Matthew M. Bolen and Cassandra Bowles, Canastota, NY, were married on September 25, 2010 at the First Presbyterian Church of Chittenango.

Heather G. Miller and Marc T. Richter, Concord, NC, were married on September 25, 2010 in their hometown of Watertown, NY.



Chad W. Hartwig and **Danielle**, Johnstown, NY, were married on September 4, 2010.

2006



Anna E. (Popowski) Carnevale and **Frederick Carnevale**, Rome, NY, were married on August 14, 2010.

2007

Christina M. Garramone and Jon Hines, Sauquoit, NY, were married on August 21, 2010.

Kristin M. Gutowski and Kyle Smith, Mohawk, NY, were married on May 22, 2010.

Kristen M. MacDonald and **Cory C. Jure '08**, San Clemente, CA, were married on March 25, 2010.

2008

Heather E. Grower and Steven LaHart, Lake Placid, NY, were married on October 2, 2010 in Lake Placid.

Cory C. Jure and **Kristen M. MacDonald '07**, San Clemente, CA, were married on March 25, 2010.

Births and Additions

1991



Christopher D. Beach and his wife, Anna, Tulsa, OK, had a son, Joseph Christopher, on July 23, 2010.

Bradley J. Buyce and his wife, Joan, Scotch Plains, NJ, had twins, Zach and Lena, on September 7, 2010.

1997



Amy E. (McBride) Hurley and her husband, Michael, Boston, MA, had a son, Luke Michael, on September 3, 2010.

1998



Kristina L. (Jones) Carter and her husband, Jeffrey, Alpharetta, GA, had a daughter, Addison Riley, on July 21, 2010.

1999

Dominique S. (Archie) Hubbard and her husband, Norman, Waldorf, MD, had a son, Julian Edward, on July 20, 2010.

2001

Felicia A. (Perillo) Brennan and her husband, Shaun, New Hartford, NY, had a son on December 15, 2010.

Justine H. Hutchinson and her husband, **Adam H. Hutchinson '02**, Herkimer, NY, had a daughter, Alaina Theresa, on November 14, 2010.

Births and Additions

Joanne A. Lein and her husband, Jason, Islip Terrace, NY, had a daughter, Julianna, on August 8, 2010.

Carine M. Madison and her husband, Thomas, Dolgeville, NY, had a daughter, Gracie Elizabeth, on October 1, 2009.



Sarah F. Marrone-Alli and her husband, Rayshaad, Windermere, FL, had a son, Lucas Rayshaad, on July 7, 2010.



Beth A. (Couchman) Sprague and her husband, Gaetano, Sunapee, NH, had a daughter, Ellis Margaret, on April 11, 2010.

2002



Natalie L. Haig, Clinton, NY, had a son, Logan Michael, on January 16, 2011.

Adam H. Hutchinson and his wife, **Justine J. Hutchinson '01**, Herkimer, NY had a daughter, Alaina Theresa, on November 14, 2010.

2003

Chad C. DeStefano, Sauquoit, NY, had a son on January 17, 2011.

2007

Amy L. (Moraw) Lare and her husband, Christopher, Whitesboro, NY, had a son on December 30, 2010.

2008

Jennifer L. (Scott) Loomis and her husband, Paul, Utica, NY, had a son on December 30, 2010.

2009

Christopher J. Roy, Utica, NY, had a daughter on December 24, 2010.

In Memoriam

Gerald C. Hooks '49, Norwich, NY, February 17, 2011.

Frank T. Taverna '49, Cape Coral, FL, February 18, 2011.

John H. Visser '49, Whitesboro, NY, May 1, 2011.

Walter J. Doherty '50, Rome, NY, January 25, 2011.

Joseph M. Rizzo '50, Utica, NY, December 6, 2010.

Robert E. Shaller '50, Boynton Beach, FL, September 5, 2009.

Joseph F. Femia '51, Utica, NY, December 15, 2010.

Theodore J. Lysak '51, Ansonia, CT, January 13, 2010.

Anne M. Wright '51, Whitesboro, NY, November 16, 2010.

Anthony Vella '51, Ilion, NY, January 15, 2011.

Romeo M. Cecilia Sr. '52, Rome, NY, February 8, 2011.

Gerald J. Ginsburg '52, Walnut Creek, CA, October 26, 2010.

Lyle S. Watson '52, Rome, NY, November 27, 2010.

Clarence E. Gurley Jr. '53, Utica, NY, December 18, 2010.

George A. Ellis '55, Utica, NY, April 19, 2011.

William J. Riley '55, Kihei, HI, March 21, 2011.

Robert G. Capps '56, Rochester, NY, November 10, 2010.

Arnold M. Schnier '56, New Hartford, NY, October 27, 2010.

Edwin M. Gilbert '58, Lafayette, NJ, February 17, 2011.

Dzintra L. Greenwald '59, Minooka, IL, March 24, 2011.

John W. Guariglia Sr. '59, Rochester, NY, February 18, 2010.

Ronald F. Stuhlman '59, Utica, NY, February 16, 2011.

Kenneth E. Wood '59, Lake Bluff, IL, February 26, 2011.

Dr. Ernest M. Enzien '60, New Hartford, NY, December 29, 2010.

Richard A. Fahy '60, Rome, NY, November 20, 2010.

John D. Vadney '60, Gloversville, NY, December 28, 2010.

Pasquale L. Amitrano '61, Utica, NY, November 7, 2010.

Adam A. Hugick '61, Little Falls, NY, March 30, 2011.

Marietta Quinn '61, Oswego, NY, September 9, 2010.

Nancy M. Murphy '62, New Hartford, NY, April 11, 2011.

Captain Steven L. Brown '63, Chandler, AZ, December 22, 2010.

Martin A. DeCarlo '63, Palmyra, VA, November 1, 2010.

Edwin S. Kolek '63, Vernon, NY, April 8, 2011.

Carolyn G. Hemming '64, Sarasota, FL, January 25, 2011.

Francesco P. Lapertosa '65, Whitesboro, NY, November 11, 2010.

Donna M. Mead '65, Syracuse, NY, April 18, 2011.

Kenneth J. Mezza '65, Wilmington, NC, November 28, 2010.

Emil J. Warchol '67, Syracuse, NY, February 7, 2011.

Michael R. Corn '68, Barneveld, NY, March 25, 2011.

Thomas J. Bauer '69, Oriskany, NY, December 13, 2010.

Lawrence J. Fusco '69, Brandon, VT, October 11, 2010.

Shirley M. Poland '69, Holland Patent, NY, April 3, 2011.

Robert F. Eyerman Jr. '70, Whitesboro, NY, January 5, 2011.

Mel E. Dlugash '71, Deerfield Beach, FL, September 3, 2010.

Raymond J. Petroski '71, West Palm, FL, January 1, 2011.

Carleton G. Merritt '72, Remsen, NY, April 10, 2011.

Eric M. Haase '73, Ballston Spa, NY, March 14, 2011.

Kevin F. Stockwell '73, Norwood, NY, January 16, 2011.

Charles W. Brown Jr. '77, South Salem, NY, June 6, 2011.

David B. Berger '78, Gloversville, NY, January 16, 2006.

Kevin T. McCluskey '78, Remsen, NY, February 13, 2011.

Michael Slattery '78, Herndon, VA, December 14, 2010.

John J. Brown '84, Stuart, FL, November 2, 2010.

Marilyn J. Avantini '87, Desert Hot Springs, CA, November 23, 2010.

Thomas W. Burke '88, Whitesboro, NY, December 29, 2010.

Linda C. Shirley '89, Lee Center, NY, November 24, 2010.

Michael R. Wrublewski '91, Key Largo, FL, October 29, 2010.

Sharyn-Marie Lester '92, Frankfort, NY, February 20, 2011.

Howard L. Peters '94, New Hartford, NY, December 17, 2010.

Robert S. Mackos '95, Yorkville, NY, May 7, 2011.

David C. Redline '95, New York Mills, NY, December 2, 2010.

James J. Thurston '96, Frankfort, NY, April 26, 2011.

Violet M. Harris '02, New Hartford, NY, January 9, 2011.

Nicole A. Lallier '08, Middletown, NY, May 16, 2011.

Faculty and Staff Who Have Passed

Helen Sheldon, wife of former President Thomas Sheldon, September 23, 2010.

Helmut Echtermann, associate professor emeritus of marketing, May 28, 2011

Harold Wells, HEOP math and science advisor, June 29, 2011



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